

# In Memoriam

*JCPenney Partners & Spouses we will miss*

Updated 03/14/2020

**Grudzinski Jr., Peter Joseph** (March 05, 2020). was born to Edna and Peter Grudzinski, Sr. on September 15, 1952 in Rockville Centre, New York. He grew up in Bethpage, New York and attended St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church. He graduated from Bethpage High School in 1970, St. John's University in Queens, New York 1974 and earned a Master's in Secondary Education from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts in 1976.

In 1978, Peter was introduced to Janet Sue Wrede on a blind date by the late Shirley Strang. Shirley's wish to be able to dance at their wedding was granted on October 18, 1980.

On October 19, 1981 Peter began his 30 year journey with **JCPenney** in New York City and then relocated with JCPenney Corporate to Plano, Texas in September 1987. Peter first conducted training classes for the new hires of the catalog division. He grew within the company into numerous senior level positions as well as into the Systems and Project Management part of the catalog division. Peter retired from JCPenney in 2013. His heart and dedication always remained with JCPenney and each person's life that he touched.

Peter's two pride and joys are his children, Brian Peter F. Grudzinski and Christine Michelle Battle. Peter enjoyed coaching Chrissy's basketball and softball teams during her schools days. Later, they shared special times together watching the Dallas Stars and Frisco Roughrider games. Peter enjoyed spending time with Brian at the movie theater, visiting historical sites and museums, and antiquing.

Peter's hobbies included reading, travel, and photography. He had a passion for history and gardening. He enjoyed growing vegetables, herbs, and roses with his green thumb!

Peter passed from this life into eternity at his home on March 5, 2020. He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Janet Grudzinski; son, Brian Grudzinski; daughter and son-in-law, Chrissy and Mason Battle; mother, Edna Grudzinski; sisters, Alice Grudzinski and Laura Cohen; nieces, Emily and Rachel Cohen and cousin, Ann Foley and her husband, Richard Foley. Peter will also be missed by his life long best friend, Daniel and Arlene Hardgrove. He will be missed by his furry family; dogs, Murphy and Watson and granddogs, Bentley, Rascal, Jasper and Buzz.

Funeral Services and burial will be March 26, 2020 in Concord, New Hampshire. Also, a Memorial Service will be held in Bethpage, New York. If it is your wish the family suggests donations, in Peter's memory, to:

**Golden Retriever Rescue of North Texas**, P.O.Box 670031 Dallas, Texas 75367, Phone: (214) 750-4477, [www.goldenretrievers.org](http://www.goldenretrievers.org)

**St. Martin of Tours**, 220 Central Avenue Bethpage, New York 11714, Phone: (516) 931-0818, [www.smbethpage.org](http://www.smbethpage.org)

**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**, 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, Tennessee 38105, Phone: (800) 478-5833, [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org)

**Ottman, Aletha "Lee" Grace** (March 2, 2020 ) Aletha passed due to complications from pneumonia at her home in Overland Park, KS.

Lee was born on Lister Avenue in Kansas City, MO on November 21, 1926. She graduated from Northeast High School at age 16 and promptly began working at the Army Effects Bureau during the latter stages of World War II. When the war came to a close, she attended Baker University. After college, she moved to Jacksonville, FL to work for National Airlines. Her professional career began in earnest, however, when she went to work for the IBM Corporation in the mid 1950's as a keypunch operator and, ultimately, a programmer of some of the earliest computers that were used to help local Kansas City businesses such as Tension Envelope, Whitaker Cable and Associated Agencies.

When **JC Penney** opened a regional credit office in 1961, she saw an opportunity to put her computer skills to new use in a career that would ultimately span 25 years and take her to offices in Mission, KS, Echelon, NJ, and Orlando, FL. At Penney's she rose to the role of Media Processing Manager where she succeeded at overcoming challenges and establishing herself as one of only a few female managers at the Company. Her trailblazing efforts and strong belief in mentoring young women at Penney's left a lasting mark on the organization.

In 1986 Lee retired from Penney's and set about traveling the world, a hobby for which she had great passion. "The traveling has been the highlight of my life. If I could do it all over again and start from scratch I would." She toured extensively throughout eastern and western Europe but had a special connection to Germany and France. "But everything pales in comparison to Paris; the Eiffel Tower sets me wild."

Lee also had the privilege of living in several interesting places over the course of her retirement including Palm Springs, CA, San Diego, CA and, ultimately Overland Park, KS. She left her mark as an avid volunteer in each of these cities. She spent many happy hours working at the Palms Springs Airport, Palm Springs Art Museum, and as Friend of the San Diego Library. Her favorite role, however, was as a docent at Mission San Diego de Alcala Catholic Church. She believed her time at the San Diego Mission "could never be duplicated." In Overland Park, she volunteered at the Catholic Charities Thrift Shop, Turn-Styles and at the Overland Park Arboretum. She also became involved with the Builders Sunday School class at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection and described that experience as phenomenal. "I have never experienced anything like it in all my life."

Lee was a devoted mother who treasured gatherings and celebrations with her family. She recently described her 80th Birthday as the "absolute pinnacle of it all" when a large collection of relatives and friends met her for a dinner in the center of Walt Disney World. She loved her family dearly and believed that her move back to Overland Park to be closer to loved ones "has been a cocoon that few people will ever have the opportunity to experience with those that they love so much."

She is survived by three daughters, six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Daughters: Kay Tilburg of Overland Park, KS; LeEllen Healey and husband Glenn of Birmingham, MI; Mary Schnell and husband Dennis of Belton, MO. Grandchildren: Michelle Mitchell and husband Justin of Overland Park, KS; Michael Tilburg and wife Vanessa of Esslingen, Germany; Nathan Schnell of Austin, TX; Sean Healey and wife Joanna of Berkley, MI; Laura Ballweg and husband Cody of Middleton, WI; Kristen Merten and husband Mark of Troy, MI. Great Grandchildren: Andrew Mitchell, Katherine Mitchell, Jason Merten, Finn Tilburg, Jack Ballweg, Connor Merten and Hanna Tilburg

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, March 14th at 2pm in the Wesley Chapel at The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave, Leawood, KS 66224.

In lieu of flowers the family asks donations be made to Mission San Diego de Alcala Renovation and Restoration fund in memory of Lee Ottman, 10818 San Diego Mission Road, San Diego, CA 92108 OR The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, Memo: Builders in memory of Lee Ottman. 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS 66224., Penwell-Gabel - Funeral Home (913-768-6777) is assisting the family

**La Plante, Don** (Dec 26, 2019) Don, of Woodland, CA returned to the Lord with his loved ones by his side.

Don was born in Detroit, MI on October 20, 1929 to Fred and Gladys La Plante. As a youngster he and his family moved to San Diego, CA, where he attended school, met and married his wife Pat and shortly after started a family. Don started his work life at the **J.C. Penney** company in San Diego at the bottom of the rung and retired as a manager 42 years later from the Woodland J.C. Penney store in 1989. In retired life, Don and Pat enjoyed twenty years of traveling to many parts of the world, but their favorite enjoyment was taking cruises.

Don was involved in community service all his adult life. He served as the president of the Woodland Chamber of Commerce, Yolo County Chamber and the United Way. He was a member of the Woodland Host Lions Club for over fifty years, where he participated in many community service functions and held several leadership roles. Don was a member of the Woodland Elks Lodge #1299, also for over fifty years. He helped organize the "Citizens Who Care" group and served as a board member and volunteer for the Food Closet. He was a faithful member of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church and Parish and loved his role as greeter at the 11:30 Sunday mass. One of Don's favorite activities he did with Pat was visiting the many wineries in Northern California. Don also proudly served in the U.S. Marine Reserves.

The most important tenant in Don's life was service to others. To quote Don, "Community service is the backbone of any good, strong community. Giving back to the community should be taught at an early age. Anyone, whether young or old, can find their niche to serve."

Don is survived by sons Stephen La Plante of Oakland, CA; Michael La Plante of St. Maries, ID; James La Plante (Conni) of Moss Beach, CA; daughters Julie La Plante of Cazadero, CA; Marsha Ludwig (Klaus) of Bodega Bay, CA, Catherine La Plante (Dawn) of Monte Rio, CA; grandchildren Sarah, Rachel, Joseph, Lauren, Alexa, Jennifer, Mathew, Kalie, Lindy, Austin, Katy, Emma, Delaney; great grandchildren Lukas, Nathan, Mateo, Ellis, Lyla, Zoe, Maya, Sean and Clara; brother, Warren La Plante (Carol) of Mesa, AZ.

Don is preceded in death by his wife Patricia; parents, Fred and Gladys La Plante; brothers Gaylord La Plante and Richard La Plante.

Don's funeral was held January at Holy Rosary Church, Woodland. Remembrances requested to be sent to the Host Lions Sight Programs, PO Box 795, Woodland, CA 95776.

**Gilmore, Katherine M.** (Aug 1, 2017) Katherine, 88, of Washington, passed away unexpectedly in Washington Hospital.

She was born December 30, 1928, in Bentleyville, a daughter of Frank and Julia Senkus Ambrosy. She graduated from Bentleyville High School in 1946 as valedictorian of her class, where she enjoyed playing violin for the high school orchestra. Following graduation, the Veterans Administration in Chicago and Philadelphia employed her.

Mrs. Gilmore then worked as a **credit manager with JC Penney Co.** for 25 years, until her retirement in 1999. She was a member of St. Hilary Roman Catholic Church, Washington, where she was very active in Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Parish Council.

Mrs. Gilmore was a member of American Legion Post 175 Ladies Auxiliary, Washington. She enjoyed taking family vacations and cruises.

On October 24, 1953 she married Charles W. Gilmore, who survives. Together, they were married for 64 years. Also surviving are two daughters, Susan (Tony) Capuro of The Colony, Texas, and Teresa (Clay) **Smith** of Carrollton, Texas; two sons, Michael (Linda) Gilmore of Burgettstown and Mark (Tammy) Gilmore of Washington; three granddaughters, Jennifer, Nicole and Danielle; two grandsons, Jared and Brandon; two great-grandchildren, Mason and Sebastian; a sister, Josephine Sirianni of Bentleyville; several nieces and nephews; and various relatives living in Lithuania.

Deceased are two sisters, Ann Markunas and Julia Evans; three brothers, Stanley Ambrosy, Francis Ambrosy and Anthony Ambrosy; and a granddaughter, Jenna Gilmore.

Additional information is available at [www.deangelocare.com](http://www.deangelocare.com).

**Brodie, Kay** (Jan 19, 2020) Kay, wife of Russ Brodie, passed after years of struggling with the COPD issues. She is survived by her husband, Russ and daughter A Celebration of Life will take place March 28, 2020 at the Rancho Sahuarita Club House, 3 to 5 PM. Condolences may be directed to Russ and family, at 504 W. Calle Montiro, Sahuarita, AZ 85629. **(Note: no obituary available)**

**Stratton, John W.** (Feb 17, 2020), John, 87, of Omaha, NE, passed away in Omaha.

He was born December 13, 1932 in San Jose, CA to John and Fern (Jepson) Stratton. John grew up in the San Francisco Bay area where he began his baseball career. As a teenager, he played in the 1950 Hearst Sandlot Classic in New York City and met Joe Di Maggio. His baseball career in the minor leagues took him to Ventura, CA; Eau Claire, WI; Evansville, IN; Jacksonville, FL and Cedar Rapids, IA.

After retiring from baseball, John had a lifelong career with the **JCPenney Company**, which eventually brought him to Falls City as the store's manager. He shared his love of baseball as a youth coach there, leading the Falls City Elks Midget baseball team in the state tournament. John's passion for fishing took him to Wisconsin, Utah, Alaska, Canada, Belize and Christmas Island, to name a few.

On September 22, 1956, John married Janet Helene Caton in Eau Claire, WI. John is survived by his children Kathy and her husband Ken Kottich of Lincoln, NE; Bob and wife Ann (Frederick) Stratton of Omaha, NE; Joyce

and husband Pat Lang, Salt Lake City, UT and Jayne Stratton, Lincoln, NE, special friend, Elaine Hansen of Omaha. He is also survived by his grandchildren Ryan and Toyin Kottich (Lincoln), Jon Kottich and Nicole Chmelka (Lincoln), Adam Kottich (Lincoln), Rachel and John Lee (Omaha), Zach Stratton (Springfield, MO) and great grandchildren Jackson and Olivia Lee (Omaha). He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters, wife and son John.

In 1949, the "scrappy shortstop" from San Jose, CA, played in the American Legion "Little League World Series" at Omaha's Municipal Stadium (Rosenblatt Stadium) as a member of the Bill Irwin Post (Oakland, CA) Little League Team. He was the shortstop in a triple play that helped secure victory in the title game. It seems fitting that his life led him back to Omaha where he eventually crossed home plate, for the last time. Of all the wonderful experiences John had during his lifetime, his family was always first. As he told his grandkids after their games: "Number (jersey number) on your scorecard, number one in my heart."

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, February 21, 2020 at 10:30 AM at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Falls City. Interment will be in Falls City Catholic Cemetery. A Parish Rosary will be recited on Thursday, 7:00 PM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home with family receive friends afterwards.

**Fairbrother, Sandra (Sandy) Dorothy** (Aug 26, 2019) Sandy of Plano, Texas, went home to the Lord on August 26, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband Ronald, of 54 years, as well as her parents Armin and Evelyn Fischer. She leaves behind her son, Bill, her daughter, Debbie, Debbie's fiancé, Allan Henman, and her sisters-in-law Nancy Myers and Carol Fairbrother.

Sandy was born on July 13, 1941, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She graduated from Bayview High School, where she developed a love of music and played the French horn. Sandy worked as a housewife, hospital ward clerk, insurance office worker, and enjoyed selling handmade crafts at community festivals. She also donated her creations to various causes.

Sandy was a loving wife, mother, and friend to all who knew her, and was known for her cheery disposition and sense of humor. Her family was her greatest joy in life. She loved her church family at First United Methodist Church Plano where over the years she was active in the Vanguard Class, Chancel Choir, Methodist Women, Stephen Ministry, and Emmaus Community. She was also very active in the community, including Citizens Assisting Plano Police (CAPP), Gideons Auxiliary, PTA, Plano Business and Professional Women, and serving as an election worker.

A memorial service for Sandy Fairbrother was held in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church Plano with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, the family recommends donations to either First United Methodist Church Plano's Music Ministry (3160 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074) or Westie Rescue of North Texas (15806 Ryan Lane, Frisco, TX 75035-3651).

**Darrow, W. T. (Bill)** (June 18, 2019) Bill was a long time resident of Seattle and Bellevue, WA. His final "tee time" in heaven is in Grants Pass, Oregon. His favorite pastimes included golf, and team U.W. Huskies. He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter Elizabeth. Bill enjoyed travel, cruises. His final cruise was Puget Sound.

Bill is survived by his spouse, Lillian.

Bill had been employed by **JCPenney** for many years and had various management positions. He retired at the age of 60. Bill and Lillian had been married almost 48 years when he passed. Bill died under Hospice Care at home from Lung cancer. Bill was so outgoing and was loved and liked by all the folks he worked with.

**Whitaker, Phyllis Murzicos** (Sept 23, 2019) Phyllis, of San Marcos passed away peacefully on September 23, 2019. Phyllis was born in Hot Springs, Arkansas on April 11, 1935, to her late parents, John Murzicos and Mary Murzicos Casten. She was also predeceased in death by her husband, Jay, daughter, Mary Ann Whitaker, and her sister, Dorothea Nolting Fry. She will be profoundly missed by her daughters Stephanie (David) Mingarelli and Deborah (William) Cooper. She was blessed to watch her grandchildren enjoy their young lives, Blake and Jacob

Denton and Emily and Abby Cooper. Our lives were graced by her kind heart, loving spirit, and friendly smile, she never met a stranger.

Phyllis enjoyed life immensely, spending time with family and innumerable friends. She loved being a part of her community serving on many boards and participating in many civic groups. She served on the Board for Friends of Fine Arts at Texas State University for many years, the Heritage Association in San Marcos, Garden Club, The Junior Sorosis Club, Texas State University Bobcat Club and was a Chi Omega Sorority Alum. Phyllis grew up in Texarkana, Texas, where she had an incredible childhood, was a debutante, loved to dance and developed lifelong friendships. She attended The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, where she was a member the Chi Omega Sorority. Professionally, Phyllis was a medical technologist for many years, before enjoying a long career as a Real Estate Agent, retiring from Randall Morris & Associates. After retirement, Phyllis enjoyed a full social calendar of bridge, Concerts in the Park, Texas State football games and countless meals with her tight knit group of San Martian friends.

A memorial service was held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, in San Marcos. Prior to the memorial service, family and friends gathered for a private interment ceremony at San Marcos City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers for those desiring, Phyllis has asked for contributions to be made to the Scholarship Fund in care of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 3039 Ranch Road 12, San Marcos, Texas 78666.

**Pirtle, Rives Walter** (Feb 11, 2020) Walt, age 85, passed away in San Antonio, Texas.

Walt began a 50 year career with **JC Penney** in 1957 in Kewanee, IL. He held various entry level positions in Moline, Hammond, Gary, Indiana; Gulf Mill, Chicago and Chicago District Staff. He served as the Store Manager in Hammond, IN, then went on to serve as District Manager in Omaha, NE, followed by Regional Co-Coordinator in the New York office. From there, he located to Denver, Colorado as District Manager, followed by a move to San Antonio, Texas as District Manager. He retired in 2007 as the Store Manager in Corpus Christi with 50 active years of service with JC Penney.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rives and Margaret; brothers Paul and William and sister, Jane.

Walt is survived by his wife Ann, children Tara & Jay Pettersson, Tamara and Dennis Pearman, Tracia Roberts, Mark & Audrey Pirtle and Trina Pirtle; Stepson Brian and Nancy Stuhl; brother Jon and Deedee Pirtle; Grandchildren Matthew & Nicholas Pearman; Katie Roberts, Taylor Pirtle, Sam and Chris Pettersson and Connor Stuhl.

**Jeffers, Dorothy Pauline** (Nov 4, 2018) Dorothy, born Jan 3, 1929, passed away peacefully at her home. She was born in New York and after meeting the love of her life moved to California to raise her family.

Dorothy has been a resident of Mission Viejo for 46 years. Her first priority was her family, but her love of shopping, playing Bunco, and going to lunch with girlfriends were among her favorite things.

She bravely confronted and fought breast cancer for many years. Nothing made her smile brighter than spending time with her Grandchildren. She was a member of the Deane Women's Club, Assistance League, and delivered food for Meals on Wheels. There are no words to describe how much we will all miss her.

She leaves behind her children, Kathleen (Bob), Patricia, Glenn, and Theresa; her grandchildren Amber, Holly, Eric, Carly, Kayla, Garrett, Geneva, and Geena; and great grandchildren Layla, Alexander, Gentry, Jordyn, and one precious girl on the way. Funeral services were held at Santiago de Compostela Church in Lake Forest. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society or Susan G. Komen foundation in her name.

**Hubbell, Wilma** (Nov 24, 2019) Wilmsl, age 90, of Fruitland Park, Florida and formerly of Mount Vernon passed away at the Village Hospice House in The Villages, Florida.

She was born on December 28, 1928 in Caledonia, Ohio to the late Wellington and Hazel (Wooley) Baird. Wilma was employed and retired from **JC Penny** here in Mount Vernon where she worked in the Catalog Department. She was a member of the Mulberry Street United Methodist Church and was a life member of the

Colonial City Women of the Moose Chapter #100. Wilma enjoyed fishing and traveling. But most of all, she loved the time she spent with her family.

She is survived by her sons, Tim (Carrie) Hubbell, Dan Hubbell; seventeen grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; and her companion Hollis Wood.

In addition to her parents, Wilma was preceded in death by her husband Merlin Hubbell; her son Michael Hubbell; and her grandson Nicholas Hubbell.

A service was held Dec 2, 2019 at the Flowers-Snyder Funeral Home. Burial took place in Bloomfield Cemetery near Sparta.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Mulberry St. United Methodist Church, 205 N. Mulberry St. Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050. To send the family a condolence online visit: [www.snyderfuneralhomes.com](http://www.snyderfuneralhomes.com)

**Wright, Peggy** (Oct 21, 2019) It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved Peggy Wright (Kannapolis, North Carolina), born in Laurens, South Carolina, who passed away at the age of 94. You can send your sympathy in the guestbook provided and share it with the family. You may also light a candle in honor of Peggy Wright.

She was predeceased by : her parents, Edna Louise Denman Gibson and Major Dye Gibson. She is survived by : her husband Harold Wright, Jr.; her daughters, Karen L. Wright of Charlotte, Libby Wright Robinson (Tommy) of Mint Hill, Ruthie Wright Roberts (John) of Midland and Robin Wright Thomas (Mark) of Durham; her grandchildren, Katherine Louise Robinson of Charlotte, Peggy Elizabeth Robinson Barnett (Jonathan) of Concord, Benjamin Roberts (Catharine) of San Diego, CA, Reagan Wright Thomas and Ella Karen Thomas of Durham; and her great grandchild Bentley Thomas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Trinity UMC or Cabarrus Literacy Council at 27 Union Street North, Concord, NC 28025.

**Kendig, Wallace Roger** (Nov 21, 2019) Wallace (Wally) Kendig, loving companion to Diane Green and father of two sons, William (Bill) and David, passed away at age 80. Wally will be remembered for his big smile, wide circle of friends, generous spirit, sense of humor, and a deep sense of service to his church and community.

Wally was a third generation Californian. He was born April 8, 1939 in Glendale, CA to Melba Rogers Kendig and Howard Kendig. He graduated from Burbank High School in January, 1957. He attended Arizona State University, graduating in 1962 with a BA in marketing. While at ASU, Wally became a charter member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He lettered in tennis and was on the varsity tennis team.

Wally's working career was with the **J.C. Penney Company** as a store manager. He worked ten years in Hawaii for Penney's. When he came back from Hawaii he managed three stores in California: Granada Hills, Los Altos in Long Beach, and Santa Monica.

After retiring in 1998, Wally began his career in volunteer service. He belonged to the Kiwanis Club of Burbank, First Christian Church of Burbank, San Fernando Valley Historical Society, Pioneer Cemetery, Sigma Phi Fraternity, Burbank Bulldogs, and Burbank Elks Club.

Wally was an avid sports fan of the Oakland Raiders, Lakers, Kings, and ASU.

Wally is survived by his companion/fiancé of thirty years, Diane Green, and her son, Christopher Green, Wally's son, Bill and daughter-in-law, Ani of Poulsbo, Washington, and son, David, of Alameda, California. Wally has two grandsons, Nic and wife, Amy, great granddaughter, Josette, of Portland, Oregon, and Tyler of Bellingham, Washington.

Wally is also survived by his ninety year old sister, Madeline Gisel of Granada Hills, and her family.

A memorial service for Wally was held at Burbank First Christian Church on December 4, 2019. Wally was interred near his family at Pierce Brothers Valhalla Memorial Park in North Hollywood.

**Hardin, Patricia Mae** (Aug 10, 2019) Patricia, 80, was of Deerfield Beach.

Patricia was born February 7, 1939 in Louisville, Kentucky. Patricia held a distinguished career at **JC Penney** where she was a district manager for over 20 stores. She also held a pilot's license and in her later years was a Yoga teach in Coral Springs and Parkland.

Those left to cherish her memory are her partner of 19 years, Stan Hooper, daughters, Pamela Leal, Valerie Hardin, grandchildren, Marisa Leal, Paige Leal, Madison Leal and great granddaughter, Lola Dansak. Arrangements entrusted to Kraeer Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Coral Springs.

**Duerden, Sr., Jay Verle** (Dec 11, 2019) Our beloved husband, brother, father, grandfather and friend passed away on December 11, 2019 at 91 years of age. Jay Verle Duerden Sr. was born March 25, 1928 to Leland Clyde Duerden and Hazel Charlottie Jones Duerden Apedaile in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Verle graduated from West High School in 1946, where he was senior class president and received All State Awards in football and tennis. He was later inducted into their Athletic Hall of Fame for Outstanding Athletic Accomplishments. He went on to attend Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah where he played quarterback. On August 24, 1948, he was sealed in the Salt Lake LDS temple, to his beautiful bride, Leone Winegar Duerden.

Verle proudly served his country as an officer and pilot in the United States Army National Guard. He attended Officer Candidate School in Ft.Sill, Oklahoma in 1952 and went on to graduate from flight school in Texas in 1953. In April of 1953, he left to fly in the Korean War until May of 1954. He returned and graduated with a Business Degree from BYU in 1955 and continued serving in the Army until 1973, retiring as a Captain.

As a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Verle served in many ward and stake callings throughout his life, including bishopric counselor, bishop, high councilor, home teacher and Sunday school teacher.

Verle found joy in working hard and playing hard. He was employed by **JC Penney** Department stores for 25 years where he retired as store manager. He then opened his own Coast to Coast hardware store in Kaysville, Utah, which he proudly owned for 15 years.

He loved to play sports throughout his life and of course, was an avid BYU football fan. He spent many hours outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping and flying his plane. He loved serving and playing with his family, spending countless hours assisting them in their own business endeavors and beating them in many games of tennis and ping pong.

Verle also loved traveling the world with his sweetheart. They were blessed to visit many countries and loved taking their children and grandchildren along on their adventures. His family fondly remembers him as a "super fun dad and grandpa." He was well known for his sense of humor and his willingness to lend a hand to those in need.

Above all, Verle loved and adored his sweet wife. In their 71 years of marriage, they were blessed with eight children, 40 grandchildren and 64 great-grandchildren.

Verle is survived in death by his loving wife, Leone and his children, Verle and Regan, Parma and Leonard Routson, Maxine and Kris Christensen, Diana and Scott Johnson, Robert Douglas and Julie, Donna Leone Smith and David. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son, William Richard "Bill", two granddaughters, Kara Lee Routson and Savannah Noel Smith, and by his siblings, Genevieve, Margie, Leland and Archie.

Funeral services were held at the Wasatch Drive Meetinghouse in Layton. The family met with friends at Lindquist's Layton Mortuary. Interment was in the Kaysville Cemetery.

**Lange, Robert "Bob" A.** (Mar 7, 2019) Robert, age 92, passed away peacefully at Sebring Assisted Living. He was born on December 4, 1926 to Herbal and Elsie (Carnahan) Lange in Beloit.

Bob served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Madison, which is where he met his future wife. Bob was united in marriage to Jo Ann Bieberstein in Madison on June 9, 1951.

His career with **J. C. Penney's** took him to many cities throughout the Midwest.

Bob was a member of Bethany United Methodist Church. He was a kind, loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and uncle to his family.

Bob is survived by his children, Dan (Susie) Lange of St. Charles, MO, Gary (Susan) Lange of Cedarburg and

Sherry (Dave) Ulrey of Marquette, MI; his grandchildren, Karin Lange, Stephen (Kelsey) Lange, Erin Ulrey and Alyssa Ulrey; and one great-grandchild, Bexley Lange. He was preceded in death by his wife; his daughter, Patricia; and his brother, Ron.

A Memorial Service was held at BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH in Madison. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Bob's name can be made to Agrace HospiceCare, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Madison, WI 53711; or Bethany United Methodist Church, 3910 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53705.

**Sommer, Donald Henry** (Dec 3, 2019) Donald, 78, of Ocala passed away at Legacy House in Ocala. Don was a native of Xenia, OH.

He was raised in Dayton, OH. He was a graduate of the University of Dayton with a BS in Music Education. He was a member of the Ohio National Guard and worked for **JC Penney** for 33 years.

During his employment with JCP, Don moved several times to follow the job from Columbus, OH to Massapequa, NY to Atlanta, GA to Plano, TX. Upon retirement, he moved to On Top of the World in 1998.

His hobbies included music, computers, travel and love for his cats. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Sara; daughter, Anne (Fred) Meyer of Rosharon, TX and son, Tony (Anela) Sommer of Wylie, TX; grandchildren Mia, Lea and Emily; brother-in law Lee Hagelberger of Bokeelia, FL. He is preceded in death by his father, Julius Anthony Sommer and mother, Bernadette Sophia Eyink; sister in-law, Susan Harper.

A funeral mass was held on December 17, 2019 at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 6455 SW State Road 200, Ocala, FL. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations may be made to the Hospice of Marion County, Post Office Box 4860, Ocala, Florida 34478-4860. Online condolences may be sent at [www.hiers-baxley.com](http://www.hiers-baxley.com).

**Wempe, John Robert (Jack)** (Jan 11, 2020) John, 83, of Brooksville FL, passed away there at the HPH Hospice House surrounded by his family.

Jack was born in Topeka KS on Jan 23, 1936, the second of five sons of G.A. and Ruth J. Wempe. Before graduating from Hayden High School in Topeka, he was named an all-state athlete in basketball. He graduated from Washburn University in 1958.

Jack married Shirley Anne Brown on Aug 29, 1959 in Topeka KS and spent 60 wonderful years of marriage with her. She survives him along with their four children and their spouses: Susan and Glenn Erdman, Mount Dora FL; Sara and Ret. Lt. Col. Malcolm E. Earles, Monroe NC; Drs. David and Stacy Wempe, Spring Hill FL; and Brenda and Bob Wempe, Houston TX. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren; Brothers Joe Wempe (Debbie) and Jim (Joan) Wempe, of Topeka KS and sisters in law Barbara (Larry) Van Meter of Sunrise Beach, MO and Ginny Hill of Bartlett TN. He was predeceased by his parents and brothers Jerry Wempe and Bill Wempe.

Jack began working for **JC Penney Co** in 1961 in Albuquerque NM. He had a distinguished career in local, district and regional management positions for 34 years and retired in 1996 in Greenville MS as a store manager. Jack's participation in the communities where he lived was extensive: Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Columbus, United Way, Rotary, Mall Associations, Downtown Merchants Associations, and Economic Development Committees. Probably the most impactful project he undertook, as far as boosting a local economy, was organizing the first Mardi Gras parade in Bogalusa LA. Today, MCCA (Magic City Carnival Association) is one of the largest Mardi Gras parades outside of New Orleans LA.

A funeral mass will take place on Saturday, Jan 25, 2020 at 12 noon at St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church, Brooksville FL. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 1291 Kass Cr., Spring Hill FL 34606. Interment will take place at Mt Calvary Cemetery, Topeka KS, at a later date.

**Berry Jr., William Joseph** (Dec 3, 2019) William, 85, was of Pensacola, Florida. (no obituary available at this time)

**Pearce, Joe King** (Jan 2, 2020) Joe was born on August 4, 1930 to Rex and Leone Pearce of Cotton Plant, Arkansas. His brother Rex was four years older. Joe and Rex spent their childhood playing football and baseball in

Cotton Plant. They would often hitch a ride on a cotton wagon into town. Joe and his dog Monkey were well-known citizens of Cotton Plant. Joe graduated number 12 in his class – out of 12 students. He served as his high school class President and excelled at several sports.

Joe hitchhiked to Arkansas State Teachers College with his cardboard suitcase in hand hoping to get a football scholarship, which was the only way he would be able to afford to attend college. He impressed the coaches and received a scholarship for tuition and worked in the locker room to pay for books and meals. While in college, he met his brown-eyed beauty, Martha Jo Mattox and his heart went pitty-pat. He also played football and baseball and was offered a contract with the Major League's Boston Braves. While playing ball and being acknowledged by Ty Cobb as one of the best new players, Joe was drafted to serve his country in Korea. He was proud to serve and protect the United States of America. He received the Bronze Star for his outstanding leadership ability and his personal interest in his men. His heroic actions resulted in many successful missions.

Following his service in Korea, he completed his college education and married Martha Jo on October 29, 1954. Joe was offered a job at **JC Penney** following graduation where he worked his way up from the sales floor to becoming a district manager and representing the company in Washington, D.C. He retired from the company after 30 years of service to live in Lakeway, Texas where they were close to good friends. They made many more great friendships in their 25 years in Lakeway playing golf and bridge and attending the Lakeway Church.

Martha Jo and Joe have 3 children who are the light of their lives. As the children were growing up, they could often be found spending weekends and vacations in Caldwell, Texas enjoying time at the ranch and spending time with their friends and neighbors in the country. Owning land was a lifelong dream and Joe loved walking the fence-line, tending to his cattle, riding his horses, and entertaining anyone who wanted to come for a visit. Seven years ago, Joe finally fulfilled his dream to live at the ranch. Martha Jo and Joe built a beautiful home and enjoyed their years in the country where they renewed friendships, made many new ones, and were active members of the Caldwell Church of Christ.

Everyone who knew Joe loved him for his kindness, his wisdom and good advice, and his strong family values. He is well respected for his accomplishments as a soldier, a businessman, a friend, a father and a husband. He will be missed by all who knew him and especially by his loving family; his wife, Martha Jo, his children, Andy, Jo Ann and Mary Ellen, their spouses, Terri, Ron and John and his grandchildren, James, Allison, Jackson, Jeremy and Megan.

Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at Lakeway Church, 2203 Lakeway Blvd., Lakeway, TX.

**Berger, Bonnita "Nita" Christine** (Oct 30, 2019) "Nita", age 71, passed away in Plano, TX. "Nita" was born Saturday August 28, 1948 in San Diego, California to Bonnita Y Silvers and William C Silvers.

"Nita" grew up in various cities including San Ana, California where she started to work at **JC Penney's** starting as a window dresser. She had a long, successful career at JC Penny's for over 36 years. She was a very faithful member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church and was on the prayer committee.

"Nita" was extremely proud of her step-daughter Jennifer, her husband Michael and grandson Drake. She thought Jennifer hung the moon. "Nita's" entire family will miss her generous spirit and her love of all animals including her sweet Corgi Brae and especially the Monarch butterflies who migrated through her yard each fall.

"Nita" is survived by her husband, Jeffrey Berger; step-daughter Jennifer Hatcher; step son-in-law Michael Hatcher; grandson Drake Hatcher; sister Sandie Silvers, sister Cherie Ditto and brother-in-law Jack Ditto.

"Nita" was preceded in death by; father William C Silvers and mother Bonnita Y Silvers; uncle Glen V Silvers. She also leaves behind to cherish her memory many loving family members which include nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews who she loved dearly.

A memorial service for "Nita" was held Wednesday, November 13, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 3601 West 15th Street, Plano, Texas 75075.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in "Nita's" memory may be made to Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Plano, Texas. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.teddickeywestfuneral.com](http://www.teddickeywestfuneral.com) for the Berger family.

**Bickmore, Rulon Dean** (Nov 18, 2019) Rulon, 91, devoted husband, father, grandfather, son, and brother, passed peacefully to Heaven in Salt Lake City. He was born to Rulon Smith Bickmore and Pearl LaReta Wahlen Bickmore on December 20, 1927, in Logan, Utah.

His loving family included his sister Betty Jane Davis (deceased) (Lee) and brothers John J. Bickmore (deceased) (Diane Tueller) and Gerald W. Bickmore. He married his beautiful sweetheart, Ida Ludene Andrews, on January 8, 1953, in the Logan Temple. She died on October 8, 2007.

Rulon was raised in Logan, Utah, and moved to Salt Lake City his junior year of high school. He graduated early from East High and enlisted in the U.S. Navy on Valentine's Day in 1946. He served active duty for two years in the Pacific. He also served in the U.S. Army Reserve ROTC. He returned to Logan to attend Utah State University. There he met and married our sweet mother, Ludene. He graduated from USU with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1952. While attending Utah State, he belonged to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He attended graduate school at the University of Utah and worked for Sears at 8th South and State in Salt Lake City.

Dad had many talents. He was a ski racer and won many ski competitions. He and Ludene were ballroom dancers. He was the life of the party; and even at age 91, Dad still had his sense of humor. His most treasured talent was his gift of music he inherited from his mother. He loved to stand by the piano with anyone who would play for him while he sang. He loved music and shared this talent freely with his family and others. His beautiful, natural tenor voice could be heard in the halls of The Abbington Senior Living Center even as late as last week. Rulon began his career calling on stores in California selling Wolverine shoes while his new bride waited for him in the car. He continued in retailing and began a 35-year career with **JC Penney** in the Twin Falls, Idaho, store in 1953. His career with **JC Penney** included management positions in Ogden, Utah; Helena, Montana; Kenmare, North Dakota; and Cedar City, Utah, where he and Ludene settled and finished raising their children. In Cedar City he was involved in the community serving as Rotary Club President and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

A devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he served in many positions including ward bishopricks. His testimony is a priceless gift to his family. He is the most honest man we have ever known. His family was his life. He cherished his beautiful wife and each of his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He and Ludene are the parents of four children: Dean Andrews Bickmore, Salt Lake City, Utah; Craig Andrews Bickmore (Lori), Sandy, Utah; Janice Mae Bickmore Warner (Byron, deceased), Holladay, Utah; and Janae Ludene Bickmore Smith (Marty), Logan, Utah. Rulon and Ludene have 17 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren with more to come.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 23, 2019, at 11 a.m. at the Evergreen LDS Chapel, 2125 East Evergreen Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah. Graveside services followed at 3 p.m. in the Logan City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Missionary Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

As his family, we wish to extend a very special thank you to the caregivers at The Abbington of Holladay for their love and compassion for Dad and all of the dear residents there.

**Hamilton, Sr. Kerm** ( Nov 3, 2019). Kerm was born on November 29, 1935, in Salt Lake City UT, to Weston Eugene Hamilton and Myrl Washburn. He graduated from East High and attended the U of U. He married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Jean Woolley, on November 21, 1956, in the Salt Lake City Temple.

His career with **JCPenney** took him to many states, but he considered Alaska home. During his career he was a store manager for JCPenney and president of both the Downtown Retail Merchants Association and the Rotary Club of SLC. Kerm also served in the Air Force Reserve. He was a devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Kerm enjoyed serving others as a bishop, district presidency member, temple worker and missionary--serving alongside his wife in Nauvoo, IL from 2003-2005. He had a love for scouting and served as

president of Alaska's Midnight Sun Council and VP of properties for the Greater SL Council. He was awarded BSA's Silver Beaver.

Kerm loved being with family and friends and spending time outdoors. In Alaska, he enjoyed fishing, hunting, and adventuring in airplanes with his lifelong friend Kenny Ashby. In Utah he enjoyed spending time with friends and family at his cabin.

He is survived by his seven children; Tami Malan (Mike), Lindi Clark (Steve), Marci Clawson (Ron), Weston (Teresia), Blake (Lorena), Brad (Corri), and Neal (Amanda); siblings Chad and Monty; 31 grandchildren and 19.5 great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife and parents.

Online condolences may be offered at [www.larkincares.com](http://www.larkincares.com)

**Thornburgh, Jr, Henry L.** (June 27, 2019) Henry, was of Marietta, GA.

Henry is survived by daughter, Mary L. Stockton (Wayne); sons, John R. Thornburgh (Karen) and Timothy A. Thornburgh (Lisa); six grandchildren and one great grandson. He is also survived by sister, Elsie Williams of Weaver, AL. Henry's wife of 62 years, Betty, predeceased him in December 2018.

Henry was born June 6, 1927 in Birmingham, AL, was graduated from Phillips High School of Birmingham and The University of Alabama. He attained the rank of Seaman First Class in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged on July 24, 1946.

Henry retired from the **JC Penney Co.** in 1987 after 37 years of employment. He was an active member of St. Andrew United Methodist Church since 1973. Henry was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. His family, faith and scouting mattered most throughout Henry's life. His Scouting friends knew him as Hank. He was the second Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 750 in Marietta, GA, obtained the Wood Badge in Course 92-12A, he later served as Wood Badge Senior Patrol Leader and Course Director, giving countless hours of service as a volunteer adult scouter with the Boy Scouts of America. After a long and fulfilling adventure on earth, Henry has gone home.

A memorial service was held at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 3455 Canton Rd., Marietta, Ga 30066, on Saturday, July 6, 2019. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations to St. Andrew United Methodist Church. To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Henry L. Thornburgh, Jr., please visit our [\*\*Tribute Store.\*\*](#)

**Thornburgh, Betty Randle** (Dec 12, 2018) Betty was of Marietta, GA.

Betty is survived by Henry L. Thornburgh, Jr., her husband of 62 years; daughter, Mary L. Stockton (Wayne); sons, John R. Thornburgh (Karen) and Timothy A. Thornburgh (Lisa); six grandchildren and one great grandson. She is also survived by sister, Doris Jean (Randle) Dean of Athens, AL.

Betty was born February 4, 1934 in Killen, AL, was graduated from Coffee High School and Florence State University (now University of North Alabama). She was an active member of St. Andrew United Methodist Church since 1973. Betty was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother who was happiest holding one of her babies or grandbabies, singing them a lullaby and rocking them to sleep.

A memorial service was held at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 3455 Canton Rd., Marietta, Ga 30066, on Sunday, December 16, at 2:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to either: St. Andrew United Methodist Church 3455 Canton Road, Marietta, GA 30066 Or The Head and Neck Cancer Fund C/O Winship Cancer Institute at Emory 1762 Clifton Road NE, suite 1400, Atlanta, Ga 30322.

To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Betty R. Thornburgh, please visit our [\*\*Tribute Store.\*\*](#)

**Wells, Reuben Roderick** (Dec 3, 2018) Reuben, age 91, of Dublin, passed away at his residence.

Mr. Wells was born August 13, 1927, in Winnsboro, SC, to the late Osborne E. Wells, Sr. and the late Hattie Bell Harmon Wells.

After Pearl Harbor, Reuben enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 17. He served as Quartermaster and most notably onboard ships of the fleet which participated in the testing of the atomic bomb.

Following his time in the service, Reuben enrolled at the University of South Carolina, graduating in June, 1952. While at the University of South Carolina, he lettered in baseball and was known as "TV" for his

spectacular, television-worthy catches in left field. After graduating, he began his career with **JC Penney** in Columbia, SC. He worked as a store manager for JC Penney serving at stores in Augusta, GA; Charleston, SC; Selma, AL; and Dublin, GA.

Mr. Wells was a member of Jefferson Street Baptist Church in Dublin. He was active in the Dublin Civitan Club for many years and volunteered with the Salvation Army. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, May Black and Kitty George; brothers, Osborne Wells, Jr. and George Wells; grandson, Joel R. Humphrey, and son-in-law, William P. Warren.

Survivors include his daughter, Janet Wells Warren of Villa Rica, GA; son, Roddy Wells (Allison) of Auburn, AL; grandchildren, Kyle R. Wells (Kristen) of Dublin, GA, Catherine E. Warren of Villa Rica, GA, Meghan L. Wells of Gainesville, GA, and Andrew P. Warren and Austin K. Newsome both of Auburn, AL; great-granddaughter, Brielle E. Wells of Dublin; sisters-in-law, Mary Wells of Columbia, SC, and Annie S. Cherry of Aiken, SC, and a host of nieces and nephews in SC, TN, AL, and MS.

Private services for Mr. Wells will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donation remembrances made to Integrity Hospice, 1101B Hillcrest Parkway, Dublin, GA 31021.

**Montgomery, Barbara** (Dec 10, 2019) Barbara, 83, resided at 1380 Ranch House Drive, Fairview, TX 75069 with her husband of 61 years, Gerald (Gerry) Montgomery. A Memorial Service to celebrate Barbara's life will be held December 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Northwest Highway and Inwood, Dallas, Texas.

MONTGOMERY, Barbara Jane 1/27/1936 - 12/10/2019 Barbara Jane Montgomery, 83, passed away on Tuesday, December 10, after a brief but intense battle with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) while in hospice care, at her home in Fairview, TX.

She leaves behind her husband of 61 years, **Gerald**; their daughters Kris Montgomery, Dr. Karyn Montgomery Boss, and Kelly Montgomery; and grandchildren Christine, Nick, Kyra and Alyssa. Barbara was born to Helen and Herbert Fricke on January 27, 1936, in Allentown, PA.

Her life's pursuit centered around helping others, and it began with becoming a Registered Nurse through Allentown Hospital in 1956. She soon moved to Boston MA to further her career as an OB/GYN nurse and that's where she met the love of her life, Gerry. They had their first date on Memorial Day and, after a whirlwind courtship, got married less than 2 months later, on July 20, 1958. For most of their first 30 years of marriage Barbara and Gerry lived in Bergen County, N.J. During this time Barbara was very active in organizations like the PTA, Girl Scouts, and the Women's Club. At the First Presbyterian Church of Hackensack she was a Deacon, Elder and Sunday School teacher. One of her notable accomplishments was the initiation of an annual Ragamuffin Parade at Halloween, a tradition that continues to this day.

While their girls were little, Barbara taught pre-school for special-needs children. She later got her recertification in OB/Gyn, and worked with Metropolitan Medical Assoc. in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. In 1988, Barbara and Gerry relocated to North Texas, and it didn't take long before she fully embraced her new environment. Barbara continued her nursing career working in prenatal care for women with high-risk pregnancies. Barbara and Gerry soon joined Lovers Lane United Methodist Church and for over 30 years were involved in a wide range of outreach programs benefitting the community for which they were both honored with the prestigious Heritage Award in 2002. Barbara specifically was recognized for being a member of the Sanctuary Choir and the Chancel Guild; helping in such Outreach programs as Stewpot, Habitat for Humanity, Sew N' Sew, Bryan's House and two Mission Trips to Honduras. As part of her devotion to the church, she continued to participate in numerous programs such as the Good News Sunday School, Everybody's Christmas and Feed My Starving Children. She has also participated in a Lovers Lane UMC program to provide financial support for young ladies in Kenya to attend high school and this passion resulted in a special bond with two students that touched her heart, Mercy and Kellen. While in the Sanctuary Choir, she sang with the group on several international trips including Israel where they sang in Bethlehem Square on Christmas Eve, 1994. Barbara was also one of the originators of the Night Lights program now known as Rays of Light benefitting special needs children and their families.

Barbara also had a passion for crafts from sewing Easter outfits for her daughters when they were little, to creating intricate counted cross-stitch Christmas stockings for family members and many friends. Another of her

many passions was international travel with her beloved husband Gerry. Together they were able to travel to more than 100 countries. She is remembered by her friends and family for her positive can-do spirit and contagious laughter. In addition to her husband, daughters, and grandchildren, she is survived by sister Cindy (Mike) Witkowski, brothers-in-law Dr. Warren Montgomery and wife Shirley and Dennis Montgomery and wife April; son-in-law Dr. David Boss, daughter-in-law Mindy Walwer.

Barbara requested to be cremated and her cremains will be interred in Shepherd's Garden at LLUMC. A Memorial to celebrate Barbara's life will be held December 28, 2019 at 10 am at LLUMC located at the corner of Northwest Highway and Inwood Lane, Dallas, Texas. Donations in her memory may be made to Smiletrain, a nonprofit organization and charity providing corrective surgery for children with cleft lips and palates. Condolences and remembrances may be posted online at [Legacy.com](http://Legacy.com).

**Nelson, Audrey Fay** (Feb 10, 2019) Nelson, 84, went to heaven surrounded by family at her residence.

She was born on October 10, 1934 in Fargo, North Dakota, the daughter of Fred E. and Lucille L. (Engelking) Ackermann and graduated from Fargo High School in 1952. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of North Dakota in 1956. On August 4, 1956 in Fargo, North Dakota, she married the love of her life, Richard V. "Dick" Nelson.

In college, she worked at Hudson's Department Store in Minneapolis, MN where she learned to make beautiful bows which she always loved to give on presents to others. Later, she worked as a substitute teacher and teacher's aide in several states. She also coached cheerleading in Peoria, IL, but the title she loved best was Homemaker. Audrey was a member of High Street United Methodist Church for 41 years, where she was active in Naomi Circle and High Street Travelers.

She was a Delta Gamma Alumni, SAE Sweetheart and drum majorette in college. Audrey loved to travel and was an avid sports fan who enjoyed watching her grandchildren's sporting activities. Most of all, she loved to spend time with her family.

Surviving are one daughter, Kim Thomas (husband, Will) of Bloomington: one son, Kyle Nelson (wife, Suzanne) of Muncie; four grandchildren, Kyle Thomas (wife, Celina) of Bloomington, Whitney Thomas (Ethan Hunt) of Columbia, SC, Ryan Nelson (wife, April) of Fort Wayne, Kevin Nelson (Marcy Grey) of Zionsville; four great-grandchildren, Ava Thomas, Ezekiel Thomas, Otto Nelson, Aria Nelson and Cohen Nelson, due in May, 2019; and her special friend, Earl Caudill of Brewster, MA.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 39 years, Richard V. "Dick" Nelson; one brother, Robert F. Ackermann and one sister, Betty Flatt.

Memorial contributions may be directed to IU Health Ball Memorial Hospice, 2401 W. University Avenue, Muncie, IN 47303.

**Mittelberg, Virginia "Ginny" Lee** (Nov 6, 2019) Virginia, 90, of Bridgman, Michigan passed away at Woodland Terrace in Bridgman.

A memorial service will be held at 3:00 pm, Saturday, November 16, 2019, at The Chapel, 4250 Washington Avenue, St. Joseph, MI with Reverend Phil Bubar officiating. The burial will be in St. Paul Osage Cemetery in Otoe County, in Cook, Nebraska. Memorial gifts may be given to either The Chapel in St. Joseph, MI ([www.yourplacetobelong.com](http://www.yourplacetobelong.com)) or Five Pines Ministries in Berrien Center, MI ([www.fivepines.org](http://www.fivepines.org)). Online condolences can be posted at [www.PikeFH.com](http://www.PikeFH.com).

Virginia was born on February 23, 1929, in Oak Hill, West Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Thomas V. Hutchison and Dalma Lillian (Saunders) Hutchison, and she was the younger sister of the late Betty Jo (Hutchison) French. She graduated from high school in Beckley, West Virginia, and later from college at Wheaton College in Illinois, where she studied to become a nurse.

While at Wheaton College, Virginia met Orland H. "Mitt" Mittelberg, and they were married on June 27, 1952 in Beckley, West Virginia. Their romance flourished through 67 years of faithful partnership. Virginia is survived by Orland, along with their four children: Lisa (Phil) Bubar of St. Joseph, Michigan; Kathy (Jim) Postlethwaite of Calgary, Alberta; Mark (Heidi) Mittelberg of Larkspur, Colorado; Gary (Cassandra) Mittelberg of La Cañada,

California; and by 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Over the years they lived in West Virginia, Ohio, Nebraska, and North Dakota (where they stayed for 46 years)—along with several winters in Mesa, Arizona—all before coming to the retirement community in Bridgman, Michigan. They also loved to travel in Orland's beloved "Mitt-Mobile" conversion van, and drove through most of our 50 states as well as several Canadian provinces.

Ginny, as she was known by family and friends, served as a registered nurse before becoming a wife and mother. She was characterized by her consistent and loving walk with Jesus, as well as her gentle and sweet presence around everyone who knew her. She lovingly served others without the need for attention or credit—though when she engaged in her frequent table games she was known as a fierce competitor, and she had an uncanny penchant for winning at Bingo during her time at Woodland Terrace! She was also a member of The Chapel in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Arrangements are being handled by Pike Funeral & Cremation Services, The Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman, MI 49106

**Hagmaier, Jerry** (Nov 6, 2019) Jerry Hagmaier, of Mobile, AL passed away on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at the age of 74. He loved baseball, golf and Alabama football but his real passion was for the love of his life Carol. He is survived by his wife Carol Hagmaier and his two sons, Jason Hagmaier and Graham Hagmaier.

Jerry will be remembered as a loving husband, a wonderful friend and a spectacular father. His laugh and smile will forever be etched in our memory.

Memorial service will be held Friday, November 15th, from 11am to 12pm at Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home.

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Our family is deeply saddened to inform you that our father/husband – Jerry Hagmaier has passed away due to complications related to a stroke. As some of you may know already, our dad had a stroke on October 29th and was hospitalized. Unfortunately, the complications surrounding that second stroke were unrecoverable and he left this life on November 6th. December 25, 1944 – November 6, 2019 ~Gerald Robert Hagmaier

**Cawley, Robert (Bob) Allen** (Oct 27, 2019) Bob, Born in Augusta, Ga February 6, 1938 died in Ormond Beach, FL.

Following graduation from high school in Augusta, he served in the US Navy. He attended Augusta College and began his career as a sales associate for **J. C. Penney's** in 1958, before marrying Martha Kitchens in 1960.

He worked as a store manager and district manager in various areas throughout the southeast prior to his retirement in 1998 to Ormond Beach, FL.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, Maude Holley and Edward Dent Cawley, Sr. and his brothers, Edward D. Cawley, Jr. and C. Howard Cawley. He is survived by his wife, Martha K. Cawley, daughter Cathy L. Cawley, son-in-law Jeff R. McCollum, and sister, Vera C. Walker and several in-laws, nieces and nephews.

Graveside services are scheduled for 11:00am, Friday, November 1, at Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery in Augusta, Ga. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the charity of your choice.

**Sanders, William (Bill) F.** (Oct 7, 2019), Bill, a 39-year employee of JCPenney, passed away peacefully after a courageous 13 year battle with Alzheimer's disease. He was 81 years old.

William Francis Sanders, age 81, of Maryland, South Carolina & Florida. Beloved husband for 32 years of Judy Craig Sanders. Father of Julie Honza (Milton) of Lucas, TX, Laurie Yobbi (Mario) of Highland Village, TX, Tracy Larkin (Mark) of Pittsburgh, PA, Step-Father to Kimberly Borges (Rick) of Milford, MI. Grandfather of Morgan & Ashtyn Honza, Nicholas & Samantha Yobbi, Christopher & Jonathon Larkin and Craig Borges. Great Grandfather to Avery and Bennett Larkin. Bill was the only child of the late Francis W. Sanders and Ruth Evans Reese of Oakland, Maryland where he was born and raised.

A U.S. Navy Veteran, Bill was a retired executive for JCPenney. Bill was an avid golfer and loved riding his bike until being diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2007. He enjoyed working in the yard, his John Deere tractor and swimming after retiring to Kiawah Island, SC, Aiken, SC and then Fort Myers, FL.

Bill was always a friendly and loving personality. There was a smile and good word from him for all he encountered. He was a strong leader and people manager, and really enjoyed developing his team members. His many employees over the years appreciated his positive attitude, supportive leadership style and friendly personality.

Bill was employed by **J C Penney's** for 39 years. Bill began his career as a management trainee at the Baden, PA (#1716) store in 1960. He progressed to Department and Division manager positions in Baden before being transferred to the Bridgeville, PA store in 1967 as Sales & Merchandise Manager. In 1970, he became one of the first Operations Managers, opening a new store in Lancaster, PA (# 1212). A few years later he was transferred to East Brunswick, NJ to open another new store as General Merchandise Manager. He served as Store Manager of Parlin, NJ; Lincoln Park, MI; Dearborn, MI (# 1166); and Parkersburg, WV (# 1927). Bill was then transferred to Cheektowaga, NY (# 2364) to open a new store as Manager; closing two Buffalo market stores simultaneously. Bill served on various committees during his tenure, including one responsible for moving JCPenney corporate headquarters from New York to Plano, TX. His final assignment was to open a new store in McLean, VA (Tyson's Corner) as part of the Woody' store purchase. In 2010, he received his 50-year service award. Judy, Julie, Milton and Tracy were also long-time JCPenney employees.

Of Bill's numerous accomplishments' and varied activities, he was most proud of his family and the love of his life, Judy. He enjoyed spending time with his daughters, son in-laws and especially his grandchildren. They adored him greatly and will miss him dearly.

Bill and Judy traveled to many different places and enjoyed meeting new people and cultures. They truly enjoyed each other along the way with unconditional love and admiration for each other. After the Alzheimer's diagnosis, Judy was his only caregiver for 10 years until he finally needed to be placed in a home. Even there, he offered his smile and friendship to others.

During his lifetime, Bill was a member of several country clubs and often served on numerous boards and committees. His latest memberships were at The Reserve in Aiken, SC and Olde Hickory Golf and Country Club in Fort Myers, FL.

A Celebration of Life at Olde Hickory CC on 11/9/2019 at 12:00 Address: 14670 Olde Hickory Blvd. Fort Myers, FL 33912. Please RSVP [brosich@oldehickory.cc](mailto:brosich@oldehickory.cc) before 11/2/19. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Alzheimer's Association, Hope Hospice or other charities are deeply appreciated.

**Vitkus, Peter R.** (July 6, 2018) Peter passed away in Westfield, IN.

Peter was born on April 4, 1925 in DeKalb, IL. He was a child of Lithuanian immigrants and overcame many hardships growing up. His father was a disabled veteran and his mother took in borders to help the family make ends meet. Pete served in the National Guard and at work rose up from the ranks of the shoe department of **JCPenneys** to upper management and purchasing departments for the company. He had a quick acerbic wit and a brilliant mathematical mind. He worked hard and it paid off with regular promotions within the company. He became the treasurer of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Carrol, Iowa and served on the Board of Trustees and Elders as well as many other capacities within his church. He loved daily Bible reading and his daily devotions. He regularly attended Bible class and often had very engaging questions. Pete was dedicated to his family and friends and often extended help to them without ever taking credit.

Life brought challenges to Pete with the death of his son Charlie, then in 2015 he lost his daughter Sue to cancer, and his wife Evelyn not long after that, also, brother, Joe. He and Dan remained steady throughout these losses and faced the rest of his life with a sturdy and upright faith.

He will be deeply missed by his son, Dan; son-in-law, Dennis; grandchildren, Rebecca (and Robert), Aaron (and Cassie); and great-granddaughter, Hannah; as well as numerous family members around the Midwest.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Bethany Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, Crossroads

Lutheran Church of Carmel, Indiana, or the donor's choice. Condolences may be shared online at [www.cutlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.cutlerfuneralhome.com).

**Dunn, H Wallace "Wally"** (October 18, 2016) Our beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great great-grandfather, Harvey Wallace Dunn, passed away at the age of 91 in Everett, Washington. He was preceded in his death by his wife Ruth Ada "Boots" Brown Dunn who passed in August 2002.

Wallace is survived by his son Bernard Wallace Dunn of Yorba Linda, California, daughter Susan Grace Ralls of Soap Lake, Washington, and his sister Betty Welde of Edgewood, Washington. Wallace had six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great great-grandchild as well.

Wallace was born in Elma, Washington on December 23, 1924. He graduated from Olympia High School in 1942, and joined the United States Navy during World War II where he served in the Pacific. After his discharge from the Service in 1946, Wallace returned to Olympia, where he met and married Boots on June 2, 1946. Wallace worked for the **JCPenney Company** for 40 years, with a stint in the Navy Reserves during the Korean War. Wallace's career spanned many locations with JCP with assignments in Tacoma, WA, Portland and Eugene, OR, Kent and Aurora Village, WA, Phoenix, AZ, and Sacramento, CA.

Throughout his life, Wallace enjoyed hunting with friends and family in Washington, California, Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska, and North Dakota. He also enjoyed outdoor activities, rafting rapids on the Colorado River, American and Tuolumne River in California, riding his bicycle, and walking...he had a great collection of walking sticks.

Wallace liked his vacations, and his favorite destination was Mexico. He and Boots made annual trips for a lot of years.

Wallace retired from the JCPenney Company in 1985 as Manager of the Watt Avenue store in Sacramento, California. When Wallace and Boots moved to Poulsbo, WA in 1991, Wallace kept his hands in retail by becoming the Manager of the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, WA. After Boots' death in 2002, Wallace moved to Everett, WA where he remained for the rest of his years with his childhood sweetheart Patricia McCormick Thomas.

Our Father "Wally" was a wonderful caring person and enjoyed by everyone he met. He had a great sense of humor and was always ready to man the BBQ. He was always prepared for a good time, like Happy Hour, as he never traveled without his little black bar case with stickers on it from the places he had visited or vacationed. He was always there for all of us, and always lent a helping hand when needed.

Dad. We all miss you so very much, but we know you're in a better place. Rest in Peace ~~~Bernie Dunn

**Bowen, George Robert (Bob)** (Feb 5, 2019) George, age 91, of Austin, TX passed away on after a battle with cancer. A memorial service to celebrate his life was held Sunday, February 17, 2019 at 3:30 pm at Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson Dr, Austin, TX. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall. Donations in his memory can be made to Hospice Austin Christopher House, the University of Arkansas Margaret & George Bowen Music Scholarship, or a charity of your choice.

George Robert (Bob) Bowen was born in Macon, Georgia on August 13, 1927 to George Leslie Bowen and Margaret Gale Brown. He died after a battle with cancer in Austin, Texas. Known as Bob to his friends, he lived a full life and felt immensely blessed and sure of his resurrection in Christ.

Although he was born in Georgia where his father worked for JC Penney, Bob grew up living in Fayetteville, Arkansas with his older sister Mary Margaret and older brother Tom. It was a great place to grow up, and Bob was very athletic. He played basketball, football, where he was captain. And he was elected president of the senior class of 1945 Fayetteville High School. During the summers, he worked with his dad at the JCPenney store, where he began to develop his considerable management skills.

Some of his dearest friends growing up were Jim Stice & Charlie Stewart. Many stories have been told of the shenanigans of the young men. He began playing the clarinet and saxophone when he was in high school. Bob had a wonderful sense of music and a gorgeous baritone voice, inherited from his folks who both sang opera at Hastings College.

On August 7, 1945, Bob and several of his friends enlisted in the Navy. Bob served a year in the Navy in the Persian Gulf, and then returned to Fayetteville, where he completed his degree at the University of Arkansas in Engineering. Bob was a serious student and was admitted to several honorary societies. But he also enjoyed being social and served as president of his Sigma Chi chapter at the University.

Bob and Alice met on a blind date in 1948 and were engaged by Christmas 1949. They were married in March 1950 and moved to Texas City, where Bob worked for Union Carbide and then Marchant Calculating Machine Co. before following in his father's footsteps and beginning his 30 year career with JC Penney.

After a time in Texas City, JCPenney moved them to Lubbock, and then to Mesquite in 1959 where Bob was assistant manager at the Big Town store. After several years as an assistant manager, Bob was given his first store to manage in Lufkin in 1963. After only a little more than a year, they were transferred to the Mayfair store in Oklahoma City, where they stayed until Bruce and Leslie graduated high school.

In 1976, he was assigned to open the new Windsor Park Mall store in San Antonio, which would be his crowning glory. Bob was known throughout JCPenney for his ability to train leaders and find the best in people.

After retirement, Bob and Alice continued to travel, moved to Lakeway (near Austin), back to San Antonio and ultimately moved back to Austin to be closer to family and grandchildren.

Bob was an active Rotarian for many years, especially with the international business exchange program. Both Bob and Alice formed lasting relationships all around the world through hosting international businessmen from Japan, India, Australia, and visited many of them on their travels around the world.

Bob was an avid golfer, as was Alice. He finally had a hole in one, and even played in some ProAm tournaments - as the amateur of course!

Bob and Alice loved to travel and easily made lasting friends wherever they went – whether a random couple on a cruise, a group trip, or just a fellow passenger on a train. They especially enjoyed their 3-month around-the-world trip which they took after his retirement, visiting friends in every country they toured. Of course, there were many, many trips to play golf on exotic and not so exotic courses from Hawaii, Ireland, to Japan, Burnet Texas and more. But most of all, they worked hard at building relationships and caring for people, while enjoying life.

Alice, the love of his life died in 2014, and Bob missed her dearly. In 2015, Bob relocated to an independent living community Lakeline Oaks. He enjoyed being around people and there he continued to build friendships and care for others.

As a couple, Bob and Alice were a dynamic duo. They were generous, caring, and always concerned about other people. Bob would often say, "Their agreement was that he would work and make a living and Alice would take care of the souls." Though he didn't work on as many committees, or start new programs the way Alice did, Bob demonstrated his faith through his relationships with the people and lived by the golden rule- which was more to him than just the motto of JCPenney.

He was preceded in death by his precious beloved Alice, his parents, and his siblings, Mary Margaret Morton and Thomas Willard Bowen and his great grandson Job Whitcomb McCown. He is survived by his son, Bruce Keefe Bowen and wife Nancy Lynn Johnston Bowen, and his daughter, Leslie Gale Bowen Ray and her husband, James Matthew Ray. The apple of his eye were his three grandchildren and the many great grandchildren.

**Smith, Robert** (October 5, 2019) Vicki Meyer, Robert Smith's daughter, informed us that Bob passed away yesterday, October 5, 2019 at 9:25 a.m. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn Lorraine Biddle-Train-Smith (Oct 22, 2017). He was still in skilled nursing at the Fountains in Yuba City, and just slipped away peacefully. I know he had not been active in HCSC recently, and was unable to attend the recent convention in Sacramento, but I know he so valued his many JCP friendships. I think making it to 94 was quite an accomplishment. In his last days he was very confused, and when I visited him on the afternoon of October 4, he told me that the freight man had called and said he was going to be late and he had to get his keys to open the store----- a JCPenney man to the end! We are not having services at this time, and plan a private burial when both my sisters can attend.

***There is not an obituary available at this time. Robert was a member of the Northern California/Nevada LMG***

**Morris, Trudi** (Aug 30, 2019) Trudi was born in New York on December 9, 1934 and died in Dallas, TX.

A **JCPenney employee** of 49 years, she started her job on Feb. 2, 1953 on 34th Street in New York. She took the position just one month after graduating from high school in Queens, N.Y. Morris' career path took her to the executive offices. When JCPenney relocated to Texas, Morris followed and Dallas became her second home. She was executive assistant to W.R. Howell, Chairman Emeritus, before retiring in Feb., 2002.

Trudi was not a member of the HCSC Club but many of you know and have worked with her in the past.

Trudi is survived by her loyal Chiquaqua aptly named Penny, her sister Peggy Kawamoto, numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a [charity of your choice](#). Services will held at All Saints Catholic Church on Mon., Sept. 30, 2019 at 11am. Reception to follow.

**Henneman, Norma Rosalind Johnson** (Aug 8, 2019), She was 100. She was born October 20, 1918 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Ruth Kristina Cecelia Hellberg and John Arthur Johnson both of Salt Lake City. Rosalind was their oldest child and grew up in Salt Lake where she learned to play piano, violin and sing in various choirs.

She attended South High, graduated from the University of Utah and then moved to California to attend Fashion School at Woodbury College where she graduated with a degree in Millinery Design.

When World War II began, she felt it was her duty to enlist and became one of the first WAVES in the US Navy. Rosalind trained as a link trainer operator to help pilots navigate the skies if they were out of radio contact. It was through this program that she met her future husband Paul F. Henneman who was a marine pilot. They were married on August 20, 1944 in River Falls, Wisconsin and then sealed in the Salt Lake Temple on the 31st of August 1955 . Paul Henneman retired from the **JCPenney** store in Midvale UT. He passed away in 2011. They are the parents of seven children, twenty-five grandchildren and twenty-nine great grandchildren.

Rosalind was a devoted wife and mother to her family. She loved art, the theatre, music and dance and was a true student of the gospel, loving the scriptures. She spent over 60 years working on her family genealogy and has reams of information on the lines of her relatives extending back hundreds of years.

A private memorial service will be held for family members on August 17th, in honor of her wishes and she will be buried next to her husband at Wasatch Lawn Memorial

**Layman, John Harold** (Sept 3, 2019).. John Harold Layman, Age 88, was of Atlanta, GA.

John was born in the Bronx, NYC, and spent most of his formative years on Staten Island. He served his country in the Air Force during the Korean War stationed on Guam. John attended Pace College in Manhattan and studied business.

He worked in the tax field, spending the majority of his career with **J.C. Penney**. After retirement, John stayed active with the JCP Retiree Group, serving as President and Secretary/Treasurer for 14 years. His passions were travel, exercise, community volunteerism, and spending time with family and friends at his lake house on Lake Lanier.

John married Carolyn Virginia Seaman in 1958 and they celebrated 61 years of marriage this year. John is survived by his wife Ginny; his children Bruce (Lisa) and Nancy (Steve) Moseley; and grandchildren Amy, Emily, and Stephen. A funeral service to celebrate John's life will be held October 19, at 10:30 AM at Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs, GA with a gathering to follow. Fischer Funeral Care, Atlanta; [www.fischerfuneralcare.com](http://www.fischerfuneralcare.com).

**Morris, Wilburn L.** (Nov 22, 2018) The husband of Karen Michael, passed away on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2018.

He was the beloved father of Stan, Susan, John and David; he had nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He served in the US Army during [WWII](#) in Europe and when the war ended attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. In 1947 he married Ruth Elizabeth Stevens Morris, his wife of 61 years, who preceded him in death in 2008.

His career with **JCPenney** began in Tacoma, Washington, and ended in New York, New York where he retired as Senior Vice President and Director of Stores. True to form, his retirement years continued to be as productive

and exciting as preceding years. He served on the Board of the Army Air Force Exchange and as a volunteer raised funds to support students at Berea College. Always a person of adventure, he helped businesses outside the US, became an instrument rated pilot, and spent a year traveling through 50 countries around the globe with only the provisions he carried in a backpack. He enjoyed seeing the world from the point of view of ordinary people and published a book, *Around the Next Corner*, describing some of his experiences. His faith and the church were an important part of his life; he was ordained as an Elder in the Presbyterian Church in 1949 and served in that capacity in three different congregations. He was active in the Pittsburgh Presbytery for six years and was a delegate to the General Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas.

In lieu of a public memorial, he asked that his life be celebrated at a family gathering one year after his passing.

**Smith, Robert L** (Oct 5, 2019) Vicki Meyer, Robert Smith's daughter, informed us that **Bob** passed away at 9:25 a.m. He was still in skilled nursing at the Fountains in Yuba City, and just slipped away peacefully. I know he had not been active in HCSC recently, and was unable to attend the recent convention in Sacramento, but I know he so valued his many JCP friendships. I think making it to 94 was quite an accomplishment. In his last days he was very confused, and when I visited him on the afternoon of October 4, he told me that the freight man had called and said he was going to be late and he had to get his keys to open the store----- a JCPenney man to the end!

We are not having services at this time, and plan a private burial when both my sisters can attend

**Bosch, Lester (Les)** (August 19, 2019) Lester, age 76, passed away in Oro Valley, Arizona. He was born on March 27, 1943, in Hermiston, Oregon to Lester Valentine Bosch and Lucile Laurie (Dunkel) Bosch. He spent his early years moving around Oregon as his dad constructed roads throughout the state. He earned a BS in Finance from Oregon State University.

In 1966 he began his thirty-two-year career with the **JCPenney** company. His excellent management skills and hard work led to many promotions and relocations over the years. Les spent his entire 32 year career with the JCPenney credit card division with positions in Oregon, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Illinois, and Ohio. He met his wife of 50 years while they both worked at JCPenney in Minneapolis.

In 1998, Les and his wife retired to Tucson, Arizona. There he enjoyed golfing and volunteering with the local outreach program benefitting low income children.

Left to honor Les and remember his love are his wife, Corliss (Corky) Bosch, son Troy Bosch, daughter Nicole Tsang, son-in-law Corey Tsang granddaughter Lillian Tsang, grandson Quincy Tsang, and his sisters Marie Sullivan and Laura Johnstone.

**Lee, Janet E.** (Aug 16, 2019) Janet, 63, passed away after a long illness at Augustana Lakeside Health Center in Dassel, MN. Services are private.

Janet was born Aug. 20, 1955, in Carrington, North Dakota, to Eldo and Clara Lee, the youngest of two daughters. She grew up in Carrington and was a member of Federated Church. After graduation from Carrington High School in 1973, she attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. Janet was a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority and graduated with a degree in business in 1977.

After college, Janet started a 32-year career with **JCPenney** in July 1977. She began in Williston, North Dakota, and also worked as part of the management team at stores in Minot, North Dakota; Edina, Minnesota; Bismarck, North Dakota; and Beaverton, Oregon. She finished her career as store manager at the JCPenney store in Hutchinson in 2009. She lived in Hutchinson until her death.

She will be deeply missed by her sister Sue (Sam) Miller, of Greensboro, Georgia; and two nieces, Stephanie (Brian) Tuttle of Chicago, Illinois, and Ashley Miller of Washington, D.C. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be sent to the American Diabetes Association or the National Kidney Foundation.

**Roger Eldon Hellerud** (Aug 9, 2019) Age 84, of Clermont, FL Roger is preceded in death by his wife of 42 years, Eileen Hellerud; parents, Gerhardt and Alpha Hellerud; siblings, Richard Hellerud, Shirley (Gale)Nelson, and Sandra Engelking; and brother in-law, Gerald Hilleshiem.

Roger grew up in Rochester MN graduating from Rochester High School in 1953. He attended the University of Minnesota before joining the U.S. Army and serving from 1954 – 1956 near Mainz Germany.

He enjoyed a successful 35-year career with **JCPenney** managing stores in LaCrosse, Beloit, Kenosha, and Rhinelander, Wisconsin; Chicago, Illinois; Ely, Minnesota and retiring from his Mason City, Iowa store in 1990.

During his retirement he especially relished quality time with his grandchildren in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Florida. He was also able to travel extensively throughout the United States.

Throughout his life he was an avid horseman. He owned three horses including a hackney pony that he showed frequently during the 1970's. He loved playing cards with family and friends. Anyone who played with him knew that he inevitably held a mittful of wild cards. He often won and always was a good sport. Roger was a true gentleman and will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

Roger is survived by his loving partner, Betty Halverson; children, Michael Hellerud, Dawn Okite, and Mary (James Lundberg) Hellerud; grandchildren, Melissa (Jake), Brian, Anna, David, and Daniel; great-granddaughter, Kennedy; siblings, Gordon (Marilyn) Hellerud, Gloria Hellerud, and David (Sara) Hellerud; in-laws, Mary and Jim Christie, Sharon Maahs and Irene Hilleshiem; many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Memorial Service to be held Tuesday, August 13th at 12 PM with visitation one hour prior at Wulff Woodbury Funeral Home 2195 Woodlane Dr, Woodbury.

We wish to thank the staff at United Hospital and the Pillars Hospice House who provided loving and compassionate care during the last week of his life. Wulff Woodbury 651-738-9615

**Kelly Jr, Albert J. "Kel,"** (July 26, 2019) Albert, 79, of Reamstown, Pennsylvania, passed away at Lancaster General Hospital.

Kel was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 7, 1940, a son to the late Dorothy (McMullin) Kelly and Albert Kelly and husband to Margaret A.(McElrone) Kelly of Reamstown. Kel was a 1958 graduate of Monsignor Bonner High School and later attended St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

A dedicated and hardworking employee, Kel offered his services to **J.C. Penney** for 35 years before retiring. During his tenure, Kel worked at various locations across multiple states, including Upper Darby, Rockland, Maine, and Sturbridge, Massachusetts before he served as store manager in Framingham, Massachusetts, and Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Kel was a kind, passionate individual who cared deeply for his family, friends and community. An avid volunteer in the Reamstown area, Kel spent much of his time post-retirement supporting the Reamstown Park, making sure it was a safe and respectable place for kids to enjoy their own time.

That passion also carried over into Kel's love of music and sport; Kel had collected thousands of records throughout his life. Kel was also an ardent supporter of the Philadelphia 76ers, Eagles, Flyers and Phillies.

Kel is survived by his wife, Margaret, children, Kathy, Warren, Patti (Tom), Paul, Anne (Tom) and Kim, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren with a fifth on the way. Kel is also survived by his brother, Larry (Jane), sisters Dottie and Pat (Dan). Kel was pre-deceased by his sister, Kathy.

Friends and family are invited to gather for a viewing on Thursday, Aug. 1, at the Gravenor Home for Funerals in Ephrata at 9:00 - 10:30 a.m., followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at Our Mother of Perpetual Help Church in Ephrata.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association at [lung.org/donate](http://lung.org/donate).

**Crew, Jack** (July 4, 2019) Jack, 79, of Lantana passed away at his home after a long battle with cancer. He was born December 22, 1939 in Claremore, Oklahoma to James and Marie Crew, Sr.

He was raised in Miami, Oklahoma and attended Miami Public Schools. He married Barbara Crockett on January 6, 1958 in Columbus, Kansas. In 1962, he began a 36 year career with the JCPenney Company. His

management career with JCP moved him nine times from: Miami, OK to Longview, TX onto Shreveport, Irving, TX and Ft. Worth. In 1980, Jack was named Store Manager of the JCP store in Lawton, OK, and in 1981 Store Manager of the Columbia, MO store. In 1983, he was named JCP District Manager in Little Rock and in 1986, JCP District Manager in Central/West Texas and Oklahoma. His final JCP move was as Store Manager of the JCP/ Windsor Park Mall in San Antonio where he retired in 1998. In retirement, Jack and Barbara began a second "career" in the antique business. He and Barbara operated antique booths/shops in Oklahoma and Texas over the last 20 years.

Jack is survived by his wife, Barbara (Crockett) Crew of Lantana, TX, daughter, Cindi Andrews (Scott) of Cedar Hill, TX, son, Scott Crew (Michael Randolph) of Arlington, TX, mother, Marie (Lutz) Crew of Denton, TX, sister, Vera (Crew) Davis (Rick) of Omaha, NE and brother James Crew, Jr. (Kate) of Grove, OK, sister-in-law, Nancy (Crockett) Gilmore (Buddy) of Lantana, TX, nieces, Dana (Davis) Guiney (Damien) of Omaha, NE, Sandi (Davis) Smellie (Mike) of Kansas City, MO, Wendy (Gilmore) Kudrna (Todd) of Overland Park, KS and nephew Ty Gilmore (Carolyn) of Dallas, TX as well as 10 great nieces and nephews and four great-great nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his father.

Funeral services were held on Monday, July 8, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the Chapel of DeBerry Funeral Directors in Denton, Texas. A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 4:00 pm at Glen Abbey Memorial Gardens in Miami, Oklahoma.

**Vogel, Chuck** (July 5, 2019) Chuck passed away from injuries incurred in a hit and run bike accident near his home in Parker, Colorado

Please keep Chuck's Wife, Teri, Son, Bryan, and Daughter-in-law, Lisa in your prayers during this time of loss. May Chuck be at peace with our Lord in Heaven.

\*\*Note when we have an obituary, we will post it as well.

**Sunday, Walter S.** (July 6, 2019) Walt was 80 years old and is survived by his son, Paul and daughter, Holly.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society in Walt Sunday's name.

Condolences can be sent to the following address:

The Walter Sunday Family  
Landing at Watermere  
4220 Cotton Gin Road  
Frisco, TX 75034

Walter requested a private funeral service with no visitation.

Walt's career with JCPenney started in 1961 as a management trainee in Kansas City, MO store 1763. He held positions of department manager and merchandise manager before being promoted to Group 5106 which was later expanded to a Metro District.

His next assignment was assistant Manager of store 1183 North Kansas City, MO. Walt's next move was to the regional office in Dallas, TX. Walt went onto the home office in New York on special assignment where he helped develop, test and roll-out the RMM-4 project. Next, Walt transferred to Midland, TX to close an old store and open a new one.

Walt's next assignment was in Atlanta, GA working with systems on the development and roll-out of Price Change Management and Price Break Management. Walt's last assignment was in the new Home Office in Plano, TX as IAS coordinator