

# OBITUARIES



**CARL L. LANGLEY**

**PRESQUE ISLE** - Carl L. Langley, 88, passed away on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. He was born in Presque Isle, the son of Ray and Luella (Hoffses) Langley.

Carl served his country in the U.S. Army during WW II. He worked for over 30 years at Loring Air Force Base, first as a welder, and eventually retiring as a superintendent. After retirement, he then worked as a construction supervisor, and enjoyed staying busy with his family. He was a humble man who was a hero to his family, who will be sadly missed.

Carl is survived by his wife of sixty-five years, Sadie (Canam), his children, Susan and her husband Richard Clair of Mapleton, David Langley of Washburn, his grandchildren, Christopher, Mark, Lucy, Ricky and Kevin, his great grandchildren, Aiden, Danni, Trevor, Cassidy, Morgan, Heather and Alec.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his siblings, Donald, Pearly, Clayton and Shirley.

A graveside service will be held in the Spring at Fairmount Cemetery.

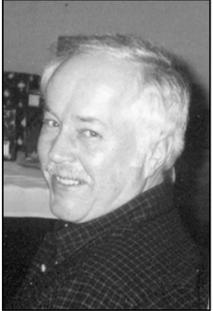
Donations in Carl's memory may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or the Presque Isle Animal Shelter, 24 Cross St, Presque Isle, ME 04769.

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at [www.duncan-graves.com](http://www.duncan-graves.com)

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## In Memoriam

In Loving Memory Of  
**REED FREDERICK LORD**  
Jan. 22, 1950 - May 30, 2011



On your birthday and always, little brother ---

## Sarah the cheetah dies in Ohio zoo

**BY KIM PALMER**  
REUTERS

**CLEVELAND** — An Ohio zoo said on Thursday that Sarah, a cheetah designated the world's fastest land mammal by National Geographic magazine in 2012, has died at the age of 15.

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden said in a statement that it had euthanized Sarah on Wednesday due to her "diminishing quality of life." The average life span of a cheetah, the fastest land mammal, is eight to 12 years, the zoo said.

Sarah was dubbed the fastest cheetah when she ran 100 meters in 5.95 seconds, or 61 mph, during the filming of a National Geographic special, beating her previous world record of 6.13 seconds in 2009.

Cameras captured the record-breaking run on Sarah's first attempt as she chased a fluffy dog toy lure on a specially designed course certified by the Road Running Technical Council of USA Track & Field, the national governing body for running and walking organized sports.

Sarah was brought to Ohio at the age of six weeks and raised by Cathryn Hilker, founder of the Zoo's Cat Ambassador Program. She was one of the first cheetah cubs to be raised with a puppy companion, named Alexa, a now-common practice intended to serve as a calming influence.



**PATRICIA (BLACK) MILLS**

**MANCHESTER, NH AND BANGOR** - Patricia M. Mills, 76, died January 7, 2016 after a brief illness at the Catholic Medical Center, Manchester, NH with her sister, Madeline at her side. She was born March 14, 1939 in Bangor, the daughter of Ora F. and Mary F. (Hughes) Black.

Patricia attended St. Mary's Catholic School and John Baptist High School. In the early years, Patricia worked in the food service business and then worked as an L.P.N. in Oklahoma.

Surviving are three sons, Victor, John and Robert Mills and their families of Tulsa, OK; three brothers, Edward A. Black of Ellsworth, Martin E. Black of Bangor and James M. Black of Eddington; two sisters, Madeline J. St. Pierre of Manchester, NH and Gloria J. Black of Bangor. Patricia has several nephews and nieces who meant a great deal to her: John, Timothy, Dennis and Jessie St. Pierre and Denise Barone as well as grand-nephews, Bradley St. Pierre and Marcus Barone, grand-nieces Jennifer St. Pierre and Brittany Barone. Patricia was predeceased by two brothers, Ora F. Black Jr. and Joseph L. Black; five sisters, Mary F. Plummer, Irene A. Hull, Vera T. Kelleher, Marilyn C. Gallant and Elizabeth M. McCullough.

A Funeral Liturgy outside of Mass will be held 10am Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Brookings-Smith, 133 Center Street, Bangor. Private interment will be in Pine Grove Cemetery, Bangor. The family invites relatives and friends to share conversation and refreshments at the Family Reception Center of Brookings-Smith, 163 Center Street, Bangor following the service Saturday.

Those who wish to remember Patsy in a special way may make gifts in her memory to the Michelle Sleeper Oncology Clinic, P.O. Box 431, Bangor, ME 04402-0431. Condolences to the family may be expressed at [www.BrookingsSmith.com](http://www.BrookingsSmith.com).

## Death Notices

**CLOSSON, Nellie M.**, 92, Bangor; at Brewer, Jan. 17, 2016. Service 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24, 2016 at Greenlawn Funeral Home, 300 State St., Bangor. Greenlawn Funeral Home.

**COCKLIN, Todd R.**, 61, Orrington, Jan. 13, 2016. Service 3 - 5 p.m., Friday, Jan. 22, 2016, Family Reception Center, Brookings-Smith, 163 Center Street, Bangor.

**DEVOST, Sady**, 84, Caribou, Jan. 20, 2016. Mockler Funeral Home, Caribou.

**JONES, Jane M.**, 67, Coopers Mills, Jan. 13, 2016. Direct Cremation of Maine, 182 Waldo Avenue, Belfast.

**LANGLEY, Carl L.**, 88, Presque Isle, Jan. 20, 2016. Duncan-Graves Funeral Home, Presque Isle.

**MILLS, Patricia M.**, 76, Manchester, NH & Bangor, Jan. 7, 2016. Service 10am Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016, Brookings-Smith, 133 Center Street, Bangor.

**PHILBRICK, Molly J.**, 59, Palermo, Jan. 21, 2016. Rimpsta Funeral Home, 182 Waldo Avenue, Belfast.

**SIMPSON, Steven Owen**, 67, Hartland, Jan. 20, 2016, in Skowhegan. Service, 1 p.m., Monday, May 16, 2016, Maplewood Cemetery, Maple Street, Fairfield. Shorey-Nichols Funeral Home, Pittsfield.

**TOMPKINS, Bruce**, 56, Augusta, Jan. 17, 2016. Direct Cremation of Maine, 182 Waldo Avenue, Belfast.



**NELLIE M. CLOSSON**

**BANGOR** - Nellie M. Closson, 92, died Jan. 17, 2016 at a Brewer Nursing Home. She was born in Sedgwick, August 17, 1923 the daughter of Eric and Mary (Marden) Closson.

Nellie worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse for many years at Bangor Mental Health Institute and James Taylor Hospital and retired from Ross Manor.

She is survived by one daughter, Lorraine Frost of Bangor; one granddaughter, Gail Gilbert of Bangor; two grandsons, James Edward Frost of Presque Isle and Lyman Pendel Frost of Stetson; nine great grandchildren, Derick, Danyell, Trinity, Kambrea, Triston, Sydney, Elijah, Emma, and Denise; and two great-great-granddaughters, Zoey and Leah.

Memorial services will be held Sunday Jan. 24, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the Greenlawn Funeral Home, 300 State Street, Bangor with the Rev. Stan Griffin officiating. Burial will be in the spring at the Pilgrim Cemetery in Monroe.



**SADY DEVOST**

**CARIBOU** - Sady Devost, 84 passed away January 20, 2016 at her Caribou residence following a long illness. She was born in Green River N.B. Canada January 3, 1932 the daughter of the late Romeo and Yvonne (Lavoie) Martin.

Sady was a member of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church and in 1951 she married Rosaire Devost, and he predeceased her September 14, 2013.

Sady is survived by her son Dean Devost of Colorado, two daughters; Barbara Tarbox and husband Donald of Washburn and Linda Brecht of Caribou, two brothers, two sisters, six grandchildren, many great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held in the spring at the New Holy Rosary Cemetery. Arrangements by the Mockler Funeral Home, Caribou. [www.mocklerfuneralhome.com](http://www.mocklerfuneralhome.com)

## George Weidenfeld, British publisher of 'Lolita,' dies at 96

**BY MATT SCHUDEL**  
WASHINGTON POST

George Weidenfeld, an Austrian-born British publisher whose well-connected life brought him into the inner circle of world leaders, popes, scholars and artists, and who led many efforts to bridge divisions among the world's faiths, died Jan. 20 in London. He was 96.

His death was confirmed by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, the publishing company he founded in 1949 and continued to run until his death. The cause was not disclosed.

Weidenfeld arrived penniless in London in 1938 after fleeing anti-semitic persecution in his native Vienna, and through charm, determination and tireless networking he became the best-known publisher in Britain.

He published many landmark literary works, including the first British edition of Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita," the memoirs of world leaders such as Lyndon B. Johnson Israeli prime minister Golda Meir, French president Charles de Gaulle and, after years of persuasion, Pope John Paul II.

Weidenfeld embodied so many contradictory notions that a British journalist once suggested he could almost be seen as a fictional character: He was a central European Jew who became an authority on the papacy and a member of the British House of Lords. He was a teetotaler who was renowned for giving glittering parties that flowed with fine liquor and wine. Short and chronically overweight, he once fought a duel and was considered one of Europe's most dashing ladies'

men, with four marriages and a long list of romantic conquests.

His party-going advice was to sidle up to the most interesting person in the room and listen. By that standard, it came as no surprise that Weidenfeld found himself surrounded by others at his frequent gatherings.

At Weidenfeld's parties, novelist Martin Amis might brush elbows with Henry Kissinger, Bianca Jagger might be chatting with opera star Placido Domingo. Weidenfeld was constantly traveling and often joined John Paul II at Castel Gandolfo, a papal retreat near Rome.

Earlier in his life, Weidenfeld was close to many of the founders of Israel and served as chief of staff to Chaim Weizmann, the country's first president, in 1949 and 1950.

"The essential cause of my life is the survival of the Jews," Weidenfeld said in 1994. "For me the existence of Israel is the most important event of the 20th century."

Yet he also published the memoirs of several high-ranking Nazi figures, including Albert Speer, the chief architect and designer in Hitler's Germany.

"You develop the attitude of an anthropologist towards a tribe," Weidenfeld said. "You want to know how it really happened."

Artur Georg Weidenfeld was born Sept. 13, 1919, in Vienna. His father was in the insurance business, but the family had a scholarly bent, and Weidenfeld studied law and diplomacy at the University of Vienna.

In 1937, he challenged a Nazi sympathizer to a duel,

fought with sabers. It was ruled a draw.

After World War II, Weidenfeld said in a 2009 interview with Britain's Jewish Chronicle, "I looked him up in the phone directory and we shared a salami sandwich. He had been terribly injured on the Russian front."

Soon after his father was jailed in 1938, Weidenfeld left Vienna for good. (His father was later released.)

With the help of Christian groups, he reached London and found work with the BBC. He also wrote newspaper columns and launched his first publishing efforts in the mid-1940s.

In 1949, he and writer Nigel Nicolson founded Weidenfeld & Nicolson, which had its first great success in 1953 with "The Hedgehog and the Fox" by Oxford don Isaiah Berlin.

Weidenfeld was a longtime friend of Nabokov, the Russian-born writer whose novel "Lolita," about an older man's infatuation with a 12-year-old girl, was published in Paris in 1955 and in the United States three years later.

Defying the threat of legal action, Weidenfeld circulated a few copies of the book among influential critics, who pronounced "Lolita" a masterpiece. He invited Nabokov to a literary gathering in 1959, Weidenfeld later recalled to a German newspaper. Nabokov recited the names of Tolstoy, Chekhov and other Russian writers, then asked, "But who still remembers the name of a single police chief or censor from St. Petersburg?"

"The next day," Weidenfeld said, "the government permitted publication."

## Richard Gilman, former Colby College professor, dies at 92

**BY JASON SONG**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Richard C. Gilman, the longest-serving president in Occidental College history, has died. He was 92.

Gilman died Friday at his Pasadena, California home. His death was confirmed by officials at Occidental, where Gilman served as president for 23 years before retiring in 1988.

During his tenure, the Eagle Rock school's endowment grew from \$11 million to \$130 million, they said. The number of full-time faculty members also increased and several new buildings were completed, including a theater and residence hall. Athletic facilities were expanded when the college became a practice facility for athletes competing in the 1984 Olympics.

"The evidence of Dick's lifelong devotion to Occidental College is evident nearly everywhere one turns on the campus," said Jonathan Veitch, Occidental's current president.

Gilman was born on July 28, 1923, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He attended Dartmouth College and was a Navy officer during World War II, serving aboard the Shangri-La in the Pacific.

He received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Boston University in 1952 and taught at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. He was also a philosophy professor and administrator at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, before he was named Occidental's 10th president.

In addition to increasing the school's endowment and faculty, Gilman also called for the establishment of new academic programs, including American studies, urban studies and biochemistry.

Occidental's national profile grew under his leadership, The Times noted in a 1988 news article. "The selective college has grown in wealth and stature, maintained fiercely loyal alumni support and begun to compete with better-known colleges of the East," the paper wrote.

Gilman overlapped with President Obama, who was a student at Occidental from 1979 to 1981.

Gilman was preceded in death by his first wife, Lucille, in 1978 and his second wife, Sarah, in 1986. He is survived by daughter Marsha, sons Bradley, Brian and Tucker, and six grandchildren.

## Francisco Alarcon, Chicano poet and children's author, dies

**BY JILL LEOVY**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Francisco Alarcon saw life as a poem — a single, continuous verse.

"He said he would never use a period until he died," said his sister Esthela Alarcon. Each day added a line or stanza; only death would end it, her brother said.

The Los Angeles-born Chicano poet and factory laborer who worked his way from adult school, East L.A. College and Cal State Long Beach to Stanford University died Friday of stomach cancer in his Davis home, still eschewing that final punctuation. He was 61.

His death ended a prolific career as a bilingual poet, children's author and professor at the University of California, Davis. Alarcon, once a finalist for California poet laureate, was known for his poetry about immigrants, love and the indigenous languages and traditions of Mexico, and also for bilingual books of children's verse, which he called "the best thing I've done in my life."

Children "can relate to poems because they are short and concrete," he once told a reporter.

Short, concrete, and what his sister called "to the point" poems were his specialty — "streets were no longer streets," he wrote of the Los Angeles riots in 1992, "how easy hands became weapons."

Much of his work had a leftist political flavor. He wrote of pro-immigrant activism and explored themes of outsider identity that included his own as a gay Latino man raised in a pious Catholic family. He remained closeted into late adulthood and "never came out to the family," his sister said. "But we all knew."

There was never any break in the family's close relations, she said.

As he neared death, family members solemnly informed his deeply religious mother that Francisco had accepted Communion — probably mostly to please her.

The 92-year-old matron surprised them by laughing. "Did he know what he was eating?" she exclaimed.

Alarcon was a tireless promoter of poetry and art — "very gregarious," said friend and fellow San Francisco Bay Area poet Lucha Corpi.

Friends said he lived in constant motion — with

only the briefest commas between traveling, performing, teaching and visiting schools for readings. He consciously refuted the image of the poet as reclusive. He lyricized daily life as it happened, and "could write anywhere," Corpi said.

Alarcon's more than 20 published books include sonnets, works of free verse and textbooks. Poetry "was his way of life," said longtime friend and fellow writer Jorge Argueta.

His first collection of published poetry, "Tattoos," came out in 1985 and got its title from his characterization of a poem as a tattoo that "comes from the flesh" and is inherently in a state of conflict. Later came "Body in Flames" and "Of Dark Love."

"Snake Poems," published in 1992, draws on incantations of indigenous Mexicans. "Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems" marked his entree into children's works in 1997.

Alarcon was thoroughly bilingual — a lyricist in both English and Spanish who translated his own verse, even haiku lines where precise syllable counts made translation difficult. He also spoke French and Portuguese, and Nahuatl, the indigenous Mexican language of some of his ancestors.

In later years, "he decided he no longer wanted to deal with the first person," said Corpi. Wanting to disappear from his poems, he delved into haiku.

Alarcon was nationally known among Chicano poets in part because he published in both Spanish and English and "made major contributions in both languages," said Maria Cecilia Colombi, chair of the Spanish and Portuguese department at UC Davis and Alarcon's colleague. Most other prominent Chicano poets write in English and are translated, she said.

He is also considered a pioneer of bilingual children's literature, she said.

Francisco Xavier Alarcon was born Feb. 21, 1954, in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Wilmington to a cross-national family. His father, Jesus Pastor Alarcon, was a Mexican from the Guadalajara area who went to trade school after high school to become a banker. His mother, Consuelo Vargas de Alarcon, was an American born in Los Angeles who worked for a time in a cannery.