Obituaries

Generous Supporters of Unitarian Universalism

General Assembly 2019
Spokane, WA
CONTENTS

Ann Beckhart Adams 4
Howard J. Aibel 6
Henry E. Altenberg 7
Elizabeth Ames 9
Elizabeth Boardman Baer 10
Frances Blizard 12
The Rev. George Gordon Brooks 13
Charles P. Campbell 15
Suzanne S. Camp-Goodman 17
Valerie A. Chapman 18
Susan B. Conley 19
Barnett C. Cook 20
Ivan Louis Cotman 21
Alice S. Custer 22
Janet Forse 23
The Rev. Rudolph C. Gelsey 24
James A. Hall 26
Robert J. Hansman 27
Marian K. Herreid 28
Donald M. Hoskins 29
Elizabeth W. Hutchinson 30
Richard F. Jacke 32
Genevieve S. James 34
Homer B. James 35
Donald R. Janak 36
Clarise Jefferson 38
Joan L. Jones 39
George S. Koch. Jr. 40
Ofelia D. Lachtman 41
Ingeborg G. Lock 42
Kenneth W. MacCormac 43
Astrid K. Martin 44
Donald Mayer 45
Hugh J. McLellan 46
Alfred Obrist 48
Betty Phelps Refior 49
Dr. Nancy Grace Roman 50
Elizabeth Shepard 53
Dell Williams Smith 54
Ralph Snoke 55
Frank G. Stewart, Jr. 56
Richard D. Tarble 57
D. Iris Thor 59
Evelyn B. Trageser 60
Herb Lester Tyson III 62
Wanda Van Goor 63
Claude R. VanderVeen 64
Catherine A. Veatch 65
Dorothy H. Vetter 66
Mary E. Welch 67
Jean Zoerheide 68
Obituaries Unavailable 69
Ann Beckhart Adams, 1927 – 2018
Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill, NJ
First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia, PA

Ann Beckhart Adams, age 90, passed away peacefully at home on June 5, 2018 after a few months of illness. She was born in upstate New York, where she lived through her college years. Ann had a lifelong interest in education, having received a BA from Vassar College in mathematics and an MA from Rutgers University in statistics. She married Gordon Beckhart in 1948, and they moved to Haddon Heights in 1951. They worked together to help found the Haddon Glen Swim Club, and she also once ran for Town Council while he ran for State Assembly, both to no avail.

In the 1960s, she taught mathematics and statistics at Rutgers Camden. She and Gordon both learned computer programming in the late 1960s and opened a franchise of Automation Institute - a valiant but short-lived endeavor. With her new programming skills, she became employed at Smith, Kline, and French where she worked throughout the 1970s and 80s. In the computer world she loved everything Macintosh. She had the first Apple computer and many versions thereafter, up to the recent MacBook. She was a member of a Mac User Group for many years.

She was a Life Member of the Camden County Branch of AAUW (the American Association of University Women). She was a very active member, publishing the newsletter and engaging in numerous study groups - especially in art.

In 1973, her first marriage ended in divorce and she married Earle Adams (who predeceased her). Their life together included a great deal of travel, which she loved, including trips to Europe, especially Norway, all around the US and Canada, the Galapagos, and she even went to Greenland on her own after Earle passed away. One of her favorite places was Manhattan where she shared her interests in the city’s culture and museums with her friends and family. She always had a wide range of interests, including current events, science, art, music, theater, and historic preservation. Ann was a member of both Questers and the Geographic Society of Philadelphia. Ann was a bright woman with a lifelong quest for knowledge, which she gladly shared with and encouraged in her family and friends.

Ann was a very active member of the Unitarian Church, first at the church in Cherry Hill, and then at First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia when she started working in Center City.
She is survived by her three children: Katharine Temel, Wendy (Heinz) Bachmann, Gordon Jr. (Stella); four grandchildren: Canan Temel, Sarah Temel, Deren Temel, Henry Bachman; and one great-granddaughter. She is also survived by her namesake niece and four nephews and their families.

A Memorial Service was held on July 10, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Cherry Hill, NJ.
Howard J. Aibel, 1929 – 2018
The Unitarian Church in Westport, CT

A first-generation American, Howard J. Aibel was born in 1929 in Brooklyn, New York, son of the late David and Anna Aibel, and spent significant time during his childhood in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He attended Poly Prep Country Day School in Brooklyn, Harvard College, and Harvard Law School.

He worked for nearly 30 years as executive vice president and chief legal officer of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. Prior to joining ITT in 1964, he was antitrust litigation counsel for General Electric and an attorney with White & Case. He served in several positions within the law community: as president of the Harvard Law Association of New York, vice president of the Bar Association of New York, member of the American Law Institute, trustee of the Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights, trustee at Sacred Heart University and on the Dean’s Advisory Board of Harvard Law School.

During his time at ITT, he traveled widely for business and pleasure. He and his wife journeyed to all seven continents, to seek new cultures, arts and birds to add to his life list. He loved tennis, playing nearly every week, at home and abroad. He was an avid skier and hiker and developed a deep concern with preserving wild areas. He was also passionate about the arts, music of all kinds and live theater. He served as chairman of the Alliance for Resident Theatres/New York, and was vice chair of the board of the Westport Country Playhouse, which last month announced it was renaming its entire campus after him following his donation of $3 million for theater operations and to establish an endowment. He was also a past board member of the Westport Arts Center, a Sacred Heart University trustee emeritus, and former board member of WSHU-FM. He sponsored productions at the Playhouse as well as many concerts at the Pequot Library.

He became a member of the Unitarian Church of Westport, was a lifelong Democrat and active with both the Democratic Party and the Conservation Commission in Weston.

He was predeceased by his wife Katherine Webster Aibel, and is survived by children David, Daniel and Jonathan; their spouses, Laura Aibel, David Pittman and Julie Rohwein; and grandson Lucien Aibel.

A Memorial Service was held on June 2, 2018 at the Unitarian Church of Westport, CT.
Henry E. Altenberg, 1925 – 2018
South Church in Portsmouth, NH

Henry Edward Altenberg, M.D., 93, of Kittery, formerly of West Hartford, CT, passed away peacefully on April 25, 2018, after a brave battle with Multiple Myeloma and congestive heart failure.

Henry was born on April 20, 1925, in New York, NY, the son of Leo and May Jeannette (Shapiro) Altenberg and the youngest of three brothers. Henry graduated from Horace Mann high school, NY, at age 16, and in the summer of 1941, he studied Anthropology and Spanish at a Field School with the University of New Mexico. Henry studied Cultural Anthropology with an Interpreter on a Navaho Reservation and felt a connection with the Native Americans. He entered Brown University in September 1941 as a Chemistry major, graduating with a B.A. in Chemistry in 1944. He graduated as a medical doctor from New York University College of Medicine in 1947 at age 22, then attended the Menninger School of Psychiatry in Topeka, Kansas, to specialize in Psychiatry. Henry served as a Psychiatrist in the United States Air Force at the base in Fairbanks, Alaska, from 1952-1954. Moving back to the East Coast, Henry practiced psychiatry in Connecticut for the next 30 years.

Henry married Frances Clapp in 1950 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and raised four children Elizabeth, Lucy, Edward, and Emily in West Hartford, Connecticut. He moved to Kittery, Maine, in 1984 from West Hartford, CT. In June 1985, he was at Market Square Day in Portsmouth, NH and just over the bridge in Kittery, he felt prompted to stop in a real estate office. Although Henry had no particular reason to visit the office, he met a realtor working that Saturday, Jeananne Cameron Thompson. Jean and Henry felt an immediate connection and quickly fell in love, marrying in 1986. Henry now had four step-children, Stephen, David, Linda, and Mark. Henry and Jean shared a passion for travel and adventured around the world to Ireland, Scotland, England, New Zealand, Bermuda, Nova Scotia, Maui, Russia, and Jamaica! Henry loved being on the water, sailing the Gulf of Maine on many of the schooners of the Maine Windjammer Fleet and also touring the east coast on small cruise ships, from Florida to several Massachusetts islands.

He had an insatiable love of learning and was an avid reader! Always positive, encouraging, and a desire to share something new he just learned, anyone lucky enough to spend a few minutes (or more!) with Henry always came away with newfound knowledge! Perhaps a new word, a new concept, but always, something to learn from him! From Paracelsus to Samuel Beckett, to teaching himself Mandarin Chinese and Gaelic, Henry never stopped learning and wanted to share his knowledge with others! He was a blessing in this life to all who knew him and will be deeply missed.
From the mid 1980s until recently, Dr. Henry Altenberg served as a locum tenens board certified psychiatrist for various agencies and his favorite, four locums in New Zealand! Never caring to prescribe medications, Henry helped his patients by being a good listener, offering insights, wisdom, and various behavioral modification techniques, such as EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique). Henry felt compassion for his patients and helped each patient develop a plan to improve their lives with the least amount of medication necessary.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and the American Board of Child Psychiatry, Henry helped thousands of people throughout his long 60+ year career. As a member of the American Holistic Medical Association, Henry was trained in Advanced Reiki and co-directed the Spruce Creek Holistic Center in Kittery along with his wife, Jean, where they ran a support group for people with life-threatening illnesses.


Active at South Church, a Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, for over 30 years, Henry always had a kind word for anyone who sought out his wisdom and humor! He was a Pastoral Associate and attended the Men's Breakfast many times, enjoying close friendships and fellowship.

Henry had two favorite quotes: "Life is too important to be taken seriously." (Oscar Wilde) and "If you have a guru, look again---you have diminished yourself in some way." (Shelly Kopp).

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Jeananne Cameron Altenberg of Kittery; his daughter Elizabeth Volpe of Albany, NY; daughter Lucy Martel of Surrey, BC and fiance Paul Taylor; son Edward Altenberg and his wife Jody of Santa Cruz, CA; daughter Emily Friedman and her husband Keith of Durham, NC. Four step-children: Stephen, David, Linda, and Mark; a niece and nephews. Grandchildren: Kevin Altenberg, Zoie Altenberg, Sarah Friedman, and Rachel Friedman. Step-grandchildren: Lori, Benjamin, Meghan, Cullen, and Liam. Step great-grandchildren: Dakota, Isabella, Mallory, and Andrew.

Henry was predeceased by his first wife, Frances, and his brothers Norman and Roger Altenberg.

A Celebration of Henry’s life was held on May 12, 2018 at South Church Unitarian Universalist, Portsmouth, NH.
Elizabeth Ames, 1918 – 2018
Unity Church of North Easton, MA
First Church in Boston, MA

Elizabeth (Motley) Ames died Sunday, September 2, 2018 in Westwood, Massachusetts. She was born in Boston on December 27, 1918 to John Lothrop Motley and Nancy Barton Motley. She was the oldest of 4 siblings, Eleanor, John, Jr. and Nancy. She grew up in Boston and Nahant and was educated at the Winsor School in Boston, and St. Timothy’s School in Stevenson, MD. After her graduation from St. Timothy’s in 1937, she attended The School of The Museum of Fine Arts.

In December 1940 she married David Ames of North Easton, Massachusetts. During WWII while her husband was away in the Navy, serving in the Pacific, she lived in Boston with her two older children. Upon his return, they moved to North Easton where she spent most of her life. She was devoted to her family; including many cousins, nieces and nephews. She remained very close to her mother and sisters Eleanor “Kit” Lee and Nancy “Teents” Adams. In Easton she was active on the boards and committees of numerous organizations including the Ames Free Library, the Easton Conservation Commission, and Unity Church, and was a generous supporter of many community causes. Other interests included Gore Place in Waltham, the Ellis Memorial, and The Vincent Hospital. She was a good athlete and enjoyed skiing, tennis and golf. She loved to read, especially biographies and histories.

In 2000, she moved to Fox Hill Village in Westwood, which became her full-time residence in 2011. She had many friends at Fox Hill, and enjoyed living there, especially when she was joined by her sister “Kit”. She will be remembered for the grace and fortitude with which she lived her life. She leaves her four children, David Ames Jr., and his wife Sally, William Motley Ames, Nancy Ames and her husband Peter Nelson, Frederick Lothrop Ames; and four grandchildren, Amelia, and her husband CDR Andy Gold, Thomas, and his wife Lauren Witt, Susannah, and Samuel Ames. She is survived by her sister Nancy Motley Adams of Dover, Massachusetts.

A Memorial Service was held on October 4, 2018 at Unity Church, North Easton, MA.
Elizabeth “Betty” Boardman Baer, 1919 – 2018
Las Cruces, NM

Elizabeth “Betty” Boardman Baer passed away peacefully on October 2, 2018 at age 99 in Las Cruces, NM. Elizabeth Boardman was born in Hartford, CT in March of 1919, (before women had the right to vote) to Ethel and Elbridge Henry Boardman. The family moved to Fair Haven, NJ and built a home on family land facing the Navesink River. Elizabeth grew up there, spending much of her time in outdoor activities, including crabbing, fishing, and sailing with her brothers on the river. After high school she attended Wellesley College in Massachusetts where she promptly changed her name to “Betty.” She studied chemistry and zoology, played tennis and served as captain of the basketball team, graduating in 1940.

After graduation Betty married Marshall Algor and had two children, John and Tenya. She later divorced but continued to be known as Betty Algor. She worked as a science teacher and went back to school, obtaining a master’s degree in 1951 and professional diploma from Columbia Teachers’ College in 1952. Moving with her two children to Arlington, VA, she worked as a high school guidance counselor. Betty was very active in school affairs and professional organizations. As a member of the Arlington Education Association she proposed combining the AEA with the all-black Arlington Teachers’ Association, an action which got them expelled from what was then the all-white Virginia Education Association. She later became president of the AEA. During her career Betty was a member of numerous professional and civic organizations as well as the Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy, Wilderness Society, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, and C & O Canal Association. Betty joined All Souls Unitarian Church in nearby Washington, D.C. and was an active supporter of the church.

Betty enjoyed the great outdoors and took her young kids with her to the beach or on hikes in the Blue Ridge mountains and surrounding area. One summer she took them (ages 7 and 8) camping all around the state of Virginia. The following summer the three of them went camping completely around the United States, stopping in nearly every National Park. She was an avid bird watcher as well as a folk dancer and square dancer.

In 1967 she married Donald Stough, executive director of the Nature Conservancy, and moved to Reston, VA. Two years later they retired from their jobs and embarked on a two year journey to survey the public domain, living out of a pickup truck/camper and visiting each of the Bureau of Land Management regional offices in the western United States. They conducted extensive interviews and took photographs in each region with the intention of writing a book about the resources administered by the BLM, where Don had also been an executive. Unfortunately, they were unable to finish to finish their work when Don was diagnosed with cancer and died in 1973.
Betty Stough continued to live in Reston and became a real estate agent. She continued to be active in her community and in the outdoors, traveling widely, visiting all but one of the seven continents. On one of her bird watching weekends she met Charlie Baer, a retired West Virginia University professor of botany and ecology. They found that they had a great deal in common and decided to marry in 1989. He was 69, she had just turned 70, and he accused her of robbing the cradle.

As Betty Baer she moved to Morgantown, WV where she was to live with Charlie for the next 25 years. She became active in a bridge club, gardening club, book club, faculty wives club, and other local organizations. She was president of the Coopers Rock Foundation (1994-1996) when, in November 1996, she was presented a special commendation by West Virginia Governor Caperton for her work with public and private groups to permanently protect the Coopers Rock viewshed. In February 2014, her beloved Charlie passed away and Betty moved to Las Cruces, NM to be near family.

Betty Baer is survived by her children, John Algor of Arlington, VA, Tenya (Grant) Price of Las Cruces, NM, grandchildren Grant David Price (Elizabeth) of Englewood, CO, Elinora Price (Brad Jacobson) of Tucson, AZ, and Miriam Price of Baltimore, MD, as well as three great-grandchildren.

Betty had a bright smile and twinkling eyes. She was a good listener. She felt that it was very important to help others less fortunate than herself, and when she believed something needed to be done, she often volunteered to do it herself. She was generous, unselfish, and kind. She will be greatly missed.
Frances Miriam Blizard of Highlands Ranch, a retired homemaker, editor, realtor and active community volunteer, died November 8, 2018, at the age of 89. She had lived at the Wind Crest retirement community - which she adored - since 2010.

Frances was born on December 18, 1928, in Brooklyn, New York, the second of two children of her Armenian immigrant parents. Frances grew up in Brooklyn and Pleasantville, New York. She attended Winston-Salem College for two years and graduated from William Smith College (now Hobart and William Smith) in Geneva, New York with a bachelor's degree in English. She was remembered in her college yearbook for her “ferocious vocabulary.”

She worked variously as a secretary (typing well over 100 wpm), an editor for children's education works, a homemaker, and for many years as a successful realtor. She lived throughout the Southwest, but eventually settled in the Golden and Littleton, Colorado areas for nearly 60 years.

Frances was active in and an active supporter of various Armenian organizations as well as the Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church, having passed through many spiritual way-stations, including Calgary Episcopal Church in Golden and the Ontological Society. Frances was also involved with Inter-Faith Community Services for many years, where she served on the Board and where, at the age of 75, she was elected President. She was also a member of the Rotary Club.

Frances had a sharp wit, an even sharper eye for life’s details, and knew a fake when she saw one. Frances and her late husband, Robert Blizard, supported many candidates running for office (Democrats, of course) and many other local and regional causes, including Meals on Wheels. Having outdistanced nearly all of those of her contemporaries who were her great friends in life, she now leaves behind her three children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, who love her and cherish their memories of her, as well as three step-children and two step-great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held on December 8, 2018 at the Columbine Unitarian Universalist Church, Littleton, CO.
The Rev. George Gordon Brooks, 1922 – 2018
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL

The Reverend George Gordon Brooks was born on December 14, 1922 in Pleasantville, NY to parents Leonard Brooks and Irene Higgins Brooks. He graduated from Amherst College, MA in 1944 with a Bachelor of Arts in Physics, following which he earned his Master of Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA in 1947. He then served as a Ministerial Assistant at the First Church in Boston until 1949. In 1951, George received his Bachelor of Sacred Theology from the Harvard Divinity School, MA.

George was ordained on June 24, 1951 by the UU Church of Danvers, MA where he carried out his ministry from 1949 to 1951. He was then called to the Second Parish Unitarian Church in Saco, ME where he would serve from 1954 until 1957. In September 1957, Rev. Brooks accepted a call from the Adams Memorial Unitarian Church in Dunkirk, NY and ministered to the NY congregation for four years. Over the next three decades, George executed his Parish ministry at the following congregations: The UU Fellowship at Burlington IA, Burlington IA (1963-1968); All Souls UU Church, Bellville, OH (1972-1976); the UU Fellowship of the Firelands, Sandusky, OH (1980-1986); the UU Church of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN (1986-1987); the UU Church, Columbia, MO (1987-1989); and finally at the UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, Port Charlotte, FL (1990-1992). In 2008, the UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL honored him their Minister Emeritus.

George carried out a great deal of service on behalf of the denomination. He served as a member for the Unitarian Minister’s Association from 1953 to 1961, and for the UUA from 1961. He was the State Youth Advisor for the Liberal Religious Youth in ME from 1955 to 1957, and a Secretary for the Maine Unitarian Association from 1957 to 1958. Rev. Brooks also functioned as a treasurer for the Liberal Religious Peace Fellowship (1955-1957); the U.M.A. Meadville Branch (1959-1961); and the UUMA (Ohio Meadville Chapter) (1970-1972).

Throughout his ministry, George served as a strong advocate for mental health and human rights. He was a Director for the Southern Maine Mental Health Association and for the Chautauqua County Mental Health Association. In 1960, he functioned as a Fund Chair for the Lake Shore for Mental Health in the Dunkirk-Fredonia area in NY. Likewise, he served as a Director for the Human Rights Commission in Burlington, IA from 1965 to 1968 and chaired the Commission from 1967 to 1968.
From 1968 to 1986, George served as a faculty member in the Science and Math Division of Lorain County Community College in Elyria, OH, teaching physics and astronomy. He also served the Oberlin (Ohio) Chapter, American Civil Liberties Union in various positions: as a director from 1970 to 1980, as Vice-President from 1975 to 1976, as President from 1977 to 1979, and as a State Board member from 1977 to 1979. In his spare time, George enjoyed golf, tennis, swimming, and keeping abreast of the findings in Cosmology, Astronomy, Neutrino Physics and Chaos Theory, and Early Hominids. He was also a dedicated writer. One of his pieces, “The Last Event and Its Picture of God in Contemporary Accents in Liberal Religion” was published by the Beacon Press in 1958.

George was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard Brooks and Irene (Higgins) Brooks; wife, Priscilla (Jones) Brooks; twin brother, Leonard Brooks II; sister-in-law Kay Brooks; sister, Marion (Brooks) Fix; and brother-in-law, Wayne Fix.

George is survived by his nieces Miriam E. Coe, Katherine L. Randall, Julie Fix Stoelting, and Karen Fix Graves; his nephews Edmund A. Jones, Carlton Parker Jones, and Leonard Brooks III; and his several grandnieces, a grandnephew, and a great nephew.

The Memorial Service was held on December 29, 2018 at the UU Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL.
Chuck Campbell was born in Tacoma, WA in the midst of the Great Depression, the only child of Chet and Rowena Campbell. While in Tacoma, he and his parents shared a home with his mother’s large extended family. The three of them moved to Los Alamos after World War II, when Chet became part of the effort to convert the Manhattan Project labs to post-war uses. They moved again to Colorado just as Chuck was entering high school, and he graduated from Boulder High in 1955. Eventually he would receive bachelor’s and master’s degrees from UC Boulder, with a concentration in English literature. His studies were interrupted, however, by a two-year sojourn in the Navy, where he spent two years on an LST (Landing Ship, Tank – or Large Slow Target) in the Pacific.

While at University, Chuck met and married his first wife, Mary Lou. When they confessed to friends that they’d become disenchanted with their childhood faiths, the friends introduced them to the Unitarian (later UU) Church of Boulder. This encounter was the beginning of Chuck’s 59-year pilgrimage as a Unitarian Universalist.

In 1964, Chuck was accepted into a Ph.D. program in Boston. Once there, however, he realized his fellowship wouldn’t cover living expenses, and so he began to pursue other lines of work. He taught literature part-time at two local colleges, and found work with Arthur D. Little, a Cambridge consulting firm. During this time, he and Mary Lou decided to go their separate ways.

Tamara “Tommi” Wadsworth came into Chuck’s life in 1967. When they married the next year, he became an unofficial Dad to her three children, Dennis, Peter, and Jill. Tommi was also a UU, and together they became active in Boston’s Arlington Street Church. There they befriended a young lawyer named Sue Spencer, who remained friends with them through the years, and who would eventually become a UU minister. The Arlington Street congregation was bereft when, in 1979, the Campbells moved to Albuquerque to be closer to Chuck’s parents – and as the saying goes, “Arlington Street’s loss was First Unitarian’s gain.”

Chuck didn’t immediately find a teaching job in Albuquerque. Ever resourceful, he went to work for Mayflower, and for a few years drove moving vans all over the country. In 1982, he and Tommi found teaching jobs at the University of Albuquerque, and when it folded, he began a Ph.D. Program at the University of New Mexico. When he earned his doctorate at age 51, in Technical
Communication, he was fortunate to land a tenure-track position at New Mexico Tech in Socorro. He taught at Tech for 12 years, retiring in 1999.

Although Chuck had been a “band geek” in high school, his love of the tuba blossomed after he came to Albuquerque. He first played with a German band, *Die Polka Schlingel*, whom he discovered through a classified ad in the newspaper. Other bands included the High Desert Brass Quintet and the New Horizons Band. In later years, the traditional jazz of New Orleans was his primary passion, and for 17 years he held the Tuba position with the Route 66 Revelers.

When Tommi died in 2011, Chuck and his old friend Sue Spencer resolved to stay in touch. Their long friendship blossomed into “something more,” and they married in 2012. From then until Chuck’s death, they counted themselves blessed to be together – and when Sue became the Developmental Minister in Las Cruces, Chuck became the best clergy spouse anyone could ask for.

Chuck was diagnosed in 2007 with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). For many years he was active despite this life-threatening illness – traveling, playing music, enjoying the out of doors, going to church, and generally finding joy in life. In the last 10 days of his life, he played three Mardi Gras gigs and one concert band practice, before the disease process finally caught up with him.
Suzanne (Suzy) Camp-Goodman, 87, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, formerly of Hendersonville North Carolina and St. Mary’s County, Maryland, died peacefully on Halloween morning, October 31, 2018, surrounded by the love of family. Born October 29, 1931 in depression-era Detroit, Michigan, she is predeceased by her parents, David and Mary Camp, her step-mother, Mary Jane Camp, and her husband, Donald Goodman of Detroit Michigan. She chose to enter hospice care in full awareness of her decision and deteriorating condition. Her last words there were “Happy Birthday to Me!” sung with gusto, accompanied by two of her great-grandkids on her 87th birthday.

In her career, Suzy was a school teacher, social worker, Jungian psychotherapist, and a tireless advocate for hospice, human rights and all manners of social justice work. Suzy was a devout Unitarian Universalist and helped to form the UU Fellowship of Southern Maryland, was active in the UU Fellowship of Hendersonville, and First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque. She was a strong believer in intentional community and lived in several during the 70’s and 80’s, and a peace activist in retirement.

Suzy is survived by her children; Jeff Small of Seattle, WA, Kathy Klein and her husband Eric Klein of Escondido, CA, Dan Small & his wife Wendy Simms-Small of Albuquerque, NM, and Jon Small and his life-partner, Sheryl Schellert of Lyman, WA; her brother David Camp of Detroit, MI, sister Christine Ford and her husband Tom Ford of Traverse City, MI, several beloved grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Southern Poverty Law Center. It was one of the many social justice organizations she loved and supported. And if you do not get out and vote, she will haunt you.

A Memorial Service in celebration of Suzy’s life was held on November 16, 2018 at the First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque, NM.
Valerie A. Chapman, 1935 – 2018
First Unitarian Society of Burlington, VT

Valerie Chapman was a very accomplished, independent and active woman, known to her friends and colleagues as very much a force of nature. Everybody loved her accent, her high energy level, and her dry humour. Valerie was born in Cheam, near London, England in 1935. Trained in Nursing at the Middlesex Hospital in London, she emigrated to Montreal in the late 1950s to practice nursing, as an OR Head Nurse in orthopedics and in plastic surgery, as well as pioneering in Palliative Care with Dr. Balfour Mount, until the early 1970s. Valerie earned a Certificate in Gerontology at the University of Vermont, and co-founded the Vermont Respite House, a new form of hospice. In the early 1970s Valerie had founded a renewable energy enterprise, Windstream Power. In 1985, her company won an Energy Innovation award from the US Department of Energy.

In 2007 Valerie retired, moved with her husband to Dartmouth and was active as a VON volunteer, and worked with a United Nations NGO in New York. One of Valerie’s continuing passions was music - she sang in the Burlington Choral Society, and in the Madrigals Group of the Early Music Society in Halifax. Valerie, who had lived her entire active life without illness or disability, in 2013 noticed symptoms diagnosed as Progressive Vascular Cognitive Impairment, an untreatable, incurable neurological disorder, resulting in the continuing loss of faculties and mobility, with her husband later acting as full-time caregiver.

In 2017, with symptoms worsening, Valerie faced the future prospect of living the rest of her life essentially immobile in a nursing home. Instead, she decided, while she was still able to maintain control of her own life and health care, to enter the relatively new MAID (medical assistance in dying) program. Valerie’s daughters, Tracey, Hilary and Natasha, were all very supportive during this period. Valerie died in the sunny early evening of September 10, with her husband at her side, holding her hand, through the very quick and peaceful MAID procedure. With an untreatable progressive brain disorder, Valerie’s choice of MAID was the best possible medical treatment she could receive.

A Celebration of Valerie’s life was held on October 27, 2018 at the Halifax Universalist Unitarian Congregation, NS.
Susan Bryant Conley, 65, of Kittery, died Sunday, August 12, 2018 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House, following a long battle with cancer. Born in Patterson, N.J., on March 2, 1953, she was the daughter of Ralph and Dorothy Bryant.

Sue enjoyed traveling, photography, outdoor activities, and visiting with her friends and relatives. Sue’s travels included many trips across the US and Europe with family and close friends Nancy and Tony Ortiz. Her favorite outdoor activities included hiking, kayaking, and taking walks on the beach. She was a member of the Greater Lynn Photographic Association (GLPA) for more than a decade. Her favorite GLPA activity was the yearly trips to Baxter State Park in Maine. She was most proud of her two sons and enjoyed many of these activities with them.

Sue had several professional jobs, but what she enjoyed most was volunteer work that included being a Cub Scout leader and helping with fund raising events at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading.

Sue is survived by her husband Michael of Kittery; son Thomas of Westbrook, Maine; son Timothy of Philadelphia, PA.

In October 2018, there was a Memorial Service at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading, MA.
Barnett C. Cook, 1923 – 2018
UU Church of Tallahassee, FL
UU Fellowship of North Central Iowa, IA

Barnett Charles Cook died July 12, 2018 at Clear Lake, Iowa, his summer residence for the past 28 years. Mr Cook was born on November 25, 1923, in Chicago, Illinois, to Harold Cook and his wife, Helen Willers Cook. He graduated from Maine Township High School in Park Ridge, Illinois, in 1941 and enlisted in the US Army Air Force in 1942. He studied electrical engineering at several US colleges before being deployed to Brazil, where he served on a communications team that received and relayed information between the African and Pacific theaters. He was discharged in 1945 and enrolled in Northwestern University, from which he received a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. He then joined the University of Chicago as a betatron engineer and began graduate work in the physics department. He received his PhD in physics from Chicago in 1954 and joined the faculty at Iowa State University (ISU). There he taught graduate and undergraduate classes, directed graduate students and applied his experimental and mathematical skills to conduct and publish research in the area of photonuclear physics. He took sabbaticals at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

He met Laura Rypstat Richards, an ISU graduate student, at the Unitarian Fellowship of Ames and they were married in 1979. He was a loving stepfather to Anne Richards and husband Iraj (Atlanta), Paul Richards and wife, Elsa (Des Moines) and Steve Richards (Des Moines) and grandfather to Anne Apatiga Dragoo and Daniel Apatiga (Tampa) and Thomas Richards (Des Moines). He was predeceased by his sister, Roberta Van Keurn. His nieces Donna Carpenter, husband Bruce and Robin Wann, husband Tim, live in Santa Rosa, CA.

He retired in 1993 and moved to Tallahassee, where he and his wife enjoyed music, theater, and science programs at FSU, activities with the Faculty and Friends Club and traveled extensively. He was a member of the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church of Tallahassee and served on the finance and endowment committees. He also served for ten years on the board of the UU United Nations Office which informs UU congregations about the service activities of the UN.

A Memorial Service was held on September 15, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames, IA.
**Ivan Louis Cotman, 1940 – 2019**  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit, MI

Dr. Ivan Louis Cotman was born April 4, 1940 to the late Louis and Marguerite Kaine Cotman in Detroit, Michigan. He was the oldest of two children. He was baptized and confirmed at Old St. Mary’s Church in Greektown, where he attended grade school; he was a long-time member of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit.

Ivan graduated from Detroit’s Salesian High School (1958) and from Kentucky State University (1962) with majors in Social Science and English. He received an M.A. in Social Work from Clark Atlanta University in 1964 and an Ed. D from Wayne State University in 1975. He also studied at Harvard’s J.F.K. School of Government and the University of Manchester in England.

Ivan’s career began as a social worker with the Detroit Public Schools. He also worked for United Community Services and New Detroit, Inc. In 1973, he joined The Michigan Department of Education and served as deputy state superintendent under Governors Milliken, Blanchard, and Engler. Following a five-year stint at Davenport University as director of the Detroit office, he established Cotman and Associates, a consulting and philanthropic venture.

Ivan married Jeanetta Hawkins Cotman, the love of his life, on August 18, 1964, following a courtship which began during their college years at Kentucky State University. To this union three loving sons were born: Ivan, Arthur, and Amir Cotman.

Ivan was civic minded and participated energetically with numerous organizations. He served as an elected member of the Detroit Board of Education; board member, United Way of Southeastern Michigan; Midwest Vice President, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the thirty-third president of Gamma Lambda Chapter in Detroit. His volunteer work involved projects in Israel, Nigeria and Dubai, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Roots Committee and Moors Men Club.

Ivan died on March 4, 2019 following a full and enjoyable life. In addition to his wife and sons, he leaves to cherish his memory: two daughters-in-law; Rene and Cassandra: four grandsons Brandon, Jacob, Gray, Amir, Jr; three granddaughters, Janae, Chloe and Allie and a host of friends, fraternity brothers and colleagues.
Alice S. Custer, 1927 – 2018
The Universalist Church of West Hartford, CT

Alice S. Templeton Custer died peacefully in her sleep on September 12, 2018, just days before she would have turned 91.

She graduated from the Loomis Chafee School, got her BA from Smith College with Honors and Magna Cum Laude, earned a Masters in Political Science from Trinity and finally, another Masters in Library Science from Central Connecticut.

Her family would like to thank Atria Hamilton Heights for their incredible kindness. Alice loved living there and considered the staff and aides as an extended family. She was loved by all who knew her, since she was infectiously happy through and including her last day, didn't possess a malicious bone in her body and instinctively thought first of others at all times.

She was predeceased by three husbands: William Templeton, Richard Custer and Archibald Stuart. She was the beloved mother of three children: William Templeton Jr of Atlanta, GA, Allan Templeton of Costa Rica and Alice Templeton of Boston, MA; and is also survived by two grandchildren, Abby and Jack Templeton, and her sister Ann Pangman of Toronto.

A Memorial Service was held on October 1, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, West Hartford, CT.
Janet Forse, 1928 – 2019
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, PA

Janet M. Forse, 90 years, formerly of Macungie, passed away Wednesday, January 30 at Luther Crest in Allentown, where she resided. She was the widow of H. Gassaway Brown and Edgar H. Leander. Born in Binghamton, NY, she was a daughter of the late Walter C. and Helen M. (Brigham) Forse.

Janet had a B.A. from Upsala College and a master’s degree in social work from Temple University. She worked as a therapist and social worker in Denver, CO; Lehigh County and Warren County. She was very active in the women’s movement, having served as past president of N.O.W. of Pennsylvania. Janet also worked on the suicide hotline for Lehigh County, and for the former State Hospital of Lehigh County. She was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley in Bethlehem.

Survivors include her children; Susan Leander, wife of I. Jay Freedman of Dresher, PA; Allison Leander-Kucsan, wife of Gary of Fogelsville, PA; Jeffrey Leander and wife Sheryl of Raleigh, NC; one step-daughter; four step-sons; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service in celebration of Janet’s life was held on February 16, 2019 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, PA.
The Rev. Rudolph “Rudi” C. Gelsey, 1926 – 2018
First Unitarian Society of Denver, CO

The Rev. Rudolph C. Gelsey died on May 30, 2018. Rudi was born on February 24, 1926 in Vienna, Austria, to Alfred and Elizabeth Czuczka. He graduated from University of Geneva, Switzerland with Master’s in Political Science in 1946. In 1947, he worked on his thesis: Theories of European Federation between the two WW, representing the Graduate Institute of International Affairs, Geneva. He was a co-founder in Paris of Interuniversity Federalist Union, which consisted of college professors and students for the European Union. In 1949, Rudi emigrated from Europe to Canada, and ultimately settled in the United States in 1959. Prior to immigration, he fled from Nazi’s Austria to Croatia, and then from Switzerland and France. In 1962, he earned his Bachelor of Divinity from Meadville Lombard Theological School, including study at the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Rev. Gelsey was ordained on January 1, 1962 at the First Unitarian Church in South Bend, ID, where he served in his first ministry until 1964. From 1964 to 1969, Rev. Gelsey served as a General Secretary at Universalist Church of the Restoration in Philadelphia, PA and then ministered for four years at UU Fellowship of Northern Westchester in Mount Kisco, NY. Over the next two and half decades, Rev. Gelsey carried out a series of vital interim and called ministries, at the following sites: The First UU Church of Detroit (1973-1983); UU Church of Buffalo (1983-1984); First UU Church of Niagara (1984-1990); and the UU Fellowship New River Valley, Blacksburg, VA (1996-1999). Finally, Rev. Gelsey served theUU Congregation, Blacksburg, as a Board Member for six months before retiring from Unitarian Universalist Ministry in June 1999.

Rev. Gelsey carried out a great deal of service on behalf of the denomination. He authored a new version of the Hebrew Bible, Imagine…A New Bible (1982), which fosters peacemaking, nonviolence, gender-partnership, and responsible stewardship of the earth. He also served for some fifteen years, as a Rotarian Board Member, program chair, editor of the newsletter, and co-leader of the Rotarian group to France. In 1984, for his contribution to the expanse of spirituality and meditation, Gelsey was initiated into Sufi Order of the West, with a Sufi name Jelal’uddin meaning “the power of faith.” He presented “A Faith for the Global Village: A Dialogue among Religions in Search of Mutual Appreciation” at the Parliament of World’s Religion in Chicago, Illinois. He also attended and networked the Parliament of World’s Religion held in Barcelona, in Spain in 2004.

His fifty years as a Unitarian Universalist minister has encompassed civil rights, peace crusade, environmental nurturance and interfaith programs and panels. He was keenly interested in theater,
concerts, chamber music, movies, ballet. He also had immense love for nature, and enjoyed hiking, and cross-country skiing. His desire for intellectual, philosophical, and theological clarity was colossal. He believed in pluralism and openness to variety of religious expressions, which made him transform from the Jewish faith of his birth, to Catholicism, to ultimately becoming a UU minister.

Rudi is survived by his children Florence Pinfield, Andy Gelsey, and Alex Gelsey; his five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife Trudi.

A private Memorial Service was held on Thursday, June 7, 2018.
James Alan Hall, 69, of Indianapolis, passed away on Monday, August 20, 2018. Jim was born in Omaha, Nebraska on November 27, 1948 to Jack and Phyllis Hall. He attended Roosevelt High School in Des Moines, Iowa and received his PhD in social work from the University of Wisconsin.

Jim spent his career teaching, counseling and researching adolescent medicine and substance abuse. He held faculty positions at the University of Washington, University of California San Diego, University of Iowa and was the Dean of Social Work at the University of Alabama. Most recently he was teaching and involved in grant research at IUPUI.

As an active member of All Souls Unitarian Church, he taught classes and served on the board.

Jim was a social guy who led a very active life. He has been an avid runner, an enthusiastic Iowa Hawkeye fan and he enjoyed traveling and experiencing new cultures and new cuisines. Most important to Jim were family ties, tops on that list was spending time with his daughter Katie.

He is survived by his daughter Katherine Hall, his father, brothers Rick, Tom and Tim and his sister Sue Holten, three step-daughters, one step son and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother Phyllis Hall.

A Celebration of Jim’s life was held on September 8, 2018 at All Souls Unitarian Church, Indianapolis, IN.
Robert J. Hansman, 1927 – 2018
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County, FL

Robert John Hansman passed away at home in the early morning of June 13, 2018. Robert was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1927. At Des Moines North High School, he was a hall of fame athlete, an All-State football player and a record setter in the Drake Relays.

In World War II he served in the US Coast Guard in the North Atlantic on the Icebreaker “Eastwind.” After the war he went to Harvard on the GI bill where he met his wife Sally Power, the sister of his roommate, with whom he lived happily for 53 years until her death in the 2004 Hurricane Charley.

After graduating from Harvard in three years, he was recruited into the executive training program of the Travelers Insurance Co., but soon launched his own firm, Hansman McAvoy and Co. in Boston, which became the leading aviation insurance firm in the North East. He lectured and wrote on insurance topics including risk management and deferred compensation. He was a pilot and a flight instructor in airplanes and gliders and published several books about soaring in Austria including “Soaring Valley.”

He lived with Sally and their four children: John, David, Jamie, and Christl, in Scituate, Mass., where he enjoyed flying, boating and running long before it became fashionable. After selling his companies in 1989, he and Sally traveled extensively, spending months living and biking in many countries. He continued biking in their second home in Punta Gorda, Florida, where he also enjoyed singing bass with the ICY Goodtime Singers and the Saltwater Swells. He was a long-time member of the Isles Yacht Club, the Coastal Cruisers Bike Club and a lifetime member of the American Legion. He was a founding member and past President of the Peace River Harvard Club and a member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County where he served on the board.

In 2005, Robert, then a widower, married Carolyn Kvam the widow of his friend, Dr. Lowell Kvam. They continued to live in Punta Gorda singing with the Saltwater Swells and supporting each other through life and music. He is survived by Carolyn, his four children, and eight grandchildren.
Marian K. Herreid, 1916 – 2018
Half Moon Bay, CA

Marian was born in Madison, WI., on Jan. 30, 1920. Her parents were Ralph Siemens King and Florence Gilmore. She is predeceased by her husband Robert Herreid, son Thomas Herreid, her partner of 40 years Starr Williams, brothers Edward and Jack King, and a granddaughter, JoAnna Smith. Marian is survived by her partner of 20 years, Sharon Maggert.

Marian was the only girl between two brothers. As a young child she loved school, being out-of-doors and writing poetry. She played the violin and sang in school and church choirs. Marian’s parents sent her to Groves Barnhardt Secretary School after graduating from high school at the age of 16. She used these skills in many secretarial positions in the Madison area, one of which was a large local department store. Here she met and married Robert Herreid, father of her four children: Ann Cerecedes, Robert Herreid, Barbara Smith and Thomas Herreid. From 1952 to 1972 Marian was busy raising a family and establishing preschool programs in Wisconsin, California, Indiana, Illinois and Vermont.

After her children were in college, Marian, too, went back to college. In 1970, she earned her bachelor’s degree from Mundelein College. Just two years later she received her master’s degree from Erikson Institute for Early Education. In 1976, she finished her doctorate degree from Loyola University. She spent the next few years until retirement teaching college courses at Mundelein College, Chicago, and Lyndon State College in Vermont.

After more than a year of touring the country looking for the perfect place to retire, Marian and partner Starr Williams chose Half Moon Bay. In 1988, Marian became actively involved with Senior Coastsiders by delivering Meals on Wheels. She also began writing articles for the Half Moon Bay Review and became well-known for her wisdom and sense of humor. Her writings touched many people and culminated with the publication of her book titled, “This is Getting Old.” All proceeds from the book were donated to Senior Coastsiders. Marian joined the board of directors for Senior Coastsiders in 1989. She held that position for nearly 20 years. Marian created groups at the center for sharing, teaching and creating support. She had a great deal of impact on those who worked at and came to the center. She created the mission statement that the center still uses today: “Senior Coastsiders offers opportunities that support successful aging.” The committee had struggled to come up with a statement. Marian took a nap one day and woke up with the statement. For many years she created the Positive Images of Aging calendar. Marian will be missed because she was always teaching us to think things through and to understand the impact our decisions have on others.

A Memorial Service for Marian was held on June 30, 2018 at the Senior Center.
Donald M. Hoskins, 1930 – 2018
Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, PA

Donald Martin Hoskins, 88, of Lower Paxton Township, passed away on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 in Harrisburg Hospital. He was born on May 22, 1930 in Lyons Falls, NY to the late Frederic and Irene (Clune) Hoskins. Dr. Hoskins was a United States Army veteran, serving in the Army Corps of Engineers in Germany immediately following WWII. He was a life-long learner, with a BS and MS in Geology from Union College and the University of Rochester, a PhD in Paleontology from Bryn Mawr University, and a Masters in Government Administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Don was employed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey as a geologist from 1956 until his retirement in 2001.

After his retirement he continued to serve as a volunteer for the survey up to the date of his unexpected death, mentoring other geologists and sharing his love of field work with them. He was a life member of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, and had numerous hobbies over the years, including making wine (generally bad), growing roses (often prize winning), and sailing his 28 foot boat Galadriel on the Chesapeake Bay (only occasionally going aground). He was also a member and office holder in numerous organizations, including the Memorial Society of Greater Harrisburg, the Geological Society of America, the Harrisburg Area Geological Society (HAGS) and the Power Squadron. Surviving are his wife Barbara S. Hoskins, a daughter Donna M. Hoskins-Helm and her husband Phil of Harrisburg, 2 sons; Steven R. Hoskins and his wife Sue of Dryden, NY, Bruce A. Hoskins and his wife Pam of Derry, NH; 6 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren and 2 step-great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held on March 3, 2019 at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, PA.
Elizabeth W. Hutchinson, 1920 – 2018
UU Fellowship of the Eastern Slopes, Tamworth, NH

Elizabeth “Betty” Woodruff Hutchinson, 98, died on July 17 in Deerfield, NH after a long and active life. Betty was born in Lynn, MA on February 18, 1920 to Watson and Edna Spurr Woodruff - the middle daughter in a family of three sisters. She grew up in Manchester, CT where her father was the minister of Center Congregational Church. Music, poetry, nature, sports and Girl Scouts were early and life-long interests. Starting in 1928 Betty and her family spent summers at a cottage on Silver Lake in New Hampshire – a tradition which continued for 90 years.

Betty attended Syracuse University where she majored in sociology, then Yale School of Nursing earning her Masters degree early in 1945. She served as an Army nurse in the Philippines from April 1945 to January 1946.

On July 27, 1946 she married Jonathan Hutchinson – a marriage which lasted 66 years until Jon’s death. Jon and Betty spent most of the next 60 years living in Torrington CT where they raised seven children. After 22 years with preschoolers at home, Betty became a school nurse. She worked in the Torrington School system for 19 years, retiring in 1988. Betty was active in Center Church including service as a deacon and choir member, was a Hospice volunteer, played cello in the Torrington Civic Symphony and supported Jon in many endeavors. They were proud supporters, season ticket holders, of the UCONN women’s basketball team. Betty loved her children. Her gentle, caring presence is the foundation of our lives. She lives on in each moment one of us is kind, thoughtful, patient, loving, and present for others. She was also a great baker – oatmeal molasses bread and blueberry buckle were two family favorites which are now made by her children and grandchildren and requested at many family meals and community events. Always an athlete who enjoyed skiing, swimming, tennis and hiking, in her 80s Betty took up road racing. She competed in the Manchester, CT Thanksgiving Day 5 mile race for many years setting time records in her age group. She still holds the record in the female 90+ division with a time of 1:17:31 set in 2010. Her final races at age 94 were only 5Ks (3 miles).

In 2006 Jon and Betty moved to a retirement community in Concord, NH and spent long summers on Silver Lake. Betty’s love of poetry continued as she recited poems by Frost and R. L. Stevenson and sang familiar songs until her death.
Betty was predeceased by her husband in 2012, by her sisters Peggy in 1980 and Jean in 2010. She is survived by her children Anne (Gene) of Great Barrington, MA, Jack (Rebecca) of Deerfield NH, Hope (Silver Lake, NH), David (Valerie) of Torrington, CT, Chuck (Georgetown, Guyana), Betsy (Doug) of Fairview, NC, Mark (Anjalee) of Lewisburg, PA, eighteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Betty’s life was held with her in the summer of 2017. A Memorial Service was held on August 4, 2018 at The Madison (NH) Church.
Dick Jacke was born in San Jose, CA. on December 23, 1946, to Kay and William Jacke, Jr. He died of sudden cardiac arrest in Bellevue, WA, on July 28, 2018, at age 71. Dick attended elementary and high school in San Jose and the University of California, Berkeley, where he met his wife, Linda. Upon graduation, the couple became members of the 1969-70 National Teacher Corps, Hawaii. Dick then worked in commercial real estate until beginning a second career as a Systems Analyst at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle. He retired from Fred Hutchinson in 2011.

In 1981, Dick joined East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue, which became central to the calling to which he devoted the remainder of his life. Dick was a quiet, unassuming, erudite, kind and gentle man who lived his beliefs as a tireless warrior for social, economic and racial justice causes. He furthered the cause of religious tolerance of all faiths through his work with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Faith Action Network interfaith advocacy organization. His contributions to Unitarian Universalist causes at the local, regional and national levels were prodigious. He served as president of the East Shore church congregation, president of the Pacific Northwest District of UUA and at the time of his death was a member of the Board of Trustees of the national UUA in Boston. For 37 years he served on numerous volunteer boards and committees, sharing an impressive expertise on the governance and management of volunteer organizations. He brought dedication, insightfulness, and a wonderful sense of humor to all of the important causes of his life. Even after his death, Dick continued to support the causes he felt so deeply about. As a registered organ donor, two previously blind individuals now have the gift of sight because of Dick.

Dick was a loving and devoted family man. Fond of the outdoors, some of his family's most treasured memories included many camping trips, excursions to Mt. Rainier and the exploration of Fort Worden. Always a supportive father, he never missed one of his son’s football games. He passed his love of music, an important part of his life, on to his son and through his son to his grandson Bronson. Whenever he was needed, Dick was always there for his family.
Dick is survived by his wife of 50 years, Linda Jacke of Redmond; His son, Ted Jacke of Seattle and grandsons Bronson and Olin Jacke of Seattle; his father William Jacke and his sister Susan (Dick) Jurgens of Phoenix; sister-in-law Sidney Simpson of San Leandro, CA; brother- and sister-in-law Dennis and Joanne Simpson of Redmond; and by many nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Dick’s life was held on September 8, 2018 at East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue, WA.
Genevieve “Gene” S. James, 1929 – 2018
First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, PA

Genevieve S. James away on July 14, 2018 at the age of 89. She had lived with her husband, Homer (Jimmy) James, in Pittsburgh, PA for 45 years prior to moving to Flagstaff, Arizona for the last three years of her life.

Genevieve was born in Harlingen, TX, where her family of ten farmed cotton. It was only after President Roosevelt and the New Deal were they able to overcome the insurmountable obstacles faced by the small farmer. Her family still farms the land in Texas.

Gene was an English teacher and then high school guidance counselor at Shaler High School from 1970 to 2002. In 2000, she was awarded the Pennsylvania High School Counselor of the Year award for excelling in the job that she loved. She touched the lives of many and shared her home with several students and friends over the years who were in need as well as serving as a host to international visitors from many countries. Julie and Quinn Lai’s family from Vietnam became extended family members. Her joy in helping others and her instinct for loving care defined both her life and her work. Gene was very active in her teachers’ union at Shaler Schools. She served many roles including President of her local union. Her best friend and partner in negotiations was Ruth Duerstein of Shaler. Gene was a lifelong Democrat, women’s rights advocate and was proud to be called a liberal. Her love and concern for people was felt by those lucky enough to have known her.

She is survived by her four children, Randall “Randy” (Ann McCrow), Gary (Julie Martin), Mark (Mary Poore), Janet (Galen Spielman); and 10 grandchildren; her husband of 71 years passed away exactly three weeks prior to her passing; her surviving siblings include her brother, Dr. Cecil Simmons (San Benito, TX) and Connie Allen (San Antonio, TX).
Homer “Jimmy” B. James, 1924 – 2018
First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, PA

Homer Beers James died June 23, 2018, at home with his daughter, Janet and son-in-law, Galen Spielman. Homer Beers James, known as “Jimmy,” had been married to Gene James for 71 years. Jimmy and Gene were founding members of the Unitarian Fellowship of Lima, Ohio and in 1970 became lay leaders in the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, PA for three decades.

Jimmy and Gene had four children: Randy (Ann McCrow) of Santa Cruz County, CA, Gary (Julie Martin) of St Louis, MO; and Mark (Mary Poore) of Flagstaff, AZ and Janet James (Galen Spielman) of Pittsburgh.

Jimmy James was an electrical engineer with Westinghouse for 40 years; in his spare time an engineering faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh. He loved the classroom and teaching. In retirement he taught advanced mathematics and physics at Community College of Allegheny County.

Jimmy became a devoted scholar for 60 years of James Joyce’s Ulysses. He was an active participant in the annual James Joyce Bloomsday celebrations. Jimmy was an amateur actor with the Amil Tellers Encore Theatre in Lima, Ohio. He was a marathon runner completing the Boston Marathon in 1967 where he helped “secret” the first unofficial female runner (Katherine Switzer) to the starting lines to run the race women were prohibited from running until the following year. He was a devoted long distance cyclist with American Youth Hostel. When he moved his family to Seattle, WA to work for Boeing, he became a serious mountain climber scaling the heights of Mt Rainier several times and other elevations every weekend May - October. Jimmy was an amateur jazz musician and a composer of electronic music. He was an accomplished artist in oil painting, ceramics and sculpture, presenting many gifts to his family and friends. His love of life was exuberant and exhaustive. He was devoted to his bookgroup of 40 years, but most of all to his wife, his children and his children’s children.

A Memorial Service was held on July 13, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the South Hills, Pittsburgh, PA.
Donald R. Janak, 1937 – 2018  
First Unitarian Church of Dallas, TX

Donald was born in Trinidad, Texas, to Agnes and John Janak on July 6, 1937. He grew up in Dallas, Texas, with his parents, older brother John David, and twin sister Dorothy May. He graduated from Highland Park High School in 1955, University of Texas in Austin in 1959, and University of Texas Medical Branch in 1963. After medical school, he served two years in the army, stationed in Germany which is where he first met Joan Elizabeth Eldridge. After returning from Germany, he did his residency at the University of Virginia, and he and Joan were married on June 28, 1969 in Buckingham, VA. Joan and Donald made Dallas, TX their home and had one daughter, Ann Blair, in 1971. They were long-time members of the First Unitarian Church of Dallas.

Donald’s professional career was as a radiologist at St. Paul Medical Center, in Dallas, Texas, where he was a partner in the Diagnostic Radiology practice and retired in 2001.

Donald loved to travel and was a generous supporter of the arts. Over the years, he traveled extensively in the United States and Europe, as well as Egypt, Costa Rica, Israel, and Canada. A favorite and coveted vacation spot for Donald, Joan, and Ann was always Santa Fe, NM where they frequently spent holidays and summer vacations. Donald devoted many hours to visiting his favorite New Mexican art galleries and museums where he never came out empty-handed, always finding some treasure to add to his many collections. He loved attending the opera at the beautiful, renowned Santa Fe Opera House. His daughter Ann used to tease him for being president of the Wagner Society in Dallas, but opera was his passion, and Wagner’s Ring was his favorite. In Dallas, he was an avid supporter and season ticket holder for the Dallas Opera, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Turtle Creek Chorale, Dallas Chamber Music Society, and the SMU Meadows School of the Arts. Music and the arts were dear to his heart.

In 2013, Donald and Joan moved to Cary, NC to be closer to their daughter Ann and three granddaughters, Elise, Nina, and Addison Bagley.

Donald will be remembered for his quiet strength, wry sense of humor, and giving nature.
Donald is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Joan Eldridge Janak of Cary, NC, daughter and son-in-law, Ann and John Christopher Bagley, grandchildren Elise Blair, Nina Elizabeth, and Addison Grace Bagley of Cary, NC, twin sister Dorothy Janak Morton and her husband Dick Morton of San Antonio, TX, sister-in-law Marietta Pratt Janak of Dallas, TX, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Agnes and John James Janak, and older brother, John David Janak.

A Celebration of Donald’s life was held in the fall of 2018 in Dallas, TX.
Clarise Jefferson, 1928 – 2018  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal, IL

Clarise P. Jefferson age 90 of Bloomington IL passed away on December 13, 2018.

Clarise was born December 2, 1928 in Lebo, Kansas the daughter of Clarence Wilbur and Mary Roughley Parker. She married B. Ned Jefferson on August 20, 1950 in Bloomington, IL. He passed away September 30, 2001.

Clarise graduated from Illinois State University, Normal with a degree in Secondary Education. She was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal. Clarise was active in her church at the local, district, and national levels. She served in several leadership roles including 15 years as a lay minister for weddings and most recently as a pastoral care associate. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Surviving are her 2 children, Mark Alan (Eryn Roth) Jefferson, Manitou Springs, Colorado, B. Kent (Tracy) Jefferson, Peru, IL, 2, grandchildren, Kristin (Josh) Noonan, Ottawa, IL and Kyle (Katie) Jefferson, Chicago, IL, 3 great-grandchildren, Carter, Maddox and Brooks Noonan, Ottawa, IL. Clarise is preceded in death by her parents.

A Memorial Service was held on December 18, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal, IL.
Joan L. Jones, 1932 – 2018
Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder, CO
Unitarian Universalist Church of Milford, NH

Joan Lloyd (Borum) Jones, 85, died peacefully at her home on August 22, 2018 after struggling with metastatic breast cancer. Joan was born in Atlantic City, N.J., on September 18, 1932 and was the second child of John Lloyd Jr. and Lillian Lehmann Lloyd. Joan spent her childhood in Brigantine, NJ, a small island community then, later remembered by Joan and friends as "a magical place". Life in Brigantine alternated with summers in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, again in a place nearly empty of people, but full of woods, mountains, and rivers to explore.

A summer living in Europe while a student at Wellesley College, MA, convinced Joan to follow a career in international work. And so, after starting her professional life in New York as an Administrative Assistant to famed industrial designer Henry Dreyfuss, Joan spent 23 years with AMIDEAST in Washington, DC, an organization engaged in education services for the Middle East and North Africa, and thirteen years with Educational Testing Service in Princeton, NJ, as Director of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) program.

After retirement, Joan and her second husband, Nolan, who also held fond memories of NH, moved to Milford, where she was involved in community and political activities. Joan and Nolan travelled extensively, including a tour of England via canal boat and a several weeks trek through Central Asia. Later they moved to Sacramento, CA, where her second husband passed away, after which Joan moved to Boulder, CO near her younger son, Owen. Joan loved spending time with her children and grandchildren and stressing the importance of education and global awareness. She always loved hearing about what the grandchildren were active in and receiving pictures, cards, and crafts along with visits.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, John and Lillian Lloyd; her first husband, William Borum; her second husband, Nolan Jones; and her brother John Lloyd, III. She is survived by her brother, Lewis Lloyd (Rosemary) of Lincoln, MA; sister Nancy Lloyd of Camden, ME; sister-in-law Janet Lloyd of Camden, ME; sons Christopher Borum (Michelle) of Elk River, MN and Owen Borum of Boulder, CO; three step-children, Susan Jones (David Wright) of Sacramento, CA, Nolan Thomas Jones Jr of Mt. Carmel, UT; and Cynthia Jones (Fred LaPlante) of Woodinville, WA. Joan has 3 grandchildren, Tristan and Alissa Borum, Jackson Borum and one step-grandson Galen LaPlante along with many nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service was held on September 17, 2018 at Fort McPherson National Cemetery NE along with an Interment on October 20, 2018 in Bartlett, NH.
George S. Koch, Jr., 1926 – 2018
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens, GA

George S. Koch Jr. was born in Washington, D.C. on October 30, 1926 and died in Athens, GA on July 25, 2018.

Professor of Geology at the University of Georgia from 1972 to 1992, he was educated in philosophy and geology at Harvard College and later received graduate degrees in geology from Johns Hopkins University and from Harvard University. Specializing in mining geology, he was the author of four books and numerous academic articles.

His first marriage to Martha Redfield Koch ended in divorce. His second wife, Ruth Simpson Koch, passed away in 2011. He is survived by his brother, Christopher and his children from his first marriage, Sarah, Eric and Jonathan, in addition to six grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held on August 4, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens, GA.
Ofelia D. Lachtman, 1919 – 2018
Pacific Unitarian Church, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Ofelia D. Lachtman died September 13, 2018. Born of Mexican parents, Ofelia Dumas Lachtman was native of Los Angeles, California. She attended Los Angeles City schools, including Los Angeles City College and a brief stint at UCLA, before marrying and moving to Riverside, California. She had a son and a daughter.

During World War II, Ofelia worked as a medical stenographer. Later, when her two children were grown, she became a group worker and eventually the executive director of the West Los Angeles-Beverly Hills YWCA. She was also a member of PEN International.

When she was twelve, her work appeared in an anthology of children’s poetry. She was the author of numerous bilingual children’s picture books, including *Big Enough* published in 1998, and the *Pepita* series. Her book *Pepita Talks* was a recipient of a 1996 Skipping Stones Award.

Ofelia also wrote numerous young adult novels. Her book *Campfire Dreams* published in 1987 won the Benjamin Franklin Award for best young adult novel. Her work has been translated into French and German.
Ingeborg G. Lock, 1928 – 2018  
First Unitarian Universalist Society of Exeter, NH

Ingeborg Gertrude Lock, born July 9, 1928, died on November 23, 2018, at her home at Riverwoods Retirement Community, Exeter, New Hampshire. Ingeborg was born on July 9, 1928, in Chicago, Illinois, to Curt and Gertrude Lock, who, in the 1920s, had left Germany to move to the United States. She grew up in Detroit, Michigan, and in her family’s winter home in Florida.

Her introduction to her career in food service began when her father managed his own restaurant, and the family helped in the baking of desserts and German breads. She began again in New York City after earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in hospitality management from the University of Michigan and her Masters degree from Columbia University Teachers College. In 1996, Ingeborg began working at the University of New Hampshire where she treasured her position as the Director of Food Services to her retirement in 2003.

Ingeborg was presented a 50-Year Membership Award for her dedication to the Appalachian Mountain Club. Her favorite hike was in Crawford Notch. She loved the mountains and her fellow travelers there. She enjoyed reading, doing crossword puzzles and being the best possible companion to her beloved cats.

Ingeborg adored travel, and after the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, she visited regularly with her mother’s family in Leipzig and Dresden. She supported her church and was a philanthropist to organizations helping our earth in peril, as well as giving to women, children and families in need.

She is pre-deceased by her brother Ralph H. Lock. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Joan Lock of Grand Rapids, Michigan; nieces Kathy and Susan; nephew Terry Lock, M.D.; grandnieces Emily and Alison; and her dear cousins who reside in Germany.

A Gathering in her honor to tell the stories of her life was held on December 16, 2018 at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Exeter, NH.
Kenneth “Ken” W. MacCormac, 1934 – 2018
The Universalist Church of West Hartford, CT

Kenneth W. MacCormac, 84, of West Hartford, Connecticut and Boothbay Harbor, Maine died peacefully on Thursday, November 8, 2018 after a period of failing health. He was devoted to his family here, in Ireland and the United Kingdom, and was a friend to many. To know Ken was to be warmly embraced by him. Ken was born October 5, 1934, the son of the late William and Margaret (Thompson) MacCormac of Wantagh, New York and Northern Ireland.

He attended Harvard College where he enlisted in the NROTC, serving two years in the United States Navy as a Lieutenant before graduate study at the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. Ken loved his work and brought his ethic of "family" to the workplace as President and CEO of Capewell Components Company for 30 years. He served on the Boards of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, and the Meadville Lombard Theological School. He was a member of the Universalist Church of West Hartford and The Old Guard.

Ken is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary (Norsworthy) and his three children, Bruce of West Hartford, Craig and wife Lucinda of Simsbury, and Cynthia and husband Chris Murray of Lexington, Massachusetts, his brother Jim and wife Carol of Victor, Montana, as well as grandchildren, Ken, Haley, Emma and Jack. He was predeceased by his brother, Al MacCormac.

A Memorial Service was held December 1, 2018 at the Universalist Church of West Hartford, CT and a celebration of Ken’s life is planned for June 2019 in Boothbay Harbor, ME.
Born on July 9, 1928 in Ghent, NY, she was one of six children who attended the same one-room schoolhouse where her father, Walter Remmler, was the teacher. At age 11, she was separated from her mother, Louise, and siblings Jackie and Harold, during her mother’s visit to Alsace, Germany. Shortly after landing in Germany, World War II broke out and the family was unable to be reunited for seven years.

Astrid and her sisters, Livia and Jackie-Lotty, spent their summers waiting tables together at the Chatham Bars Inn on Cape Cod — there they called their threesome “the Schnookies” — before she went to St. Lawrence University for her B.A., later adding a Masters degree from Kean College in Union, NJ. For twenty-five years, Astrid enjoyed being an elementary teacher in the Morris County school district.

Astrid’s first husband, William Koch, died in 1956, where they lived in Wilbraham, Massachusetts, and had a daughter, Marta Jo, and a son, William Koch, IV. In 1960, she married her second husband, Robert Bosworth, adding two step children, Howard and Julie, to the family and a son, Mark. They lived for many years in Convent Station, New Jersey. Widowed again, Astrid found and married Jim Martin in July, 1983, adding two more step children to the family, Jeff and Susan Martin. Together, the couple settled in Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

Astrid, who was an active member of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship and the Short Hills Ski Club, was known for her love of family and her delight in a good bargain. She is survived by daughter Marta, sons Bill and Mark, step children Howard, Julie, Susan and Jeff, grandchildren Caitlin, Saiya and Ezra.
Donald Mayer, 1934 – 2019
Westshore Unitarian Universalist Church, Cleveland, OH

Donald Mayer passed away Feb. 24, 2019. Born Dec. 6, 1934 in Cleveland, Ohio, he was the son of the late John Martin Mayer and Florence Gerhan Mayer.

Don graduated co-valedictorian (with his twin) from Lakewood High School in January 1953 where he was a state wrestling champion. He then attended Princeton University where he wrestled and played on nationally-ranked football teams. He attended Harvard Business School in 1960. After a stint in basic training with the U.S. Army at Fort Knox, Don earned his Professional Engineer (P.E.) designation in 1962. Don spent his career in family construction businesses, notably the Mayer Corporation from 1960 to 1969 and Lakeside Construction/Engineered Concrete Structures from 1970 to 2016.

His widespread interests included numerous leadership positions at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church since 1953; a voracious appetite for reading; card-playing; gardening; sports, especially baseball; Rowfant Club; and relentless engagement with word and number puzzles. Over the course of his life, he visited almost every nation on Earth. Don touched many lives with his humor, kindness, and curiosity about the world. His mind was a remarkable storehouse of knowledge, particularly literature, art, music, and history.

Donald is survived by his wife of 39 years Mary J. (Mimi) Mayer; his twin sister, Diane Mayer Vaughan of Madison, Wisconsin; children Anne Mayer; Maria Gale; Richard Mayer; Kate Stadt; Braden Chattman; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A Memorial Service was held on March 16, 2019 at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Cleveland, OH.
Dr. Hugh J. McLellan, a fantastic husband, father, and grandfather, died May 10, 2018 after a long and interesting life. He was born on Cape Breton Island, in Nova Scotia, Canada where he developed a love for the ocean that served him well in his later career. He earned BS and MS degrees in Physics from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

He used this expertise during the Second World War first degaussing convoy ships heading for England to protect them from magnetic mines and then moving to Vancouver Island where the newly discovered technology of radar was being set up to protect the west coast of Canada.

After the war he joined the Fisheries Research Board of Canada doing research mapping water temperatures and salinity of the St. Lawrence and the Scotian Shelf. He received a leave of absence to attend Scripps Institution of Oceanography for two years to study the relatively new field of science called Physical Oceanography. He met his wife Alice there and was awarded a PhD in 1956. In 1957 he was recruited to Texas A&M University where he became a professor and was instrumental in setting up an oceanographic department to study the Gulf of Mexico. Money from the National Science Foundation (NSF) was used to buy and modify a surplus Navy ship creating the research vessel Alaminos incorporating many of Hugh’s design ideas. In addition to research and teaching he started managing research contracts with the Office of Naval Research (ONR). In 1964 he moved to Washington, DC to work for ONR becoming responsible for the physical and chemical oceanography elements of research contracts. He spent six months on the staff of the National Council on Marine Resources and Engineering Development in the Executive office of the President, and then became the first Head of The Oceanography Section in the Division of Environmental Science in the NSF. He then served three years with the US Navy Oceanographic Office before moving to the Office of Sea Grant in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Throughout his working career he enjoyed keeping up with technology and discoveries made with the grants he administered. Entering physical oceanography in its infancy, he wrote a textbook used by many students and was well known throughout the field.

He retired in 1982 with the goal of seeing the world. With his wife, Alice, he visited 48 countries and all continents except Antarctica, often involving volunteering opportunities, hiking or biking trips. He always enjoyed talking to people. He seemed to remember every poem and song he had
ever heard and enriched our lives by sharing them. He was an amateur pilot and flew his family from Texas to Cape Breton Island to visit family and friends there. His children saw most of the US and eastern Canada on family trips while growing up and learned to love travelling, camping, hiking, swimming, and sailing through him. He was well loved and will be greatly missed.

A Celebration of his life was held on May 23, 2018 at Goodwin House Baileys Crossroads.
Alfred Obrist, 1928 – 2018
May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, Syracuse, NY

Alfred Obrist passed away peacefully at his home in DeWitt on Monday, October 22, 2018. Born in St. Gallen, Switzerland, he lived in the USA from age 5. Alfred was predeceased by his wife, Helen and daughter, Lisa in 2012. He is survived by his sons, Larry and Peter, both of whom also live in the area.

Alfred served in the US Navy during WWII and founded and ran the Obrist & Appel Landscape Architecture. He was an avid hiker with the ADK Onondaga Chapter and one of the group’s ‘46ers, and was a member of May Memorial Unitarian (Universalist) Society from 1955 through to his death in 2018.

A Memorial Service was held November 17, 2018 at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society in Syracuse, NY.
Betty Phelps Refior, 1921 – 2019
Whitewater, WI

Betty Phelps-Refior, 97, of Whitewater passed away on Thursday, May 2, 2019 surrounded by friends and family who loved her dearly at Fairhaven Retirement Community.

Betty was born on October 20, 1921 in Warsaw, Indiana to Royal and Erba (Hinkson) Pottenger. She graduated from Warsaw High School and later graduated from Manchester College with a degree in occupational therapy.


Betty was a member of the World Federalists Organization, studied Esperanto and was a member of the Community of Christ the Servant. She enjoyed walking two to three miles each day and continued her walking where she would greet the morning Fairhaven staff up until several weeks before her death. In 1986 Betty joined the Great Peace March and spent several months walking the entire way from Los Angeles to Washington D.C. She repeated Peace walks in several other countries including the Soviet Union. Riding her bike and working on her blue bird trail kept Betty active well into her 90’s. Betty was very passionate about saving the bluebirds and saving the bees and even donated her family farm to Michael Fields Institute for organic farming and to establish a bee sanctuary.

Betty is survived by her children, Rebecca (Linda Patrick) Phelps, Carl (Esther) Phelps; and grandson, Andy Phelps. She is preceded in death by her siblings, Erna Esbenson, Ora Kunkle, and Jimmy Pottenger.

A time for fellowship in honor of Betty took place on May 14, 2019 at Fairhaven.
Nancy Grace Roman, who was known as the Mother of the Hubble Telescope died on December 25, 2018 at the age of 93.

When Nancy Grace Roman requested permission to take a second algebra course in high school, a teacher demanded to know “what lady would take mathematics instead of Latin.” In college, a professor remarked that he often tried to dissuade women from majoring in physics. And after receiving a doctorate in astronomy, she concluded that a female professor in the field had little hope of obtaining tenure.

Undeterred by the barriers to women in the sciences, Dr. Roman found a professional home at NASA. Even there, she recalled in an interview years later, she felt compelled to use the honorific “Dr.” “Otherwise,” she said, “I could not get past the secretaries.”

After joining the fledgling space agency in 1959, Dr. Roman became the first chief of astronomy at NASA headquarters, a role that made her one of the agency’s first female executives. She remained in that position for nearly two decades before her retirement in 1979.

Dr. Roman spent much of her career helping develop, fund and promote technology that would help scientists see more clearly beyond Earth’s atmosphere. “Astronomers had been wanting to get observations from above the atmosphere for a long time. Looking through the atmosphere is somewhat like looking through a piece of old, stained glass,” Dr. Roman told Voice of America in 2011. “The glass has defects in it, so the image is blurred from that.”

NASA credited her with leading what it described as the agency’s “first successful astronomical mission,” the launch of Orbiting Solar Observatory-1 in 1962 to measure the electromagnetic radiation of the sun, among other things.

She also coordinated among scientists and engineers for the successful launch of geodetic satellites, used for measuring and mapping Earth, and several orbiting astronomical observatories.
that offered an early glimpse of the discoveries that might be reaped by sending observational technology beyond the veil of the atmosphere.

But she was perhaps most associated with the early legwork for the Hubble Space Telescope, the first major telescope to be sent into space for the purpose of gathering photographs of and data from the universe. Hubble is widely considered to have yielded the most significant astronomical observations since Galileo began using a telescope in the early 1600s.

The design and launch of Hubble was fraught by scientific, financial and bureaucratic difficulties that Dr. Roman worked to resolve. Lobbying for early funding for Hubble, whose price tag reached $1.5 billion, she recalled arguing that every American, for the cost of one ticket to the movies, could be assured years of scientific discoveries.

“During the 1960s and early 1970s there was no one at NASA who was more important in getting the first designs and concepts for Hubble funded and completed,” space historian Robert Zimmerman wrote in “The Universe in a Mirror,” an account of the creation of Hubble. “More importantly, it was [Dr. Roman] more than anyone who convinced the astronomical community to get behind space astronomy.”

The telescope did not launch until 1990, more than a decade after Dr. Roman retired, but when it did, its photographs of the cosmos electrified the world.

In 1994, when NASA announced the repair of a faulty mirror and other problems that had caused its early photographs to be blurry, Dr. Roman was in the audience, knitting. Edward J. Weiler, then Hubble’s chief scientist, surprised her by recognizing her publicly, according to Zimmerman’s account. “If Lyman Spitzer was the father of the Hubble Space Telescope,” Weiler said, referring to the noted astrophysicist, “then Nancy Roman was its mother.”

Nancy Grace Roman was born in Nashville on May 16, 1925. Her father was a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Her mother was a former music teacher and a nature enthusiast who took her daughter outside at night to view the stars. Dr. Roman, who recalled founding an astronomy club at age 11, moved frequently for her father’s work before landing in Baltimore, where she graduated from high school. She received a bachelor’s degree from Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania in 1946 and a PhD from the University of Chicago in 1949, both in astronomy.

After early work at the University of Chicago and the Yerkes Observatory in Wisconsin, she was hired by the Naval Research Laboratory in 1955, working in radio astronomy. NASA was formed three years later, with Dr. Roman among its earliest employees. She spent the final part of her career at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., where she oversaw the Astronomical Data Center. Her honors included the Women in Aerospace Lifetime Achievement Award and the
NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Award. She helped promote professional opportunities for women through the American Association of University Women and spoke frequently in schools to encourage children to take on the challenges of science.

In 2017, Lego released a set of figurines honoring four pioneering women of NASA: Sally Ride, the first American woman to travel in space; Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space; Margaret Hamilton, a computer programmer who created the software necessary for the Apollo missions; and Dr. Roman. “I am glad,” she once told Science magazine, “I ignored the many people who told me that I could not be an astronomer.”

Dr. Roman’s parents were members of a Nashville Unitarian congregation in the 1920s. “I believe that makes me a birthright Unitarian, although in a few years we moved to an area where there was no Unitarian congregation,” she said. Then came a move to Baltimore, where there was a church. “My father taught my Sunday school class, but there were only two of us in it, and I finally decided I didn’t have to get up on Sunday morning to be taught by my father.”

She also attended another Unitarian congregation in Washington many years ago. “In one sermon the minister said if you believe in God you don’t belong here. I went home and thought about it that afternoon. I decided I did not believe in a god in a human image. But I did believe in God. When I say I believe in God, it’s a recognition that the universe is bigger than the earth. I also can’t accept man as the top of the universe.”

Dr. Roman taught Sunday School at Davies Memorial UU Church in Camp Springs, MD as well as Sunday School classes at River Road, where she also presented her “Reflections on a Lifetime” at a Sunday morning forum. She was an active and longtime member of River Road and taught adult classes and ushered. Many people knew her as the person who stood between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings, holding the small red box for money for local food banks.
Elizabeth Shepard, 1918 – 2018
UU Congregation of Greater Naples, FL

Elizabeth L. Shepard passed away on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at the age of 99 after a brief illness. She was born in 1918 to immigrant parents from Hungary. Growing up in Elkhart, Indiana, she was an avid tennis player. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a B.S. in nutrition, she completed an Internship in Dietetics at N.Y. Hospital (Cornell University). She then married Dr. John W. Shepard in 1941 on the University of Wisconsin campus where they first met playing tennis. During World War II, she moved to Dayton, Ohio where her husband was serving in the Army. There she gave birth to her son, John W. Shepard, Jr. Two years later she gave birth to Judith E. Shepard at home due to a blizzard that prevented her from reaching the hospital.

She moved to Manhasset, N.Y. in 1950 where she was active in the church, PEO, AAUW, the women’s political causus, NOW and Veteran Feminists of America. For a decade she produced weekly radio programs for NOW on WHLI and lobbied for women’s rights in Washington, D.C. and Albany, N.Y.

In 1990 she moved to Bonita Bay, and in 1998 to Bentley Village (Vi) where she continued to play bridge, golf, and sewed many thousands of small pillows for the Children’s Advocacy Center in Naples. She was active for many years in the Naples Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

She is survived by her son, John; her daughter, Judy; granddaughters, Deborah B. Fisher, Sharon L. Beard, and Kristin A. Shepard. Great-grandchildren include Jaden S. Fisher, Colten W. Fisher, and Tessa E. Beard.
Dell Williams Smith, 1919 – 2018
Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church Unitarian Universalist, Charlottesville, VA

Dell Williams Smith died peacefully on Thursday, July 19, 2018. An engaging woman with a lively sense of humor, Dell will be remembered as someone who enjoyed life and was always up for a new voyage or adventure. As one friend put it, all she needed to hear was “would you like to” and the answer was yes, no questions asked. This trait was with her for her entire life - she celebrated her 92nd birthday by riding a tandem bike. Her grandchildren recall her laughing when she tumbled off a sled, as the group of them careened together down a steep hill. Dell was a generous and loving person, who inspired deep loyalty among friends and family.

The third daughter of the late Minna Ray Williams and Thomas Jefferson Williams, Dell was born on May 28, 1919. She was a graduate of Westhampton College at the University of Richmond, class of 1940. Dell and Tony Smith met in Richmond, Virginia and were married in 1943. From there, Dell and Tony moved all over the United States following Tony’s work as a civil engineer. In each place they lived, Dell took a lively interest in exploring her new community, making friends, and helping her family feel at home. Everywhere they went, Dell was an active volunteer for civic organizations, including the Women’s March of Dimes, as a Hospital Pink Lady, and in DAR and Junior Women’s Clubs.

She was a Unitarian Universalist and during the 1970’s, she served as Chair of the Church of the Larger Fellowship, a "church by mail" for those unable to attend services. After Tony retired, the Smiths moved to the Charlottesville area to be closer to family. Here the two of them joined a variety of church, civic, and cultural organizations. They became active members of the Thomas Jefferson UU Church, and they took advantage of activities and events at UVA. They first moved to Advance Mills in Albemarle County and later to the Colonnades, where Dell was elected to the Board of the Resident’s Association and later served as its President.

Dell was predeceased by Tony, her husband of 56 years; and her daughter, Minna-Abbott “Mabs” Smith Hicks. She is survived by her son, Carter L Smith and his wife, Nan Rothwell; her son-in-law, Richard Hicks; her three grandchildren, Emily Hicks Maggart (Stephen), Alan Smith (Luned Palmer), and Rachel Smith; and two great-grandchildren, Reid and Grace Maggart.
Dr. Ralph Snoke, 95, passed away peacefully on March 26, 2019 at the El Castillo retirement community in Santa Fe, NM. Ralph was born to Ralph W. and Florence B. Snoke on June 29, 1923 in Ottumwa, IA. He grew up in Detroit, MI. Ralph pursued a pre-medical program of undergraduate study at Haverford College during the early 1940s and later served as an Army field medic during the battle of Okinawa in 1945. After discharge from the Army, he studied dentistry at the University of Michigan, graduating in 1951. He operated a private dental practice in Plymouth, MI from 1951 until 1968. Starting in 1968, he moved back to the University of Michigan, where he practiced dentistry in the university’s student health center and taught in the university’s dental school. He retired in 1988 and spent his retirement years living in Santa Fe, NM. Ralph was an avid amateur photographer. He specialized in black-and-white nature scenes in the style of Ansel Adams. His work was displayed in one-man photo exhibits at the University of Michigan, the New Mexico statehouse, and several banks in Santa Fe. His favorite pastime was experimenting with enlargement and shading techniques in his darkroom. Ralph was predeceased by his wife of four decades, Helen Lloyd Snoke. He is survived by one son, Donald Snoke of Sullivan, ME, two step-daughters, Deborah Forrest of Dallas TX, and Diane Kliebenstein of Daufuskie Island, SC, and two nephews, David Shnaider of Sterling, MA and Daniel Shnaider of Poland, ME. A private Interment was performed at the Santa Fe National Cemetery and a Celebration of life was held at the El Castillo retirement community.
Frank G. Stewart, Jr., 89, of Windsor, passed away on March 5, 2019. His wife of 61 years, Effie Perkins Stewart, died six years earlier to the day. They are survived by their three adult children, Laura Stewart Cipriano and husband Paul, of Windsor; Eric Stewart and wife Mary, of Arlington, Virginia; and Dave Stewart, of Winchester, Virginia, and by grandchildren Kate Cipriano and David Cipriano.

Frank was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, to Frank G. and Maria “Cuca” Finalé Stewart. Frank and his sister Doris grew up in New Orleans. He joined the Unitarian Church of New Orleans, where he met Effie. Frank taught elementary school for a year before he married Effie in 1952. They lived in Italy for two years while he served in the United States Army as a 1st Lt. MP.

Frank was a graduate of Loyola University of New Orleans, held a master’s degree from Tulane University in New Orleans, and a Certificate in recognition of two years of doctoral studies at Harvard University. He served as an elementary teacher for ten years (including two years of overseas military service) in New Orleans. After graduate study at Harvard he worked for Arlington Public Schools in Virginia as a personnel administrator for six years and as an elementary principal for ten. His final employer was the Windsor CT Public School district where he served as director of personnel and assistant superintendent for eighteen years.

A progressive liberal for his entire life, he was Director of Religious Education and Board member at the First Unitarian Church of New Orleans. After his retirement from Windsor he served for several years on the Windsor Democratic Town Committee, the Windsor Human Relations Committee, and the Windsor Library Advisory Board.

He taught classes in classical philosophy, economics, and climate change in Windsor Adult Ed for many years. He was also fascinated with brain/mind dynamics, a topic that was critical to him because of his son’s brain injury and Effie’s deteriorating health.

Among Frank’s passions were piano tangos, classical music, ragtime jazz, woodworking, gourmet cooking, science, history, philosophy, volunteering, teaching adult ed, playing trombone in the Arlington and New Orleans amateur symphonies, playing the piano, playing tournament poker and bridge, reading, and politics. He was a dog owner all of his adult lifetime.
Dick Tarble (1919-2018), long-time resident of Sacramento, passed away in his home on November 29, at the side of his “Best Friend” and loving wife of 75 years, Georgene. Born in Kewanee IL and raised in Southern California, Dick made his home in Sacramento since 1963. He served in the Army Air Corps where he commenced his training in weather forecasting. Following his service in the Philippines, he continued his studies at the University of Nevada and began his career as a Hydrologist for the U. S. Weather Service. In Sacramento he headed the River Forecast Center for Northern California. As he often said, “I worked in a job that I looked forward to going to every day of my career”.

Following his retirement from the Weather Service, he worked as a consultant in hydro-meteorology, training personnel in Costa Rica, Malaysia, Kenya, Bangladesh, and Pakistan to use radar and computer applications in forecasting. This international experience broadened his perspectives on cultures and peoples around the world. He and Georgene visited nearly every state in the US and toured countries on every continent, except Antarctica.

As a concerned and well-informed citizen, Dick volunteered for several organizations, serving as President on the World Affairs Council, supporting the UNICEF Foundation in Sacramento, and driving for 23 years with Wheels a la Car, enabling many disabled and elderly persons to remain in their homes. Dedicated to life-long learning, Dick formed part of the steering committee to create the Renaissance Society of Sacramento, and later served as president for two years. He and Georgene were enthusiastic learners in retirement, both leading and participating in seminars, and joining in dining adventures with the associated group, Travel Through Food. Other dining adventures included the Daring Diners and the International Diners, where for over 20 years the group of friends researched and created diverse menus to share together in gatherings filled with jovial communion and stimulating conversation.

Dick also had a passion for the arts in its various forms. The theater played an important role in his life, both as audience member and producer, director, and actor in different productions at community theaters at home and abroad. From Broadway, to the ACT in San Francisco, to the Ashland Shakespeare Festival, to the Music Circus and Capital Stage in Sacramento, Dick was an ardent supporter of live theater. His creativity found many other outlets as well, as seen in his lovely hand-crafted jewelry, works in stained glass, hand-tied rugs, photographs, and ceramics. His intellectual curiosity led him to explore nature from anthills to clouds, fossils, and geological
formations, and share his adventures with his family, instilling in them a respect and reverence for
the world we live in. He loved gadgets and kept abreast of technology and innovations in
communication, allowing him to keep in touch with friends and family far and near. A deep
spiritual inclination brought him to the Unitarian Universalist Association early in his married life.
He embraced the UU principles that include a free and responsible search for truth and meaning,
respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part, and the recognition of
the worth and dignity of every person. He helped found fellowships in Bryan TX and in
Sacramento, and gave untiring support and service to all the congregations in which he was
involved.

Dick was the eldest of five children and is survived by his sisters Vera Masters and Helen Barnett,
and preceded in death by Jane Caroline Rachuy and Marjory Knouse. In his role as patriarch of
the Tarble clan, he offered continuous encouragement, inspiration, and guidance to his daughters
Kay and Carolie, nieces and nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and their families. In
spite of the distance, Dick and Georgene brought the family together on a regular basis, and the
house in South Land Park was home to many joyous reunions, weddings, and celebrations.

A Celebration of Life will be held on February 10, 2018 at the Unitarian Universalist Society of
Sacramento, CA.
D. Iris Thor, 1923 – 2019
Unitarian Universalist Church of Athens and Sheshequin, PA
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton, NY

Iris Thor died on April 2. She was 96 years young. Iris was born in Buffalo, NY and was predeceased by her parents, two brothers and husband Harry A. Thor.

Iris graduated in 1948 from the University of Buffalo with a B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology. While working toward an M.S.W. and serving the city of Detroit as a caseworker, she met and married Harry A. Thor, a graduate in engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. They settled in Buffalo where Harry earned an M.B.A. from U.B. and Iris worked as a children’s caseworker. They raised their 3 children in Buffalo, and after 10 years moved to Canton, NY where Harry received a Divinity degree. While Harry served Unitarian Universalist churches in Montclair, NJ, Binghamton, NY, Tallahassee, FL and Athens, PA, Iris assisted and supported his ministry in many ways. When Iris became the first director of the S.O.S. Shelter, Harry supported her work in domestic violence. Upon retirement, Iris’s lifelong interest in art found expression as a quilter, creating paper and fabric collage, writing and gardening. Their shared values included a deep commitment to social justice, respect for human and all life forms, a world without war, a responsibility for nurturing and sustaining a healthy planet. They had 51 synergistic years together.

She is survived by her beloved children and their spouses: Norma Danielson (Todd) Lynn Thor (Stu McCarty) Harris Thor (Debra Ann). She was also gifted with beautiful grandchildren: Tristan Thor, Kristen Fallon, Candice Porter, Heather and Matthew McCarty, and great grandchildren: Shannon Gerlach, Christopher and Jessica Fallon, Jack and Sophia Porter, Arlo and Rachel Feirman, Natalee and Narissa McCarty. Brother in law Norman Thor (Dorothy) and their children, niece Audrey Cox, nephew Peter Basinski and cousin Margaret Siracuse also survive. Iris also leaves many very dear friends behind from her OWL Book Club and Collage Group.
Evelyn B. Trageser, 1931 – 2018
Winchester Unitarian Society, Winchester, MA

Evelyn Claire (Bragg) Trageser, 86, of Winchester, Massachusetts, passed away Feb. 19, 2018, after a period of declining health. Evelyn was born in Milford, Massachusetts in 1931, to Leslie and Clara Bragg. Leslie Bragg was a Chemical Engineer with a degree from MIT. She grew up in New Jersey: Scotch Plains, Glen Rock, Ridgewood, and Schenectady, New York.

Evelyn graduated from Hood College, Frederick, Maryland, in 1953, completed her BS in Nursing at Massachusetts General Hospital School of Nursing, RN granted in 1954. After graduation, she worked for Boston Visiting Nurse Association, Beth Israel Hospital Surgical Clinic, and Visiting Nurse Association in Winchester, Arlington, and Burlington. She took refresher courses and began coursework for her masters Degree in Nursing in 1981. Evelyn Bragg married Milton Trageser on July 31, 1954, at Glen Rock, New Jersey. They met at a church near where Milton, an MIT graduate, was working at the Instrumentation Lab. Milton Trageser became Director of the Apollo Program at the Draper Laboratory, 1962-1966, after which he spent many years developing a Gravity Gradiometer, continuing to work on advanced guidance systems until his retirement in 1989. Evelyn Trageser lived in Winchester, Massachusetts from 1963 - 2018.

Evelyn was active with League of Women Voters, Friends of Winchester Hospital, Womens Alliance of The Winchester Unitarian Society, and Winchester Trails, where she taught ecology and led nature walks for children for 25 years. She served on the Town Forest Committee, and boards of Winchester Visiting Nurse Association, Winchester Chapter of the American Red Cross. She volunteered as a Messenger at the Hospital for 10 years, and in the gift shop, Red Cross blood drives, and she was a Hospice volunteer. Lifelong pursuits included nature photography, gardening, playing accordion, reading, history, and current events.

She has been a generous donor to many organizations, showing her diverse interests and great compassion. She helped organize events to teach tolerance and cross-cultural understanding, for example, about the culture of Afghanistan, donating many books to Winchester Public Library. Evelyn and Milton enjoyed camping, at their summer cabin in Canaan, New Hampshire, where her cousins now live. They also enjoyed boating in Ipswich and Maine. Evelyn was an excellent cook, preparing adventurous recipes from Italian, Chinese, French, Syrian, and Israeli cookbooks. She and Milton participated in a Chinese dining club for many years.
Evelyn was predeceased by her husband Milton B. Trageser and son David Trageser. She leaves behind her son, Kenneth Trageser, and daughter, Linda Trageser, of Santa Fe, New Mexico. She is the sister of Edward (wife Ruth) Bragg of Skaneateles, New York, and the late Robert (wife Kristina) Bragg of New Philadelphia, Ohio. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews and their children.

A Memorial Service was held on April 7, 2018 at the Winchester Unitarian Church, Winchester, MA.
Dr. Herbert Lester Tyson III, 66, of Martinsburg, WV and Alexandria, VA, departed this world to walk in the next on September 15, 2018 at Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring, MD after losing his courageous battle with Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma. Herb was born on November 9, 1951 in Norfolk, Virginia, to Lois Askew Tyson and Herbert L. Tyson, Jr. and moved to Alexandria, VA in 1961. Herb completed his undergraduate degree at Georgetown University, and his multidisciplinary Masters and Ph.D. at Michigan State University. Herb worked as a labor economist until retirement; he was the author of several computer books and a recipient of multiple Microsoft MVP awards. Herb was also a published singer/songwriter with a studio album under his name.

Herb was an active and much loved member of Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church. After the death of his daughter, Herb and his late first wife, Karen, established the Katie Tyson Fund, which is dedicated to promoting leadership among Unitarian Universalist youth and young adults. The fund supports scholarships, grants, and programs for youth and young adult projects, conferences, outreach, and more.

In addition to his parents, Herb was preceded in death by his only child, Katherine Anne Windau Tyson, and his first wife, Karen Windau Tyson. Herb is survived by his wife of 1-1/2 years, Julie L. Tyson, of Martinsburg, WV, a sister, Sharon Tyson Blackwell, of Alexandria, VA, two stepchildren, Tara CK Montague of Roanoke, VA, and Dylan J Kontra, of Shepherdstown, VA, six beloved nieces, Corinna Barr of Lexington, NC, Cathryna Brooke of Ft. Washington, PA, Jennifer Blackwell of Alexandria, VA, Christine Blackwell of Manassas, VA, Jennifer Windau Cunningham of Drexel Hill, PA, and Grace Windau of Sandusky, OH, four nephews, Tom Tyson, Jr. of Manassas, VA, Mike Tyson of Fredericksburg, VA, David Tyson of Gloucester, VA, and Nicholas Windau of Sandusky, OH, daughter-in-law, Rev. Liz Weber, and numerous great nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Herb’s life was held September 29, 2018, at Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, Alexandria, VA.
Wanda Van Goor, 1927 – 2019
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, MD

Wanda Van Goor died on January 4, 2019. She was the daughter of Lee Myers and Charles Jackson, sister of Jessie Norman, and wife of Robert Van Goor, each preceded her in death. She is survived by her son, Scott (Merilie), and daughters, Holly and Nancy, and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Van Goor was born in Russellville, KY and raised in Greenville, TX. She graduated from Baylor University and moved north to Philadelphia, PA where she attended the University of Pennsylvania and obtained her master’s degree and began to pursue her doctoral degree. Over the years, she also lived in New Haven, CT and Chicago, IL, finally settling in Chevy Chase, MD with her husband and children in 1961. She was devoted to her family and she was an enthusiastic and active member of her neighborhood and her community everywhere she lived.

She was a dedicated member of the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church in Bethesda, MD and a passionate supporter of many local theater and musical groups, including Arena Stage, the Round House Theater, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and the National Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mrs. Van Goor loved teaching. She was a tenured professor in the English Department at Prince George’s Community College for 40 years. She also helped to create and teach a 5th grade Bible class at her church. She loved learning and was a life-long student at heart, attending all manner of educational programs well into her 80’s. Mrs. Van Goor’s final teaching moment and contribution came in death with the donation of her body to the State Anatomy Board of Maryland.
Claude VanderVeen died March 14, 2018.

Claude was born in Muskegon, MI. He owned a bicycle shop in St. Louis when he was young and loved biking all his life. He was also a tool-and-die maker and math teacher. He was active in the Green Party and enjoyed many friends at the First Unitarian Church in Milwaukee. Claude loved good music and dining with his life companion, Shelley Schaffer. He was bright and caring. They loved their cats. Claude will be much missed.

Claude is survived by Shelley; his mother, Alice, in Michigan; sister, Caryn (Jack), in Ohio; and brother, Carl (Jackie), in Nevada.
Catherine A. Veatch, 1931 – 2018
Chula Vista, CA

Catherine Anne Cox Veatch passed away in Tacoma, Washington on September 15, 2018. She was born in Hollywood, California on September 16, 1931 as the only child of William Henry Cox and Margaret Virginia Crockett. She attended the University of California Santa Barbara (BA Education) and Stanford University (MS Genetics). Her curiosity and openness never fatigued.


Cathy taught chemistry and biological sciences at Burroughs High School until her retirement. She was a lifelong member of the American Association of University Women, the Unitarian Universalist Association, Chi Omega sorority, the Girl Scouts of America, and Unity. She was a devout student and teacher of Course in Miracles and Course of Love for 37 years. After retirement, Cathy joined the Peace Corps to teach English in Suva, Fiji. In 1990, Cathy and 120 other activists ceremoniously trekked 3,500 miles by foot from Santa Monica, California to NYC with the Global Walk for a Livable World, disseminating information for environmentally conscious living. Cathy then moved to China to work as an educator for two years. The happiest time in Cathy’s life was while she was living in Imperial Beach, California. She was within walking distance of Mexico, and nestled between the Tijuana Bird Estuary, the Tijuana River, and the Pacific Ocean.

Cathy is survived by her children Mary (Jerry Devries) of Colorado, Thomas (Elizabeth Hunter) of Washington, Laura (Ed Hanson) of California, and Andrea Veatch of Washington; six grandchildren Cassidy, Cody, Wendy, Cassandra, Zoe, and Nico; and four great grandchildren Haley, Alyssa, Aiden and Austin. She had many dear, loyal, profound, and amazing friendships. Cathy died from the complications of dementia. Despite the frailty of her mind, her genius shone brightly through the fog as she scribbled this complex metaphor representing her strength at the center of her being, woven into the fabric of her life and love, written shortly before her passing: “I am an atom. My electron waves ebb and flow far beyond my center giving the illusion of solidarity. My nucleus is undisturbed, positively repelling particles, held together by strong force. Neutrons add density yet here is space and freedom. My outer electrons are shared or given to create compounds adjoining other atoms.” At the end of her life, she had only one message: “Love is the start and the finish, love is the only answer.”
Dorothy H. Vetter, 1929 - 2019
First Parish in Cambridge, MA

Dorothy Hagquist Vetter of Cambridge, died peacefully on February 2, 2019, at the age of 90. Wife of the late Rev. Dr. Herbert F. Vetter. Survived by her twin sisters Esther Sachtleben & Grace Eicholtz; her children Kathleen Vetter (John Zurich) and Jim Vetter; son-in-law Rev. Tim Kutzmark; grandchildren Lyra Burch (Jesse Beecher), Larsson Burch (Maggie Boissard); and great-grandchildren Elsa & Faye Beecher. Predeceased by son John Vetter. Dorothy was a creative, talented teacher at the Martin Luther King and Grover Cleveland middle schools, in Dorchester.

Proud of her Swedish heritage and parents' connection with China, she was a skilled gardener and cook, with a deep love of nature and science. A tirelessly supportive spouse and caring mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she was a committed volunteer, continuing after retirement with her work with the Tuesday Meals Program at First Parish in Cambridge, and with the Cambridge Senior Volunteer Clearinghouse.

Family and friends attended a Celebration of Dorothy’s Life on March 2, 2019, in the Barn Room of the First Parish in Cambridge, Harvard Square.
Mary E. Welch, 1917 – 2018  
First Parish in Bedford, MA

Mary Eddison Welch of Bedford, MA, died on November 22, shortly after celebrating her 101st birthday. She had a remarkable and loving partnership in her 64 years of marriage to E. Sohier Welch Jr., until his death in 2004.

Born in Ardsley-on-Hudson, NY to William Barton Eddison and Mary Corbin Eddison, she resided in Framingham, Harvard, and Carleton Willard Village in Bedford, MA. She graduated from The Masters School, NY, St. Timothy's SchooKol, MD, and Bennington College, VT.

She volunteered for many years locally and nationally for organizations where she was known for her warmth, insightfulness and tenacity. A Girl Scout for 90 years, she served on the National Board of Directors, chaired the National Camping Committee, as well as being a local troop leader and Council President in Framingham. She was active in the Unitarian Universalist Church in Framingham, Harvard and Bedford, serving on building committees, ministerial searches, and Parish Council. She was particularly proud to serve as a Director of the Dana McLean Greeley Foundation for Peace and Justice and as a Trustee of Bennington College. She was committed to public service wherever she lived, from Conservation Commission and School Committee in Framingham, to being the first woman elected to the Board of Selectman in Harvard MA. She was employed as Chief Administrator for the Mystic Valley Mental Health Center in the 1970s. Over her lifetime, her interests ranged from advocacy for children and youth, to supporting aging with dignity. Serving on the MA Committee on Children and Youth she was a delegate to the 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth. She was honored with the Visionary Leadership Award by the Minuteman Home Care Board for her dedicated work, as a founder and member, enabling seniors to age with dignity at home.

She leaves a sister, Anne E. Brainerd, of Bedford, MA, and was predeceased by her brothers, Corbin, William, and Jack Eddison of Lexington with whom she shared a commitment to public service. Her four children, Edward S. Welch of Fairfax, VA, William B. Welch of San Mateo, CA, Polly Welch of Brookline, MA, and Anne Lazor of Westfield, VT, seven grandchildren, Ned, David, Will, Nancy, Liliana, and Katherine Welch, and Christine Lazor, seven great-grandchildren, and many devoted nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews will miss greatly the large family gatherings she hosted, her yearly poem on the state of the family and nation, and family vacations on Mt. Desert Island where she and Sohier spent summers.
Jean Zoerheide, 1919 – 2018
The First Unitarian Church of Baltimore, MD

Jean Zoerheide was born on April 1, 1919 and died August 11, 2018.

She was married to the Rev. Robert “Bob” L. Zoerheide for 66 years. Rev. Zoerheide died in 2003. According to her son Mark, Jean and Bob Zoerheide were not just a couple but a team. Rev. Bob was the breadwinner as a UU Minister and Jean was the homemaker and together they raised a family that included 4 children.

Jean was predeceased by her husband, The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Zoerheide who died in 2003 and their daughter Robyn L. Reklitis, who died in 1996. Jean is survived by her 2 sons: Todd K. Zoerheide and Mark E. Zoerhiede, and a daughter, Vickie J. Dykes, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
Obituaries were unavailable for the following generous Unitarian Universalists:

M. Eryl Court, 1924 – 2018
   First Unitarian Society of Toronto, Canada

Beth Hillig, 1924 – 2018
   Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady, NY

Ellis G. Knox, 1928 – 2019
   Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Chesapeake, MD

Marion Lehuta, 1929 – 2018
   Unitarian Church of Hinsdale, IL

Carolyn Smith Malmborg, 1930 – 2018
   Hamden, CT

Suzanne Shaw McNamara, 1934 – 2019
   The First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

Susanna S. Painter, 1929 – 2018
   Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston, TX

Lucile Ross, 1925 – 2019
   Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains, NY

Jerry Sherman, 1932 – 2018
   Bull Run Unitarian Universalists, Manassas, VA

Suzanne E. Sinclair, 1935 – 2018
   First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, OH

Suzanne N. Viemeister, 1929 – 2018
   Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington, NY

Jean R. Wilkinson, 1925 – 2018
   Los Angeles, CA