

WITH DEEP SORROW

Obituary submissions are only accepted from family members. We will accept online Funeral obituaries or newspaper obituaries if family submissions are not received by the *Canal Record* deadlines. Obituary pictures may be emailed to record@pancanalsociety.org or mailed to the Panama Canal Society office. Emailed pictures must be submitted in a jpeg or tif format in 300 DPI or higher.



David "Dave" A. Albanese, 75, of Tomball, Texas, passed away peacefully in his home on January 11, 2024.

Dave was born to Arch Joseph "AJ" Albanese and Jeanne T. Albanese on February 3, 1948, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Dave's early years were spent in Mississippi, Kansas, Tennessee, and Virginia until the family relocated to the Panama Canal Zone in 1962. While in Panama, he attended Balboa High School for two years before transferring to Cristobal High School, where he graduated in 1966. After high school, Dave returned to the U.S. and attended Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where he graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration in 1971.

Following graduation, Dave remained in Murfreesboro and co-founded Universal Systems, a computer company that developed a program to digitize the mortgage loan application process. During this time, Dave met Rebecca "Becky" L. Cumberland. Dave and Becky were married on July 3, 1974, and had two sons, David A. Albanese II and Christopher "Shane" S. Albanese. After leaving Universal Systems, Dave joined Datapoint Corporation as a National Account Manager and relocated the family to San Antonio, Texas, and later to Greensboro, North Carolina, before settling in Falls Church, Virginia, in 1985.

Dave was a serial entrepreneur who founded multiple businesses, primarily focused on real estate and oil and gas-related ventures.

Dave's real passion was coaching youth sports, serving as a dedicated football coach in the City of Murfreesboro and baseball coach in the Falls Church Little League and McLean Babe Ruth organizations, mentoring hundreds of children over 25+ years.

In 2008, Dave and Becky relocated to Houston, Texas, and subsequently moved to Tomball in 2013. Dave's passion in his retirement was senior golf. He was a proud member of the Houston Senior Travelers League and Jersey Meadows Senior Golf Association for several years, where he developed many great friendships. Dave also cherished his lasting friendships with fellow Canal Zone classmates. He was a member of the Panama Canal Society and regularly attended the Panama Canal Society Annual Reunion in Orlando, Florida.

Dave is survived by his wife, Becky; children, David (Amy) and Shane; siblings, Michael, Ronald (Stacy), Mark (Katy), and Jeanne "Gigi" (Jerry) Garafalo; and grandchildren, Riley, Ava, and Matthew.



Jaime Eduardo Alfaro, 43, passed away on February 11, 2024. He was born on January 24, 1981, to Nilda Alfaro and Jaime Alfaro in Panama City, Panama.

Jaime was a man of many passions. He grew up in Panama and was part of the last class to graduate from Balboa High School in the Canal Zone of Panama in 1999. He then pursued his interest in technology, excelling in computer engineering at the University of Central Florida. Outside of work, he was an avid rock climber, a talented photographer, and a devoted Boston Red Sox fan.

Jaime's most cherished role was that of a father. He married Courtney Fister on September 19th, 2014 in Chicago and together they had three bright and beautiful children, James Oliver (8), Vivian Alma (7), and Sienna Margaret Loretta (4). Jaime's love for his children was boundless, and he dedicated himself to guiding their academic development and coaching them in sports. His children were the light of his life.

Jaime had a successful technical career, managing development projects with prestigious firms such as SAIC, Leidos, Accenture, and AWS Cloud Applications. He was committed to his work and had undoubted integrity.

He is survived by his wife, children, parents, siblings Debbie Alfaro, Maria Alfaro, and Tomas Alfaro; mother and father-in-law; many brothers and sisters-in-law; numerous nieces and nephews; and a large extended family in Panama.

Jaime was a ray of sunshine to all who knew him. He was a gentle soul and a protector of his loved ones. He will be missed more than words can describe.



Angela Bloemer, 99, died peacefully on November 13, 2023, in Plano, Texas. She was born on February 28, 1924, in Summit, New Jersey. She graduated from the Medical Center Jersey City in 1945 as a registered nurse and worked in pediatrics and emergency services until 1949. Then, she began work as a ship nurse with the Military Sea Transportation based in Brooklyn, NY, and met her future husband, Robert J. Bloemer, Sr., on one of her voyages. They started a family in Scotch Plains, N.J., with three children before moving to the Canal Zone in 1965. Robert had accepted



the position as a pilot for the Panama Canal.

During her early years in the Canal Zone, Angela worked part-time as a public health nurse on the Atlantic side. She was active in several organizations, including Sweet Adelines and the Holy Family Catholic Church. She also served as president of the Canal Zone College Club.

In 1981, Angela and Robert relocated to McKinney, Texas, to be closer to their children who were all living in Texas at the time. Angela and Robert spent as much time with their children and grandchildren as possible. When not with family, Angela could be found on the golf course with her friends, at the Knife and Fork Club with her husband, swimming laps in the pool, or shopping at Macy's.

Angela made new friends wherever she went. She was full of life. She had a deep passion for traveling throughout her life, often venturing on cruises overseas to new destinations even into her 80s. She was a member of the Panama Canal Society.

Angela is survived by her sons Robert J. Bloemer, Jr. and Donald Bloemer, caring daughter Barbara Ellington, five grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren who all miss her dearly.



Robert "Bob" Dwayne Boucher, 70, died on Monday, March 11, 2024, at Iowa Methodist in Des Moines, Iowa. A graveside service was held at Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Adel, Iowa.

Robert was born on January 29, 1954, in the Panama Canal Zone to Earldine and Yvonne (Dunton) Boucher. Here, he attended Balboa High School and graduated in 1972. He married the love of his life, Denise Hutchins, on June 2, 2009, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Bob honorably served with the United States Army for 20 years, and at the time of retirement, his rank was Sergeant First Class. Afterward, he was employed with USPS for 23 years, retiring in 2017.

He will be missed by his wife, Denise Hutchins Boucher of Norwalk, Iowa; sons, Christopher (Tena) Boucher of Grand Rapids, Minn., Michael (Alicia) Boucher of Minneapolis, Minn., Geoffery Bales of Des Moines, Iowa; grandchildren, Ryan (Miriam) DeAnda, Lourdes, Daylan, Dylan, Dominic, Royce, Michael, and Aiden; great-grandchildren, Rolin, Camilla, Zane, Zachary, and Olivia; brothers, David Boucher of Des Moines, Iowa, Allen (Cindy) Boucher of Stuart, Iowa; Cousin, Bill Wheeler and family of Des Moines, Iowa, and niece and nephews.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Jim Boucher, and his niece, Marie Boucher.

John F. Cooke, 79, Balboa High School Class '62, known to friends as Fritz, passed away suddenly on October 3, 2023. Friends who knew him well assumed he was watching football on TV. He was a huge Steelers fan who enjoyed dining out and traveling with friends. Many former Zonians

renew past high school friendships, and Canal Zone lives at the annual Panama Canal Society reunions, and none more enthusiastically than Fritz.

The Cooke family moved from Huntington, West Virginia, to Balboa in 1958 when Fritz's father, who worked for the US Army Corps of Engineers, accepted a job to build the Thatcher Ferry Bridge. When the bridge was completed, the family returned to West Virginia.

The Cookes lived on Bougainvillea, which was very handy for Fritz's early morning paper route, delivering the *Star & Herald* newspaper throughout the 15th Naval District and Fort Amador. He didn't recall the name of the general who lived opposite Amador Golf Course, but he remembered him being the biggest tipper. When reminiscing about those days, Fritz was one of those CZ Newspaper Boys who never ran out of a story.

Anyone who lived on Amador Road or attended BHS at the time could recall the kid speeding by on his bicycle and found it unbelievable that after high school, Fritz grew to 6'4" and weighed over 250 lbs, qualifying him to play college football.

Fritz and his siblings had a most unusual history as they were not related before being adopted. As he told it, when his parents decided they weren't going to have children of their own, they visited an orphanage and returned home with three children: John (Fritz, two years old); Robert (Bo, 1.5 years old) and, their sister, Hilda (an infant).

He had spent his career in the printing business and retired from Chapman Printing, West Virginia, which he felt eminently qualified him to call his friend, Janice Scott, as soon as he received his copy of the *Canal Record*. Whether I had received my copy or not to follow the conversation, he critiqued the Space Coast report (when I was the reporter), other articles I'd written (predominantly positive), and other articles he'd read. These conversations ultimately led to the quality of the paper over which I had zero control. Two previous *Canal Record* printers, including the current one, had been Fritz's customers before he retired. Finally, his suggestions to change the paper came to fruition with the October *Canal Record* issue. Still, sadly, Fritz passed away just before receiving his copy of the greatly improved October 2023 *Canal Record*.

I know he would appreciate the membership appreciating the vastly improved quality of the Canal Record publication, a result of years spent discussing this topic, as it is, of course, more expensive but worth the effort. John was a Governor's Club member.

He was predeceased by his parents, brother Robert (Bo), who attended BHS, and Carol Saarinen (a BHS classmate who joined their family after her parents passed during high school).

He is survived by his daughter, Karen Bishop (Mark); sister, Hilda (Bill) Tomblin, who attended BHS; and sister-in-law, Sue Cooke. A celebration of life was held in Huntington, West Virginia.

Carolyn Curtis Everett, a former resident of the Canal Zone, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1938 and passed away in Tucson, Arizona, on October 27, 2023.

Her father, Ira Nankervis Curtis, was a captain in the US Navy, so the Curtis family moved frequently. They lived in South Carolina, Michigan, Rhode Island, Washington, D.C., Pearl Harbor, San Diego, Jacksonville, the Panama Canal Zone, Boston, Lawrence, Kansas, Venice, Florida, and Tucson, Arizona. Carolyn's mother, Ruth Geddes Curtis, supported the family as a homemaker and Navy spouse, assimilating them into new homes and communities after each move.

Carolyn was in the Balboa High School class of 1956, spending her freshman and sophomore years in the Canal Zone. She had many wonderful memories of her time there and spoke of it often, deeming it the perfect place to be a teenager. During her time at Balboa High, Carolyn was involved in orchestra and band, the pep club, softball, and swimming. She was active in her church and remembered many interesting trips around Panama and the Canal. She maintained friendships with her friends from Panama for the rest of her life.

After graduating from Albion College in Michigan with a degree in education, Carolyn taught elementary school. She then enrolled in graduate school at Boston University and completed a Master's degree in reading instruction. While working as a reading consultant, Carolyn became a full-time elementary teacher in the Boston area and later in Lawrence, Kansas. She eventually taught junior high school, where she was known for her remarkable ability to control unruly students! While teaching full-time, she became a successful real estate agent, working evenings and weekends.

Carolyn was an accomplished artist and learned to play several musical instruments, notably the French horn. She enjoyed Plein-air painting and spent many days in her retirement with a portable easel and paints near her favorite beaches. Carolyn never lost her fascination with cats and loved cooking and sewing. She and her husband, Grover, traveled extensively and lived for more than two years in Australia and nearly a year in Oxford, England, while Grover was on sabbatical leave from the University of Kansas. A lifetime of travel gave her a lasting interest in indigenous forms of art from around the world, and she collected everything from Aboriginal bark paintings to fabrics from Central and South America.

She was an outstanding mother to her two children and a loving and supportive wife to Grover. They would have been married for 60 years in December 2023.

Carolyn was survived by her husband, Grover Everett, for several months before he passed away in February of 2024. They are both survived by their daughter Susan Everett and son-in-law Peter Riccio of Colorado, their son Mark Everett of Arizona, their granddaughter Ella Everett Riccio of Maine, Carolyn's brother David Curtis of Maryland, and Grover's sister Sherby McGrath of South Carolina. She was a member of the Panama Canal Society.



James Thomas Fehrenbach, Jr., was born on March 29, 1973, and unexpectedly passed away on March 14, 2024. He was almost 51 years old. James (Jimmy) was born in the Panama Canal Zone and moved to Safety Harbor, Florida, when he was eight years old with his mother, Alice, and sister, Georgia.

He was a tugboat captain and worked in various seaports, including Tampa, the Gulf of Mexico, the East Coast of Florida, and the New England area.

He leaves behind two children, Abby and Eric, his loving mother, Alice Crouch Calvo, sister Georgia Fehrenbach, and siblings Alex Crouch Calvo, Sonny, Kathleen, and Rosie Crouch. His father, James Fehrenbach Sr, lives in Panama with his wife Ana and children Moises, Aaron, and Sarah. Jimmy has a large family with aunts, uncles, many cousins, friends, and dear ones who were very close and loved him very much. He was a member of the Panama Canal Society.



William Cole Garber, Jr. died January 30, 2024, at the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital - Big Bend Hospice, First Commerce Center for Compassionate Care. Bill was born in Clifton Forge, Virginia to Bill and Alice Garber. Bill lived in Virginia until the age 8, when his parents moved to the Panama Canal Zone. Oh, the memories he made living there. Following high school graduation, he returned to Virginia to attend Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, Virginia. While in Virginia, he reacquainted himself, at the insistence of his grandparents, with a childhood friend. As the saying goes, "the rest is history." Bill and Sandy have been married for over 56 years.

His career took a different turn when he moved to Tallahassee. His entire career was spent in the building construction/supply business; culminating with starting of his own business, Garber Millwork Supply until he retired.

When not working, his greatest joy was watching and sometimes coaching his two sons in his all-time favorite sport of baseball!! Through the years many vacations, birthdays and even anniversaries were spent at various ballparks. Many lasting friendships were made during the years from Little League to college. Then came the three grandsons and he got to start all over again. However, the first grandchild was a granddaughter, and he was smitten!! She is the only one who learned how to make Granddaddy's special chocolate chip cookies!! He was a proud father and grandfather.

Bill is survived by his wife and best friend, Sandy; his son, William (Bill) C. Garber III (Michele) and their children Sydney (22) and Cody (16); his son, Brian E. Garber (Eliz-

abeth) and their children Cole (16) and Bryce (11); his brother, Tim (Shannon) and sister, Alison (Tracy). Also remembering him are numerous nieces and nephews. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Alice Garber; brother, Tom Garber and sister, Jane Garber Thomas.

If you knew Bill it wouldn't be long before you knew his favorite motto. "Measure twice, cut once". Oh, how he loved to remind everyone of this. He also loved the comic strip Pickles. There were times he and Sandy would laugh at seeing each other in them. One of his favorite lines from Pickles is: "Common sense is a flower that doesn't bloom in everyone's garden." As his father-in-law would have said, "Amen brother!" Since his death, many have commented to his family about what a kind and good man he always was. No truer words have ever been spoken. He will be greatly missed by us all.



Patricia (Pat) Hannigan, 74, passed away peacefully on February 11, 2024, in Wilmington, Delaware. Born in Colón, Panama, in 1949, she was the daughter of the late Joseph Hannigan and Agnes (McDade) Hannigan. She was raised in the Canal Zone and was ever after a "Zonian" at heart. She was on the water ballet team in high school and developed a lifelong love of the water. So much so

that later in life, she took up scuba diving, and after her air pressure outlasted that of the instructor on her check-out dive, he only half-jokingly checked her for gills.

She moved to the U.S. to attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where she mistook her first sight of snow for ash from a fire somewhere nearby. In her typical "I am not shrinking from anything" fashion, the young woman who had never owned a sweater immediately signed up for skiing lessons. She earned a B.A. degree in Musical Theatre from the University of Massachusetts. She went on to earn an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Virginia and the University of Pennsylvania.

Just before submitting her Ph.D. dissertation to the University of Pennsylvania, she left for a more practical calling and earned her Juris Doctor from Rutgers University Law School. Her professional career began as a Public Defender in Delaware, the rough and tumble of which suited her well. After a brief stint in private practice that suited her less well, she became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware, a position she held for 29 years and a job she truly loved. She was elected President of the Delaware Bar Association from 2002-2003. An outstanding trial attorney, she used her theatric background to good effect. Rumor has it that she took reading glasses she didn't need to the podium so that at appropriate moments, she could either look over them skeptically or remove them with a sweep that said "Really?" without saying a word.

She also was an outstanding vocalist - a mezzo-soprano who loved Italian lyric opera and had a power-packed voice. Her highlight role was singing Musetta in Puccini's

La Boheme. She toyed with becoming a professional but said of her talent that she was an A- soprano when anything other than A+ meant more waiting on tables than arias at the Met. But she sang as an amateur at a very high level. She was a chorus member on stage under Ricardo Mutti's baton with the Philadelphia Orchestra and performed at the Academy of Music and Carnegie Hall. She loved best her starring roles in hysterical musical spoofs by members of the Delaware State Bar Association through Lex Lyrica.

Pat was fiercely direct and independent. She craved travel, adventure, and spontaneity throughout her life and encouraged by example the same in those around her. She went rock climbing in Yosemite, rode a substantial motorcycle to work, was in Johannesburg the day after Mandela was inaugurated President of South Africa while on her way to a safari in Kenya, and sailed and scuba dived around the British Virgin Islands, as a small sampling. The highlight of every year for Pat was a reunion in Maine with her sprawling family, a time replete with much water skiing, precarious parasailing, and general revelry, all engaged in with the hope that no one got seriously hurt and boats on the bottom the lake would be rare.

Beneath this elan and bravado, Pat also had a deep seriousness, with a keen eye for an intolerance of injustices, and a palpable compassion for those facing the struggles of life that are so unequally bestowed across us. She was a Quaker and a member of Wilmington Monthly Meeting, where she sat in contemplation weekly, gifted by the silent communion with others and the occasional heartfelt messages of wisdom or anguish to ponder. She held all in the light, a resounding presence throughout her life.

Pat was predeceased by her brother, Joe Hannigan, and her sisters, Mary Anne MODOONO and Alice O'Regan. Pat is survived by her two beloved daughters, Lan and Zia, her sister Diane Moran, and the many members of the Hannigan clan who loved her dearly.



Eva Andrea Ashworth Hunnicutt passed away on December 26, 2023 doing what she loved most: cruising. Eva was born December 20, 1945 in Houston, Texas. She graduated from Tomball High School (1964) and attended Sam Houston State University with a B.S. (1968) and later from Oklahoma University with a Masters.

She met the love of her life, Lee Hunnicutt, while at Sam Houston and he was a student at Texas A&M. They dated for five years and were married 53 years. After Lee graduated from Texas A&M he returned to the Panama Canal Zone where he was raised. He returned to Texas to marry the love of his life on July 18, 1970. After they were married they returned to Panama and lived there for 24 years. Panama was a tropical paradise and they both enjoyed their time there. They made many lifelong friends. They retired and returned to live in New Braunfels after the canal was returned to Panama.

Eva ran a Youth Center until she was hired as the first

woman in the world to become a tunnage surveyor (admeasure). As an admeasure she was required to board ship from a moving launch and climb a rope ladder with a 15 pound backpack on her back. It was very dangerous work, but she loved it and she was good at it!! Those of us that were friends were privileged to go to Panama and visit. She and Lee made sure we had experiences you could not experience anywhere else in the world. The memories of those visits will last us a lifetime!! They were the perfect host and hostess.

If you worked for the Panama Canal, you received nine weeks of vacation per year. She and Lee took advantage of this liberal leave package and traveled the world. Every other year they would spend five weeks traveling Europe, the Orient and Central and South America. Then they would return to Texas for the remainder of the leave. They would rent a condo on the banks of the Comal River where they entertained family and friends. It was a wonderful life in a well adjusted, happy marriage.

Eva was predeceased by her mother, Dorthy Parks, her father, Earnest Ashworth and brother, Michael Ashworth.

She is survived by husband, Lee Hunnicutt, her sister, Sylvia Bivins, and many nieces and nephews. Eva is also survived by her high school friends, college friends, church friends and many friends from her Panama days.

Eva was a Life Member of Sam Houston State University Alumni Association, Daughters of the American Revolution and United Daughter's of the Confederacy. She loved researching her and Lee's family history. She was a loving, kind, generous and sweet woman. Eva was a member of the Panama Canal Society.



Joseph D. Lastinger, 81, of Surprise, Arizona, died of cancer on December 23, 2023. Joe was born June 2, 1942, in Colon, Republic of Panama, the son of James C. (Buck) and Joaquina (Jackie) Chong Lastinger.

Joe spent his early years in Cristobal, and in his teens, his family moved to Curundu, where he met many of his lifelong friends and was quite competitive in track, baseball, basketball, and bowling. He was also an Officer in the ROTC. Joe graduated from Balboa High School, Class of 1960. Following graduation, he served in the US Air Force as a firefighter stationed at Nellis AFB and was honorably discharged in August 1964. After the Air Force, Joe hopped on his motorcycle and drove thousands of miles to Oregon to attend college.

After graduating from the University of Oregon, he started his career in the food industry.

Joe always had a superior work ethic and put in the time necessary to become an expert in meats, food preparation, and managing people. Joe was an excellent teacher and

easy to talk to. By the end of his career, he had hundreds of food service employees working for him. Later in his career, he moved to Arizona, where he met his wife Maryjane of 33 years, continued cooking, dancing with her in the kitchen, and singing while traveling in the car.

He became a self-taught avid golfer and enjoyed cooking for family and friends. His favorite meal for whoever would show up would be ribs, corn on the cob, and many plantains! He would share his recipes with family and friends by jotting on post-it notes, which everyone still treasures! He also continued to run and work out as much as possible. Joe attended the Panama Canal Society Reunions and was always dancing if he wasn't telling stories with his friends. The last reunion he attended was in 2023, and he enjoyed every moment as usual. He was a member of the Panama Canal Society.

He was diagnosed with cancer in mid-November and passed away on December 23, 2023. He wanted so badly to fight his illness and would continue to say, "Come on, Guido...you got this." However, cancer doesn't fight fair.

He is survived by his wife Maryjane, his loving family of four children and their spouses, three grandchildren and their spouses, and three great-grandchildren, his sister Rose Dean Jones, and his brother James Christopher Lastinger (Chris). He will forever be greatly missed by his family and friends, who all remember him as a caring, kind, and gentle man. Todo estara bien = Everything will be alright.



Mark Donald MacLean died peacefully at his home in East Wenatchee, Washington, on February 19, 2024. Mark suffered from Parkinson's disease for over 14 years.

Mark was born on November 4, 1955, in Wenatchee, Washington, to Donald E. and Maycel J. (Johnson) MacLean. When Mark was about eight months old, his father got a job at Panama Canal Company, and the family moved to Panama.

Mark and his parents moved back to Wenatchee after graduating high school. Mark enjoyed growing up in Panama and kept in touch with his childhood friends until he could no longer use his phone.

Mark was a man of many passions. He found joy in dirt bike riding, fishing, boating, water skiing, and his cars. These activities were not just hobbies, but a reflection of his adventurous spirit and love for life. Mark, along with his wife Anne and their son Mark Jr, cherished their vacations in Mazatlan, Mexico, until health issues made travel difficult.

Mark served the Washington State Dept. of Agriculture as a Commodities Inspector for an impressive 26 years, retiring in 2014. His commitment and hard work left a lasting

impact on the community.

Mark is survived by his loving wife Anne, his son Mark Jr. residing in East Wenatchee, Washington, his sister Donella Vogel, and his nephews Louis Vogel and Trevor Vogel residing in Florida. He is also survived by his beloved dogs Teddy and Toaster.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Maycel MacLean, and his brother-in-law, Louis A. Vogel. Mark's family loves and misses him very much, but they are grateful that he is at peace and no longer feeling any pain. Mark's memorial service was held at the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in East Wenatchee, Washington.



Norma Stillwell Martin passed away peacefully in her sleep in the early morning hours of February 1, 2024, aged 104 years and 4 months. Norma was born on September 28, 1919, in the Panama Canal Zone, the daughter of the Superintendent of the Locks Division of the Panama Canal.

After an idyllic childhood, she graduated from Balboa High School and went on to graduate from Penn State University, where she was President of the Chi Omega sorority. She met her future husband in 1942 after returning to the Canal Zone, Lt. Lee McNeer Martin of Ronceverte, West Virginia, a member of the U.S. Army West Virginia National Guard, which was called up to guard the Canal at the beginning of WWII. Their first child, Lee Jr, was born on July 4, 1943, followed two and a half years later by son Dennis Stillwell on December 10, 1945.

After the war, Lee was reassigned to the occupation forces in Japan, and the family moved to Yokohama from 1947-50. In 1950, Norma and her boys moved to Monrovia, California, to live with her now-retired parents, while Lee spent a year in Korea at the beginning of that conflict. Their third son, Robert, was born during a typhoon on August 31, 1949. Upon Lee's return to the States, the family spent the next two years in Dundalk, Maryland, where their fourth child, daughter Normalee, was born on October 29, 1954. This was followed by another three-year stint in Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan. Norma and Lee helped start the Order of the Eastern Star Chapters in Yokosuka and Tokyo during their tenure in Japan. Norma was deeply devoted to involving military families in fraternal and charitable work, including the establishment of the Rainbow Girls and Order of DeMolay chapters.

In 1956, Norma and the family moved to Falls Church, Virginia, where Lee was assigned to the Pentagon. In 1971, after retirement they moved to the Leesburg area, when it was still a bucolic, historic village, situated a world away from Washington, D.C. Husband Lee died unexpectedly in 1981 at age 63. By this time, Norma had begun what was to become years of philanthropic work in Loudoun County. She was involved with no less than thirteen organizations and nonprofits, such as her time at Loudoun Memorial Hospital, volunteering as a "Pink Lady," her work at the former

Carver School in Purcellville, the Loudoun Chapter of the Red Cross, her time on the Loudoun Library Foundation and Animal Care & Control boards of directors, and her work with Nancy's Cookies to raise funds for the county's first Alzheimer's respite center.

A gifted and prolific writer, Norma wrote both poetry and prose to delight friends and family.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents Ellis and Elizabeth Stillwell, her husband Lee and sister Jean.

She is survived by her daughter Normalee, with whom she lived and son Robert (m. Sally Kellogg), both of Leesburg, son Dennis (m. Jennifer Smith) of Toronto, Canada, and son Lee Jr. (m. Pamela Douglas) of Lexington, Virginia.

She was also grandmother to Ellis and Emory of Toronto, Lee Dayre of Loudoun County, and Alice of Harper's Ferry, W.V., and great-grandmother to Emory and Sterling of Harper's Ferry, W.V., and Jack of Toronto, Canada.

Norma was funny, smart, and energetic, and those who knew her liked her.

Her children and family considered her longevity an uncommon gift. She will be sorely missed. Her ashes will be placed alongside Lee's in the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium.



Bobby Charles Poland of Greenwood, Louisiana, departed this world on January 20, 2024, at 92. He was born in Oberlin, Louisiana, on September 28, 1931, to Samuel Maze Poland and Zelma Grace Rowe Poland.

He spent his early years in Jonesboro, Louisiana. He was a graduate of Jonesboro Hodge High School. He loved The Boy Scouts of America, where he obtained the rank of Eagle Scout. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in January 1949.

In 1952, Bobby married his hometown sweetheart, Thelma L. Ketchum. They had four boys: Samuel, Ronald, Darrell, and David. At the time of his death, he had eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bobby served meritoriously for 26+ years before retiring. He served overseas during the Korean Conflict and in Morocco, Spain, and Vietnam, where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his actions. In 1967, while stationed in Saigon, Vietnam, Bobby was ordained a Deacon at Trinity Baptist Church.

His last assignment was U.S. Southern Command in The Canal Zone, Republic of Panama. He retired from the U.S. Air Force on March 31, 1975, and then he went to work for the Panama Canal Commission the next day. When the treaty with Panama went into effect in 1999, his position as Assistant Chief of The Canal Protection Division was eliminated, and he returned to the United States. Bobby was called back to Panama to serve as Chief of the Military Customs Division for seven additional years. Bobby was awarded The Commanders Award for Civilian Service before his final retirement at 63.



Charles Morgan "Mo" Schoch of Newnan, Georgia, and Boynton Beach, Florida, passed away peacefully on October 4, 2023, at the age of 82.

Mo was born in the Panama Canal Zone to the late Max Manville Schoch and Catharine Barnes Schoch on June 27, 1941.

Mo always spoke fondly of his childhood in the Canal Zone. He graduated from Balboa High School and was quite an athlete, participating in football and track, but his true love was baseball. He was a pitcher on his high school team, pitched in college, and even played briefly for a minor league baseball team affiliated with the Kansas City Royals until he got injured. Mo went to Middle Tennessee State University, earning a Physical Education degree. He met and eventually married a southern belle named Carolyn Webb. Upon graduation, he got his first teaching job and moved to Orange Park, Florida. Having grown up in the tropics, he longed for an even warmer climate, and the next year, he landed a job and moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where they lived for many years. He loved teaching and enjoyed being outside with the children year-round. He taught at Ramblewood Elementary School for many years and finished his career at Winston Park Elementary.

In addition to teaching, he worked simultaneously for the county parks and recreation department six days a week. He retired from both jobs after 37 years at the age of 62.

Mo was a huge sports fan, and along with his wife and daughter had season tickets for the Miami Dolphins for years, spending many Sundays at the games together. He

also enjoyed ski vacations and visiting family twice a year in Tennessee. His father-in-law taught him many things on his farm during summer visits. Mo enjoyed being on the farm and liked bush-hogging the fields in the blazing hot sun!

In 2010, Mo and Carolyn bought a house in Newnan, Georgia, to be closer to their daughter Kelly. When winter came, they realized they were no longer fans of cold weather and decided to spend their winters in Boynton Beach, Florida. Mo was most happy outdoors, working in his yard and keeping it immaculate. He was a very kind-hearted person who was loved by everyone. He would never speak badly about anyone.

He is survived by his daughter Kelly Curl and son-in-law Andrew, his sister Tanya Hall of Coral Springs, Florida, and many nieces and nephews.

Daniel Joseph Stanley, age 61, was born in Charleston, West Virginia, and lived in Fairhope, Alabama, until his death on November 6, 2003.

He was raised in the Panama Canal Zone, graduated from Cristobal High School, served twenty years in the United States Navy, and was a Fairhope Masonic Lodge 598 Greeno member. Mr. Stanley's hobbies included wood carving, raising orchids and roses, fishing, hunting, and reading.

He is survived by his wife, Carol L. Stanley of Fairhope, Ala.; son, Kevin C. (Michelle) Stanley of Foley, Ala.; daughter, Heather J. Stanley of Hastings, Nebraska; one brother, Mike Stanley; sister, Patty Neabrey, both of Fairhope, Ala.; granddaughter, Grace Cathryn Stanley; nieces and nephews.
