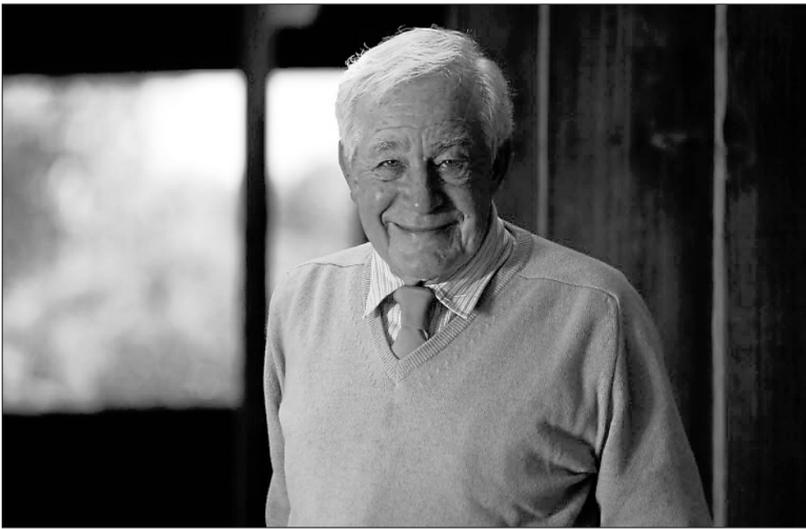


OBITUARIES



LUIS SINCO | LOS ANGELES TIMES | TNS
Jack Larson poses for a portrait in 2011 at his home in Los Angeles. Larson came to fame as cub reporter Jimmy Olsen on the old "Superman" TV series. He died Sunday at his home at age 87.

Jack Larson, known for 'Superman' role, dies

BY BILL TROTT
REUTERS

Jack Larson, who played Jimmy Olsen, the boyish, frequently imperiled cub reporter on the 1950s U.S. television series "Adventures of Superman" who was oblivious to the fact that his co-worker was actually the man of steel, died at the age of 87.

Larson died on Sunday at his home in Los Angeles' Brentwood neighborhood, said Lt. Fred Corral of the Los Angeles County medical examiner's office. An autopsy was pending.

After abandoning acting out of frustration in the early 1960s, Larson went on to be a playwright, lyricist and movie producer. But he made his most lasting impression as television's Jimmy Olsen, the enthusiastic young reporter in the bow tie at the Daily Planet newspaper, where he worked with Clark Kent, Superman's alter ego, and Lois Lane in the fictional city of Metropolis.

Larson appeared in 101 episodes of "Adventures of Superman" during its run from 1952 through 1958. His Jimmy Olsen was eager and full of good intentions and gee-whillickers naivete but also a bit of a stumblebum who provided the show's comic relief.

Larson described Olsen as "a bit dim" since he never figured out that Kent, his socially awkward colleague

in the heavy-framed eyeglasses, was also the crime-fighting caped superhero soaring over Metropolis and often rescuing Jimmy and Lois from danger.

Larson, who was born on Feb. 8, 1928, and grew up in the Los Angeles area, had only a few minor acting credits when he was offered the Jimmy Olsen role. He took it in order to get enough money to move to New York to pursue deeper ambitions — writing plays and acting on Broadway.

Larson thought "Superman" would be short-lived and little noticed. He was stunned to realize it was an instant hit and he was a celebrity — a typecast celebrity. Jimmy Olsen became such a popular figure that his bow tie would one day be part of a Smithsonian display.

"To me, it was a nightmare," Larson told the New York Times in 2006. "Everywhere I went, it was, 'Jimmy! Jimmy! Hey, Jimmy, where's Superman?' Suddenly, I couldn't take the bus or the subway anymore. It absolutely freaked me out."

"Adventures of Superman" went off the air in 1958 and plans for a new season ended with the 1959 suicide of George Reeves, who played the man of steel. The show has enjoyed a long run in syndication.

Larson had little luck finding anyone who wanted to hire an actor so strongly

identified with Jimmy Olsen. At the suggestion of one-time lover Montgomery Clift, he said he gave up acting and concentrated on writing.

His resume would come to include works much headier than the formulaic "Superman" plots — plays, many of them written in verse, a Rockefeller Foundation grant, a libretto for the Virgil Thomson opera "Lord Byron" and texts for classical music compositions.

He also had producer credits on the movies "Bright Lights, Big City," "Perfect," "Mike's Murder," and "The Baby Maker," which he made in the 1970s and '80s with director-writer James Bridges, his companion of more than 30 years, who died in 1993.

Along the way, Larson's attitude toward Jimmy softened.

"Everywhere I go, I get the warmest feelings from people about Jimmy," he told the Times. "They love him and I grew to feel that I could never have done anything more special than be Jimmy Olsen."

He even got to be Jimmy again in his later years, playing an elderly Olsen in the television show "Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman" in 1996. He and Noel Neill, who portrayed Lois Lane on "Adventures of Superman," both appeared in the 2006 film "Superman Returns." In that movie, Larson played a bartender who wore a bow tie.



YVONNE M. MORROW

MILLINOCKET - Yvonne M. Morrow, 78, wife of the late Herman J. Morrow, Sr., passed away Thursday, September 24, 2015 at a Millinocket hospital. She was born February 15, 1937 in St. Francis, the daughter of David and Elise (Michaud) Thibodeau.

Yvonne loved decorating her house and yard for every holiday. She especially enjoyed coordinating her landscaping with her neighbor and special friend, Julie Day - together they filled every possible space in their yards with plants, flowers, and special lighting. She also enjoyed knitting. Yvonne enjoyed going to karaoke nights at the American Legion. She was a communicant of Christ the Divine Mercy Parish, St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church.

Yvonne is survived by four children, Herman J. Morrow, Jr. and his wife Karen of Kevil, Kentucky, Clinton Morrow and his wife Kelly of Millinocket, Yvonne "Angel" Michaud and her husband Lee of Gorham, and Ricky Morrow and his wife JoAnn of Waltham; seven grandchildren, Terran, Corey, Tiffany, Jessie, Ryan, Jenn, and Stevie-Lee; nine great grandchildren, Jordan, Kayli, Maryssa, Wyatt, Sage, Vanessa, Carson, Raven, and Aria; siblings, Amanda, Ned, Dick, Diane, Linda, Jackie, Sandra, Ernie, Erma, and Eldon; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. In addition to her husband, Yvonne was predeceased by a granddaughter, Angela Morrow-Cote, and a sister, Darlene.

Friends are invited to visit with the family 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. Sunday, September 27 at the Lamson Funeral Home, 11 Tamarack St., Millinocket. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 11 A.M. Monday, September 28, at Christ the Divine Mercy Parish, St. Martin's Catholic Church, 19 Colby St., Millinocket with the Rev. Bruce Siket, pastor, presider. Interment will be at the Millinocket Cemetery.

Gifts in memory of Yvonne may be sent to the Katahdin Area Support Group, P.O. Box 374, Millinocket, ME 04462.

Messages of condolence may be expressed at www.lamsonfh.com

DOROTHY IRENE CLOSE

NORTHFORD, CT - CLOSE, DOROTHY "DOFFY"

Dorothy "Doffy" Irene Goddard Close, of Northford, CT., beloved wife of Stanley Close for 56 blessed years, passed away Tuesday at Masonicare, Wallingford, after a courageous battle with cancer. Doffy was born in Hartford, CT, June 21, 1938, raised in Dyer Brook, Maine and Branford, CT, daughter of the late Frederick and Muriel Kelsey Goddard.

Doffy lived with courage, humor and lots of love. Her priorities were her family, her home and her God. She was a member of the Northford Congregational Church, where she previously taught Sunday school. She collected antiques and she loved to vacation in Maine with her family. Doffy is also survived by her children, Lisa Close (Brian Cove) of Northford, Michael Close (Kelly Cox) of Northford, and Mead Close (Michele Munroe Parks) of Griswold; her grandchildren, Kelsey Tamulevich, Joshua Cove, Mead Allen Close, Jr., Angela Hao, Jamerson Cox, Michele Cove and Mathew Olander; and her sister, Marsha Boutillier of Bangor, ME.

Relatives and friends may call Sunday from 4-7 PM at the W. S. Clancy Memorial Funeral Home, 244 North Main Street, Branford, and are invited to a funeral service Monday morning at 10:00 in the Northford Congregational Church. Burial will follow in Northford Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the Northford Congregational Church Bell Tower Restoration Fund, Old Post Road, Northford, CT 06472. For directions and Doffy's personal online guestbook, please visit our website - www.wsclancy.com.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. Rest in peace Doffy. You are loved. www.wsclancy.com



LAWRENCE S. CRONKITE

PRESQUE ISLE - Lawrence S. Cronkite, 93, husband of the late Camilla R. Cronkite,

passed away Wednesday morning, September 23, 2015, at a Presque Isle nursing facility, following a brief illness. He was born May 13, 1922 in Fort Fairfield, the son of Samuel and Effie (Johnson) Cronkite. He was a graduate of the Fort Fairfield High School, Class of 1939 and attended Ricker Junior College, Houlton and the University of Maine at Orono earning a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture. Mr. Cronkite served his country in the United States Army during WWII being stationed in England for 8 months prior to the invasion of Normandy, and also served in France, Belgium and Germany. He was married to Camilla R. LeVasseur on June 16, 1947 and they enjoyed 62 years of marriage until her death on March 20, 2009. Lawrence was a communicant of the Parish of the Precious Blood, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Presque Isle and was employed by Maine Public Service Company, Presque Isle for 41 years.

In addition to his parents and wife, Lawrence was predeceased by five brothers, Cecil, Linwood, Loomis, Gerald "Joe" and Maurice Cronkite; four sisters, Beryl Parker, Madeline Gagnon, Mildred Clark and Lois Fowler. He is survived by five sons and daughters-in-law, Sam and Carol Cronkite of St. Augustine, FL, Paul Cronkite of Memphis, TN, John and Lucian Cronkite of Ponte Vedra, FL, Thomas and Suzanne Cronkite of Hanover, NH, Patrick Cronkite of Palm Bay, FL; one brother and sister-in-law, Carvel and Delores Cronkite of Cranston, RI; one sister, Phyllis Leavitt of Presque Isle; six grandchildren, Joanna Houde of Exeter, NH, Sam Cronkite III of Knoxville, MD, Susan Cronkite of St. Augustine, FL, Matthew Cronkite of Brooklyn, NY, Megan Cronkite of Burlington, VT, Elizabeth Mannix of Palm Bay, FL; five great grandchildren, Ben, Nathan, Nicholas, Emily and Jacob; several nieces and nephews.

In keeping with Mr. Cronkite's wishes, calling hours will be private. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Parish of the Precious Blood, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Main Street, Presque Isle with Fr. Kyle Doustou celebrant. Interment with military honors will take place at St. Denis Catholic Cemetery, Fort Fairfield.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish may contribute in memory of Mr. Cronkite to the Fort Fairfield Alumni Association, P.O. Box 201, Fort Fairfield, Maine 04742. Envelopes will be available at the church. Online condolences may be expressed at www.gibersondorsefuneralhome.com



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Man who helped make 'bagel' household word dies

BY ELAINE WOO
LOS ANGELES TIMES

From his earliest childhood days, Daniel Thompson watched his father pursue an unusual obsession: building a bagel-making machine.

The senior Thompson ran a Boyle Heights bakery in the Los Angeles area, where he made bagels the way they had always been made — by hand. Believing a machine would help expand the market for the beloved Jewish staple, he spent decades designing one contraption after another, but they were slow, persnickety and too often produced what his son called "hockey pucks with holes."

In the 1950s, Thompson started tinkering on his own. Four decades after his father began the quest, he perfected the machine and helped turn bagel into a household word.

Thompson, who invented a commercially viable bagel-making machine and became a key figure behind what some have called "the industrialization of the bagel," died Sept. 3 in Palm Desert, California, after a fall, his family said. He was 94.

In 1958, the former junior high school teacher started building the prototype of what became the Thompson Bagel Machine in his Cheviot Hills garage on the westside of Los Angeles. Five years later, he leased the first one to another visionary, Murray Lender, whose family-run business in New Haven, Connecticut, introduced the



COURTESY OF THE THOMPSON FAMILY | LOS ANGELES TIMES | TNS
Daniel Thompson, who invented the Thompson Bagel Machine, which spurred the mass production of bagels, died Sept. 3 in Palm Desert. He was 94. He is shown here in front of one of the machines, in the mid-1960s.

first line of frozen bagels.

With Thompson's machine, Lender's Bagels began mass producing the homely O-shaped bread, and other bakers soon joined the movement. Purists complained that automation changed the character of bagels for the worse, but within a decade, the ethnic favorite went mainstream, sold in stores across the country and paving the way for the proliferation of neighborhood bagel shops and varieties.

"Today, everybody loves

bagels. It's no more ethnic than pizza is," the aptly named Marilyn Bagel, co-author of "The Bagel Bible: For Bagel Lovers, the Complete Guide to Bagel Noshing," said in an interview last week. "Daniel Thompson was monumental in that regard."

Bagels were brought to America in the 1880s by Eastern European Jews. Clustered in New York City, bagel bakers passed recipes from fathers to sons. They formed a union shortly after the turn of the century.

The bagels typically were made by a team of four men, who rolled and shaped the dough before it was boiled and baked.

For his machine, Thompson borrowed some of his father's ideas, but his design was simpler and faster. His major innovation was the addition of cups that help form the dough into a circle and open to release it onto a conveyor belt or turntable.

His company turned a profit in 1964, the year after Lender's adopted the technology, and is still in business, run by son Stephen.

The advent of the machines sparked protests by union members, but theirs was a losing battle. "Within a few years, almost every major bagel baker in America was using Thompson's machine," Gil Marks wrote in the "Encyclopedia of Jewish Food." There was no way the fastest bagel man could beat it.

"You used to have two guys hand-shaping and boiling and baking who could turn out maybe 120 bagels an hour," Thompson told The New York Times in 1993. But the machine, he said, "rolls 200 to 400 dozen bagels an hour."

His largest machines produce 5,000 an hour, according to son Craig Thompson, the company's designer and machinist.

Daniel Thompson was born Jan. 16, 1921, in Winnipeg, Canada. It was there that his father, Mickey, began to envision what mechanization could do for his bakery business. He pat-

ented his first bagel machine a few years before his son's birth.

"My father was thinking about a bagel-making machine when I was conceived," Thompson often joked.

Before Thompson turned 1, his father moved the family to Los Angeles and soon established the bakery in Boyle Heights, then the heart of the city's Jewish community. He worked on his prototypes for the bagel machine in his garage, enlisting Thompson's help at 11.

"I resented missing a lot of baseball games and not being able to play with my friends," Thompson later wrote in a history of his bagel machine, "but I understood what my father was attempting to accomplish and I did not complain. I learned that things could be accomplished without the proper tools, substituting sheer sweat and determination."

After graduating from Fairfax High School, Thompson served as a navigator-bombardier in the Army Air Force, seeing combat in the Pacific during World War II.

He married Ada Schatz in 1946. She survives him, along with their two sons, daughter Leslie, and three grandchildren.

When Thompson completed his military service, he studied industrial arts and mathematics at UCLA. Over the next decade, he taught shop at Bancroft Junior High and math and science at Westchester High.