

# OBITUARIES

## Actress Joan Leslie dies at 90

BY ADAM BERNSTEIN  
THE WASHINGTON POST

Joan Leslie, an actress whose versatility and wholesome allure — opposite leading men such as Humphrey Bogart, Gary Cooper and Fred Astaire — elevated her to movie stardom by 18 but whose career plummeted after a contract dispute with a Hollywood mogul, died Oct. 12 in Los Angeles. She was 90.

A daughter, Patrice Caldwell, confirmed the death but did not disclose a cause.

On the vaudeville and nightclub stage from childhood — she once performed with dancer Bill “Bojangles” Robinson — Leslie debuted onscreen at 11 in the Greta Garbo melodrama “Camille” (1936).

Four years and a dozen films later, Leslie began her rapid ascent when Warner Bros. signed her and started grooming her for stardom. Her fresh-faced good looks, accented by red hair and hazel eyes, often led to girl-next-door roles, but she proved to be a nimble performer in more demanding parts.

In “High Sierra” (1941), she gave a compelling performance as a girl with a deformed foot who brings out a tender side in Bogart’s hoodlum-on-the-lam. It was a pulsing and suspenseful gangster drama, co-written by future director John Huston, and elevated everyone associated with it.

Soon promoted to ingenue, Leslie received her first screen kiss (by Eddie Albert) in “The Great Mr. Nobody” (1941). She was Cooper’s mountain-girl love interest in “Sergeant York” (1941), a smash-hit biopic of the World War I hero.

Cooper, who won an Academy Award for best actor, was 24 years her senior. “Gary gave me a doll on the set,” Leslie later told the Toronto Star. “That’s how he saw me.”

She continued her rise with good supporting roles in the circus drama “The Wagons Roll at Night” (1941), starring Bogart and Albert, and “The Male Animal” (1942), a college-set comedy with Henry Fonda and Olivia de Havilland.

In “Yankee Doodle Dandy” (1942), starring James Cagney as entertainer George M. Cohan, Leslie played his supportive wife. It was one of the year’s biggest hits and was mostly a showcase for Cagney, who won the best actor Oscar.

But Leslie, then 17, showed she could hold her own with a screen personality as dynamic as Cagney, with whom she sang and danced.

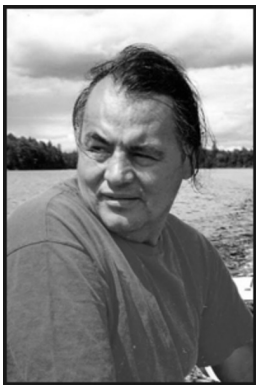
For “The Hard Way” (1943), as the younger sister of the ruthlessly scheming and destructive Ida Lupino, Leslie ran the gamut from wide-eyed innocent to sullied party-girl. Director Vincent Sherman later described her performance as “remarkable” given her age and what she described as her sheltered off-screen life as a good Catholic girl.

That same year, Leslie went on loan to RKO for “The Sky’s the Limit” (1943), a dark-themed musical and one of the least-known Astaire vehicles. Astaire played a fighter pilot on leave who wants to forget the war, disguises himself as a civilian and tries to seduce the comely Leslie.

It was not a critical or commercial success when it came out, but it developed a devoted following over the years, both for the handful of jazz standards it produced, including “My Shining Hour” and “One for My Baby (and One More for the Road),” and its somewhat daring plot about the futility of romantic attachments amid war.

A Time magazine critic wrote that Leslie showed a certain aplomb in her duets with Astaire, noting that she “imparts the double impression in their dance numbers that she is hanging onto his thumb and that she is doing remarkably well in view of the fact that she is not Fred Astaire. At less strenuous moments ... Leslie is so nice to look at that her feet are the last thing anybody is likely to notice.”

From there, she was featured in a run of popular and patriotic musicals as the nice girl with pin-up looks.



DENNIS ROBERT PEHRSON SR.

INDIAN ISLAND - Dennis Robert Pehrson Sr., 68, passed away Friday October 16, 2015 at Eastern Maine Medical Center, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Dennis was born in Old Town August 7, 1947, the son of Wilfred Robert Sr. and Joan Dorothy (Lolar) Pehrson.

Dennis was a graduate of Old Town High School class of 1966. The day after graduation he left voluntarily to Vietnam for two years.

Dennis was a dedicated family man, who loved his kids, his grandchildren, and his black poodle Ebony dearly. He was an avid outdoorsman, who had a passion for all New England sports teams. Dennis was also a life time member of the VFW post 4487.

Dennis will be missed dearly by his wife of 22 years Judy (Seger) Pehrson, his children; Dennis Jr. and wife Irene, Wendy and her husband Royce, Scott and his wife Stephanie, Denise and her husband Brent; his grandchildren, MaKayla, Colby, Dominic, Samuel, Donna, Brandy, Sara, Rae-Anne, Bailee, Aly, Ocy, Michael, Great grandchildren, Madison, Saddle, Aaliyah, Yvonne, Ryan, Charles, Abby, Arthur, and one more grandchild on the way; his sister, Kathy and husband Gary, Vicki and husband James, Nancy and her husband Wade; brother, Wilfred Jr. and wife Rhonda, as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. In addition to his parents, Dennis was predeceased by his sister Deanna, his nephew Tony, and his great granddaughter Josie.

Friends may call Sunday, October 18, 2015 at St. Ann’s Catholic Church on Indian Island from 11am until time of service, Monday, October 19, 2015 at 10am. Burial will be announced at a later date.

The family would like to thank the Cancer Care of Maine and its staff for their gracious support and care of Dennis over the past three years, and the staff of the sixth floor of EMMC for their care of Dennis.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like all donations in Dennis’s memory to go to the Wounded Warrior Project P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, Kansas 66675.



## Weatherman for five presidents dies at 92

BY EMILY LANGER  
THE WASHINGTON POST

Robert M. White, a meteorologist who served under five U.S. presidents as the nation’s top weatherman, overseeing the launch of pioneering weather satellites and sounding early warnings about climate change, died Oct. 14 at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland. He was 92.

He had complications from dementia, said his wife, Mavis E. White.

Dr. White — a brother of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author and political journalist Theodore H. White — devoted nearly his entire adult life to advancing scientific understanding of the atmosphere. His career coincided with the space age, which opened new possibilities for the study of the environment on Earth and took him to the highest ranks of government service.

Jesse H. Ausubel, director of the program for the human environment at Rockefeller University in New York, called Dr. White “a bridge between science and government and the world of politics” and credited him with building the “institutions for environmental monitoring and management that we just take for granted today.”



DANIEL "PRUNE" WAYNE TOBY SR.

HOULTON & LINNEUS - Daniel Toby Sr., 62, passed away October 16, 2015 in Houlton. Daniel grew up in Prentiss while being raised by his grandparents Orin and Helen Toby.

At the age of twelve he moved to Linneus to live with his mother Margery (Toby) Carl. In 1972 he married Gayle Wilson and together they would raise a family and share almost forty three years of marriage. Daniel went to work in the woods at an early age with a team of horses and a chainsaw and retired after thirty years of service for Darrell McGuire and Sons operating a grapple. He enjoyed four wheeling, hunting, fishing, going to camp, and watching old movies especially John Wayne. He was a hardworking man who always provided for his family. He was an excellent and loving husband, father and grandfather who loved to joke around with his family.

He is survived by his loving wife Gayle of Houlton, three children: Danny Toby Jr. of Littleton, Kimberly Toby with Swimm and her companion Troy Cameron of Hodgdon, Chad Toby and his companion Tara Clark of Linneus, six grandchildren: Daniel Toby III, Tanika Toby, Dawson Toby, Jordan Swimm, Taylor Toby, and Lexi Toby. He will also be missed by two sisters: Stella Hanning and her husband Bruce of Houlton, Patty Faulkner and her husband Donald of Oklahoma, as well as many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. In addition to his grandparents Orin and Helen Toby, mother Margery Carl, he was predeceased a brother Larry Carl, and his father-in-law and mother-in-law Sherman and Doris Wilson.

Friends may call 12:00PM Thursday October 22, 2015 at Dunn Funeral Home 11 Park St. Houlton, where services will begin at 1:00PM with the Rev. Wayne Robertson officiating. Interment will take place following the service at Linneus Cemetery, Linneus. A reception will follow the committal at Houlton Wesleyan Church. Those who wish may make gifts in his memory to the Daniel Toby Sr. Memorial Fund. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Abouleish, Dr. Older, and the nurses in the ER as well as third floor for all their exceptional care. Online guest book:

dunnfuneral.com



RELLA CYR THERIAULT

FORT KENT - Rella Cyr Theriault 91, died peacefully October 16, 2015 at a Fort Kent Health Care Facility. She was born in Daigle, March 9, 1924, the daughter of Hubald and Alice (Daigle) Cyr.

Rella and her husband Euclide were married September 6, 1943 in Daigle, Me. Euclide was deceased in 2010 and they were married for 67 years. He was the love of her life. Rella, a home maker, and business partner with her husband who was a certified potato grower in the Wallagrass, Soldier Pond area- maintained the records and payroll of their employees while the family was farming.

She is survived by her three children; Ken and wife Patsy (Willard) Theriault of Madawaska, Andrea Theriault Fortier and her companion Jack Larson of Poquoson Virginia, Patrick and wife Geralyn (Huss) Theriault of Wells, and her remaining sister, Marie Daigle of Madawaska.

Her grandchildren; Ken Theriault Jr. and wife Kerry, Jay Theriault and wife Jodie, Christopher Fortier and wife Britney, Stephanie Fortier and companion Tim Gyles, Emily Theriault and companion Rob Buzzell, and Elizabeth Theriault. Great-grandchildren; Elizabeth, Andre, Shelby and Liam.

In addition to her parents she was predeceased by three sisters; May Jalbert, Mildred Murphy, Melisia Theriault, and her brother Richard Cyr.

Friends may call Friday October 23, 2015 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Daigle Funeral Home, Fort Kent. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 11 a.m. Friday at St. Louis Catholic Church, Fort Kent. Committal services will follow in the parish cemetery.

"Mom" as she was known to her children, mamie, by her grandchildren, and grandmie the great by her great-grandchildren. Her legacy was and always will be, family first, always be respectful, attend church, and remember where you are from. Rest in Peace Mom, you are now with you beloved.

Those who wish in Rella's memory may donate to Forest Hill Manor Activities Fund, 25 Bolduc Ave, Fort Kent, Me. 04743. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.



CORY JOSEPH BETTS

DEER ISLE - On the night of October 15, 2015, Cory Joseph Betts age 36 went home to be the Lord. Beloved father, son, brother and friend, Cory will be greatly missed. He was born February 22, 1979 the fourth child to Marsha (Robbins) and Dana Betts Sr. of Brooksville.

Growing up in the small community of Sunshine, Cory spent his younger years exploring and enjoying the woods and waters surrounding his home. His bond with his siblings was extremely strong and you could often find him in cahoots with his older brother, Dana Jr. As Cory grew into a man it was clear he had an ability and determination to do well at anything he tried. Working on the water was natural to Cory. He worked alongside his father, brother and uncles fishing the waters out of Sunshine. Cory's biggest joy was his son Connor. There weren't many times you'd see Cory without Connor by his side along with their pup Emma.

Cory was predeceased by infant sister Mary. Paternal grandparents George and Viola Betts. Maternal grandparents Gilmore Sr. and Bernice Robbins. In addition to his parents, Cory is survived by his son Connor. Brother Dana Betts Jr. wife Lynn and children Amber, Justin and Eben. Sister Tonyia, husband Frank and children Hannah and Sophie. Sister Nikki Jaffray and husband Curtis, children Lily and Grace. Cory leaves a large close-knit extended family of special aunts, uncles, cousins and friends whom he loved dearly.

Very recently, Cory had made the decision to start a new chapter in life for himself, Connor and his family. He was looking forward to a fresh start and was very optimistic about the future. Working with support groups in the area, Cory quickly became a leader, inspiration and friend to those facing the same struggles. His sobriety was important to him. It was a difficult road for Cory and his family is extremely proud of his strength and great strides in this positive direction. Cory had a huge support group of friends. His best friend from childhood, Carl Gray, was a huge part of Cory's life and his new journey.

Friends may call on the family at the Bragdon Kelley Funeral Home, Stonington Tuesday October 20th 5pm-7pm. Services will be held Wednesday, October 21st 1:00pm at Bragdon Kelley Funeral Home with Reverend David Davis officiating. Interment will be at the Greenwood Cemetery in Oceanville. Reception to follow at Sunshine Community Center.

"If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart, I'll stay there forever."  
~Winnie the Pooh



MEREDITH A. CHADBOURNE

HARMONY - Meredith A. Chadbourne, 78, died October 16, 2015, at her home in Harmony. She was born in Wellington, February 2, 1937, the daughter of Maynard and Gertrude (Sinclair) Curtis.

She married her high school sweetheart, Cecil E. Chadbourne; and their 60th wedding anniversary would have been celebrated this November. She enjoyed snowmobiling, their camp on Sebec Lake, playing cards, and spending time with her grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband Cecil in June of this year; and a son, Stephen.

She is survived by 3 sons, Jeffrey and Mel Chadbourne, and Brian Chadbourne and Diane Salisbury, all of Harmony, and Curt and Karyn Chadbourne of Stetson; 6 grandchildren; a great granddaughter; a sister, Carolyn and Butch Lemieux of Sangerville; and a brother, Verdi Curtis and Linda of Marion, Iowa; many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held 1 PM, Thursday, October 22, 2015, at the Harmony Baptist Church, with the Rev. Henry Thibodaux officiating. Interment will be at the Chadbourne Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Patriarch's Club, P. O. Box 45, Harmony, ME 04942. Arrangements by Crosby & Neal, Dexter. For an online guest register, go to [www.CrosbyNeal.com](http://www.CrosbyNeal.com).

EDITH M. COLLINS

BANGOR - Edith Margaret Collins, 93, died October 17, 2015 at a local hospital. She was born, March 31, 1922 in Milo, daughter of Lewis and Vera (Hand) Hichborn.

Edith will be remembered as a giving and loving lady who was always there for her family and friends.

Surviving are two sons, Gerald B. Collins of Burgaw, NC, and Thomas B. Collins of Bangor; four grandchildren, Paul Collins and his wife, Laura, Lindsay Collins, Dena Brown and her husband, Michael, and Tracy Collins; two great grandchildren, Brady and Lily; a special nephew, Ray Hichborn; two special nieces, Terry Hinton and Dawn Clossom; as well as other nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by a brother, Merle Hichborn; and two sisters, Irma Mayhew and Audrey Withee.

Those who wish to remember Edith in a special way may make gifts in her memory to the Bangor Humane Society, 693 Mount Hope Avenue, Bangor, ME 04401. In keeping with Edith's wishes, services will be private. Condolences to the family may be expressed at [www.BrookingsSmith.com](http://www.BrookingsSmith.com).

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