

with Love & Remembrance

May 27, 2026 - June 29, 2026



A Special Publication of the PRESS-REPUBLICAN

B

Charles A. Botten**November 15, 1934 - May 24, 2026**

PLATTSBURGH — Charles A. Botten, a lifelong resident of Plattsburgh, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 24th, 2026, at the age of 91. Born on Thursday, Nov. 15th, 1934, he was the beloved cornerstone of his family.

Charles was the son of the late Cyril and Florence Botten. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Elizabeth Botten, and sons Matthew, Michael, and Joseph. Even though he has left his earthly bounds, he leaves behind a legacy through his surviving children: Nancy Botten, Beth (Bob) Terry, Thomas (Rosemary) Botten, and Susan (Tim) Cain and Charles's sister Barbara Lockely. He leaves behind six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

As a young boy, Charles went to work on his uncle's farm. He later went to work at Diamond International, then he ventured into entrepreneurship by owning several gas stations. In the early 80's he worked for Imperial Wall Coverings. Upon their closure he went to work for and eventually retired from, Georgia Pacific in Plattsburgh, retiring at the age of 74.

Beyond his professional life, Charles found joy in the simple pleasures. He cherished his time at his camp on Chazy Lake, where he spent countless hours in the company of family and friends. He was known for his love of playing cards at camp and the warmth of Sunday family dinners, where family bonds were nourished and nurtured.

Charles's lifelong, devotion to family, and ties to Plattsburgh represent a life well-lived and legacy cherished.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 12 p.m. at St. Peter's Cemetery in Plattsburgh.

The Family would like to give heartfelt thanks to Hospice of the North Country for their support, dedication and compassion.

His memory will remain in the hearts and minds of those he loved and those who had the pleasure of knowing him. May he rest in peace.

D

Olivette Annunciale Duprey**March 25, 1931 - June 04, 2026**

PLATTSBURGH — Olivette Annunciale (LaValley) Duprey, 95, formerly of Mooers, N.Y., and most recently the Samuel F. Vilas Home in Plattsburgh, N.Y., passed away Thursday, June 4, 2026, at the CVPH Medical Center. She was born in Mooers Forks, N.Y., on March 25, 1931, the daughter of Oliver B. and Azilda M. (Gilbert) LaValley. In July 1955, Olivette married Douglas Duprey, who predeceased her in 2022, after 66 years of marriage.

Olivette was a graduate of St. Mary's Academy in Champlain and worked as a senior stenographer at Ayerst Laboratories, Rouses Point, until she began to raise her

family. Her Catholic faith was always very important to her, guided by the fact that she resided with her parents in the rectory of St. Ann's Parish in Mooers Forks, N.Y., until she married. She remained very involved in the parish, as both a lifetime member of the Ladies of St. Ann's Church, serving as president from 1960-1962, and as the part-time church secretary for many years. Following in her mother's footsteps, Olivette was the organist at St. Ann's, retiring only when her role as a grandmother pulled her away for frequent weekends.

Other musical pursuits brought her to be a member of the Champlain Valley Sweet Adelines chorus in Plattsburgh, where she was show chairwoman in 1978 and she enjoyed traveling with friends to the Sweet Adelines' national competitions. When Doug's business became Duprey Lumber, she spent many days in the office, putting her professional skills to good use. She was devoted to her children and subsequently grandchildren and spent much time cheering them on during sporting events, band concerts, ballet recitals and musical theatre performances. Taking some time to travel, she enjoyed trips with Doug to Alaska, the Maritimes and Rocky Mountains in Canada, the Baltic countries in Europe, the Four Corners area of the American West and the Mediterranean.

In her later years, she spent many hours checking in clients for the Mooers Wesleyan Food Pantry. She was always up for a great game of cards with family and friends, with a true love of Pinochle and multiple-player Solitaire.

Olivette (Vet) is survived by her daughters, Maryanne Ellsworth and husband, William, of Plattsburgh, and Nancy Duprey of Lunenburg, Mass.; five grandchildren, David Ellsworth and wife, Fabiany, of Plattsburgh, Brian Ellsworth of Plattsburgh, Rachel Giggey and husband, Matthew, of Reading, Mass., Nicole Brooks and husband, Daniel, of Wilmot, N.H., and Stephen Koehler and wife, Kathleen, of Middletown, Conn.; three great-grandchildren, Olivia and Sienna Giggey of Reading, Mass., and Archer Brooks of Wilmot, N.H., along with cherished nieces and nephews.

Along with her husband, she was predeceased by her parents and sister; Azilda (1992), Oliver (1994), and Doris (1999).

The calling hours will be held at the Brown Funeral Home, 29 Broad Street, Plattsburgh, on Tuesday, July 7th, from 4 to 7 p.m. The Mass of Christian burial will be held St. Ann's Church in Mooers Forks at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8th.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Mooers Wesleyan Food Pantry, 149 Maple St., Mooers NY 12958 or St. Ann's Church, 3066 State Route 11, Mooers Forks, NY 12959.

Nancy Dupras**May 28, 1939 - December 13, 2025**

PALM BAY — Nancy Lee (Breen) Dupras of Palm Bay, Fla., passed away on Dec. 13, 2025.

Under the care of Hospice, she died at home surrounded by family.

She was born in Malone, N.Y., on May 28, 1939, the only daughter of M. Bernard Breen and Mildred Grace Lapoint. At the age of three, she moved with her family to Dannemora, N.Y.

Nancy married William (Bill) Dupras on Aug. 16, 1958, at St. Joseph's Church in Dannemora.

Together they raised four daughters in a house on Gregory Street that they built themselves.

Nancy began working for the Dept. of Corrections in Dannemora right out of High School in 1957. She helped her husband attain his Master's Degree and then got her degree in Criminal Justice from Clinton Community College in 1975. In 1981 she moved to Adirondack Correctional Facility in Ray Brook, N.Y., where she first worked in the guidance office and later rose to Inmate Records Coordinator. In 1988 she transferred to Cayuga Correctional in Moravia, N.Y., where she retired in 1994 and moved to Palm Bay, Fla.

Nancy was predeceased by her parents, husband and three brothers; James, Lyle and Neil.

She is survived by four daughters; Michele (Glenn) Skinner; Andrea (Mark) Pappalardo; Janine (Patti Wright) Dupras; Lynette (Richard) Craig; and six grandchildren; Christopher O'Neill, Richard (Rebekah) Carlock, Gregory (Allison) Carlock, Ashley (Jeremy) Miner, Matthew (Alysson) Craig and Caitlin (Sam Heredia) Craig; also 11 great-grandchildren and two great-great-granddaughters. Also survived by brothers Robert (Jeanne) Breen and Richard (Rita) Breen. And a very special sister-in-law, Myra (Dupras) Brooks, since neither had a sister they became that to each other from the time they were teenagers.

Private interment will be held Wednesday, July 15th, at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Dannemora for both Nancy and Bill, who died Jan. 2, 2019.

Arrangements are with the R.W. Walker Funeral Home. A celebration of life for family and friends will follow at 2 p.m. at the Adirondack Room at the Butcher Block in Plattsburgh.

In lieu of donations, one of the most important things to Nancy and Bill was family and genealogy. We encourage everyone to discover and appreciate their family history. "Preserve your memories, keep them well, what you forget you can never retell." - Louisa May Alcott

G

Cathy Grybos**May 07, 1985 - May 17, 2026**

CLAREMONT — Cathy Grybos of Claremont, aged 41, died from breast cancer May 17th at hospice care in Lebanon, N.H.

She was the proud mother of twins, a son Alexander and a daughter Athena, born in 2015. She took great joy in yelling from the sidelines at their sports games. Cathy also enjoyed laughing at sitcoms with her family and baking banana bread.

She is survived by her husband, Johnathan Grybos, her brother, Michael Boyd and her mother, Lisa Boyd.

Born Cathy Boyd in Plattsburgh, N.Y., she graduated Plattsburgh High School in the class of 2004. She earned her Bachelor's at SUNY Plattsburgh in 2008. She worked for the State of Vermont Department of Corrections as a Caseworker at the Southern State Correctional Facility (SSCF) in Springfield, Vt.

H

Kathleen H. Hartson**September 17, 1966 - June 20, 2026**

SARANAC — Kathleen Helen (Villnave) Hartson, of Saranac, N.Y., and Spencer, Tenn., passed away peacefully at CVPH Medical Center in Plattsburgh on June 20, 2026.

Kathleen was born in Syracuse, N.Y., on Sept. 17, 1966, to the late Robert and Carol Villnave. She graduated from St. Lawrence Central School in 1984. Kathy married her high school sweetheart and one true love, Douglas Hartson Jr., on July 27, 1985. She

later attended Clinton Community College, where she earned her Associate's Degree and graduated as valedictorian of her class. In 2008, Kathy and her husband founded Hartson Total Opening and successfully grew their business over the next 18 years.

Kathy was an avid fan of the Tennessee Titans. She attended many home games in Nashville with her husband and daughter. She also enjoyed spending time at her lake home in Tennessee. Above all else, Kathy cherished her family. Her grandsons were her greatest joy, and she loved them beyond measure.

Left to cherish her memory are her husband of 40 years, Douglas Hartson Jr.; her daughter and son-in-law, Randi and Mathew Plumadore; her two grandsons, Adam and Callen Plumadore; and her dear friends, Barb Gokey and Chip LaHart.

Kathy is also survived by her sister, Lana (Phillip) Collier; her brother, Michael (Michele) Villnave; her mother-in-law, Linda Hartson; her sister-in-law, Paula (Bruce) Alkire; her brother-in-law, Kevin (Maryette) Hartson; her sister-in-law, Tracie (Mark) Fountain; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, cherished family friends, and her beloved dogs, Garth, Isabella, and Henry.

In addition to her parents, Robert and Carol Villnave, Kathy was predeceased by her brother, Jeffrey Villnave; her father-in-law, Douglas Hartson Sr.; her grandparents; and many aunts and uncles.

In keeping with Kathy's wishes, there will be no visitation or calling hours. A private burial will be held at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to Hammill Funeral Home in Winthrop, where memories and condolences can be shared with her family at www.hammillfh.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Elmore SPCA, North Country Honor Flight, or a charity of your choice.

Kathy will be remembered for her strength and determination, generosity, sense of humor, and unwavering devotion to her family and friends.

RICHARD "DICK" HECKARD of Plattsburgh has passed away. Calling hours Thursday, June 25th, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Brown Funeral Home. Mass is Friday, June 26th, at 10 a.m. at St. Peter's Church, with inurnment at St. Peter's Cemetery.

ALAN HISLOP - In remembrance of Alan T. Hislop, a memorial service will be held at the River View Cemetery, Route 9, Chazy, N.Y., on June 29th at 1:30 p.m.

J

Margaret E. Jackson

November 17, 1936 - June 17, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — Margaret (Peg) Eells Jackson was born Nov. 17, 1936, the daughter of Curtis and Elizabeth Ostrander Eells. Peg graduated from Plattsburgh High School in 1955. She graduated from St. Lawrence University with a degree in education in 1959. Thirteen days after she graduated, on June 20, 1959, she married the love of her life, Clement J. Jackson. When her children were young, she was a Girl Scout Leader and Cub Scout Den Mother. Peg worked with her father at his automobile dealership, Eells Motors, doing every job except "mechanic." After her father's retirement and the sale of the business, she became the Office Manager at Plattsburgh Datum.

She later became the Office Manager at Drew Buick, and lastly, she retired as Office Manager from Bill McBride Chevrolet. Peg was a volunteer with The Christmas Bureau and The North Country Mission of Hope. Peg loved her flower garden; she was particularly adept at growing roses. She was also the family baker and loved making cakes, pies, and cookies.

Peg was predeceased by "Clem" her loving husband of 66 years, a daughter Elizabeth (Beth) Jackson, and a daughter Susan (Sue) Moore, her parents, her sister Elizabeth (Betsy) Otto and a brother, Robert (Bob) Eells.

She is survived by a son, Chris Jackson of Plattsburgh, her granddaughter and her husband Kristin and James Armstrong of Phoenix, Ariz., her granddaughter Allison Moore of Plattsburgh and a grandson, Zachary Moore of Plattsburgh and her beloved brother-in-law, Albert Otto of Fountain Valley, Calif.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Monday, June 22, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church. Interment will be at St. Augustine Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Christmas Bureau or North Country Mission of Hope.

K

Samuel D. Kleinman

June 29, 1933 - June 15, 2026

PLATTSBURGH — Samuel D. Kleinman, 92, was born on June 29, 1933, in New York City and passed away peacefully on June 15, 2026, in Plattsburgh, N.Y., following a brief illness.

Sam graduated from the Manhattan School of Aviation Trades, Class of 1950. A proud veteran of the United States Air Force, he served his country for nearly 30 years as a flight engineer, retiring in 1980 with the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. During his distinguished career, he flew six different aircraft, transported world leaders around the globe, and served as a primary flight engineer supporting Secretary of State Henry Kissinger during his Middle East shuttle diplomacy missions. Respected for his professionalism, expertise, and steady leadership, Sam earned the admiration of those who served alongside him and was recognized as an invaluable member of the Air Force's Special Air Mission team. After a military career that took him around the world, Sam chose to make Plattsburgh his home, which he often said was paradise on earth.

Sam was devoted to his family, especially Paulette (Dupuis) Kleinman, his beloved wife of 55 years who preceded him in death. He was also predeceased by his parents, siblings, and three children: daughter Gayann (Kleinman) Pellerin; her twin brother, Ray Kleinman; and daughter Annette Kleinman.

He is survived by his son-in-law, Jay Pellerin; Jay's sister, Deb Marois; and grandson Brad Pellerin, whom he considered family. He will also be deeply missed by his longtime Cumberland Head neighbor, Stan, and his dear friend, Judy.

Sam was an honorable man: kind, decent, and generous to his core. A devoted Catholic, he lived his faith through acts of service and a genuine desire to help others. At age 92, he took great pride in maintaining his home, his independence, and his generally good health. He loved music, especially songs from the 1940s and traditional Hawaiian mele. He enjoyed sharing stories from his travels around the world, including his time stationed in California and Hawaii and his occasional flights aboard Air Force One serving under several presidents.

It was Sam's wish to be cremated and laid to rest beside his beloved wife, Paulette, and daughter, Gayann, at Saint Mary's of the Lake Cemetery on Cumberland Head. Friends and family are invited to honor Sam's life at a graveside service on Tuesday, July 21st, at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to any national or local veterans' organization in honor of Sam's lifelong spirit of

service and generosity.

To send flowers or plant a memorial tree in memory, please visit our flower store.

Catherine R. Kriff

October 09, 1952 - May 21, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — "Kate" passed away on the morning of May 21, 2026, at her home in Plattsburgh, N.Y., with her husband Larry by her side. After a long struggle with health issues, she died peacefully and will be profoundly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Born Oct. 9, 1952, in Newburgh, N.Y., to Ben and Betty Cashin Reed, Kate (or Cathy in her youth) graduated from Newburgh Free Academy in 1970. She attended The College of New Rochelle and then lived the

majority of her life on Lake Champlain where she and Larry raised their two children, Benjamin Kriff and Meghan Kriff (Ben) Freiberg. Kate was devoted to her two grandchildren, Elise and Leah Freiberg, now residents of South Carolina with their parents.

Kate dedicated much of her career to supporting young children and families in the North Country. She worked for several years in local school districts providing counseling services for elementary-aged students. Kate had a natural gift with children, meeting them with patience, playfulness, and genuine care in a way that shaped both her career and the way she moved through the world. Her deep connection with those she worked with left a lasting impact on the many lives she touched.

In addition to her husband, children, and grandchildren, Kate is survived by her sister, Mary McTamane, and brother-in-law David of Newburgh, N.Y.; two first cousins, John Cashin of Fultonville, N.Y., and Erin Loffredo (Rick) of Denver, Colo., and their families; her aunt, Phyllis Cashin of Schenectady, N.Y.; sister-in-law Leslie Kriff of North Brunswick, N.J.; nieces Rachel Denno of Washington, D.C., and Sara Denno of New Jersey; and nephew Max Kriff of Burlington, Vt. She was predeceased by her brother, Robert Reed and his wife Lucille of Quincy, Mass., and brother-in-law Peter Kriff of Burlington, Vt.

She will be remembered for her warmth, quick humor, and the way she made people feel instantly at ease. She had a deep love for animals, especially her dogs, Patrick, Woody and Murphy. She was also a loyal Yankees fan who enjoyed celebrating every win. Kate found deep peace and joy in Lake Champlain and the beauty of the Adirondacks, places that felt like home to her in every sense. Beneath her sharp wit was a deeply caring and sensitive person whose presence brought comfort, laughter, and connection to so many.

L

GLORIA LAMOTTE passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at CVPH, surrounded by her loving family. Arrangements with Brown Funeral Home, 29 Broad St., Plattsburgh.

ESTHER LEDOUX, 92, of Plattsburgh, died June 21st. Mass will be July 24th, 11 a.m., at Holy Angels Church in St. Albans, Vt. Reception will be held in the church hall following burial. Arrangements in care of Brown Funeral Home.

M

THERESA MINCKLER, 88, Ellenburg, passed away June 13, 2026. Visitation Friday, June 26th, 1 to 2 p.m. at Rabideau Funeral Home, Ellenburg, followed by funeral service in the funeral home chapel. Arrangements by Rabideau Funeral Home, 5614 Route 11, Ellenburg.

N

Doris B. Neale

April 27, 1931 - June 04, 2026



ROUSES POINT — Doris B. Neale, 95, passed away at CVPH in Plattsburgh, N.Y., on Thursday, June 4, 2026, with her loving family by her side. She was born in Champlain, N.Y., to Leon and Ruth (Fifield) Trombley. She was married to Gary Neale from Walton, N.Y., for 46 years. Doris was previously married to James Rochester who is the father of her children. She attended St. Mary's Academy and in her younger years Doris worked at the Ski Factory in Champlain, N.Y. She worked part-time at the Anchorage Restaurant in Rouses Point as a waitress. After raising her family she owned and operated Countryside Antiques in Rouses Point, N.Y. She was a bus driver at NCCS and Chazy Schools and also worked at the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid as the head bus driver. She worked at the Government Center as a court attendant up until her late 80's.

Doris loved her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed her friends and loved to entertain. She was known for her fabulous cooking and baking skills, especially her pies. She was a meticulous housekeeper and enjoyed decorating her home with antiques. She was an avid golfer and a longtime member of North Country Golf Club in Rouses Point. She was a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point and loved her religion.

Doris is survived by her daughters, Pamela (Russell) Gadway, Elaine Cloutier, Debra Collins; her son, Daniel (Annie) Rochester; her grandchildren, Herm (Martha) Gadway, Tyler (Heather) Gadway, Bryce (Andrea) Gadway, Lacey (Josh) Smith, Devan Collins, Richard (Kristen) Collins III, Katelyn (Stephen) Saunier, Jordanne (Jeff Campbell) Rochester, Duncan (Chelsey) Rochester; Herm's children, Lena and Hannah; Tyler's children, Chelsae, Ethan, Gavin, Ella, Ava; Anna's children, Alodie and Evan, Bryce's children, Emma, Caden, Elliott; Lacey's child, Nolan; Katelyn's children, Oliver and River; Jordanne's children, Avril and Liam; Richard's child, Wesley; Duncan's children, Erin and Harrison; her great-great-granddaughter, Eliana; sister, Pauline Roberts; stepdaughters, Tammy and Kimberly; and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents; husband, Gary Neale; brothers, Orville (Noella) Trombley, Hubert (Gertrude) Trombley, Donald Trombley; sisters, Dorothy Trombley, Margaret Mae Trombley, Helen Trombley, Rita (Leon) Roberts, Annabelle (Clifford) Ashline, Ethel (Francis) Harvey, Bernice (Roland) Barcomb/Charles Gonyo; grandchildren, Anna Gadway Langlois, Brandon J. Gadway, Heath Mundy, son-in-law, Paul Cloutier; in-laws, Arthur Neale, James Neale, Keith Neale and Morris Neale.

Special thanks to CVPH Intensive Care Unit, Dr. Wajih Al-samawati Dit Arja, Dr. Patrick T. Neilan and nurses Kyle and Jessica B. for the exceptional care given to Doris.

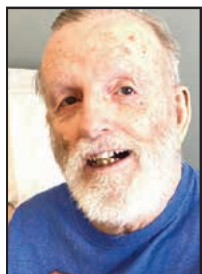
Calling hours will be held on Tuesday, June 9th, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Ross Funeral Home, Mooers, N.Y. The Mass of Christian burial will take place on Wednesday, June 10th, at 11 a.m., St. Patrick's Church in Rouses Point. Burial will immediately follow the Mass at St. Patrick's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Doris' memory can be made to Rouses Point Fire Department or to the Glioblastoma Foundation www.glioblastomafoundation.org.

O

Derry L. O'Connell

December 31, 1939 - May 22, 2026



CADYVILLE — Passed away peacefully on Friday, May 22, 2026, at his home in Cadyville, N.Y., surrounded by his family. Derry was known to many of his colleagues, friends, and family as DOC and more recently was known as grandpa-bear. Derry was the oldest of three sons born to Maurice and Norma (Salls) O'Connell and was born on Dec. 31, 1939, in Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Derry is preceded in death by his brothers Thomas E. O'Connell of Cadyville and

John E. O'Connell of Cadyville.

Derry taught high school math at Saranac Central School for 37 years. Derry earned his Master's degree at Plattsburgh State University. He loved teaching and dedicated his career to ensuring all Saranac students would have a solid math education.

Derry enjoyed gardening and was an avid reader, subscribing to many magazines and publications. Derry lived in the house he built with his father and brother where his family now resides. He was secretary for the Cadyville Volunteer Fire Department for many years.

Derry is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Katherine (Bero) O'Connell and his two children: Erin Lee O'Connell and Stephen D. O'Connell as well as his grandchildren John, Catherine and Daniel O'Connell.

A Celebration of Life will be held for friends and relatives at the Mosaic Church in Cadyville (2083 Route 3 Cadyville) on Saturday, May 30th, from 12 to 2 p.m. Derry will be buried in the family plot at the Cadyville Protestant cemetery directly following the Celebration.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of the North Country.

P

Carol A. Perry

January 24, 1948 - June 22, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — It is with great sadness that our family announce the passing of our mother and wife, Carol Perry, born Jan. 24, 1948. Carol passed away surrounded by her family on June 21, 2026, at CVPH Medical Center.

Carol was born Jan. 24, 1948, in Plattsburgh, N.Y., to Napoleon and Sarah (Garrow) Garrant. She was the eldest daughter of eleven children and she helped raise

her siblings until her marriage to Joseph S. Cappello in 1965 which ended in divorce. In 1975 she married Donald Perry and was happily married for 51 years.

Carol enjoyed playing games with her kids, going to bingo, listening to music and watching movies, especially *Over the Top* and *Dirty Dancing*. Her favorite past time was spending time with her family. Her children and grandchildren were her pride and joy. Carol was a piano player and a singer in multiple bands; she was very musically inclined.

Carol was predeceased by her father Napoleon Garrant, mother and stepfather, Sarah and Edward Alexander, sister, Mary Garrant, brother, Randall Garrant, sister, Angela Mackowski, sister, Debra Garrant and ex-husband Joseph Cappello.

Carol is survived by her husband, Donald Perry; her children Joe Cappello and wife Rosemary, Annmarie Cappello, Christine Perry and Kristy Francis and partner Kevin Lamberton. She is also survived by her siblings, Edward Garrant and wife Sandie, James Garrant, Robin Pageau, Terry Alexander and his wife Shannon, Kimmy Alexander, Scott Alexander and his partner Mary Riley and Heidi Barber and her partner Gary Matthews. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Kera (Peter) Mukooza, Anthony Cappello and (Zowie Macey), Dyllon Knapp, Kyle Whitney and Hunter Francis.

There will be no services at the request of Carol's family; a celebration of life will be held at the Stonewall Clubhouse on Stonewall Drive, Altona, NY 12910, Saturday, June 27, 2026, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Anna May Peterson

December 31, 1939 - May 30, 2026



TICONDEROGA — Anna May "Anne" Peterson, 86, of Ticonderoga, passed away on May 30, 2026.

Born on Dec. 31, 1939, in Moriah, the daughter of the late Claude and Anna (Bezon) Cutting.

Anne married John Peterson on July 30, 1960.

She was a graduate of Port Henry High School and Trinity College and was employed for many years at Moriah Shock

Correctional Facility.

She was a devoted Catholic and active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Ticonderoga since 1960.

She was predeceased by her husband, John in 2017. She was also predeceased by her infant daughter, Anne Marie Peterson; her brother, John Cutting; her sister, Mary Cutting; her sister and brother-in-law, Martha and George Denton; her half-sister, Jean Wykes; and her brother-in-law, Frank Blaise.

Survivors include her sister, Stella Blaise; her son and daughter-in-law, John and Wendy Peterson; her daughter, Susan Peterson Barber and her partner, Mike Sousa; her four grandchildren, Alan Peterson, Megan Barber, Gregory Peterson, and Laura Peterson; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Relatives and friends may call Saturday, June 6, 2026, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home, Ticonderoga.

A Mass of Christian burial will follow at 12 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ticonderoga, followed by the Rite of Commitment at St. Mary's Parish Cemetery.

Donations in Anne's memory may be made to the Retired Priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669.

To offer online condolences, please visit www.wilcoxandreganfuneralhome.com



R

GLEN ROBINSON passed away Jan. 27, 2026. Interment will be held at Riverside Cemetery in Plattsburgh, N.Y., on Friday, June 5th, at 11 a.m.

S

Paula Selzer

August 14, 1940 - May 13, 2026



PLATTSBURGH — Paula passed away peacefully on May 13, 2026. Born on Aug. 14, 1940, in Wassenaar, Netherlands, shortly after the invasion of Holland during World War II. She was the daughter of Akos Farkas and Charlotte Barnstijn. Paula, along with her siblings Loet and Patricia, survived the war through what she often described as the grace of God and the kindness of strangers. In 1952, she immigrated to the United States via Canada, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1960.

Raised on Long Island in Great Neck and Manhasset, N.Y., Paula inherited a spirit of grit and determination from her parents. She worked in her mother's business, La Boutique Trimming Co., during high school, developing the sewing and tailoring skills that would define much of her life. Though her father initially believed college was unnecessary, Paula pursued her dream of becoming a teacher. She graduated from SUNY Oneonta with a degree in home economics, inspired by the kind teachers who welcomed her to America in the 7th grade. It was at Oneonta that she met the love of her life, Bill Selzer at the Newman Club.

Paula and Bill dedicated their careers to education, primarily in the Bay Shore Union Free School District. A master of her craft, Paula taught home economics and also spent time teaching at The Academy of Saint Joseph in Brentwood. Beyond the classroom, her entrepreneurial spirit flourished when she worked with her mother and sister-in-law as her brother, Loet, founded Advantage Gripware in 1979. What began as a \$25 investment in materials grew into a premier manufacturer of film and video equipment.

While she was a dedicated professional, Paula believed her true calling was motherhood. She was the proud and devoted mother of three daughters—Ilona, Claudine, and Annelies—often remarking that she felt she had been spared during the war specifically so she could raise them. She was a consummate hostess and homemaker, known for her elaborate meals, homemade Christmas nightgowns with matching caps, and her frugal yet generous nature. She lived by the mantra, "use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without," yet she gave back to her community through Birthright, the Catholic Daughters, and by sharing her war experiences with local students.

In her later years, Paula absolutely adored her role as "Oma." She was an unshakable and calm presence for her grandchildren, teaching them to parallel park, babysitting and reading bedtime stories, and maintaining annual traditions like blueberry picking and gingerbread house making. Her legacy of love, resilience, and dedication to family will be forever cherished by those she leaves behind.

Paula is predeceased by her husband William, her parents, and younger sister Patricia. She is survived by her older brother,

er, Loet Farkas, her children and grandchildren: Ilona and Matt Kelting (Elijah, Addison, and Liam), Claudine and John Clark (Jacqueline), and Annelies and Todd Rocheleau (Anneke and Aidan). She will be deeply missed by all of them.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at Saint John the Baptist in Plattsburgh followed by a Christian burial at St. Mary's of the Lake Cemetery on Cumberland Head.

Donations may be made in her name to Hospice of the North Country.

Merritt F. Spear

April 19, 1934 - June 12, 2026



PERU — Dr. Merritt F. Spear, 92, of Peru, N.Y., passed away peacefully on Friday, June 12, 2026.

Born in Plattsburgh on April 19, 1934, Merritt was the son of Merritt Spear and Bessie (Benway) Spear.

He grew up in the North Country and attended the University of Vermont, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1956. He went on to receive his Doctor of Medicine degree from Albany Medical College in 1960 and remained there to complete his residency training.

While at Albany Medical Center, Merritt met the love of his life, Joan Fraughton. The two were married on June 13, 1959, during his final year of medical school, beginning a partnership that would span more than sixty years until Joan's passing in 2020.

Following the completion of his residency, Merritt and Joan settled in Peru, N.Y., in 1965, where he established a private medical practice and began serving as physician for Peru Central School.

Dedicated to both his profession and his country, he joined the U.S. Army Medical Corps, serving first in the Vermont Army Reserve and later in the Vermont National Guard. He retired in 1994 with the rank of Colonel.



In 1973, Merritt joined two fellow physicians in founding Beaumont Medical Center in Peru. His commitment to healthcare extended beyond his private practice. In 1976, he became Director of Medical Services at SUNY Plattsburgh, a position he held until 1991, after which he continued serving as a part-time college physician. During his tenure, he also served as Director of Sports Medicine at SUNY Plattsburgh and Director of Sports Medicine for the Empire State Games.

Merritt's passion for sports medicine earned him opportunities on the national stage. He was a member of the medical services team for the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid and later served as Chairman of Sports Medicine for the U.S. Bobsled Association from 1982 to 1984.

Public service was also important to him. From 1976 to 1985, he served the residents of Clinton County as County Coroner. He was a dedicated Republican and served on both the Peru and Clinton County Republican Committees.

Throughout his career, Dr. Spear was known for his dedication to his patients, his commitment to his community, and his willingness to serve wherever he was needed. He touched countless lives through his medical practice, his work with students and athletes, and his military service.

Merritt was predeceased by his beloved wife, Joan Spear, and his son, Geoffrey Spear.

He is survived by his daughters, Stephanie Spear and her partner, Frank McKeon, of Peru; Alison Spear and her wife, Erica, of Troy, and their sons, Brady and Keaton; and Jennifer (Spear) Tompkins and her husband, Steven, and their sons, Max

and his wife Lauren, Jordan, and Luke all of Gansevoort. He is also survived by his daughter-in-law, Anne-Marie Boule Spear, and her children: Taylor Spear and his wife, Katie, of East Greenbush, and their daughter, Olivia; Ian Spear and his wife, Sara, of Plattsburgh, and their son, Blake; Samantha Spear and her fiancé, JD Side, of Plattsburgh; and Tanner Spear of Rochester. He also leaves behind many extended family members, friends, former patients, colleagues, and students who will remember him fondly.

Visitation will be held at Peru Community Church at 10 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2026. Burial in Morningside Cemetery, Malone, will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Operation Valor Horizon <https://www.facebook.com/p/Operation-Valor-Horizon-61579584458766/>.

Arrangements are in the care of the Hamilton Funeral Home, 294 Mannix Road, Peru, 518-643-9055. To make a floral purchase, offer an online condolence, share a symbolic gesture, or share a photo in memory of Dr. Merritt Spear please visit www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com



JEAN STONE, 96, passed away June 25th. Calling hours Tuesday, June 30th, 10 to 11 a.m., at R.W. Walker Funeral Home. Service will follow at 11 in the funeral home chapel. Entombment with military honors at Town of Plattsburgh Mausoleum.

Edward A. Sweeny

December 16, 1944 - March 22, 2026



ROUSES POINT — A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., at St. Anne's Shrine, 92 St. Anne's Road, Isle La Motte, Vt. Interment will follow in Holy Cross Cemetery in St. Albans, Vt.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Brady & Levesque Funeral Home of St. Albans, Vt.





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