

OBITUARIES



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Because We Care

Presented by Brian W. Havens

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



Laurie Charlotte Grillo Bennett, loving wife of Walter P. Bennett, Jr., passed peacefully into the arms of the Lord on June 30, 2025, after a long illness. Laurie was born on January 3, 1958, in New Haven, a daughter of the late Marcia Bryant Grillo and David Grillo, Jr. She graduated from North Haven High School and Bay Path College.

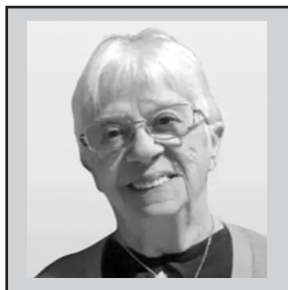
She and Walter were childhood friends, graduating together, and each going their separate ways after graduation, but always sharing a special bond. They reconnected and fell in love years later, marrying in 1989 and moving to Gray, Maine in 1990, where they raised their family and lived happily for 26 years. They relocated back to North Haven several years ago, to be closer to family and friends.

In addition to her husband, Walter, Laurie is survived by her two children: Jamie Lee Brandi of Oakland, California, and Alan David Bennett of Westbrook, Maine. She also leaves sisters, Leslie Marinaccio (Dave) of Washington, DC, and Tara Granfield (Robert) of Milford; her brother, David Grillo (Kathleen) of Oxford, nieces Kaylee Granfield and Kendra Grillo, and her nephew, Wade Grillo, her uncle, William Bryant, Jr. and cousins Harrison, Taylor, and Tanner. She also leaves behind her two beloved kitties, Sunny and Hunter.

Should friends desire, memorial donations in Laurie's name may be made to the First Congregational Church of Gray, 11 Yarmouth Road, Gray, Maine 04039, or to a No-Kill Animal Rescue Organization of one's choice.

The family would also like to acknowledge the professional and compassionate care Laurie has received over the years from the providers and staff at the Smilow Cancer Center in North Haven and the Yale Cancer Center.

Services were held at the
www.northhavenfuneral.com.



Sheila A. Robinson, age 81, of Wallingford passed away on June 27, 2025. For 44 years, she was the loving wife of the late Michael Robinson. Sheila was born in Enfield, CT, the daughter of the late Charles and Gladys Godin Fecteau.

Sheila is survived by her cherished sister, Janice Rolls of Wallingford, several nephews and nieces, and great nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she is also predeceased by her brother, Charles Fecteau Jr. and her four-legged friend, Missy.

The family would like to thank the staff of Midstate Hospital for all their care and compassion in Sheila's final stages. Also, sincere appreciation goes to all the friends and neighbors Joe, Laurel, Joe Jr., Haley, Emily, Samantha Franke, Jen and Jim Casey, Tom, Cathy, TJ and Deb you all were like family to Sheila and provided friendship, love, support, and care over the years.



Wallingford-Yalesville Funeral Homes



Leona (Tinker) Townsend, 93, of Wallingford passed away peacefully on June 25, 2025 at Masonicare with Debbie and Josh by her side. She was the devoted wife of 67 beautiful years to the late Douglas Townsend. Leona was proudly born and raised on Campobello Island in New Brunswick, Canada on February 22, 1932, the daughter of the late Calvin and Hilda (Crichton) Tinker. She was the oldest of seven girls and cherished her sisters deeply. She married Doug in 1953 and moved to Wallingford, CT in 1955.

She is survived and forever in the hearts of her wonderful daughter Debra Russo and faithful grandson Joshua Russo all of Meriden, her six sisters Penny Malloch, Sheila (Roy) Mallock, Sandra Brunet, Erma (Jimmy) Cline, Della Malloch, and Dorinda Anthony all of Campobello, many wonderful friends that she considered family, the Timek/Foran family, the Pytel family and extended Russo family. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she is predeceased by her wise-cracking son-in-law Nicholas J. Russo Jr., four brother-in-law's Johnny, Omar "Turk", Ricky and Gary.

The family would like to thank the nursing and aide staff at Masonic, that made Leona comfortable during her final weeks.

Should friends desire, gifts in Leona's memory may be sent to the Wallingford Senior Center Memory Lane Program and/or to First Baptist Church of Wallingford.



Wallingford-Yalesville Funeral Homes



Mark Joseph Darin, 35, of North Haven, passed away peacefully on June 26, 2025, at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City, surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was the beloved husband of four years to Kayla (Burcard) Darin.

Born in New Britain on November 14, 1989, Mark was the loving son of Keith and Susan (Ragozzino) Darin. He grew up in Meriden and attended local schools. He was a proud graduate of Xavier High School.

He was the beloved brother of Nicholas Darin and his wife Christina of Shelton, cherished grandson of Gloria Ragozzino and the late Joseph Ragozzino and Gene Darin and the late Nancy Darin. Mark is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and his three cats: Roxy, Mufasa, and Bombalina - who brought him comfort and companionship throughout his life.

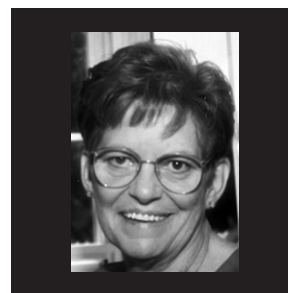
Should friends desire, contributions may be made to support Mark's wife, Kayla, as she faces ongoing medical expenses and the unfinished home projects they began together. Donations can be made via cash, check, or Venmo (@kayla-darin).

In honor of Mark's proud Xavier High School roots, memorial donations may also be made to Xavier High School, 181 Randolph Road, Middletown, CT 06457 or online at www.xavierhighschool.org/apps/pages/Give

Services were held at the



www.northhavenfuneral.com.



Elizabeth H. McVerry, 91, of Hamden, passed away peacefully on June 30, 2025. Born in West Hartford on June 4, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Catherine M. (Hyland) Keating. She was a graduate of Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford and the New Britain General Hospital School of Nursing.

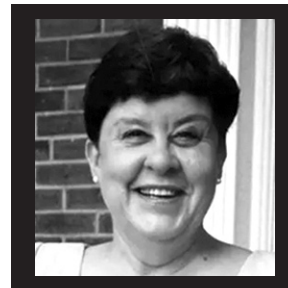
Elizabeth is survived by her devoted husband of 66 years, Joseph F. McVerry, and their loving children: Margaret (Joseph) DiBiase of Milford, Joseph A. (Ann) McVerry of Hamden, Kathleen McVerry of Hamden, Patricia (Richard) McManus of Woodbridge, Carol McVerry of Westbrook, and Michael T. (Yoselin) McVerry of the Dominican Republic.

She was a cherished grandmother to Jennifer (Adam) Lewis, Joseph DiBiase, Jr., Katelyn, Emily, and Ryan McManus, Daniel, Abigail, Tara, Conner, Joseph, Michael Theodore, and Joseph Michael McVerry, and great-grandmother to Ella Lewis. Elizabeth is also survived by her sisters: Maryellen Bspuda, Katherine Sinisgalli, Patricia Amato, and Eileen Keating, and was predeceased by her brother, Andrew Keating.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org. Services were held at the



www.beecherandbennett.com.



Carole Nancy (Munck) Strobel, 83, of Orange, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 27, 2025 at the Connecticut Hospice in Branford, CT with her family by her side. She was the wife of 55 years to Milton C. Strobel. Carole was born in New Haven on April 7, 1942 and raised in North Haven; daughter of the late Herman and Lena Schimmelphenig Munck. Beloved mother of Christa (Strobel) Acampora and her husband John Michael Acampora. Loving grandmother of Michael Acampora and Emma Acampora. Sister of Douglas Munck (Judith). Predeceased by her son Neal Strobel and brothers Herman Munck, Robert Munck, Roger Munck and Jonathan Munck.

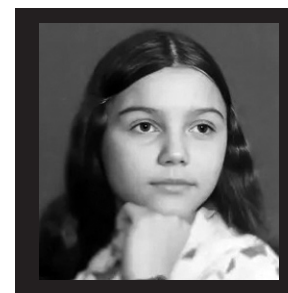
The Strobel family would like to thank the entire Acampora family for their love and support and extend our appreciation to the Yale-New Haven Hospital ICU Step-Down Unit; and a special appreciation for the extraordinary care by the entire staff and volunteers at the Connecticut Hospice.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the CT Hospice www.cthospice.org

Services were held at the



www.northhavenfuneral.com.



Migdalia "Milly" DeLeon, 63, passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, surrounded by the love and comfort of her family, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's Disease. Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico on November 1, 1961, she was a daughter of the late Enrique and Ana Celia (Molina) Colon.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Joel DeLeon; her devoted children, Diana Benitez (and husband Jesus Benitez), Joel DeLeon, Noel DeLeon, Valerie DeLeon, and Najha DeLeon; her cherished grandchildren, Krystal, Tatyanna, Joel Jr., Imari, and Ne'Anni; and her adored great-grandchildren, Dianeliz and Esther'Lynn. She also leaves behind her loving siblings, Jose, Carmen, Hector, Mirabel, Robert, Marisol, Ruben, and Milagros, along with many nieces, nephews, and extended family members who will miss her dearly.



Wallingford-Yalesville Funeral Homes



Audrey Claire Larson Zeisner, 89, of Hamden, passed away at her home on Saturday, June 28th, 2025. Audrey was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota on November 28th, 1935, and was the daughter of the late Charles Casper and Evelyn Bolten Larson. Audrey spent her early life in North Dakota but eventually moved to Connecticut at the age of 18. Audrey is survived by her children, Larry Zeisner, Mary (Carlos) Ramirez, and Russell (Tonia) Zeisner; grandchildren, Chelsea (Anthony) Caraballo, Rachel (Preston) Oros, Shawna and Leah Zeisner, and great grandchildren, Finn, Kaia, and Isla Oros. She is also survived by her brother, Charles C. Larson, and her beloved cat, Smokey. Audrey was predeceased by her sister, Gail Meyer.

Services were held at the



www.northhavenfuneral.com.

St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday Service

North Haven: You are welcome at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3 Trumbull Place (at the top of the North Haven Green) for Sunday Service (Holy Communion) at 9am.

Visit our website: <https://www.stjohns-northhaven.org/>

Follow us on Facebook: St. John's Episcopal Church, North Haven, CT.

We salute our veterans.

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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.