

Bernita "Bea" Kelly

MT. PULASKI, IL - Bernita "Bea" Kelly, 84, of Edwardsville and formerly of Mt. Pulaski, passed away at 9:32 a.m., Saturday, June 1, 2013, at her residence in Edwardsville.

Bea was born June 21, 1928, in Belvidere, Ill., to Norman and Carrie Gustafson Nelson. She was a secretary at Downing and Buckles Insurance Agency in Mt. Pulaski for 25 years. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Mt. Pulaski.

Bea married Roger M. Kelly on September 8, 1953, in Woodstock, Ill. He preceded her in death on January 31, 2009.

Surviving her are two daughters, Kristine Marie (Don) Meaux of Franklin, La., and Sally Ann (Richard) Talmage of Cocoa Beach, Fla.; one son, Michael Ray (Colleen Jones) Kelly of Edwardsville, Ill.; a twin sister, Juanita (Larry) Smith of Boonsville, Mo.; one brother, Ballard "Bob" (Marie) Stehley of Belvidere, Ill.; four grandchildren: Kari (Ben Davis) Baker of San Francisco, Calif., Kelli (Dodd) Davis of Duson, La., Jason Talmage of Cocoa Beach, Fla., and Kyle Talmage of Austin, Texas; as well as four great-grandchildren: Sophia Darbonne, Ava Buford and Seth and Trinity Talmage.

There will be a private graveside service at Steenberg Cemetery in Mt. Pulaski at a later date officiated by Rev. David L. Hofer.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the [Alzheimer's Association](#).

Arrangements are being handled by Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 3, 2013

Alice Caroline Comstock

LINCOLN - Alice Caroline Comstock of Lincoln passed away at 5:30 p.m., Friday, May 31, 2013, at Symphony of Lincoln after an extended illness.

Alice was born in Lawndale, Ill., the daughter of James and Mary Wilson Benedict. She was the youngest of 16 children. She married David Comstock on June 25, 1982. He survives.

Other survivors include one son, Michael (Pam) Dempsey of Decatur, one daughter, Tami (Gary) Bray of Kenney, one stepson, Matthew (Tara) Comstock of Lincoln, and one step-daughter, Sarah (Rick) Puls of New Holland. Her grandchildren include Christopher Dempsey of Decatur, Caroline Cole of Champaign, Nathan and Jason Puls of New Holland, and Ryan and Owen Comstock of Lincoln, one great-granddaughter, Vanessa and one sister, Nora Emmons, both of Lincoln, and many nieces and nephews. Alice was also blessed by several wonderful caregivers including Charlene, Brenda, and Dorothy among others.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 14 brothers and sisters, and one daughter and son-in-law, Robin and Jay Fry.

Alice was retired from the bottle factory after 20 years of service and her many hobbies included her flowers, ceramics, and painting on wood and fabrics. Alice was a member of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln and spent several years at the First Baptist Church in East Peoria. Memorials may be made to either church.

Funeral services for Mrs. Comstock will be at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at the First Baptist Church in Lincoln with Rev. Robert Henderson officiating. Visitation was Monday from 4-7 p.m. at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln. Burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 4, 2013

Eloise Lee Cooper

LINCOLN - Eloise Lee Cooper, 86, of Lincoln died at 9:17 p.m. on June 2, 2013, at her home.

Eloise was born August 1, 1926, in Sedalia, Mo., the daughter of Mac and Bernice Ellsworth Doran. She married James Cooper on August 7, 1969, in Las Vegas, Nev. He survives in Lincoln.

Also surviving Eloise are her children: Mark (Trish) Meyers of Rodgersville, Tenn., and Patti (Michael) Bohl of Bloomington, Ill.; grandchildren: Steven Meyers of Rodgersville, Tenn., Teresa (Richard) Helms of Mt. Carmel, Tenn., Robin (Scott) Soebbing of Lincoln, Tracy (Rev. Robert) Bradford of Lafayette, Ind., and Jonathan (Erica) Bohl of Lafayette, Ind. She was the last of her immediate family. She was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers.

Eloise was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She was a member of Faith Assembly of God Church, Lincoln.

It was Eloise's wishes to be cremated and there will be no services.

Memorials may be made to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#) .

The family is being served by Fricke-Calvert & Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier from June 4 to June 5, 2013

Donald L. Reuss

MASON CITY - Donald L. Reuss, 76, of Mason City, Ill., passed away on Sunday June 2, 2013, at Mason City Nursing Home in Mason City, Illinois. Donald was born on December 11, 1936, in Rushville, Ill., son of Clarence and Pearl (Cramer) Reuss. Donald was preceded in death by his loving wife of 50 years, Beverly (Roy) Reuss and his brother Richard (Rhonda) Reuss.

Donald owned Reuss Chevrolet for 40 years with his father. He also worked for the State of Illinois for another 10 years. He was a member of the Mason City Fire District for 25 years. He served on the Mason City Zoning Board for 13 years. Donald served in the US Army from 1956–1959. He was a member of the last Mason County Draft Board and was a lifetime member of the AMVETS Post 179 in Greenview, Ill.

Donald is survived by his beloved children, son Darrel (Kay) Reuss, of Howell, Mich., and daughter, Diane K. (Reuss) Paap of Mason City, Ill.; three grandchildren, Justine (Jon) Robinson, Kelly (Brad) Wegmann, and David Paap; and one great-grandson, Joseph Warren Robinson. Donald is also survived by his sister, Nita (Eldon) Blessman.

Services will be held on Sunday, June 9, at 3 p.m. at Hurley Funeral Home in Mason City, Ill. Visitation will begin at 2 p.m. Nash Shawgo will officiate. Cremation rites have been accorded. Memorials may be made to Mason City Fire Department and/or Mason City Nursing Home Activities Department. You can visit www.hurleyfh.com to leave online memorial messages for the family.

Hurley Funeral Home in Mason City is assisting the family with arrangements.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 4, 2013

Billy N. Chambers

KISSIMMEE, FL - Billy N. Chambers, 89, formerly of Lincoln, Ill., died May 29, 2013, at home. He was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., on June 26, 1923. He grew up in Chattanooga and in Washington, D.C.

He joined the U.S. [Army](#) in 1941 and became a cadet in the fledgling Army Air Corps. After earning his wings at age 21, he flew a variety of military aircraft during WW II including B25s and B17s while stationed at Foggia, Italy. He was a Captain in the [U.S. Air Force](#) Reserve until 1983. Active as a pilot until 2002, he was a longtime member of the Experimental Aircraft Association and was a 53-year member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

In 1953, Mr. Chambers entered Lincoln Bible Institute and Seminary (now Lincoln Christian University) to train for the ministry, earning a B.A. in 1958 and M.A. in Church History in 1963. He served the Eminence Christian Church in Atlanta, Ill., as a preaching minister from 1953 to 1966. He also established and directed the missionary aviation program at Lincoln Bible Institute from 1958 to 1963. In 1966 he was employed as a rehabilitation counselor with the Illinois Dept. of Mental Health, working at the Lincoln State School. After that institution closed in 1975 he was employed by the Logan Correctional Center, first as the manager of the Center's Prison Industries, then as a Corrections Officer until his retirement as a Lieutenant in 1986.

In 1987 he and his wife, Roberta, moved to Kissimmee, Fla., where she taught music at Florida Christian College and he volunteered on the college maintenance staff. As they had in Illinois, the two often conducted worship services at area nursing homes.

Among other interests Mr. Chambers was widely known as a woodworker specializing in making furniture, children's toys, restoring antique furniture and hand caning.

He belonged to the Florida Flywheelers Antique Engine Club and the Model T Ford Club of America. He was member of First Christian Church, Kissimmee, Fla.

Mr. Chambers was preceded in death by his first wife, Roberta (Mulliken) Chambers; a sister, Shirley Ritchey; and a brother, Roy Chambers.

He is survived by his second wife, Jane Holsclaw Chambers; a son, Dr. Michael Chambers (Pamela) of St. Louis, Mo.; a daughter, Linda Storm (Randal) of Concord, Mich.; five grandchildren: Christopher (Nicki) Chambers, Cara (Jason) LeCureux, Rachel (Jeff) Stalnaker, David Storm and Emily (Christopher) Elam. Also surviving are eight great-grandchildren: Nadine Chambers, Ian Chambers, Sophia Stalnaker, Eden Stalnaker, Wilder Stalnaker, Abigail LeCureux, Zoe LeCureux, and Felix Elam; a sister, Charlotte Roth of Columbus, Ga.; and a brother, Richard Chambers of Huntsville, Ala.

Services will be conducted at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln, Ill., on Thursday, June 6, 2013, with visitation beginning at 4:00 p.m. followed by the funeral service at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Wayne Shaw will be officiating. Burial will be at the Arcola (Illinois) Township Cemetery, on Friday, June 7.

Memorials may be made to Florida Christian College, 1011 Bill Beck Blvd., Kissimmee, FL 34741 or to Hospice of the Comforter, 480 W. Central Pkwy, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 5, 2013

Heather Lynn Helton-Willis

LINCOLN - Heather Lynn Helton-Willis, 31, of Lincoln, passed away June 03, 2013, at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m, Thursday, June 6, 2013, at Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m, Friday, June 7, 2013, also at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Zion Cemetery.

Heather was born July 14, 1981, the daughter of Mark Swinford and Linda Helton. She married Lewis Willis on Nov. 10, 2011 in Clinton, Ill.

Surviving are her father Mark Swinford of Missouri; her mother Linda Helton Brown of Lincoln; her husband Lewis Willis of Lincoln; her daughters, Stormy Dawn Schaub and Destiny Trecell Lyons both of Lincoln; her sisters, Sunny Coulter and Wendy Helton also of Lincoln; her uncle, L.T. Helton of Lincoln; and her grandparents, Ron and Pat Robertson of Lincoln.

Heather was a full-time Mom. She loved the water and enjoyed tubing. She loved music and enjoyed dancing. She always put others before herself and was a loving, outgoing, free-spirited person. She will be sadly missed.

Memorials may be made to Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home to help with funeral expenses and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 5, 2013

George N. Harris

LINCOLN - George N. Harris, 81, of Springfield, formerly of Lincoln, passed away on Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2013, at Peasley Funeral Home, 401 Delavan St., Lincoln, IL.

A Prayer Service will be held at 7 p.m. Cremation Rites will be accorded following the visitation.

Graveside Services will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at 11 a.m. at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Riverton, Illinois, with Pastor Kevin Curry officiating.

George Nelven Harris was born on April 7, 1932, in Springfield, the son of Nelven and Mildred McMann Harris.

He is survived by: his children, Pamela Schmidt (Springfield), Danny Harris (Springfield), Terry Harris (Mt. Pulaski), Brenda Smith (Florida), Debbie Harris (Florida), David Harris (Ohio), and Patty Harris (Decatur); his siblings, William Harris, Larry (Sonny) Harris, Dorothy (Dot) Harris, Melva (Tootie) Harris and Robert (Bob) Harris; and nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two granddaughters.

George served as a Seaman Apprentice in the [United States Navy](#) from July 1, 1952, until September 13, 1954.

George was a member of Teamster's Local #627. He retired in May of 1999 as an Over the Road Truck Driver.

He had been employed as a City Bus Driver for the City of Springfield and for Crowne Transit Bus Service.

Memorials may be made to the Salisbury Baptist Church, Salisbury, IL, or the Wounded Warrior Project.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 7, 2013

Leona F. Bicknell

ATLANTA - Leona F. Bicknell, 95, of Atlanta, passed away on Saturday, June 8, 2013, at The Christian Village Nursing Home in Lincoln.

Funeral Services for Mrs. Bicknell will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. at Quiram Peasley Funeral Home. Mr. Ryan Edgcombe will officiate.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday evening from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Mountjoy Cemetery in rural Atlanta.

Leona Francis Marvel was born on January 6, 1918, in rural Waynesville, the daughter of Charles and Ida Gambrel Marvel. Leona graduated from Waynesville High School in 1935. She married James G. (Jack) Bicknell on January 11, 1936, in Lincoln. They had been married for sixty-two years when he preceded her in death on March 23, 1998.

She is survived by her children, Carol Ann (Jon) Rawlins of Groveland, Jack E. (Sally) Bicknell and James W. (Kathy) Bicknell, both of Atlanta; three sisters, Emma J. Graham of Saybrook, Ada M. Kindred of Atlanta and Wanda Zurkhammer of Lincoln; six grandchildren, Greg (Cindy) Rawlins, Dave (Mary) Rawlins, Alicia (Dennis) Horton, Erica (Chris) Piwinsky, Jeff (Angie) Bicknell and Scott (Brooke) Bicknell; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Charlene Hunting, and two brothers, William Marvel and Wayne Marvel.

Leona lived on the family farm until she moved to the Christian Village Congregate Building seven years ago.

She was a member of the Logan County H.E.A. and Lincoln [Elks Lodge](#) #914. She loved to play cards.

Memorials may be made to the Atlanta Rescue Squad or the The Christian Village Congregate Building Activity Department.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 11, 2013

Roger L. Conrad

URBANA, IL - Roger L. Conrad, 93, died at 2:10 a.m., Saturday, June 8, 2013, at Country Health Nursing Home in Gifford, Ill.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at Renner-Wikoff Chapel, 1900 S. Philo Rd., Urbana. Pastor Mark Elliott will officiate. Burial will be at Locust Grove Cemetery in Philo, Ill.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church of Champaign, Ill., or to a [charity of the donor's choice](#).

Mr. Conrad was born April 19, 1920, in Williamsville, Ill., the son of Theoren "Ted" and Ruth (Prather) Conrad. He married Nelda L. Tigar on Feb. 10, 1946, in Havana, Ill. She preceded him in death on Dec. 3, 2010. He was also preceded in death by a sister, Alice Wakefield.

He is survived by a son, Steven Conrad of Urbana; a daughter, Janice Gerstner (James) of Peoria, Ill.; four grandchildren: Stephanie Polk (Damon) of Urbana, Douglas Gerstner of Phoenix, Ariz., Gregory Gerstner (Tara) of Peoria and Katherine Bialecki (James) of Hawthorn Woods, Ill.; nine great-grandchildren: Brandon and Justin Polk of Urbana, Sam and Eli Gerstner of Phoenix, Tyler, Ellie, and Lucas Gerstner of Peoria, and Jack and Matt Bialecki of Hawthorn Woods.

Mr. Conrad attended Williamsville High School and Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. He served in the US Air Force during [WWII](#) and the [Korean War](#). He managed Myers Brothers Department Store in Lincoln for many years. Roger and his family moved to Champaign-Urbana in 1967 where he worked as a salesman and realtor.

He was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Champaign and served on the Board of Elders. He volunteered at St. John's Lutheran School and at Carle Foundation Hospital. Roger and his wife were great Illini fans and longtime members of the Rebounders Club.

The family wishes to express their thanks to the caregivers at Bridalbrook in Mahomet, Ill., and Country Health Nursing Home in Gifford for their care and compassion.

Condolences may be offered at www.renner-wikoffchapel.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 11, 2013

William Sparks

LINCOLN - William Sparks, 69, of New Holland, passed away at 4:04 p.m. on Sunday, June 9, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

Funeral Services will be at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln, with Bro. Tim Schnautz officiating. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, June 13, at Camp Butler National Cemetery, Springfield, Ill., with full military rites by Camp Butler Honor Guard.

Bill was born in Taylorville, Illinois, April 8, 1944, the son of Thomas Alfred (Pete) and Dorothy Marie Dugan Sparks. His paternal grandparents were Jesse Edward and Bessie Florence Logan Sparks. His maternal grandparents were John and Bertha Anna Dady Dugan. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Owens Sparks of New Holland; his children, Candra (Bill Best) Boulb of Lincoln, Jessica Eddings (J J Diesi) of Springfield, Susie Kiel of Madison, Ind., Jeremiah (Kim Brainard) Nelson of Cedar Rapids, Ia., and David (Kristen) Runyon of Charleston; grandchildren, Zach and Caleb Boulb of Lincoln, Jay, Haleigh and Evan Eddings of Springfield, Chelsea and Haley Caplinger-Kiel, David Lee Gehrke of Madison, Ind., and Dalton and Noah Runyon of Charleston; great-grandchildren, Alicia Keller and Dayton Bolton.

Bill is also survived by three brothers and four sisters, Donna Hutchison, (the late Dennis Hutchison), Nancy (Gus) Otto, Robert Sparks, and Thomas (Ruth Anne) Sparks, all of Lincoln, Gary (Ken Solem) Sparks of Bloomington, Patricia (Brett Simpson) Sparks of New Holland, and Rita (Howie) Coffey of Petersburg. He is survived by one brother-in-law, Robert Bruce (Fran) Owens of Marion, Ind., his sisters-in-law, Janet (Mike) Buttitta of Bloomington, and Patricia Ramsey Sparks of Middletown; and his father-in-law Robert Owens, New Holland. Bill was preceded in death by one brother, Gerald Sparks, his mother-in-law, Oka Owens, and his brother-in-law, Dennis (Gator) Hutchison, one niece, one great-niece and one great-great-niece. Many nieces and nephews also survive.

He leaves behind on this journey his beloved dogs Buster and Tela.

Bill was honored to be a veteran of the United States [Army](#) and the [Vietnam War](#). He served in Vietnam between 1968 and 1969 as a Sergeant in the 1st Calvary Division. He received the [Purple Heart](#) and several other medals including the [Bronze Star](#) Medal.

Bill retired from Logan- Mason Mental Heath in 2003 after 24 years of service. A recovering alcoholic himself, he was proud to have overcome his disease and use his faith in God, life experiences, and training to serve the community and help others overcome the disabling effects of alcohol and drugs.

An avid camper, he enjoyed the outdoors and fishing. He loved spending time with his wife, Karen, family and friends at his home away from home at his campground near Petersburg, Ill. He enjoyed eating at the Cracker Barrel and Bonanza on Friday nights with his father-in-law and seeing and speaking with friends and family. Bill loved the St. Louis Cardinals and attended his first game on his first anniversary with Karen. Bill will be missed by all family and friends.

Memorials may be given to the [American Cancer Society](#) or the Veteran's Hospital, Indianapolis, Ind.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 11, 2013

Thomas L. Wyland

Thomas L. Wyland, 76, of Lincoln, passed away June 7, 2013 at his home.

Memorial services will be held at 10:00 AM Thursday, June 13, 2013 at Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home in Lincoln. Cremation rites have been accorded and burial will be at a later date.

Thomas was born December 19, 1936 in Onaw, Iowa, the son of Boyd Adair and Ruby (Taylor) Wyland. He married Goldy Shreve on April 20, 1958.

Surviving are his wife Goldy Wyland of Lincoln; 3 children: Monica Jo Wyland of Florida, Lee Anthony Wyland of Florida, and Terri Diane Brown also of Florida; 4 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; and sister Shirley Holloway of Lincoln also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Larry Wyland.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Memorial Home Hospice and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 12, 2013

Victor W. Bittner

MERCY CREEK, IL - Victor W. Bittner, 87, formerly of Bloomington, Ill., passed away at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, at his residence.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 15, 2013, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bloomington with Pastor Chad Lueck officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until time of services on Saturday at the church. Interment with military honors by the Bloomington-Normal American Legion Honor Guard will be at Eastlawn Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Portico Fund.

Victor was born Aug. 21, 1925, at Brokaw Hospital in Normal, Ill., son of William A. and Louise E. (Goetsch) Bittner. He married Betty M. Gielow on April 21, 1946, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bloomington. She survives.

Also surviving are one daughter, Jane (Sam) Redding of Lincoln; one son, Timothy (Patricia) Bittner of Bloomington; six grandchildren: Bart (Amanda) Bittner of Heyworth; Kelly (Jeff) Cramer of Mahomet; Becky (Doug) Domkuski of Towanda; John (Tammy) Redding and Tom (Brittney) Redding both of Castle Rock, Colo; Cari (Nathan) Rohlf of Emden; and 18 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister.

He served in the United States Air Force during [WWII](#), serving on the island of Tinian.

Victor was a lifelong farmer on the Bittner family farm along with his son, Tim, and grandson, Bart.

He served as president and member of the Unit 5 School Board for 16 years, and was an advocate for his children to obtain a higher education. He was also a member of the Producer Livestock Board, Barnes Elevator Board, McLean County Farm Bureau and the McLean County Fair Board. In addition, he served for the McLean County Red Cross.

He was a charter member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church where he served on the board of trustees and volunteered in many capacities.

Kibler-Brady-Ruestman Memorial Home in Bloomington is assisting the family with arrangements.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 15, 2013

Martha Cosette Hostetter

LINCOLN, IL - Martha Cosette Hostetter, 88, passed away at 4:52 a.m. on June 12, 2013, at Symphony of Lincoln in Lincoln. Cosette was born Sept. 27, 1924, in Lincoln, the daughter of George and Harriett Turner Hostetter.

She is survived by one niece, Susan (Bruce) Semlow of Bourbonnais, Ill.; one nephew, James (Brenda) Hostetter of Lincoln. She was preceded in death by her father, mother and brother: Harry Richard Hostetter.

Cosette was a bookkeeper for Franklin Life Insurance Co. in Springfield and a retired secretary for Garrison Insurance in Lincoln. She was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church of Lincoln and the Lincoln Women's Club.

A private family graveside service will be held at Union Cemetery in Lincoln.

Memorials may be given to Trinity Episcopal Church of Lincoln or Memorial Home Services Hospice of Springfield.

Services are being handled by Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 15, 2013

Julia Decker

EAST PEORIA, IL - Julia Ellen Decker, 78, passed away at 1:40 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2013, at the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

Julia Decker was born the youngest of 8 children in Chestnut, Ill., on July 16, 1934, to Edwin William "Bill" and Uva Julia (Dunn) Baker. She married Elwyn Eugene Decker on Jan. 9, 1953, in Mt. Pulaski, Ill.

Surviving are her nine children: Donald (Nicki) Decker, Glenn (Michelle) Decker both of East Peoria, Wesley Decker of Naperville, Roger (Penny) Decker of Washington, Kenneth Decker of Washburn, Janice (Roger) Markle, Barbra (Terry) Whalen both of Mapleton, Joyce (Dennis) Donahoe, of Metamora and Nancy Swisher of Creve Coeur. Also surviving are nineteen grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one sister, Irma Jean Buckles of Mt. Pulaski.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elwyn; her parents; three brothers and three sisters.

Julia was hard of hearing, but that didn't deter her from raising nine children and being a wonderful, loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She loved sports, especially softball and baseball. She was an avid Cardinals fan. She and Elwyn enjoyed watching their children and grandchildren participate in all kinds of sports. She also enjoyed fishing, camping, playing games, especially cards, and hunting mushrooms.

Julia was an inspiration to those who knew her. She was an example of strength, faith and love. She had a passion for life and found joy in the smiles of children. Family meant a great deal to her and her legacy will continue in the hearts of her family and friends forever.

She attended Pleasant Hill Mennonite Church, now Crosspoint Church, in East Peoria for almost 50 years.

Services will be at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 19, 2013, at Crosspoint Church. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at Remmert Funeral Home. The Rev. Dr. George E. Hines will officiate. A graveside service will follow at Roberts Cemetery in Morton.

Memorial gifts may be made to The Carle Development Foundation, 611 W. Park St., Urbana, IL 61801, or online at www.carle.org/give to benefit the Adult Cochlear Implant program at Carle.

Visit Julia's story at

remmertfuneralhome.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 17, 2013

David R. Drake

MT. PULASKI, IL - David R. Drake, 68, passed away at 5:22 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, Ill.

David was born in Decatur, Ill., on Aug. 29, 1944, son of Carlton Everett and Doris Elwanda Hoaglin Drake. He was united in marriage to Mary Maxvill on Sept. 29, 1989, in Flagstaff, Ariz. She survives in Mt. Pulaski.

Other survivors include one daughter, Renay (Steve) Anderson of Elkhart, Ill.; one sister, Debbie Ciotti of Springfield, Ill.; one uncle, Bob (Chloe) Hoaglin of Latham, Ill.; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one niece and one nephew. He was preceded in death by his parents, two aunts and two uncles.

He worked as a Mental Health Tech at Lincoln Developmental Center for 33 years. He also was a band member of Tinkers Dam, Greater Decatur Rhythm and Blues Review, Shady Lady and the Moon Cats. He was an avid bowler and also enjoyed fishing.

Services for David will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, June 19, 2013, at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Mt. Pulaski with Rachel Stockle officiating. A visitation will be two hours prior to service. Burial will follow the service at Mt. Pulaski Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Special Olympics.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 17, 2013

Nettie Elizabeth Hulvey Strohkirch

STANFORD, IL - Nettie Elizabeth Hulvey Strohkirch, 82, died Saturday, June 15, 2013, at her sister's residence in Stanford.

Her funeral will be at 1:00 p.m., Friday, June 21, 2013, at the Stanford Church of God with Pastor Joe Magner officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Stanford. Visitation will be from 4–7 p.m., Thursday, June 20, 2013, at Otto-Argo-Calvert Memorial Home, Danvers and from noon-1 p.m., Friday at the church.

Memorials may be made to the Stanford Church of God or Illinois Cancer Care, Bloomington, Ill.

Nettie was born Feb. 18, 1931, at Stanford, a daughter of George S. and Mildred Inez Schell Hulvey. She married Roy Strohkirch in Stanford.

Surviving are brothers and sisters: Robert Dale Hulvey of Stanford, Mildred A. Billington of Armington, Ill., Lewis E. (Gwyn) Hulvey of Judsonia, Ark., George Theodore (Juanita) Hulvey of Danville, Ill., Beulah (George) Lowery of Lexington, Ill., and Mary Lee (Buford) Cherry of Stanford; and a total of 34 nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Pauline I. Miller and Alma V. Stafford; and a brother, S. Franklin Hulvey.

Mrs. Strohkirch was a member of the Stanford Church of God and a member of Womanwriters Group, that shared and critiqued their creative works.

Nettie received a Bachelor of Arts in Library Science and a Bachelor in Arts in English from Illinois State University and has taken numerous classes in English at the Masters level from I.S.U.

She formerly worked for the Stanford Telephone Office, Admiral Corp., in Bloomington, Revere Ware in Clinton, General Electric Co. in Bloomington and as a librarian for Milner Library at I.S.U., in Normal, retiring after 38 years. Additionally, most of her life was spent living and working farms; she was a caretaker for her father for many years and helped care for the elderly in her community.

Nettie has been writing poetry, short stories and songs for over 65 years, including writing the lyrics to the Stanford High School song. Nettie had no children of her own, but mothered many and was "Aunt Nettie" to countless people.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 18, 2013

James P. "Bode" Bode

LINCOLN, IL - James P. "Bode" Bode, 48, passed away on Friday evening, June 14, 2013, at 6:23 p.m. at his home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 12:00 (noon) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Atlanta, Ill., with Rev. Glenn Fontana officiating. A luncheon will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

Visitation will be held from 9-noon on Saturday at the church. The family requests casual attire for the service.

Burial will be at a later date at Holy Cross Cemetery at Lincoln.

James Patrick Bode was born on Jan. 20, 1965, in Peoria, the son of James Francis and Anna Schmitz Bode.

Surviving are his parents; one sister, Margaret Ann (Jamie Queer) Rubenacker; two nephews, Cory Rubenacker and Eric Rubenacker all of Lincoln.

Jim graduated from Carroll Catholic School and then from Lincoln Community High School in 1983. He was employed at the East Lincoln Farmers Grain Elevator as location manager at Lawndale for the past fifteen years.

He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Lincoln, American Motorcycle Association, and the Midland Mulisha Club.

Jim was the person that placed the Flag of the United States of America on the overhead over Interstate I-55 at Lawndale on September 11, 2001.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be made to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#) in Memphis.

Final arrangements have been entrusted to Peasley Funeral Home in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 19, 2013

Connie Jean Buckner

LINCOLN, IL - Connie Jean Buckner, 64, of Lincoln, formerly of Lake Fork, passed away June 16, 2013, at Symphony of Lincoln surrounded by her loving family.

Graveside services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2013, at Old Union Cemetery in Lincoln.

It was Connie's wish to be cremated. Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home in Lincoln is handling services.

Connie was born Jan. 9, 1949, in Lincoln, the daughter of Robert "Bob" Lee and Marcella (Routson). She married John Buckner on April 16, 1964, in Williamsville, Ill.

Surviving are her husband, John Buckner of Lincoln; her children: Michelle (David) Presswood, John Buckner and Lonnie Buckner all of Lincoln; her grandchildren: Ashley, Megan and Christine Presswood, Brittany Buckner, Nicholas Buckner and Jessica Buckner; her great-grandchildren: Cadence Presswood, Keygan Metelko, Kyle Gillum, and Erich Auten; her sister, Vickie Buss of Lincoln; her brother, Gary Constant of Lake Fork, Ill.; and her sister, Cheryl Lee of Minnesota.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Connie was an avid antiquer and garage saler. She formerly owned Connie's Dusty Attic. She was an animal lover and dog rescuer.

She was a giver, always putting others first. She was a great cook and loved to have family dinners and carry on family tradition. Above all else, Connie was a wonderful wife, mom, and grandma. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Donations may be made to the [American Cancer Society](#) in memory of Connie.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 19, 2013

J. Paton Dellow

LINCOLN, IL - J. Paton Dellow, 70, died peacefully at home on June 16, 2013.

J. was born January 4, 1943, in Monroe, Mich., the son of Reginald Leonard Dellow and Betsy Ann Dellow. He was married to Karen Margaret Mueller on January 28, 1972, in Wilmette, Ill.; she survives.

J. is also survived by five children: Bradley "Doug" Dellow of McKinney, Texas, Brandi "Miki" (Charles) Spellman of Tempe, Ariz., Brooke (Jonathan) Scott of St. Charles, Mo., Brittney (Andrew) Cosby of Broadwell, Ill., and Brett (Megan) Dellow of Lincoln, Ill. J. has eight grandchildren: Morgan and Nolan Dellow, Jane and Diana Spellman, Caleb and Grace Scott, Lainey Cosby and MacKenna Dellow. J. is also survived by one sister, Beth Dellow of Baltimore, Md. J. was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Tracy Dellow.

J. attended the Kentucky Military Institute before transferring to New Trier Township High School in Winnetka, Ill., where he graduated in 1961. He attended the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a degree in History and a minor in Political Science. J. joined the United States [Army](#) in 1967 and was promoted to Captain while serving in Vietnam. While in the military, J. became a Green Beret, a member of the Special Forces Airborne, and was recognized with the [Bronze Star](#) for service against hostile forces. He was also awarded the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

After returning to the U.S., J. married and began working for the Illinois Department of Corrections as a Social Service Counselor. During that time he obtained a master's degree in Human Development Counseling and a minor in Public Administration from the [University of Illinois](#). J. was promoted to Public Service Administrator and ended his 32 years with the state as the Southwest Operations Center Supervisor. Shortly after his retirement, J. began to conduct nationwide certification audits of prisons and jails for the American Correctional Association. J. conducted audits for ACA for 11 years.

Community service was an important part of J.'s life. In 1999 he received the Department of Corrections Volunteer of the Year Award. His volunteer efforts include 20 years with the Boy Scouts, 24 years with Boys State and 25 years with Gifts for Yanks. J. was a member of the American Legion Post #263 and the American Legion Honor Guard, [VFW](#), Elks, 40 & 8, the Special Forces Association and the American Correctional Association.

Since his retirement, J. and Karen have spent a great deal of time traveling. Together they have visited 39 countries and 14 islands in the Caribbean. They also enjoyed traveling with their family. J. loved snorkeling and scuba diving with his children and fondly recalled that his favorite family trip was to Belize.

Memorial services for J. will be at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, June 23, 2013, at the American Legion Post #263, 1740 5th St., Lincoln, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Logan County Gifts for Yanks, or the American Legion Honor Guard, and can be mailed to the American Legion Post #263, P.O. Box 425, Lincoln, IL 62656.

Arrangements were entrusted to Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 19, 2013

Margaret E. Lahr

LINCOLN, IL - Margaret E. Lahr, 89, passed away at 1:40 p.m. on June 15, 2013, at St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Ill.

She was born Sept. 5, 1923, in Middletown, Ill., daughter of John and Martha Ross Benedict. She married William E. Lahr on Sept. 3, 1944, in Lincoln; he preceded her in death on April 21, 2013.

She is survived by three daughters: Judith (Eddie) Hughes, Linda (Charles) Banister and Sharon Lahr all of Lincoln; son, Mark Lahr of Springfield, Ill.; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Margaret worked as a nurse's aid and she was an Avon Representative for 20 years. She served in the [U.S. Navy](#).

Margaret's wishes were to be cremated. A memorial service will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church in Lincoln with Rev. Michael Paulson officiating. Visitation will be from 4-6 p.m., Friday, June 21 at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln. Burial will be in Irish Grove Cemetery, rural Middletown, Ill., with full military rites accorded by the Lincoln American Legion Post #263.

Memorials may be given to the Oasis Center, Hannah Circle at First United Methodist Church or to the family.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 20, 2013

Patricia Hodnett Reese

LINCOLN, IL - Patricia Hodnett Reese, 94, died at 6:38 p.m. on June 18, 2013, at St. Joseph's Home in Springfield, Ill.

Patricia was born Aug. 10, 1918, in Toronto, Ontario Canada, the daughter of William E. and Georgina Gordon Hodnett. She married Phillip John Reese on June 11, 1945, in Chicago, Ill.; he preceded her in death on May 31, 1992.

Patricia is survived by two daughters, Patricia (Roger) Rutherford of Springfield and Joan (John) Brackney of Peoria, Ill.; grandchildren: Elizabeth (Thomas) Rutherford Trail of Western Springs, Ill., Justin M. Rutherford of La Jolla, Calif., Melissa A. (Kent) Brackney Stoeger of Buffalo Grove, Ill., Sarah J. Brackney and Andrew Blanchard of White Fish Bay, Wis., and Michael J. Brackney of Chicago; great-grandchildren, Lauren Ann Trail and Nathan Phillip Trail. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Patricia was an airline stewardess for Eastern Airlines; an elementary teacher in the Lincoln School system including Tyler School (country school) and a homemaker. She worked for the State of Illinois Commerce Commission.

Mrs. Reese graduated from Lincoln High School and Lincoln College with an Associates of Arts degree. She also attended [Northwestern University](#) in Evanston, Ill.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Lincoln. She was a life member of the Lincoln [Elks Lodge](#) #914, Lincoln Women's Club, Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Sub Debs Bridge Club.

Services for Mrs. Reese will be Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln with Rev. Tami Werschey officiating. Visitation will be from noon until the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be in New Union Cemetery, Lincoln.

Memorials may be given to St. Joseph's Home, 3306 S. 6th St., Springfield, IL 62703.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 20, 2013

John P. Fleshman

HARVARD - John P. Fleshman, 66, of Harvard, Ill., passed away Friday, June 14, 2013, at Centegra Hospital in McHenry.

He was born on October 1, 1946, in Lincoln, Ill., to James and Louise Fleshman. He married JoAnne Lach on May 25, 1968, at the St. Patrick Catholic Church in Lincoln, Ill.

John served as a vocational coordinator and teacher of the physically handicapped at SEDOL in Lake County for 8 years, after which he spent 23 years as the Principal of SEDOM Center in Woodstock. John was very involved in community service. He spent time volunteering for the PADS organization and transporting folks to doctors' appointments. He was a member and usher at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Hartland and a member of the Knights of Columbus. John was also a veteran having served in the US [Army](#) from 1967 to 1969.

One of his passions in life was restoring Classic MG's and participating in sports car heritage as a member of the British Boots and Bonnets Car Club. John loved to canoe, trout fish, and golf with friends. His life gave him many experiences, including travel with his wife to Europe, China, the Panama Canal, British Virgin Islands and Caribbean sailboat trips, Alaska, Key West, their hometown Lincoln and several cross-country road trips, including visiting 49 states. Outside of those adventures, his biggest smiles came from spending time with his granddaughters.

John is survived by his wife, JoAnne Fleshman; two sons, Matt (Nicole) Fleshman and Jeff (Francesca) Fleshman; two granddaughters, Isabella and Lilia; two brothers, Tom (Sally) Fleshman and Bob (Connie) Fleshman; a brother-in-law, Mike (Ann) Lach; a sister-in-law, Mary (Jim) Killgore; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Louise Fleshman; three brothers, Richie, Jim, and Rusty; and a sister, Alice.

A memorial gathering will be held on Wednesday, June 19, from 4-8 p.m. at the Schneider Leucht Merwin & Cooney Funeral Home, 1211 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock.

A memorial gathering will also be held on Friday, June 21, from 11 a.m. until the time of the memorial mass celebrated at 12 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, 805 S. Pearl St., Atlanta, IL 61723. Burial with military honors at 2 p.m. will follow at Camp Butler National Cemetery, 5063 Camp Butler Rd., Springfield, IL 62707.

Memorials can be made to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#) , 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

For more information please contact the funeral home at 815-338-1710.

People would often ask JoAnne "What makes John so special?" to which she would reply, "His love of children and animals. He makes me laugh. But most importantly, he can mix a mean martini."

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 21, 2013

Virginia Hoaglin

LINCOLN - Virginia Hoaglin, 86, of Lincoln passed away at 12:25 a.m., Thursday, June 20, 2013, at St. Clara's Manor, Lincoln, Ill.

Virginia was born March 9, 1927, in Lincoln, Ill., the daughter of Gilbert and Thelma Fay Brown Hoaglin.

Surviving Virginia is one brother, Richard W. (Betty J.) Hoaglin and one sister, Marsha K. (Clinton) Coffman of Lincoln; nieces and nephews, Jane (Christopher) Whiteman, James (Christine) Coffman, Jeffery (Sue) Armour, and Robert B. Hoaglin. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, George Hoaglin, a sister, Lois E. Hoaglin, and a sister-in-law, Betty Hoaglin.

Virginia was a retired telephone operator.

Virginia's wishes were to be cremated with private family services at a later date. Arrangements were entrusted to Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln. Memorials may be given to Memorial Home Services Hospice.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 21, 2013

Dr. James

Edwin Riley

DECATUR - Dr. James Edwin Riley, 60, of Decatur, died Tues., June 18, 2013, at 10:32 a.m. in his home. He was born on June 27, 1952, in Taylorville, a son of Thomas Raphael and Josephine Marcella (Loreth) Riley. James graduated from Taylorville High School in 1970 as Class Valedictorian. He went on to [Northwestern University](#) and graduated with his Bachelor's Degree in Medicine in 1974 and earned his Doctor of Medicine in 1975. His academic honors consisted of being a member of Alpha Omega Alpha at Northwestern University Medical School, an Item Writer for the American Board of Family Practice from 1989 to the present, a Medical Examiners Diplomate in 1977, a Diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice, Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, was a PALS & ACLS Instructor and was also ATLS certified. He completed his Family Practice residency at SIU School of Medicine in Springfield in 1979 and engaged in private practice with the Abraham Lincoln Medical Group from 1979-1988. After that, he was a Physician at McKinley Health Center at the [University of Illinois](#) from 1988-1992, and presently, as Emergency Room Physician at Decatur Memorial Hospital since 1991. He was a member of the American Academy of Family Practice, Illinois State Medical Society, and St. John's Lutheran Church in Decatur. In his leisure time he enjoyed reading, swimming, biking and listening to all varieties of music. He married Mary Jo Lehnert on May 31, 1980, in Zion Lutheran Church in Litchfield. She survives. He is also survived by one son, Philip Riley, and one daughter, Margaret Riley, both of Decatur; two brothers, Gerald Riley of Dekalb and Patrick (Nancy) Riley of Charlottesville, Va.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Thomas Robert Riley and John Joseph Riley.

Funeral services will be held Sat., June 22, 2013, at 1 p.m. in Zion Lutheran Church in Litchfield. Vicar Brett Hinrichs of St. John's Lutheran Church in Decatur will officiate. Burial will be in Elm Lawn Cemetery in Litchfield. Visitation will be held Saturday from 11 a.m. until time of service in the church. The family suggests memorials to St. John's Lutheran Church, 2727 North Union Blvd., Decatur, IL 62526 or Northeast Community Fund, 825 North Water St., Decatur, IL 62523. Plummer Funeral Home Litchfield is in charge of arrangements.

For more information, to light a candle or sign the online guestbook, please visit www.plummerfuneralservices.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 21, 2013

Robert "Bob" Thomas, Sr.

LINCOLN - Robert "Bob" Thomas, Sr., 86, of Lincoln, passed away June 19, 2013, at St. John's Hospital in Springfield after a brief illness.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m., Friday, June 21, 2013, at Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home in Lincoln with Masonic Services performed by Lincoln Masonic Lodge at 7 p.m. Funeral services will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at Lincoln Christian Church with Pastor Ron Otto officiating.

Burial will be 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 23, 2013, at Little Zion Cemetery in White County, Ill.

Bob was born September 2, 1926, in Hamilton County, Ill., the son of Rozella Thomas. He married Emogene South on June 6, 1948, in Fairfield, Ill.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was a member of Lincoln Christian Church where he was also a member of the Little Lambs Sunday School Class. Bob was a member of the Lincoln Masonic Lodge #210, the Abraham Shrine #100, the Central York Rite Chapter, Lincoln Masonic Chapter #147, Constantine Commandry #51, Logan County Shrine Club, Oddfellows #38, American Legion Post 263 and the [VFW](#) post 1756.

He was a barber in Lincoln, Ill., for many years.

Surviving are his wife, Emogene Thomas of Lincoln; his children, Gary (Alita) Thomas of Olney, Ill., Caroline Nota, Mamie (Dennis) Shull, and Robert (Penny) Thomas, Jr., all of Lincoln, Ill.; also surviving are 16 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his daughter, Connie Albert, and his grandson, Tracy Thomas.

Memorial donations may be made to Lincoln Christian Church or to the Lincoln Masonic Lodge #210 and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 21, 2013

Elizabeth "Betty" L. Kinney

LINCOLN, IL - Elizabeth "Betty" L. Kinney, 91, passed away at 4:30 a.m., Thursday, June 20, 2013, at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Betty was born Aug. 8, 1921, in Lincoln, the daughter of Fred and Anna Feldman Eimer. She was united in marriage to Kenneth C. Kinney on New Year's Day in 1949; he survives in Lincoln.

Other survivors include two sons: Thomas Kinney, who resides in Petaluma, Calif., with his wife, Rita Leckrone, and his son, Jesse Kinney (24), and Terry Kinney who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. with his children, Carson (9) and Maeve (17). Betty is also survived by her brother, Thomas Eimer, and was preceded in death by her brothers, Richard and Robert ("Father Bob"), and sister, Dorothy.

Betty worked for 37 years as a telephone operator at General Telephone in Lincoln from 1944 until 1981. She loved her job, and made great friends in her office. Betty also loved the Cubs, crossword puzzles, the film "Gone With the Wind," dancing, and laughing. In the last years of her life, Betty was grateful to Lidia and Craig Eimer for their endless devotion and help with her daily living needs and care and to Kathryn Erbe for her generosity and love.

Services for Betty will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 24, 2013, at Holy Family Catholic Church. A visitation will be held on Sunday from 1-3 p.m. at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home. Burial will follow the service at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lincoln.

Memorials may be given to the Knights of Columbus of Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 22, 2013

Gertrude Alberts Johnson

LINCOLN, IL - Gertrude Johanna Alberts Johnson, 99, passed away at 9:08 a.m., Friday, June 21, 2013, at the Christian Village in Lincoln.

She was born Dec. 9, 1913, east of Emden, to Harry and Anna Cross Alberts. She married Urban Johnson on May 9, 1932, by Rev. Theodore Albert at the home of her grandmother, Johanna Cross. Urban preceded her in death on Nov. 10, 1986. Their marriage was blessed by one son, Pastor Don Johnson.

Surviving are one son, Don (Mary) of Davenport, Fla.; three grandchildren: Ann (Tom) Monson of LaCrosse, Wis., Lois (Jerry) Massa of Avon, Conn., and John (Lucina) Johnson of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; five great-grandchildren: Major Amoy Manley of Adana, Turkey and her husband, Marlin Manley of McLean, Va., Michelle Monson of Edina, Minn., Laura (Tony) Vanden Heuvel of Edina, Minn., Josh (Mindi) Johnson of Ellington, Conn., and Candace Johnson of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; three great-great-grandsons: Kai and Kolton Johnson of Ellington, Conn., and Titus Manley of Adana, Turkey. Five nieces and nine nephews also survive.

She was preceded in death by her parents and five brothers: Nelson, Charles, Roland, Alan and an infant brother.

Urban and Gertrude farmed and lived on the "home place" east of Emden until 1973 when they retired.

Gertrude was received into the Christian faith through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Jan. 18, 1914, and the rite of Confirmation on April 1, 1928. She was a lifelong member of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Emden where she taught Sunday school for 25 years and was a member of the Ladies Aid since she was 20 years old. She was also a member of the Cross and Crown Circle.

She was a charter member of Logan County Home Extension and was a foster grandparent for 19 ½ years at the Lincoln Development Center.

Her funeral will be at 10:30 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2013, at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Emden. Pastor John Schurter will officiate. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m., Thursday and from 9:30-10:15 a.m., Friday, both at the church. Burial will be in Hartsburg Union Cemetery in Hartsburg.

Memorials may be made to St. Peter Lutheran Church or The Christian Village in Lincoln.

Davis Mortuary in Delavan is handling the arrangements. To express condolences online visit

davismortuaryinc.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 24, 2013

William "Bill"

R. Kelly

SHERMAN, IL - William "Bill" R. Kelly, 77, passed away Sunday, June 23, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; son, Michael Kelly; daughter, Lori Kelly; four stepchildren: Terry, Kathy, Steve and Mike; five grandchildren: Jolinda Kelly, Melissa Kelly, Riah Kelly, Kylan Kelly and Kiri Kelly; eight stepgrandchildren; four great-grandchildren; five step great-grandchildren; one brother, James (Jean) Kelly of Ohio; one sister, Kathy (Fred) Peterson of Iowa; several nieces and nephews.

Bill is preceded in death by a son, Matt, and his parents.

Bill was born Jan. 23, 1936, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the son of Robert Harrison and Alberta M. (Kepler) Kelly. He married Kathleen on Feb. 14, 2004, in Sherman.

Bill worked for Square D in Lincoln, Neb., for 23 years and later as plant manager for Eaton Electric in Lincoln, Ill., for 22 years.

He loved to hunt, fish, and especially his dogs. Bill was an active member of Ducks Unlimited.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, June 25, 2013, from 5-8 p.m. at Mott & Henning Funeral Home in Athens.

Memorials in lieu of flowers can be made to Living Faith Baptist Church in Sherman.

Online condolences can be shared at

mottandhenning.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 24, 2013

Steven L. Turner

JACKSONVILLE, IL - Steven L. Turner, 48, formerly of Bluffs, Ill., died Friday afternoon, June 21, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, Ill.

He was born March 15, 1965, in Jacksonville, son of the late Jesse E. and Doloris G. Garrison Turner. He married Tina Brant in 1990 in Bluffs; she survives.

Also surviving is a daughter, Kori Marie Brant (fiancé, Chris White) of Bluffs; one son, Steven Wayne Turner of Bluffs; four grandchildren: Jace, Braden, Kaiti and Kyle; four sisters: Rebecca (Dennis) Vaniter and Teresa (William) Sanders all of Jacksonville, Kathy (Gary) Jarred of Pleasant Plains, Ill., and Pamela K. (Marty) Carter of Missouri; seven brothers: Danny (Kathy) Monroe of Roodhouse, Ill., William (Phyllis) Riley, Kenny Riley and Jesse Paul Turner all of Jacksonville, E. Dean Turner of North Dakota, Ben Turner of Florida and Allen (Pam) Ward of Murrayville, Ill.; mother-in-law, Marcella (Ronald) DeVore of Lincoln, Ill.; stepmother-in-law, Vergie Brant of Mason City, Ill.; two sisters-in-law, Rhonda (Rod) Colvin of Waverly, Ill., and Mandy Brant of Mason City, Ill.; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Steven was employed by Westermeyer Industries in Bluffs for many years. He enjoyed fishing, riding motorcycles and NASCAR. He was a member of the Bluffs Baptist Church.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at the Williamson Funeral Home in Jacksonville, Ill. Visitation will be from 5:30 p.m. until the time of service on Tuesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.airsman-hires.com.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 24, 2013

Diana R.

Usherwood

ATLANTA - Diana R. Usherwood, 47, of Marquette Heights, formerly of Atlanta, passed away on Saturday, June 22, 2013, at her home.

Funeral services for Diana will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. at the Quiram Peasley Funeral Home with Rev. Rob Roy officiating.

Visitation will be held from 12:30 p.m. until time of service on Thursday.

Burial will be in Zion Cemetery in Lincoln.

Diana Renate Usherwood was born on May 17, 1966, in Germany, the daughter of Gerald and Renate Green.

Surviving Diana are her parents of Marquette Heights, one son, Brandon Dean Usherwood of Peoria, and one daughter, Kara Christine Usherwood of Atlanta.

Memorials may be made to the family.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 25, 2013

Lyman James

Garrison

TEMPE, AZ - Lyman James Garrison, 92, passed away on Saturday, June 22, 2013, in Tempe, Arizona.

Lyman was born February 23, 1921, to Charley H. and D. Edith Turner Garrison in Wayne County, Illinois. His family moved to Peoria, Illinois, where he attended grade and high schools. During [World War II](#) he served as a Merchant Marine in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Mediterranean theatres. After the war, in 1947, he and his father started Lincoln Transfer Trucking Company, acquired later by his brother, Charles Dale Garrison. During the late 40's and early 50's, Lyman was a fast pitch softball pitcher for the Caterpillar Diesels, Keystone Steel & Wire, and Lehn & Fink teams. He founded Garrison Insurance Agency and Lincoln Heritage Commercial Investment Corporation serving as their President for many years. Also, he was a founding principle of Old Heritage Life Insurance Company and served as Executive Vice President and Treasurer. Lyman served as a member of the Board of Directors that built the current Logan County Safety Complex. He was a long-time member of the [Elks Lodge](#), Lion's Club, [VFW](#), and was a Past Commander of Constantine Commandry #51, member of Lincoln Masonic Lodge #210 and Ansar Shrine Temple in Springfield.

Lyman married Lois Johnson in 1937 and they had a daughter, Bonnie (Garrison) Vacca. In 1948 he married Glenadean Claybourn and they had a son, James Paul Garrison.

He was predeceased by his parents, brothers, Berthal Neal and Charles Dale Garrison, and a sister, Bertha Edith (Garrison) Imes.

He is survived by his long-time companion, Charlene Carlson, daughter, Bonnie (Micky) Vacca, grandchildren, Vicki, Tim, and Michael Vacca, and his son, Jim (Connie Dittus) Garrison, grandson, Ryan James (Perla Herrera) Garrison, a great-grandson, Wyatt James Garrison, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will held from 9-11 a.m. on Friday, June 28, with a Masonic Service following at Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln, Illinois. A Private Burial will follow at 2 p.m. at Parkview Cemetery, 2001 N. University St., Peoria, Illinois. Memorials may be given to First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, Ill., or to the Shriner's Hospitals.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 26, 2013

Danny W. McCain

LINCOLN - Danny W. McCain, 66, of Lincoln passed away on Monday, June 24, 2013, at 6:49 a.m. at his home.

No Services are scheduled. Cremation Rites have been accorded.

Danny Wayne McCain was born on September 27, 1946, in Lincoln the son of Hilmar John and Kathryn Bacon McCain.

He married Debbie Leckrone on October 31, 1997, in Lincoln. She survives.

Also surviving are his children, Dawn Ferguson and Danny Wayne McCain, Jr., both of Lincoln; step-son, Robert Edward (Carrie) Skelton of Justus, Ill., one brother, Jerry McCain of Lincoln, one sister, Beverly Kruse of Atlanta. Three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Donnie McCain and John McCain. Mr. McCain served in the United States Army.

He was an avid fisherman, golfer and Pro Stock and Nascar Fan.

He was a retired truck driver.

Peasley Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 26, 2013

Alaya Grace Lamb

Alayah Grace Lamb, infant daughter of Lucas and Hannah Lamb, passed away June 24, 2013 at St. John's Hospital.

Visitation will be from 10AM until 11AM Friday, June 28, 2013 at Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home in Lincoln. Private burial will be held.

Surviving are Alayah's parents Lucas and Hannah Lamb of Lincoln, her sisters Alexis Michelle Lyn Lamb and Alyssa Lee Lamb at home in Lincoln, her maternal grandparents Keith and Keena Roos of Lincoln, IL. and Bob Williams of Lincoln, IL.; her paternal grandfather Rickey Lamb also survives.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandmother Michelle Lyn Lamb.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted at the funeral home.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 27, 2013

Caliph Lee

"Bus" Davis

LINCOLN - Caliph Lee "Bus" Davis, 87, of Lincoln, passed away at 12:45 p.m., Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at his residence.

Bus was born on September 13, 1925, to Caliph Luther and Nancy Caroline Garner Davis. He married Earlene Ruth Requarth on March 27, 1949, in Buffalo, Ill. She preceded him in death in December of 1998.

He is survived by three daughters, Sandra (Skip) Tanaka of Knoxville, Tenn., Debra Harris of Bloomington, Ill., and Donna (Doug) Johnstone of Knoxville, Tenn. Also surviving is one sister, Jean Goretski of Springfield, Ill.; two brothers, Sam (Joan) Davis of Dawson, Ill., and Jim (Anita) Davis of Sullivan, Ill.; seven grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Dean and Duppie, three sisters, Viola Yeazle, Nancy Wolcott, and Bernice Davis.

He was a member of the Lincoln Christian Church, Lincoln [Elks Lodge](#), and American Legion Post #263. He was a US Marine from November 1943-May 1946, Company B, 5th Tank Battalion, 5th Marine Division and remained active with his friends and attended reunions. Bus was an avid golf player and enjoyed his "winnings", enjoyed reading and trading books with his buddies. He played softball for many years and is in the Michigan Fast Pitch Softball Hall of Fame.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, June 29, 2013, at the Lincoln Christian Church. Visitation will be from 1-2 p.m. The family will also have fellowship and dessert immediately following the service until 3:30 p.m. Burial at Camp Butler Cemetery in Springfield, Ill., will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to Colorado Campus Christian Ministries, The Christian Village, or Fisher House Medical Center for Armed Forces, Retirees, and Veterans and their families. Services entrusted with Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home in Lincoln.

Published in The Lincoln Courier on June 28, 2013

Joseph Thomas

Seggelke

LINCOLN - Joseph Thomas Seggelke, 87, of Lincoln, went to be with his Lord on June 25, 2013 at The Christian Village in Lincoln, Illinois.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. Sunday, June 30, 2013 at Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home in Lincoln, Illinois. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Monday, July 1, 2013 at Lincoln Christian Church with Ryan Edgecombe and Dr. Paul Boatman officiating. Burial will be at a later date at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Riverton, Illinois.

Joe was born October 14, 1925 in Hamilton, Illinois, the son of George H. and Nellie Marie (Hawkins) Seggelke. He married Maxine Amberg on April 7, 1945 in Lincoln, Illinois. She survives. Also surviving are his daughter Bonnie Jo Klockenga and her husband Bud of Dix, Illinois, three sons: Thomas Derald Seggelke and wife Rita, Edwin Dean Seggelke and wife Linda, and Mark Allen Seggelke and wife Barb all of Lincoln, Illinois; 11 grandchildren: John Klockenga, Wendy Wittl, Jennifer Albrecht, Ryan Seggelke, Trent Seggelke, Amy Taylor, Erin Taylor, Kelly Dye, Lillie Seggelke, Jason Seggelke, and Jeffrey Seggelke; 22 great grandchildren; sister-in-law Peggy Seggelke of Springfield, Illinois, and brother-in-law Buck Amberg of California also survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Florence Smith, and his brother Harold Seggelke.

Joe was a graduate of Lincoln Community High School in 1943 and of Lincoln Christian University in 1957. He served in the [United States Navy](#) as an electrician's mate on the USS Cowpens Aircraft Carrier during [WWII](#). He served as a minister at Blooming Grove Christian Church in Palmyra, Illinois, and also did supply preaching for Lincoln Christian College for a number of years before leaving for South Korea for 3 1/2 years where his family served as missionaries. He was a printer for the College for 27 years and then worked alongside his son at Key Printing for 13 years. He was a faithful member of Lincoln Christian Church where he served as Elder for several years, was a member of Jolly Seniors, taught Sunday School in the Christian Corner Sunday School Class for 40 years and was on the missions team at church. Joe was instrumental in starting the Inner City Mission in Springfield, Illinois, and served on the board for many years.

Memorial Donations may be made, in lieu of flowers, to Lincoln Christian Church, The Christian Village, Lincoln Christian University, or to the Inner City Mission and will be accepted at the funeral home.

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Robert H.

Heineken

EMDEN - Robert H. Heineken, 75, passed away at 7:26 p.m. on June 27, 2013, at Memorial Medical Center of Springfield, Ill.

Robert was born on June 18, 1938, in Lincoln, Ill., son of Clarence and Laura Claggett Heineken. He married Mary E. Bounds on December 4, 1960, in Lexington, Ill. She survives in Emden. Robert was a Ford automobile dealer in Emden, and he retired from the Secretary of State Division of Motor Vehicles in Lincoln.

He is survived by two sons, Richard (Eliza) Heineken of Chatham, Ill., and David (Judy) Heineken of Glenarm, Ill.; five grandchildren, Kristen (Scott) Symons, Daniel (Heidi) Heineken, Katie Heineken, John Heineken, and Sarah Heineken; and also surviving is one great-grandchild, Peyton Symons. Robert was the last survivor of his immediate family.

Services for Robert will be 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 2, 2013, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Emden with Rev. John Schurter officiating. Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. on Monday, July 1, 2013, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Emden. A burial at Hartsburg Union Cemetery will follow after the service. Memorials may be given to St. Peter's Lutheran Church or Emden Rescue Squad. Services are entrusted to Fricke-Calvert-Schrader Funeral Home, Lincoln.

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