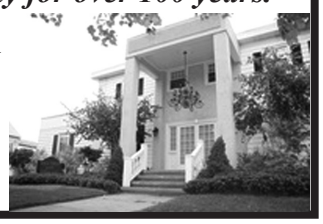
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Grief Before Death

When you know the death of a loved one is imminent, it's normal to start grieving before they're gone. Grief is a natural response to loss, and when it starts before the loss takes place it's called anticipatory grief. A person facing their own death can also experience this type of grief. Grief is not an event but a process of coming to terms with loss. The timeline is different for everyone and can include the time leading up to a loss that you know is coming. Anticipatory grief can involve emotions like regret or sadness over experiences you didn't have and future lost experiences. You may also begin to think about what life will be like after the loss.

When a loved one dies, grieving family members and friends often are confronted with dozens of decisions about the funeral -- all of which must be made quickly and often under great emotional duress. We value our reputation for providing the highest quality of professional services with the personal attention and understanding needed to help you and your family through a difficult time. To learn more, please call 203-239-1179. We are located at 36 Washington Avenue.

Quote: "All the art of living lies in a fine mingling of letting go and holding on."Havelock Ellis

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OBITUARIES



Guido Coppola, passed away on Friday, June 26, 2026, at his home at the age of 95 surrounded by his loving family. Born on October 19, 1930, in the picturesque town of Ruviano, Caserta, Italia, Guido's. Guido was the beloved youngest son of the late Salvatore Coppola and Marzia Riccio, and he shared his early years with his four brothers Luigi, Carlo, Pasquale, and Filippo, all of whom preceded him in death. On April 17, 1954, Guido married the love of his life, Mariantonia Cusano, in their hometown of Ruviano. Together, they built a beautiful life, blessed with nearly 60 years of marriage until Maria's passing in 2013.

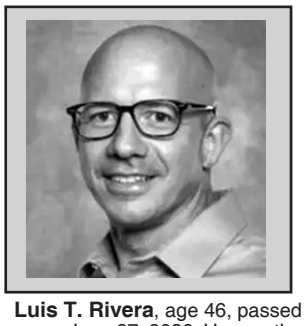
Guido, Maria and their children left their beloved Ruviano and immigrated to the US in March of 1966 to Bridgeport Connecticut until they moved to North Haven Connecticut in 2005.

He is survived by his eldest son, Salvatore Coppola, his wife, Antonetta Geloso, and the mother of their children Maureen Smolenski Coppola; daughter Maria Coppola O'Brien, her husband Jon O'Brien, and their daughters Madison and Malin; daughter Gina Coppola Cohen, her husband Stephen Cohen, and their children Ryan and Isabella; daughter Laura Coppola DeRose, her husband Scott DeRose, and their children Abigail and Matthew, or as Guido called him, "Nephew"; Stefanie Athaas Botha and her daughter Brynn and Alex Athaas.

Guido is also survived by his second son, Anthony Coppola, and the mother of their children Cheryl Elliott Coppola. They mourn his passing alongside their children Michael Coppola, his wife Leanne Parent Coppola, and their daughter Meadow; Anthony Coppola Jr, "TJ" and his partner April Madera; daughter Lindsey Coppola Harkins, her husband Andrew Harkins, and their sons Connor and Logan; and daughter Carly Coppola Bullard, her husband Matt Bullard, and their children James Morin, Tyler Bullard, and Olivia Bullard.

Guido is also survived by his sister-in-law Antonietta Cusano Savo and her husband Giulio Savo, and Angelina Cusano Coppola and her husband Carlo Coppola. His extended family includes numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and countless others who had the privilege of knowing and loving him.

Services were held at the North Haven Funeral Home
www.northhavenfuneral.com.



Luis T. Rivera, age 46, passed away on June 27, 2026. He was the husband of Nicole Horan Rivera. Luis was born in Meriden, CT, the son of Luis and Mary Mezzi Rivera.

In addition to his wife and parents, he is survived by his children, Alexis Rivera and Alyssa LaPointe, his stepchildren, Lorin Boucher and Marcel Boucher, and his dogs, Nipsey, Arya, and Nova. Louie is predeceased by his grandparents, Mary and Thomas Mezzi, and Esther and Tomas Rivera, as well as many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Should friends desire, the family asks that donations be made to Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) via their website at ccar.us or by mail at 75 Charter Oak Ave., Building 1, Suite 305, Hartford, CT 06106.

Wallingford·Yalesville Funeral Homes



Edna Patricia Ryan, passed away peacefully on June 27, 2026, following a brief illness, with her loving family by her side. She was the beloved wife of the late John Russell "Russ" Ryan. Edna was born on September 4, 1930, in New Haven, Connecticut, to the late Frank and Helen Gehrke. She was the youngest of three children and is survived by her beloved sister, Bernice Dohna of San Diego, California. She was predeceased by her brother, John Gehrke.

On August 19, 1954, she married the love of her life, John Russell "Russ" Ryan. Together they built a loving home in Hamden, where they raised their four children: Stephen Russell Ryan (Nancy) of Wallingford, Connecticut; Sharon Ryan Reichart (Glenn) of Mystic, Connecticut; Cynthia Ryan Ferrick (David) of Kennebunk, Maine; and Christine Ryan Cassarino (Jeffrey) of Mystic, Connecticut.

In addition to her children and their spouses, Edna is survived by her cherished nine grandchildren: Keaton Ryan; James Ryan (Rhee); Craig Ryan; Elizabeth Reichart Douglass (John); Alexander Reichart; Andrew Ferrick (Meaghan); Allison Ferrick; Nicholas Cassarino (Nicole); and Kevin Cassarino. She was also the proud great-grandmother of Kaylee Ryan, Connor Ryan, Rowan Ryan, Jack Ryan, Cameron Ryan, Leo Cassarino, Mia Cassarino, and Amelia Ferrick.

She is also survived by her sister, Bernice Dohna; her sister-in-law, Eleanor Gehrke; and several nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved dearly.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Beth Ryan, whose companionship and friendship over the past two years brought Edna great joy. Edna treasured the time they spent together, sharing stories, laughter, and memories. They shared a truly special bond.

Should friends desire, contributions in Edna's memory may be made to the Boy Scout Troop #610, C/O William Earley, 20 Washington Court, Hamden, CT 06518.

Services were held at the Beecher & Bennett
www.beecherandbennett.com.



Jean Murdoch Warner, 94, formerly of Hamden, CT, passed away on June 24, 2026. She was born in West Haven, CT. Jean was the daughter of the late Robert Murdoch and Sarah (Alexander) Murdoch. She was the beloved wife of the late Dr. Robert T. Warner, Jr. for 59 years.

Jean leaves her children, Jeanne Kohutanycz and her husband Peter, Robert Warner and his wife Geraldine, and Jennifer Starrs, and her sister, Diane Barker. Jean also leaves eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren who always brought a smile to her face.

Services were held at the Beecher & Bennett
www.beecherandbennett.com.



Mary Ann Rafferty Doyle, 84, of North Haven, passed away peacefully on Monday, June 29th, 2026, at The Landing of North Haven with her family by her side. She was the beloved wife of the late Thomas E. Doyle. Mary Ann was born in New Haven on January 14, 1942, and was the daughter of the late Matthew and Bridget Mulroy Rafferty. A graduate of Sacred Heart Academy, Hamden. Mother of Claire (Drew) Putnam, Thomas (Mary) Doyle, Margie (Mark) Bissell, Sean (Tina) Doyle and Dan (Heather) Doyle. Grandmother of Thomas (Brit) Doyle, Ryan (Nataliya) Putnam, Matthew Doyle, Zachary (Lauren) Putnam, Sean Doyle, Patrick (Grace) Doyle, Shannon Bissell, Daniel (Ashlyn) Doyle, Kaleigh (Mike) McManus, Mark Bissell, Brennan, Ryan and Tyler Doyle, and the late Michael Doyle. Great-Grandmother of Kalyna, Alessia, Declan, Cedric and Audria. Sister of Tom (Nancy) Rafferty, Jack (Marge) Rafferty, Bill (Marilyn) Rafferty and the late Brian Rafferty. Also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the Michael P. Doyle Memorial Foundation(https://michael-doyle-memorial-golf-outing.perfectgolfevent.com/donate-now).

Services were held at the North Haven Funeral Home
www.northhavenfuneral.com.



Christopher Daniel Sheppard, departed this life on June 27, 2026. Christopher was born on November 20, 1983 in Flushing, New York. He proudly served his country as a United States Marine from 2009-2013. Following his military service, he continued his life's calling as a Hamden Police officer, faithfully protecting and serving his community from 2014-2025.

He leaves to cherish his mother, Cynthia Sheppard; father, Danny Sheppard, bonus mom Erica Sheppard; siblings Drew Sheppard, Christal James, Dayna Sheppard, Dylan Sheppard and Ava Sheppard; grandmother, Gertrude Wilson; aunts Nadine Sheppard, Keshia-Elaine Johnson, and Rosalind Knox; great-aunt, Esther Merriweather; brother-in-law, Evan James; his partner Jaime Waido; a niece and host of nephews, cousins, friends and colleagues whom he loved dearly. To his fellow Marines and Police Department brotherhood, Christopher loved and respected you. He was very proud of that part of his life, and he valued the bond you all shared.

Services were held at the Beecher & Bennett
www.beecherandbennett.com.



Cesar J. Luaices, 81, devoted husband of 55 years to Orietta Luaices, of Wallingford, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at home, surrounded by the love of his family after battling Lymphoma for 18 months. He was born in Havana, Cuba to the late Cesar and Lydia (Ruiz) Luaices. Cesar proudly served in the United States Marine Corp for 6 years during the Vietnam War and then went on to serve the Army National Guard for 20 years before retiring.

In addition to his wife, Cesar is survived by his children and their spouses, Priscilla & Al Depaola, Renee & Tim Pulcifer and Cesar & Irene Luaices; his grandchildren, Nina, Benicio, Grace, Timothy, Olivia, Melina, Emilia, Alanna, Jordyn (Hunter), Mason and Austin. He is also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

Cesar's family would like to express their gratitude to Dr. Anthony Lendino for the many years of care and an additional thank you to Dr. Uday Lele for his unwavering kindness, dedication and support during this time. Special thank you to his best friend, Paul Ribera who has been his partner in crime and devoted friend for many years.

Wallingford·Yalesville Funeral Homes



Emil A. Polson Jr., lovingly known to friends and family as "Butch", age 83, of Wallingford, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on June 25, 2026. For 49 years, he was the devoted husband of Janice Zwible Polson. Emil grew up in Fairfield, CT, the son of the late Emil Sr. and Mildred Copeland Polson and later moved to Wallingford where he became a lifelong resident until his passing. A proud U.S. Navy Veteran, Emil served as a boatswain's mate aboard the USS Essex where he often worked as helmsman and piloting the captain's gig, he was honorably discharged.

Emil is survived by his devoted children, Lisa Polson and her partner Joseph Reis of Killingworth, CT, and Christopher Polson and his wife Paula Lewis of Westford, MA; his cherished grandchildren, Sienna and Keira Lewis-Polson; and his sister Patricia Palmer of Wallingford. In addition to his wife and parents, he was predeceased by his daughter Michelle Polson.

Wallingford·Yalesville Funeral Homes

PRAYER INFORMATION

All prayers cost $12 per prayer, per week. The deadline is Wednesday for the following Tuesday's Issue. Please mail to The Advisor, P.O Box 460, North Haven, CT 06473-0460 or bring in to our office, 87 State Street (Kings Acres), North Haven, with payment, correct initials and code number found in lower left corner of prayer.