

Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home

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 Gordon R. Terry CFSP & Joan Kuhn Terry CFSP, Directors

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2006 Obituaries

The Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home has been trusted with the care of the following individuals. We hope this on-line obituary section will be of assistance to you. Simply click on the name to view the obituary and send a condolence message to the family.

2006

	George (Lester) Stickles	Valentin B. Bueche
Elizabeth J. Klingler	Wayne L. Sweet	John F. Grosfent
Clara H. Whitacre	Robert Lee Sweet Jr.	Mary C. Mahoney
Martin J. Maloney	Bethia A. Arnold	Earl W. Hickling
Charles F. Turner	H. Roger Nelsen	Charlotte Ruth Wadsworth
Hedwig Walicki	Elizabeth "Beth" Walsh	Dorothy M. Maier
Charles Geiger	Laurie A. Ray	Kenneth L. Ray
Alicia M. Ray	Kristie M. Ray	Willard I. Douglas
Bertha A. Dockstader	Barrett T. Welch	Charlotte E. (McElroy) MANN

2004 Obituaries.	2005 Obituaries.	2006 Obituaries.	2007 Obituaries.	2009 Obituaries.
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[Local Weather](#)

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Leonardsville, NY - STICKLES

George (Lester) Stickles was reunited with his wife, Florence, in Heaven on December 15, 2006.

Lester was born on February 25, 1919 in Monticello, the son of John and Gertrude (Babcock) Stickles. He married Florence M. Key on August 9, 1941 at the Congregational Church in Bridgewater. She predeceased him on June 1, 1982.

Lester served in the United States Army during WWII, and retired as Supervisor from Chicago Pneumatic, Utica. He was quite the sportsman: enjoying both hunting, fishing and in the winter, snowmobiling. Lester was also able to continue raising Beef Cows up till last year. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in West Edmeston, the Johnson-Rogers American Legion Post in Brookfield, and the Leonardsville Rod and Gun Club.

Lester loved his family very much, always enjoying his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was so grateful to meet his latest great grandchild last week, only days old.

His children and their spouses Kathy and Kelvin Smith; and Betty and Gary Simmons; his grandchildren Kim Nelson, Kelly Collins, Keith Smith, Eugene Klein, Michelle Griffiths, Amy Deforest, Josh Simmons, Gary Simmons, Pam Hanks, and Valerie Simmons; and 18 great grandchildren survive Lester. His brothers and sisters also predeceased Lester.

Services will be held on Sunday December 17, 2006 at 3:00pm at the First Baptist Church in West Edmeston with Pastor Don Buck officiating. Calling hours are from 1:00pm to 3:00pm prior to the service at the church.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston, NY.

Ormond Beach, FL - BUECHE

Valentin B. Bueche, Jr., 77, of Ormond Beach, Florida passed away Monday evening, December 4, 2006 at Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown. He was born July 1, 1929 in Torrington, CT, the son of Valentin and Lillian (Maynard) Bueche, Sr. He married Marguerite Ann Gunn, who survives.

Valentin was employed as a Quality Analyst for IBM in Poughkeepsie, NY and has been a resident of the state of Florida for the past 18 years. He and his wife, Ann, have resided in Ormond Beach for the last 8 years.

In addition to his wife Ann, Valentin is survived by his sons; Mark and Jennifer Bueche of West Edmeston and Jeffrey Bueche of Hawaii and three grandchildren: Charles, James and Ashley Bueche.

A memorial service will be held in the spring of 2007. Those who wish may make contributions in his memory to either Hospice or the West Edmeston Fire Department.

Edmeston - KLINGLER



Elizabeth (Betty) J. Cadwell Klingler, 72, of Edmeston died at home Sunday December 3, 2006.

She was born September 27, 1934 in Leonardsville, the daughter of Howard and Sally (Price) Cadwell. Betty married Arthur R. Klingler September 27, 1952 in New Berlin. He predeceased her on September 30, 1997.

Betty and her husband, Art, owned a dairy farm for 39 years. For over 30 years she was also employed as a family care provider by the Cadwell Home in New Berlin.

Betty was a gentle Lady. She loved to read and sew; and made all three wedding gowns for her daughters. Betty was a member of the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston and had served on the Christian Education board.

Her children Jonathan Klingler, Maureen Klingler, Geri Bosco, Patricia Green, Paula Turner, and Arthur Klingler Jr.; nine grandchildren; her mother Sally Price Cadwell; her sister Sally Welch; her Aunt Margaret P. Close; and several nieces and nephews survive Betty.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday December 6, 2006 at 11:00 AM at the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston with Rev. Dr. John Buskey officiating. Calling hours are from 4-8 PM on Tuesday December 5, 2006 at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

Interment will be at Edmeston Union Cemetery following the service.

Contributions may be made in Betty's memory to the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston Fire Dept., or Catskill Area Hospice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

Utica - SWEET

Wayne L. Sweet, 70, of Utica and formerly of Schyuler died Wednesday evening at the Northeast Center for Special Care, Lake Katrine, NY.



Wayne was born on April 18, 1936 in Edmeston, the son of Edward C. and Charlotte (Klock) Sweet.

Wayne retired from the Bendix Corp., Utica as a manufacturing Inspector. He was a quiet man who followed sports and enjoyed cars. He favored the Yankees; and pampered both the 1987 Corvette and 1976 Buick that he had bought new.

His companion Jean St. Amour; his brother and wife Douglas and Myrta Sweet; nine nieces and nephews; and cousins Brenda, Eleanor, Jimmy, Patty, and Prudy survive Wayne.

His sister Ruth Thompson and niece Susan Kolik predeceased Wayne.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday November 28, 2006 at 10:00 am at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston with Pastor Jay Henderson officiating. Call hours are from 2-4 and 7-9 pm on Monday.

Interment will follow the service at Edmeston Union Cemetery.

Contributions may be made in Wayne's memory to the American Diabetes Association, envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

Edmeston - **GROSFENT**



John F. Grosfent, 71, of Edmeston died early Thursday morning at Harding Nursing Home in Waterville.

He was born on October 12, 1935 in Worcester, the son of Harold and Ida Mae (Hubbard) Grosfent. He married Bernice Martin on July 18, 1959.

John so loved the outdoors; he equally loved dairy farming, logging and the management of his forests. His day was always brighter when surrounded by his "kids" and family.

He was an avid hunter who enjoyed deer season best.

His wife Bernice; his children Deborah Grosfent, Denise Catoe, Dennis and Tracey (Hoagland) Grosfent; 12 grandchildren; three great grandchildren, his brother Walter Grosfent, and nephew Harold & Becky Grosfent survive John.

His brothers Richard and Elland Grosfent predeceased John.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday November 18, 2006 at 11 AM at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston with Pastor Jay Henderson officiating. Calling hours are on hour prior to the service from 10 – 11 AM.

Interment will follow at the Leonardsville Cemetery, Leonardsville.

Contributions may be made in John's memory to the Harding Nursing Home, Waterville, NY.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

Brookfield – **WHITACRE**

Clara H. Whitacre, 88, formerly of Brookfield was called home



to the Lord on Tuesday October 17, 2006.

She was born on January 12, 1918 in Sherburne, the daughter of Walter and Cora (Alysworth) Hull. She married Paul Whitacre on July 5, 1942. He predeceased her on April 28, 1980.

Clara was a member of the Brookfield Baptist Church, Sunday school teacher, and WTCU. As a homemaker for her family she was also a foster parent for 16 years. Church, children, grandchildren, family, gardening, and flowers were her life. She felt deeply rewarded by each.

Her children Ernest Ray Whitacre and wife Linda, Bernard Charles Whitacre and Nancy; her special children Pat Gaither and Margaret Boice; her grandchildren Jason Whitacre, Jonathan Whitacre, Joseph Mortzheim, Trevor Smith and Carrie Smith; and her brother Raymond Hull and sister Gladys Williams survive Clara.

Funeral services will be held at the Brookfield Baptist Church with Rev. Mark Thall officiating on Friday October 20, 2006 at 2:00pm.

Interment will follow at South Brookfield Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Clara's memory to the First Baptist Church of Brookfield.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

WEST BURLINGTON – SWEET



The Lord peacefully called **Robert Lee Sweet Jr.**, 70, of West Burlington home on Sunday October 8, 2006

He was born on July 19, 1936 in Pittsfield, the son of Robert Lee and Vivia L. (Church) Sweet. He married Donna Lee Bennett in December 1957 at the Edmeston Baptist Church.

Robert served in the United States Air Force, Airman First Class, from 1954 till 1962. He was member of the Wharton Valley American Legion Post #1311.

He retired from the United States Postal Service as Post Master of the West Burlington Post Office. Robert was an active member of his community as past member of the Rotary he had served as both Vice President & Secretary. He was also a Cub Scout Leader, and coach for the Edmeston Little League and Pony League.

His loving wife Donna; his children and their spouses Kimberlee & Joseph Leqault, Kellee and Dale Gregory, Michael and Mary Sweet, and Robbin and Roxanne Sweet; his grandchildren Joseph Sweet, Jeremiah Gregory, Erica Gregory, Marissa Sweet, Kayla Sweet, and Michael Sweet; and his brothers James W. Sweet and Richard W. Sweet survive Robert.

Contributions may be made in Robert's memory to the United Methodist Church, Edmeston.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday October 10, 2006 at 11:00 AM at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home with Rev. Beverly Butler officiating. Calling hours are from 9:00-11:00 prior to the service.

EDMESTON – MAHONEY

Mary C. Mahoney, 91, went home to the Lord on Tuesday September 5, 2006 at MIB in Cooperstown.

She was born May 16, 1915 in the Bronx, the daughter of Michael and Alice Norton) Laracy. She married James Mahoney on September 20, 1941 at Saint Clare's Catholic Church in Staten Island. He predeceased her on May 2, 1964.



Mary retired as secretary from the Permutit Company in Paramus, New Jersey. She relocated to Edmeston to be with her son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Debbie. She had a deep love of family, and they in turn loved her.

Mary was a devoted reader, and had especially enjoyed traveling Europe with her good friend Virginia.

Her son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Debbie Mahoney; her step-grandchildren Michael Feeley, Julie and Matt Beers, and Seamus and Julia Feeley; and two great grandchildren Lauren and Jameson survive Mary.

A memorial Service will be held on Friday at 1:00 PM at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston with Father John Burns officiating.

Interment will be private at St. John's Cemetery, Brooklyn

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

NEW BERLIN – MALONEY



Martin (Marty) J. Maloney completed his journey of life on August 31, 2006.

He was born on January 31, 1928 in Hornell, NY the son of Thomas Francis and Helen (Ryan) Maloney; and was raised by his step-mother Winifred Frawley. Marty married Evelyn Sharo on November 28, 1953. He was predeceased by his brothers William and Thomas Maloney, and his sister Mary Enouf.

Marty served in the Korean War, graduated from Buffalo State and Albright Art School, which began his career as an artist and educator. Beginning as an art teacher in New Berlin, Hayden-Winkleman School in Arizona, Superintendent of Mt Upton Central School, Deposit Central School, St. Mary's in Keota, Iowa and also Holy Family in Norwich. Marty rounded off his career at BOCES in Chenango County.

Marty lived his life waiting to meet his Lord & Savior face to face. He was a devoted husband to his "girlfriend & sweetie", Evie, and cherished his children & grandchildren.

Marty is survived by his wife of 53 years, Evie; his children and their spouses Thomas (Dawn) Maloney, Maureen (Daniel) Perry, Joann (Paul) Page, Gretchen (James) Matt, Martin Maloney and his fiancé Nicole, and Christopher (Christine) Maloney; and 17 grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday September 4, 2006 at 11:00 AM at the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Edmeston with Father John Burns officiating. Calling hours will be one hour prior at the Church.

Interment will be held on Tuesday September 5, 2006 at 11:00 AM at Fairview Cemetery in New Berlin.

Contributions may be made in Marty's memory to the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Edmeston.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

NEW HARTFORD – **ARNOLD**

Bethia A. Arnold, 65 of New Hartford went to be with the Lord on Monday, August 28, 2006 at St. Lukes-Faxton Hospital, Utica. She was born March 10, 1941 in Utica, the daughter of David and Hazel (Benjamin) Welch. On May 14, 1960 she was united in marriage with Ralph Arnold at a cottage on Summit Lake.

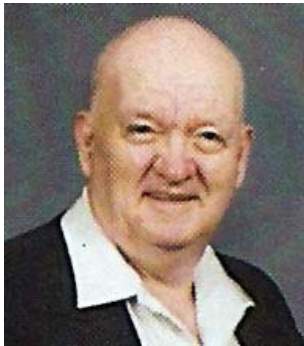
Bethia was a kind and devoted wife and mother. She loved children and especially enjoyed the times spent with her grandchildren. Traveling through the New England states and Florida brought her much happiness. She liked to crochet and dining out was another pleasure in her life. Along with her husband, she was a member of the Immanuel Baptist Church in New Hartford

In addition to her husband, Ralph, she is survived by her daughters: Sheila St. Hilaire and Melissa Beach and her grandchildren: Christine, Ryan and Andrew St. Hilaire and Alexis and Ashley Beach.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday August 30, 2006 at 2:00 PM at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home with Pastor Don Buck officiating. Calling hours are Wednesday August 30, 2006 from Noon to service time at the Funeral Home.

Contributions may be made in Bethia's memory to the American Cancer Society and envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

EDMESTON - **HICKLING**

Earl W. Hickling, 87, of Edmeston went home to the Lord on Sunday August 20, 2006.

He was born on October 28, 1918 in Edmeston, the only child of Walter J. and Nellie (Ward) Hickling. He married Pearl Decker in 1942, she predeceased him in 1964. Earl then married Grace VanPelt in 1964; she also predeceased Earl in 1991. In 1991 he married Barbara Garrigan, who passed away in 2001.

Earl was a devoted family man; always with a smile, a twinkle in his eye, and a warm hug. He was a member of the Second Baptist Church in Edmeston, and the Wharton Valley Grange. Earl retired as a chemical operator from Norwich Eaton Pharmaceutical. He had love of nature, and a fondness for animals great and small.

His children Robert and Freda Hickling, James and Christine Hickling, Shirley and Robert Danaher, and Marilyn and Matthew Gagne; 12 grandchildren, and numerous great grandchildren survive Earl.

Besides his wives, his son John Hickling also predeceased Earl in 1963.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday August 24, 2006 at 11:00am at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home. Calling hours are Wednesday, August 23, 2006 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm at the Funeral Home.

Contributions may be made in Earl's memory to the Edmeston Fire Department.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

SOUTH EDMESTON – **TURNER**



Charles F. Turner, 88, of South Edmeston died peacefully at home with his family and companion Florence Card by his side.

He was born June 21, 1918 in Gilbertsville, the son of Fred and Harriett (Ward) Turner.

Charles attended the local school, and then began his career with the Unadilla Valley Rail Road. He was track foreman when he made his next career move to dairy farming working for David Welch.

Charles enjoyed fishing, hunting small game, tinkering on his cars, and riding with his grandson Rick picking up used cars.

His sons Alfred Turner and Ernest Turner; his daughter Jane Hall; 17 grandchildren, and several great grandchildren survive Charles.

Committal services for Charles will be held on Sunday August 13, 2006 at 4:00 PM at the West Edmeston Cemetery with Rev. Beverly Butler officiating.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

Garrattsville—NELSEN



H. Roger Nelsen, "Rog", 77, of Garrattsville, died peacefully at home on Sunday, July 09, 2006, surrounded by family and friends. He was born September 21, 1928, son of the late Henry and Evelyn (Ockers) Nelsen in Sayville, Long Island, New York. His sisters Iris and Dorothy and their husbands predeceased him.

After graduating from Mineola High School in 1946, he joined the National Guard. He and several of his high school friends were members for seven years in the Rainbow Division and trained at Fort Drum, N.Y.

He met Janet Schwarze in high school. They married in 1951, built a house in Huntington, Long Island and had two children, Peter and Susanne. Rog was a partner with his father in Nelsen's Auto Parts, in Mineola, New York for many years.

In 1968 Rog moved his family to Garrattsville New York, where he and his nephew, Doug Coutlee, started a dairy farm, Nelco Farms.

Later on, he was a parts manager at several local auto dealerships in Cooperstown and then worked at Pathfinder Village until he retired.

When he was a young boy, he worked as a pin boy for a local bowling alley and became an avid bowler, once competing in a ProAm bowling tournament with Ray Bluth. During his life, Rog enjoyed raising homing pigeons, fishing, boating and snowmobiling. He loved going to horse shows with his family and friends.

Rog enjoyed having all his children and grandchildren gather at the family homestead for holidays and special occasions. He was a devoted family man, who always put everyone else before himself. He loved to fix things around the house and could always be seen on his John Deere tractor with his favorite "JD" hat mowing the lawn.

He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Janet Nelsen, his two children and their families; Peter and Sue Nelsen, of South Windsor, CT and Susanne and Tim Eschler of Garrattsville, NY; grandchildren, Holly Nelsen, Daniel Nelsen, Candace Eschler and Dana Eschler; and nephew Doug Coutlee along with several other cousins, nieces and nephews.

We would like to extend our most sincere appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to the Catskill-Area Hospice and At Home Care, Inc. for their dedicated and loving care of Rog and our family.

Calling hours will be held at the Houk-Johnson-Terry Funeral Home in Edmeston on Friday, July 14 from 7PM to 9PM. A service will be held at 11am on Saturday, July 15 at the Morgan-Jackson All Faiths Chapel, Pathfinder Village with Joan Kuhn Terry officiating followed by burial at Hillington Cemetery in Morris, N.Y. at 1pm.

Contributions may be made in Rogers memory to Catskill Area Hospice, envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

UTICA – WADSWORTH



Charlotte Ruth Wadsworth, 81, of Utica, went home to the Lord early Saturday morning at Lorretto Utica Center Nursing Home.

She was born August 24, 1924 in Old Forge, the daughter of Maynard and Florence (Covey) Jones. She married Frank Wadsworth on August 5, 1944. He predeceased her on February 7, 2001.

Charlotte graduated from Sauquoit, She was a devoted member to the Herkimer Baptist Church, and had served as past President of the Cassville Fire Department Auxiliary. She and her husband Frank owned and operated the Wadsworth Store, a local mom & pop grocery store, in Cassville. Later Charlotte & Frank owned the Bon-Star Farm in Cassville. Charlotte was also talented with her hands producing fine knitting, crocheting, and needle point.

Her husband Frank; her daughter Bonnie Lou, who had died in 1961; and her brother Maynard, who had died during WWII, predeceased Charlotte. Her brothers and wives: Raymond & Grace Jones, and Richard and Barbara Jones; her sister-in-law Grace Bendix; and numerous nieces & nephews survive Charlotte.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2006 at 11:00 am at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston with Rev. Fred Wadsworth officiating. Calling hours are one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at Norwich Cemetery, Litchfield.

Contributions may be made in her memory to the Cassville Fire House or the Lorretto Utica Center Nursing Home, Utica.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

EDMESTON – WALICKI



Hedwig (Hedy) Walicki, 89, of Edmeston died late Friday evening June 16, 2006 at The Manor with her grandchild Alicia by her side.

She was born October 15, 1916 in Brooklyn the daughter of Adam and Michalina (Rymaszewski) Cwirko. She married Joseph Walicki on June 16, 1935. He predeceased her in September 1986.

Hedy was a devout woman, and lead her life in a very precise and accurate manner. She graduated from High School at 15. She loved knitting, baking, and sewing. She herself had been taught to sew at 4, and in turn taught many young children if asked.

Hedy's first job was in a sewing factory, piecework paid, in Brooklyn. After her marriage, she and her husband operated an Ice Cream Parlor before they moved to Burlington where they started a farm. Hedy loved sharing her farming life with all of her city friends, and especially proud that she could use every part of a pig. She had a huge garden and would can everything, make her own butter, and for the special people in her life she would make Strawberry-Rhubarb pies. She and her husband retired from farming in 1986.

Hedy was also a night supervisor for the Otsego School, and 4-H leader. She was the oldest member and past reader of the Church of the Nativity and Blessed Virgin Mary in Edmeston.

Her daughter Theresa Walicka; her grandchildren and spouses Alicia & Brian Bowen, Michael & Wendy Albrecht, James Wolff Jr. & Lisa, and Gregory & Osa Wolff; her great grandchildren Joshua and Justin Bowen, Mitchell and Jamie Albrecht, and Katie and Adam Wolff survive Hedy. Her brother Walter Cwirko, and her daughter Barbara Albrecht predeceased her.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday June 20, 2006 at 10:00 am at the Church of the Nativity of

the Blessed Virgin Mary, Edmeston with Father John Burns officiating. Interment will follow at Edmeston Union Cemetery.

Calling hours are Monday from 5-8 pm at the Houk Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston, with a prayer service to be held at 7:30 pm.

Contributions may be made in Hedy's memory to the Edmeston Emergency Squad or Catskill Area Hospice. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

EDMESTON – WALSH



Elizabeth "Beth" Walsh, August 14th, 1944 - June 9th, 2006.

The dash represents memories that will never fade of old country songs, knitting, coloring books, and the adventures of the 3B's.

Beth, you are to be remembered by your family, and all those who have been blessed to know you. "To live in the hearts of those we leave behind, is to never die." - Campbell

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

EDMESTON – MAIER

Dorothy M. Maier, 91, of Edmeston died peacefully on May 24, 2006 at Chase Nursing Home, New Berlin.

She was born January 18, 1915 in St. Johnsville and was raised by her maternal grandparents Ira. J. and Cora (McLaughlin) Nellis. She married Edmund Maier on October 6, 1940. He predeceased her on May 21, 1993.

Dorothy graduated from St. Johnsville with a regent Diploma. She attended Russell Sage College in Troy, NY and received her BA in Elementary Education from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Dorothy taught at Moravia Central School, the Knox school for Girls, Lemon Grove Elementary in California, and retired from Fort Plain Central School.

Dorothy was a member of the New York State Retired Teachers Association, AARP, the National Wildlife Federation, and CLA (Cat Lovers of America). She had a great fondness and concern for animals, be it her cats, her collie, and at one time her horse. Dorothy was a devoted educator and loved to learn. She enjoyed her flower garden, and traveling the United States of America.

Her sons and spouses Wayne and Veronica Maier, Richard J. and Ann Maier; her grandchildren and their spouses Christopher and Marena Maier, John and Donna Maier, and Richard C. Maier; her two great grandchildren Blake and Cody Maier survive Dorothy.

At private committal service will be held at Edmeston Union Cemetery.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

BURLINGTON FLATS – GEIGER

Charles "Chuck" Geiger of Edmeston, NY, formerly of Lower Township, NJ, passed away suddenly on May 12, 2006. Aged 46 years.

Chuck is survived by his loving mother Marie Geiger of Mantua, NJ, two precious children Amanda and Chuck, Jr. of New Bedford, Mass.,



dear aunt Charleen Bevans of Mantua, NJ, brother Wayne Geiger of Philadelphia, PA, two sisters June Simon of Washington Twp., NJ and Donna Lally of Ft. Belvoir, VA.

Also survived by his dear friend and companion Suzanne Elliot of Edmeston, NY.

He is pre-deceased by his father Charles Geiger and grandparents Charles and Marie Bevans.

Services and Internment will be private.

Donations in his memory may be made to "Geiger Children College Trust Fund" c/o Commerce Bank, 148 N. Main St., Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

BINGHAMTON – Laurie Ray



Laurie Ann Ray, 38, of Binghamton, died tragically May 3, 2006 at her home in Binghamton while trying heroically to save her children.

She was born November 11, 1967 in Norwich, the daughter of Kenneth and Hilda (Matthews) Eastman. She married Michael Ray on August 26, 1989.

Laurie graduated from Edmeston Central School in 1986, and had thoroughly enjoyed being an active member of the Edmeston Color Guard. She continued her education in the field of nursing and was pinned LPN on January 30, 1987.

Her career in nursing stemmed from her core being of caring and giving to others. A mile from her home in Binghamton resided an elderly man who was in need. She would walk to his home often to change his bandages, and to share her kind spirit of encouragement with him. She was employed by Willow Point Nursing Home, where many had warmly loved her.

Family was so important to Laurie, and camping seemed to be the best way to keep her children happy and together. Gilbert Lake was the favorite spot to fish, boat, swim, and share good times with her own family and her sisters' families. These memories cannot be taken away; all who loved her will savor them.

Her beloved husband Mike; her precious daughter Courtney; her loving parents Kenneth and Hilda Eastman; her stepchildren; her companion sisters Sherry Johnson, Teresa Kopp, and Diane Rifanburg; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends survive Laurie.

Memorial Services will be held on May 12, 2006 at 3:00 Pm at the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston with Rev. Jay Noll officiating.

Contributions may be made in memory of Laurie, Kenny, Alicia, and Kristie to their daughter and sister Courtney Ray care of the Eastman Family, 225 Axtel Road, Edmeston, NY 13335.

BINGHAMTON – Kenneth Ray

Kenneth Lee Eastman Ray, 16, of Binghamton died tragically at his home on May 3rd, 2006.

He was born August 14, 1989 in Cooperstown, the son of Michael and Laurie (Eastman) Ray.



Kenny attended Binghamton School District and was looking forward to completing 10th grade and summer vacation.

He was a typical teenager who loved the various video games, the camaraderie of family and friends. From an early age he enjoyed fixing things, when younger he was not always successful. But his determination carried him to working on vehicles. His current fix-r-upper was his truck.

Kenny was also very proud of his parents being members of the Binghamton Auxiliary Police.

His father Mike, and his dear sister Courtney; his devoted grandparents Kenneth and Hilda Eastman; stepbrothers and stepsisters; and many loving Aunts, Uncles, special cousins, schoolmates and friends, survive Kenny.

Memorial Services will be held on May 12, 2006 at 3:00 Pm at the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston with Rev. Jay Noll officiating.

Contributions may be made in memory of Laurie, Kenny, Alicia, and Kristie to their daughter and sister Courtney Ray care of the Eastman Family, 225 Axtel Road, Edmeston, NY 13335.

BINGHAMTON – Alicia Ray



Alicia Marie Ray, 15, of Binghamton, died tragically on May 3, 2006.

She was born April 17, 1991 in Cooperstown, the daughter of Michael and Laurie (Eastman) Ray.

Alicia was a student at Binghamton High in 9th grade. She had already decided her career path would be Teaching English.

She so loved her books, especially Harry Potter. But reading was not her only love; she also appreciated music and was studying guitar and violin. Each summer she could be found at Gilbert Lake fishing rod in hand, soaking up nature and her family. She enjoyed camping and hanging out with her companions from school.

Her loving father Mike, and older sister Courtney; her supportive grandparents Kenneth and Hilda Eastman; stepbrothers and stepsisters; and many loving Aunts, Uncles, special cousins, schoolmates and friends, survive Alicia.

Memorial Services will be held on May 12, 2006 at 3:00 Pm at the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston with Rev. Jay Noll officiating.

Contributions may be made in memory of Laurie, Kenny, Alicia, and Kristie to their daughter and sister Courtney Ray care of the Eastman Family, 225 Axtel Road, Edmeston, NY 13335.

BINGHAMTON – Kristie Ray

Kristie Mae Ray, 10, of Binghamton died May 3, 2006 as her mother Laurie tried to guide her brother Kenny, sister Alicia, and herself to safety from their home fire.

She was born February 11, 1996, in Norwich the daughter of Michael



and Laurie (Eastman) Ray.

Kristie was a fourth grade student at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School in Binghamton. Like her sister Alicia, she possessed a love of books and wanted to be well educated.

Her goal for the school year was to read 2000 books; she finished over 1600. She too, would be found at Gilbert Lake in the summer fishing road in hand, or hiking near by the family campsite investigating nature. Typical for her age she had a collection of Brat Dolls, and an assortment of stuffed animals. She loved all in her family.

Her daddy Mike, and role model sister Courtney; her proud grandparents Kenneth and Hilda Eastman; stepbrothers and stepsisters; and many loving Aunts, Uncles, special cousins, schoolmates and friends, survive Kristie.

Memorial Services will be held on May 12, 2006 at 3:00 Pm at the Second Baptist Church, Edmeston with Rev. Jay Noll officiating.

Contributions may be made in memory of Laurie, Kenny, Alicia, and Kristie to their daughter and sister Courtney Ray care of the Eastman Family, 225 Axtel Road, Edmeston, NY 13335.

EDMESTON – DOUGLAS



Willard I. Douglas, 75, formerly of Edmeston, died Tuesday morning March 7, 2006 at Harding Nursing Home in Waterville.

He was born September 3, 1930 in Hartwick, the son of Owen and Helen (Markel) Douglas. He married Esther Cornish on September 17, 1950. Esther predeceased Willard on May 10, 2001.

Willard loved farming. After he retired from Dairy his hobbies included raising herefords, tinkering around the farm, in the barn, or in the garage.

He enjoyed time, while at Harding, discussing the restoration of his 1949 Cockshutt tractor with his son-in-law.

Willard had a gregarious and warm personality. While living in Edmeston he would socialize at what was then known as Schworms store. More recently he would frequent Quacks in Madison for lunch. He enjoyed his independence from Harding on nice days with a trip to Stewarts or going out and about with friends or family in his van. He enjoyed caring for animals, especially his cats.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday March 10, 2006 at 2:00 PM at the First Baptist Church of West Edmeston with Rev. Don Buck officiating. Calling hours will be from noon till 2:00 PM prior to the service.

Interment will be in the spring at Milford Cemetery.

Willard is survived by his sister Charlotte Harrington of Morris, his children and their spouses Marylyn and Don Fenton of Summerville SC, Pamela and William Lewis of Remsen, and Scott Douglas and his girlfriend Marleta Munio of New Berlin; his grandchildren Bryan Fenton and Aimee Gethers; and great grandchildren Brandon, Dyon, Macey, Andrew, and Justin Jr.

His brothers Ronald and Barry Douglas also predeceased Willard.

Contributions may be made in Willard's name to Harding Nursing Home, 220 Tower Street, Waterville, NY 13480 or the MS Society.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

PITTSFIELD – DOCKSTADER



Bertha A. Dockstader, 89, of Pittsfield, was reunited with her husband and son, as she went home to her Lord on February 24, 2006.

She was born September 10, 1916 in Edmeston, the daughter of Floyd and Mina (Carleton) Rose. She married Frederick M. Dockstader on her birthday, September 10, 1936 when she was twenty years old. He predeceased her on December 7, 1992.

Bertha was a pillar of a woman, standing tall and firm in her convictions. She bestowed an easy smile, and remained loyal to her family whenever there was a need. Her first career was as a telephone operator in New Berlin, when you only needed the last four digits to make a phone call. Later Webb & Sons in New Berlin employed her.

Bertha loved various television programs, and enjoyed playing the organ and piano. She was a talented gardener with flowers and with vegetables. Many will remember her as the aka: Den Mother for the area youth in the 1950's. Her home welcomed all as additional members of the family, while she supplied them with beverages and pizza.

Her sisters Wilma Bennett, Betty Lou Lamb; her nephews, nieces, and numerous cousins survive Bertha.

Besides her husband Frederick and her son Richard; her sisters Mabel Dye, Eva Dye, Beatrice Kibler, Beverly Weldon; and her brothers Kenneth Rose and Buddy Rose predeceased Bertha.

Funeral Services will on Sunday, February 26, 2006 at 3:00 pm at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home with Pastor Jay Henderson officiating. Call hours are from 1:00 – 3:00 prior to the service on Sunday.

Burial will be in the spring at Edmeston Union Cemetery

Contributions may be made in Bertha's memory to the Catskill Area Hospice & Palatine Care. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

WEST EDMESTON – WELCH



Barrett T. Welch, 89, of West Edmeston died Monday February 6, 2006 at the Masonic Home in Utica.

He was born February 11, 1916 in Utica, the son of Isaac Talbot Welch and Clara Barrett. He married Phyllis Warner on June 2, 2002.

Barrett was a life-long member and former Deacon of the First Baptist Church of West Edmeston. His life-long love was horses.

He grew up trading draft horses in the family business, and was President of I.T. & C.A. Welch & Sons. When tractors overtook horseflesh, their firm became known for trading dairy cattle throughout the northeastern states and Florida. Their reach spread as far as Israel in the 1950's, supplying many cattle to that nation's fledgling dairy industry. He and his cousin/partner, David Welch, founded Welch Livestock Market. He enjoyed working, not behind a desk, but out in the field. He valued good work ethics, had a strong belief in the Lord that guided him throughout his life.

Barrett was founding President of the NYS Cattleman's Association, and for 54 years was a Director of Central National Bank. A member of the Masonic Fraternity, he was a member of Farmers Lodge No. 553, Free and Accepted Masons in Edmeston, and had also passed through the degrees of Scottish Rite Masonry, having attained the 32nd Degree. His interest in horses continued as a founding partner in Vernon Downs, and a frequent judge at regional draft horse shows. A respected business and community man, his hand was always open to family, friends and strangers alike.

His loving and devoted wife Phyllis; his three children and their spouses Mary and Warren Camp, Isaac and Mary Welch, Clara Mae and Gus VanBrink; 13 grandchildren: Katrina Higgins Jones, Barrett, Kevin & Christopher Higgins; Timothy Camp Amy Camp Beck, Erin Camp Lynch; Gregory, Laura & Adam Welch; Halicine VanBrink DuBose, Analyn & Whitney VanBrink; and 19 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews survive Barrett.

His daughter Bertha Andrews, and his sister Elizabeth Lockerbie predeceased Barrett.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday February 11, 2006 at 1:00 PM at the First Baptist Church of West Edmeston with Rev. Don Buck officiating. Calling hours will be held prior to the service on Saturday from 10:30 AM till 1:00 PM.

Contributions may be made in Barrett's memory to the West Edmeston Baptist Church.

Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.

BURLINGTON – MANN



CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH (McElroy) MANN, 96, of Burlington, NY (formerly of Old Tappan & Paramus) died Saturday, Jan.14, at Burnt Tavern Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, Brick, NJ.

She was born in a thatched cottage, "Kiltycreighton", Boyle, Co. Roscommon, Ireland, the daughter of George and Anne McElroy. At age 91 she visited and slept in the room in which she was born. She was predeceased by three sisters; Kathleen, Georgina (killed in London bombing WWII), Ellen (Nellie) and five brothers; William, Arthur, George (Bertie), Sam and Jack.

She is survived by a brother Tom (wife, Ivy) of Nottingham, England. Also two sisters-in-law, Mel and Mavis (in Ireland) and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

She came to the U.S.A. in 1925. She was very proud of her Irish heritage but was most proud of "becoming a US citizen by choice instead of by accident."

She was an Episcopalian (Church of England).

She graduated from The Boyle School in Ireland and the Egan School of Business in Hackensack, New Jersey. She held various positions in her lifetime; a shopkeeper, waitress, secretary to a lawyer and to the pathologist of Hackensack Hospital. Then, a wife, homemaker and wonderful mother. After moving to New York she became employed by the State of New York as the activities director at "The Meadows" nursing home in Cooperstown. She was loved by the patients and her co-workers. She and her husband also owned and operated a campground "El-Jen-Kay Ranch" (named after their first three grandchildren. The camp store was later named "Kenny's Shack") on their beloved 65-acre farm in Burlington until retiring in 1980.

She was predeceased by her loving husband of 67 years, John Leo Mann, in June, 1997.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Charlotte and Kenneth Bergmann, Point Pleasant, New Jersey; three granddaughters and their spouses, Elizabeth and Thomas Mahon, Point Pleasant; Jennifer and Frank Ruzicka, Easton, Pennsylvania; Kathleen and William Luell, Friendswood, Texas and one grandson, Kenneth Bergmann, Jr. and Judy Eskelson, Brick, New Jersey; three great-grandchildren, Sara, Melissa and William IV, Texas.

She was very energetic and loved children, story telling (composed them as she spoke), animals, gardening, knitting, cooking, entertaining, climbing "her mountains," traveling and playing golf into her 90's with her "girlfriends."

Visiting hours will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston, NY. Her funeral service will follow at 7 pm with Father Charles Taylor officiating.

Burial will in the spring at The Butternut Valley Brick School House Cemetery, Burlington.
Arrangements by Houk-Johnston-Terry Funeral Home, Edmeston.



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