

OBITUARIES



JOSEPH JAMES 'JOE' LAFRANCE JR.

OLD TOWN - Joseph James "Joe" LaFrance Jr., 78, passed away at his home with his loving family by his side on September 1, 2016. He was born July 27, 1938, in Hartford, CT, the son of Joseph and Barbara (Desovich) LaFrance Sr.

He was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in October 1998 and was never cured. Joseph considered it a blessing as he became closer to God. He fought this battle courageously and was laughing and joking with many visitors up until his passing. He graduated from Chicopee High School, Chicopee, MA, class of 1956, then served in the United States Air Force. He worked in the transportation industry for 42 years before retiring in January 1999 due to health issues. He loved working with his hands, was happiest when he had a project to work on. Enjoyed his daily 15 mile bike ride to and through UMO. Joseph also enjoyed many years out to his camp on Sysladobsis Lake in Lakeville, which he built with his own two hands. Joe missed his wife Jenny of 54 years with her passing. They were inseparable and took many trips together, most notably their cross country trek. After her death, it was nice to have his two daughters, Elaine and Carole, close by.

Joseph was predeceased by his wife, Genevieve "Jenny" M. LaFrance, in 2015; infant daughter, Ann; parents; brother, Gary LaFrance; sisters-in-law, Betty LaFrance and Susan Kenney; and brothers-in-law, Francis Nicola and Howard Corbett. He is survived by daughters, Elaine LaFrance and her partner, Keith Jennings, of Old Town and Carole LaFrance of Milford; grandchildren, Heather and Charlotte Lonko of Milford, ME; brothers, Thomas LaFrance of Chicopee, MA, and Richard LaFrance of Whatley, MA; sister, Barbara Sanford of Holyoke, MA; sister-in-law, Blanche Corbett; brother-in-law, Ralph Nicola of Indian Island; many nieces and nephews.

The family wants to thank New Hope Hospice, his RN Karen, and especially Felicia and Lilly who cared for him and always put his dignity first. He had many great conversations with them.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 10 a.m. Wednesday, September 7, at Parish of the Resurrection, Holy Family Church, Old Town, followed by a private burial at Tribal Cemetery, Indian Island. Immediately following the Mass all are invited to the Parish Hall for a light luncheon and continued fellowship. Donations in his memory may be made to New Hope Hospice, P.O. Box 70, Eddington, ME 04428.

Death Notices

BATES, Margaret M., 87, Ellsworth; at Bar Harbor, Sept. 1, 2016. Jordan-Fernald, 1139 Main St., Mount Desert.

BRODEUR, Donald P., 79, Corinna, Sept. 1, 2016. Service 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at Morse's Corner Cemetery, Corinna. Crosby & Neal, Corinna.

CARPENTER, Walter F., 91, Orono, Aug. 27, 2016. Service 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at Stillwater Federated Church, Bennoch Road, Stillwater. Orono Chapel of Brookings-Smith, 72 Main St., Orono.

CROCKER, Lillian E., 95, Bangor; at Bangor, Sept. 1, 2016. Brookings-Smith, Bangor.

DECKERS, Annette Jeanne, 58, Lamoine; at Bangor, Aug. 21, 2016. Service 2 p.m. Sept. 11, at Lamoine State Park waterfront.

EWING, Thomas Burton, 100, Scarborough; at Scarborough, Aug. 28, 2016. Service 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at West Enfield Cemetery.

HALL, Geneva Marie, 51, Houlton, Aug. 31, 2016. Bowers Funeral Home, Houlton.

LAFRANCE, Joseph James 'Joe', 78, Old Town; at Old Town, Sept. 1, 2016. Service 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Parish of the Resurrection, Holy Family Church, Old Town.

LISCOMB, Elizabeth A., 60, Bar Harbor, Feb. 27, 2016. Service 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Holy Redeemer Cemetery, Bar Harbor. Jordan-Fernald, 1139 Main St., Mount Desert.

LUFKIN, George Edward, 99, Old Town, Sept. 2, 2016. Service 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, at Parish of the Resurrection, Holy Family Church, Old Town. Birmingham Funeral Home, 438 Main St., Old Town.

MOSHER, William, 65, Orono; at Orono, Aug. 29, 2016. Brookings-Smith.

PRICE, Jeanne Whitaker, 92, Bangor, Aug. 10, 2016.

SKEFFINGTON, Phyllis Ella, 73, Old Town, Aug. 29, 2016. Service 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, at Birmingham Funeral Home, 438 Main St., Old Town.

SPEARING, Matthew Ralph, 69, Bangor; at Boston, Sept. 1, 2016.

SPOFFORD, Letha B., 84, Brewer; at Bangor, Sept. 1, 2016. Service 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at the East Orrington Congregational Church, 38 Johnson Mill Rd., Orrington. The Brewer Chapel of Brookings-Smith, 55 South Main St., Brewer.

TARDIE, Laurette M., 92, Winterville and Eagle Lake, Sept. 1, 2016. Service 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 9, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Eagle Lake. Daigle Funeral Home, Fort Kent.

TRACY, Lenora Mae (Merchant), 85, Brewer; at Brewer, Aug. 29, 2016.

WHITNEY, William E., 85, Westbrook and Union; at Portland, Aug. 26, 2016. Long Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 9 Mountain St., Camden.



WALTER F. CARPENTER

ORONO - Walter F. Carpenter, 91, passed away August 27, 2016, surrounded by his family. Walter was born on May 7, 1925, in Randolph, VT, the middle son of Annie Laura (Fowler) and Julian Carpenter.

Walter grew up on a small dairy farm located within walking distance of the village of South Royalton, VT. His passion for agriculture and love of creating better ways of doing things led logically to his career as an agricultural engineer. In high school he graduated at the top of his class which gave him a scholarship to UVM. He earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont in 1952 and his Master's degree from the University of Maine in 1957. While in college he was active in music, sang in the Men's Chorus, participated in musicals and played the baritone horn. Following graduate school, he taught in the Agricultural Engineering Dept. at the University of Maine in Orono. In the early '60s he left the University and founded an engineering firm, Walter F. Carpenter Associates. Over the next 20 years, he designed agricultural structures and ventilation systems across Maine and the Canadian Maritime provinces. The engineering firm continues today under the name, Carpenter Associates. Never being one to sit still, Walter had many "retirement jobs." His pride was the restoration of the historic Bickmore Building in Old Town, where he created thirteen apartments for senior citizens. Once Bickmore Manor opened Walter and Elaine made sure they knew their tenants and visited them annually with Christmas treats. He understood and valued senior housing both as an investment and as a service to our community. Walter's other big retirement project was the Carpenter Christmas Tree Farm in Old Town. In 1977 Walter and Elaine started the first seedlings which eventually grew into a choose and cut Christmas Tree Farm which continues today. Both Walter and Elaine would spend hours ensuring that each

tree was planted, fertilized and sheared to perfection. They both loved visiting with all their friends who came to buy trees in December. Walter also loved the experience of cutting firewood for both his home and that of his family. He would spend hours, much to the chagrin of his crew, deciding which trees should be cut and why. The decision was always prudent. Quality firewood was had by all and proper woodlot management was exercised.

Walter is survived by his "bride" of 63 years, Elaine (Plumley) Carpenter. They were married on July 11, 1953, in Bethel, VT. Walter and Elaine spent many happy days working in their large garden, camping at Mt Blue with several generations of family, entertaining at their camp on Pushaw Pond and riding their bicycles many miles in the US, Canada and in Europe. He is survived by his two daughters and son-in-laws, Nancy and George Putnam of Jeffersonville, VT, and Susan and Paul O'Brien of Hampden, ME. Walter had a very special place in his heart for all five of his grandchildren, Kelly and Corey O'Brien and Brian, Emily and Laura Putnam. Walter was predeceased by his parents, Annie and Julian Carpenter; his grandson, Corey O'Brien; and his brothers, Howard and Merton Carpenter.

Friends may call from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at the Orono Chapel of Brookings-Smith, 72 Main Street, Orono. A memorial service will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Stillwater Federated Church, Bennoch Rd., Stillwater. The family invites relatives and friends to share conversation and refreshments in the parish hall of the church following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests gifts be made in Walter's name to the Stillwater Federated Church Community Gardens: planting gardens to help the community; PO BOX 386, Stillwater ME 04489. Condolences to the family may be expressed at www.BrookingsSmith.com.



MATTHEW RALPH SPEARING

BANGOR - Matthew Ralph Spearing, 69, died September 1, 2016, following complications from a long and strong battle with cancer, at a VA hospital in Boston. He was born March 31, 1947, in Bangor, the son of Harry and Vivian (McGarigle) Spearing.

Shortly after graduating from Bangor High School, Matt joined the Army serving during the Vietnam War in the 198th Light Infantry Brigade. He also was a recipient of the Bronze Star. Matt retired from the Bangor Daily News as a pressman. He enjoyed camping, gardening, and fishing at the Togue Bait Hotel, BBQ and grilling all seasons, rain, snow, hail, tornado, or sunshine. He loved reading, music, and spending time with family and friends. He will be greatly missed and loved by many for his good humor, trouble making pranks at home and work, his love of life, and family, including the love of his life, his wife of 40 years, Cindy, and his newest grandson, Oscar. He also enjoyed time with grandchildren Parker and Alexis and watching them grow up.

In addition to his parents, Matt was predeceased by his 3 brothers, Danny, Mike and Tom Spearing; and his sister-in-law, Karen Cole. He is survived by his wife, Cindy Spearing; sons, Nathaniel, Matthew and Luke Spearing, and Jason Everett; grandsons, Oscar Spearing and Parker Everett; granddaughter, Alexis Everett; and daughter-in-law, Heather Adams.

Services will be private for the family. Family and friends are invited to share memories and condolences at www.BrookingsSmith.com.

In Memoriam

In Loving Memory Of
DARRELL WILLIAM TRACY
Nov. 4, 1953 - Sept. 2, 2015



It's been a year and still our hearts ache.

Gone but not forgotten, although we are apart, your spirit lives within us, forever in our hearts. Love and sorrow, Mom; sisters, Diane, Cindy and Cathy; Linda, Amber and family

In Loving Memory Of
MARY ELVIE CLISHAM
Sept. 4, 1956 - Oct. 27, 2011
Happy Birthday "Nana"



Thinking of you on your birthday. Love, Steve, children and grandchildren



LILLIAN E. CROCKER

BANGOR - Lillian E. Crocker, 95, passed away on September 1, 2016, at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, Maine. She was born July 29, 1921, in Dover-Foxcroft, the daughter of Manley and Edith Libby.

Lillian worked at Mary Snow School in the cafeteria and library for 26 years. She enjoyed her work and sharing with others. After their retirement, Lillian and her husband, Frank, enjoyed many winters in Clearwater, Florida. Following her husband's death, Lillian bonded with a group of friends who met daily at Lillian's house to play cards and share joyful thoughts.

Surviving are one son, Robert Crocker and his wife, Diane, of Bangor; one daughter, Nancy Harris of South Carolina; six grandchildren, Kevin Crocker of Al-

ton, Kimberly Landry of Bangor, Kelly Babcock of Newburgh, Scott Harris of Indiana, Shawn Harris and Stacey Bonner, both of South Carolina; 13 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Frank of 67 years; brothers, Lawrence Higgins, Leon Higgins and Sherwood Libby; and sister, Arlene Oldheime.

Service arrangements will be published at a later date in the Bangor Daily News. Those wishing to remember Lillian in a special way, may contribute in her memory to HealthCare Charities, Heart Fund, P.O. Box 931, Bangor, ME. 04402-0931. A service of Brookings Smith, Bangor. Condolences to the family may be expressed at www.BrookingsSmith.com.

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The Bangor Daily News
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Monday, September 5.

Classifieds and Obituaries will
be closed on this day.

Thank you for your business.



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