

In Memoriam

Recent Postings, FRIENDS REMEMBERED

We sadly miss the following members of the SCS/NRCS family who have passed away.

Our sympathy and prayers are with their families and friends.

Please email Paul Benedict at soilwarden@verizon.net. to report recent In Memoriam notices.

This page shows RECENT remembrances only.

Last updated 5/10/2024.

Surname	Year	In-Memoriam (Note: These are recent notices. For a complete list, please see www.arcse.org)
Adams	2024	William "Bill" Ralph Adams (76) of Mansfield, Texas, passed away April 6, 2024. Bill was born to Shade and Marjorie Stamper Adams on July 14, 1947, and grew up in Whitesburg, Kentucky. Bill's career in the USDA-Soil Conservation Service took him across the country to Virginia, Tennessee, and Colorado before settling in Mansfield, Texas. His 42 years of service saw a great change in agriculture, initially working directly with farmers as a soil conservationist, working to modernize resource management. Bill ended his career in project management at the National Cartography & Geospatial Center in Ft Worth, Texas, still focused on improving the livelihoods of people through conservation. Bill conducted classes on Ham Radio, working on community safety and disaster preparedness, and mentoring local high school teams on communications. He was a member of the Mansfield Ham Radio Club. Bill's faith was very important to him. He served as a Gideon, deacon, and leading Sunday school teacher. Bill is preceded in death by his first wife Georgetta Humphrey Adams . He leaves behind to cherish his memory wife Emma Brown Adams , children; Jeff Hawkins (Laura) , Sarah Marcel (Des) , Pam Weisenhorn , Will Adams (Diane) , and Ashley Godawski (Joe) , and eleven grandchildren.
Adcock	2023	Senior Conservationist Willie Leroy Adcock (102) of Tyler, Texas, passed away October 13, 2023, surrounded by family. Leroy was born on September 23, 1921, in DeWitt County, Texas into the loving family of Marie Emelia nee Schlein and Oliver Adcock . As a young man, he raised champion livestock and farm animals and, like his siblings, enjoyed playing music together on various instruments. He enrolled at Texas A&M College (class 1944) and worked throughout his time there. At the outbreak of World War II, he was sent to army officers training school and then to Europe where he served throughout the war, surviving two wrecked planes and being awarded the Air Medal for valiant conduct behind enemy lines. Returning with the rank of Captain, he continued to serve in the Texas National Guard and finished his undergraduate degree at TAMC and later his master's. A mutual friend introduced him to the love of his life, Margaret Louise Ballow Adcock . After a long-distance courtship via letters and sometimes him flying a plane for visits to her home in Rusk County, Texas, they were married in her little Millville family church on April 3, 1953. Leroy's career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service took them from Bryan, Texas to Bellville, Texas - where a daughter Kathy (1954) and a son Timothy (1956) were born - then to Denton and Decatur, Texas. After his retirement, Louise and Leroy settled in Tyler, Texas in 1989 and had many happy years together there. Leroy devoted his life to family, church, community, and country. He served as a Deacon in his church and spent many hours as a volunteer and fund-raiser through his church, community, and the Republican Party. Leroy is preceded in death by his wife of 70 years, He is survived by his two children, Kathy (Royce Glenn) Smith of Dallas, Texas; son, Timothy of Houston; his grandson, Dakota (Jessica) , and their two children, Xander and Zelda Smith of McKinney, Texas. Leroy cherished and tenderly cared for Louise throughout their lives together, especially in the ten years of her decline due to Parkinson's dementia. When she could no longer be cared for at home, he visited her daily.
Attebury	2024	Gay E. Attebury (67) of Lubbock, Texas, passed away April 8, 2024, in an automobile accident. Gay was the wife of Kelly Attebury , Resource Soil Scientist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Lubbock. Gay was born May 12, 1956, in Corpus Christi, Texas, to Robert and Patricia (Shaughnessy) Stricklin . She attended Texas Tech University. She married Kelly Attebury, September 15, 1978 in Lubbock. Gay graduated from Texas Tech with a bachelor's in general studies and later a Master's in Hotel and Restaurant Management. She worked at Texas Tech in the School of Nursing, School of Medicine and the catering department for over 20 years. She later earned her second Master's from West Texas A&M in Speech Pathology. After becoming a speech pathologist, she worked for over 15 years in schools, home health and nursing homes. Survivors include her husband, Kelly Attebury of Lubbock, daughter, Robyn Ellis (Jimmy) of Rockville, Maryland, son, Taylor Attebury (Katherine) of Lexington, Kentucky, 3 grandchildren, Harvey and Maev Ellis of Rockville, Maryland and Louise Attebury of Lexington, Kentucky.
Baskins	2024	Senior Conservationist Thomas Harold Baskins (96) of North Little Rock, Arkansas, passed away March 22, 2021. Thomas was born November 22, 1924. He was United States Army veteran of World War II. He was married to Mildred Elizabeth Baskins who passed away in 2005. Thomas worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, starting off as a Soil Conservationist and finishing his career as a Resource Conservationist in 1987. Thomas was a member of St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. Survivors include his children, Dr. Larry Abdullah , Patricia Baskins-Dean , and Thomas Baskins, Jr. Burial was at the Arkansas State Veteran Cemetery, 1501 W. Maryland Avenue, North Little Rock.
Brown	2024	ARCSE Life Member Raymond N. Brown Jr. (85) of South Burlington, Vermont passed away March 3, 2024. Ray was born May 27, 1938, in Jacksonville, Florida. Ray led a life of service to his country and community that touched countless lives. He graduated from Alfred

		University in New York and then earned a Degree in Agriculture from the University of Georgia. He also attended the Naval Officers Training Center and served as a Commissioned Commander in the United States Navy and for 25 years as a Naval Reservist. Ray obtained a Master's of Professional Studies in Agriculture Management from Cornell University which paved the way for his 35 year career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resources Conservation Service). Ray held numerous positions including Soil Conservationist, District Conservationist, Area Conservationist, Deputy State Conservationist and Assistant Director in New York, New Jersey, Vermont, and was the Associate Director for the Northeast National Technology Center. After retiring he continued to be an active member of his community. He attended Shelburne Methodist Church, sang in the choir, and served as President of Shelburne Rotary and Rotary International. He also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Young Life in Addison and Chittenden Counties, and helped facilitate the yearly Shelburne BBQ. Ray's community involvement and service were extensive, and he even went back to work at Valdez Environmental Consulting firm to keep busy where he continued his passion for agriculture and clean water by working on the restoration efforts of the Everglades at Lake Okeechobee, Florida. Ray loved gardening, classical concerts, bird watching, dinners on the lake, and dancing. Ray was predeceased by his Wife Nan in 2001. He is survived by his wife Roxanne , sons Raymond (Pamela) Brown and Frederick Brown ; a daughter Kathy (Mike) Shea ; stepchildren Tonya Love and Thomas (Ann) Love as well as numerous grandchildren.
Carter	2024	District Conservationist Philip Scott Carter (57) of Plains, Texas, passed away March 17, 2024. Philip was born in Las Cruces, New Mexico, to Joe and Carolyn (Stone) Carter , on September 25, 1966. He was raised in Ira, Texas, and went to college at Angelo State and Texas Tech University. There he earned his undergraduate degree in Animal Science. Then he later returned to Angelo State to further pursue his love for Range and Wildlife Management and earned his master's degree. After graduation, Philip worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, and eventually made his way to Plains, where he was the District Conservationist. Philip went on a blind date with Vee Ann Fitzgerald , and they married on February 26, 2000. They made their home in Plains for 24 years. He served as a deacon at the Denver City Church of Christ and the Hillside Church of Christ for many years. Philip spent his time ranching, fishing, hunting and chasing not only his daughters but all his nieces and nephews in all their numerous activities. Survivors include his wife, Vee Ann, and his daughters: Madison Carter of Lubbock, Texas; Marka Carter of College Station, Texas; and Mikah Carter of San Angelo, Texas.
Coffee	2024	Harold "Hack" Coffee (78) of Canadian, Texas, passed away on April 1, 2024, in Canadian. Hack was born March 14, 1946, in Pampa, Texas to Walter and Irene Coffee . He graduated from East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. Soon after graduating college, Hack enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served in Vietnam and was on active duty for three years. Hack also served six years in the Marine Corps Reserves and left the service with the rank of Captain. On June 4, 1966, he married the love of his life, Bobbie Stoebe in Miles City, Montana. They have celebrated almost 58 years of marriage. Hack, Bobbie, and their children moved to Canadian in 1987. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for over 35 years before he retired, most of that time as the District Conservationist in Canadian. Hack was a member of the Methodist Church of Canadian and the American Legion Post 106 in Miami, Texas. Hack was an avid outdoorsman, rancher, hunter, and a heck of a handy man. He also enjoyed metal detecting, scuba diving with his sons, and making trips to Las Vegas (and elsewhere) to gamble. Hack and Bobbie were members of the McLean, Texas Dance Hall where they rarely missed a dance. He was a quiet man but told the best jokes and entertaining stories. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Katy Coffee in 2011, who worked as a District Conservationist for the NRCS in Newcastle, Wyoming. Survivors include his wife, Bobbie ; eldest son, Cameron Coffee (Cara) of Portland, Oregon, their children Quinn and Sasha and Jim Coffee (Wendy) of Austin, Texas.
Daniel	2024	ARCSE Member Marvin A. Daniel (101) of Fredericksburg, Texas, passed away on March 26, 2024. He was born in Florence, Texas on July 28, 1922. He joined the Army Air Corp in 1942 serving as a radio operator during World War II. After his discharge in 1946 he worked as District Clerk in the Florence office of the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). That Fall he started attending Texas A&M and he graduated in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. After graduation he started work with SCS in the Fredericksburg work unit. He worked there for ten years. In 1959 he and family moved to Coleman, Texas, where he worked as District Conservationist until 1962 when he became Land Rights Specialist and moved to Brownwood, Texas. A few years later he became the District Conservationist in the Brownwood Field Office. In 1971 he transferred to Vernon, Texas as Area Conservationist where he worked until moving to Harlingen, Texas as the Area Conservationist there. In 1978 he returned to Fredericksburg as Area Conservationist where he served until his retirement from SCS in 1980. He is survived by his son Wendell M. Daniel (Linda) of Early Texas, grandchildren, Celie Thomson (Lane) , Kelly Foltz (Douglas) , as well as 7 great grandchildren. A funeral service was held April 1, 2024 at the First Baptist Church in Fredericksburg followed by interment at Greenwood Cemetery.
Day	2023	Dwayne Albert Day (61) of Tuscola, Texas passed away November 4, 2023 in Paducah, Texas. Dwayne was born in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 14, 1962. He married Nina Sue Pavlicek on May 15, 1982, after working for her dad in the rice field for 5 years. He received his master's in agriculture from Texas A&M University in 1984. He spent 20 years working for the USDA- Natural Resource Conservation Service. And then he worked as a drilling consultant in the oil field for 12 years before he retired. After retiring from the oil field,

		he devoted a large amount of his time helping his daughter Rita Anne build and run her new veterinary clinic. He wholeheartedly lived by the Aggie motto "Never lie, cheat or steal and don't tolerate those that do". Dwayne always thoroughly loved the outdoors. He enjoyed adventures with his motorboat 60 miles offshore fishing, hunting mountain lions in and flying his own plane to go scout for elk. He is survived by his wife, Nina Sue Day and his three children Rita Anne Ikeler (Eric) , Savanna Lee Delgado (Jeremy) who have and his son Conrad Levon Day ; grandchildren Via Lee , Von Edward , Joslyn Nicole , Delia Mae and Bronson Nicholas . He is also survived by his mother, Alice Anne Day , and 3 siblings.
Fox	2024	Stanley Raymond Fox (82) of Punta Gordo, Florida, passed away March 22, 2024, surrounded by his family. Stan was born August 22, 1941, in Washington, DC. In 1968 while working as a draftsman for the Post Office Department, he met the love of his life, Karen Koehley . They were married on May 2, 1970. In 1977 they made the brave move to relocate across the country to Oregon where Stan worked as a Snow Hydrologist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, now the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The adventures he experienced could easily have been a script for a television show. Stan was allowed remote access to various mountain sites, accessible only by helicopter. Stan even helicoptered into the crater of Mount St Helens to measure the snowpack between eruptions. He was an instructor at the Snow Survival School. He once was in a helicopter crash landing on a dried-out riverbed. Luckily, he was unhurt as he had a very experienced Vietnam Vet pilot. Stan was a consistent contributor to local television, radio and newspapers. Stan retired from NRCS in 2004. In 2005, the sunshine, tropics and most importantly a boat lured Stan and Karen to Punta Gorda, Florida. He named the boat Sno Mon. They enjoyed kayaking, snorkeling, cruising the Caribbean and family outings. In addition to his wife Karen, Stan's survivors include daughters Angela and Kristi.
Goddard	2023	ARCSE Member William David Goddard (84) of Fillmore, Utah, passed away December 8, 2023, at Utah Valley Hospital. Bill was born July 5, 1939, in Fillmore to Roy Kenneth and Elaine Melville Goddard . He married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Ashman , on July 1, 1959, in the Manti, Utah Temple. Bill served his country in the Army National Guard for 9 years. After completing his associate degree in civil engineering from what is now Southern Utah University, he went on to receive a bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and from there became a professional civil engineer for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). During his career with the SCS, there were numerous transfers with promotions. After a long career, Bill ultimately retired as the State Soil Conservationist of Nevada and later returned to Fillmore. There he was able to build his dream shop where he spent many hours making beautiful creations for his children and grandchildren. He loved spending time with his sons and sometimes his daughters working on cars and doing home repairs and could fix just about anything. He also had a love of travel and really loved his trips to Hawaii along with fishing at Kent's Lake and Otter Creek. Bill was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served as Bishop of the Morgantown, West Virginia ward for five years among many other callings. He enjoyed working in the Reno, Nevada and Manti Utah temples with his loving sweetheart. Together they served two missions: one in Tennessee as well as Sparks, Nevada. Survivors include his wife, Joyce, of almost 65 years who continues to live in Fillmore, son Bret (Randi) Goddard of Gladstone, Missouri, daughter Robin (John) Eberle of Connoquenessing, Pennsylvania, son Bart (Deborah) Goddard of Fillmore, Utah, son Travis (Kristina) Goddard of Reno, Nevada, son Tyler (Kaylene) Goddard of Cedar City, Utah, daughter Penny (Kelly) Gillins of Fillmore, Utah., 29 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.
Headden	2020	Senior Conservationist and ARCSE Life Member Glenn Headden (88) of Union City, Tennessee, passed away November 15, 2020, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Glenn was born on March 24, 1932, in Yorkville, Tennessee, son of the late Maury and Velma (Ashmore) Headden and stepson of the late Hazel (Sturdivant) Headden . He married Sherry Vernon on June 8, 1957. He attended the University of Tennessee at Martin and graduated in 1957 with a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture. He served as the President of the Ag Club and the President of his Senior Class among other achievements. Glenn was a veteran of the United States Army, serving from 1957 to 1959. Following his Army service, he enjoyed a long and distinguished career with the USDA- Soil Conservation Service (SCS), which he had begun as a student intern while attending college. He held multiple positions over the years throughout middle and west Tennessee, including Obion County Soil Conservationist and coordinator in Jackson for the eight county Chickasaw Shiloh Reserve Conservation and Development Project. His last position with the SCS was Area Conservationist, serving all counties in West Tennessee. He was an outstanding steward of natural resources and received a number of awards for his exemplary performance. In 1970 and 1979, he received the SCS' Special Achievement Award. Glenn retired in 1993 and continued his love of the soil through gardening. He especially loved tilling his garden every spring and working alongside Sherry in the garden every summer. He was a devout Christian and a member of the Exchange Street Church of Christ in Union City since 1966. He was a devoted husband, a sacrificial father, and a dedicated Pop! Survivors include his wife, Sherry ; daughters Cindy Gibson (Andy) of Union City and Elaine Kloos (Robert) of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; one granddaughter, Jessica Roney (Mike) of Dickson, Tennessee; two step granddaughters, Allison Vogel (Eric) of Malvern, Pennsylvania and Amanda Moore (Alan) of Hyattsville, Maryland; 6 great grandchildren, Emily , Olivia and Alex Roney , and Audrey , Emilia and Jack Vogel .
Henning	2023	Malcolm Leon Henning (77) of Denmark, Tennessee, passed away July 9, 2023. Malcolm was born on February 17, 1946, in Denmark. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, retiring as the National

		Program Manager for the Conservation Reserve Program at National Headquarters in Washington, DC. Interment was at the Denmark Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery in Denmark, Tennessee.
Hook	2024	Floyd Winston Hook Jr. (65) of Kingston, Oklahoma passed away on March 9, 2024, at his home. He was born on March 10, 1958, in Madill, Oklahoma to the late Floyd Winston Hook Sr. and Eloice Cleo Cryer Hook . Winston attended all 12 years of school at Kingston, graduating in 1976 and was a member of the Kingston Alumni Association. He lived his entire life in the Willis and Fobb area working on local farms. Winston also worked for Weber Aircraft from 1989 till 1991, Marshall County Conservation District from 1997 to 2014, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service from 1997 to 2014, retiring in 2014 due to medical reasons. He later owned Uncle Winky Lawn Service. Winston always had a smile on his face, a huge heart full of love and would do anything for anyone. He loved planting in the garden, raising watermelons and cantaloupe. The love of his life was named "Blue". She was so much more than a dog; she was his child, his companion, she was his best friend.
Hughes	2024	ARCSE Member Judith Lois Hughes (84) of Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania, passed away on January 26, 2024. Judith was born on June 29, 1939, in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania. Judith worked as a personnel clerk in the Harrisburg State Office for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, retiring in 2006. Judith was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church. She was an avid animal lover, especially cats, and she and her husband took care of many beloved pets during their life together. She is preceded in death by her husband R. Burton Hughes in 2008. Surviving Judith are her sister in-law, Virginia Dalton ; brother in-law, John Hughes ; nephew, John Dalton ; niece, Lynn Dalton ; step-niece, Sheila ; step-nephews, Mike and Kirk (Charlotte) Hughes ; and great nephews, Shawn, Gavin and Clay .
Muckel	2024	Nancy Mae Muckel (76) of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away April 3, 2024. She was the wife of ARCSE Life Member Gary Bruce Muckel who is a retired Soil Scientist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Nancy was born April 28, 1947, in Reno, Nevada to LaRoy Grant and Alpha Naomi Parsons (Lehman) of Fallon and Hazen, Nevada. She married Gary on June 10, 1967 at St. Paul Methodist Church in Reno. Gary's led to several job transfers. She moved with husband Gary from Reno to Burley, Idaho, then Twin Falls, Idaho then Bismarck, North Dakota and Albuquerque, New Mexico, Tigard, Oregon, and finally Lincoln, Nebraska in 1992. Each move she continued to serve her community in Jaycettes and many other community activities. She battled breast cancer on and off for nearly 20 years, but it did not slow her down from her many activities and gatherings with friends. Nancy is survived by husband Gary, sister Joan Austin of Sparks, Nevada, daughter Tamera Kay Muckel of Sparks, Nevada, son William Dean Muckel (Holly) of Lincoln, grandchildren Kira Isabel Muckel and Shane Muckel of Lincoln and nieces and nephews in Reno, Sparks and Winnemucca.
Ortgies	2024	Karolyn Lo Ortgies (83) of Massena, Iowa, peacefully passed away on April 7, 2024, at Exira Care Center after a battle with Alzheimer's disease. Karolyn was the wife of Duane Ortgies , retired Soil Conservation Technician for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Karolyn was born on January 11, 1941, in Atlantic, Iowa, to Arnold and Erma (Petersen) Westphalen and grew up on a farm west of Elk Horn, Iowa. Following graduation from Elk Horn schools, she attended beauty school. Karolyn met Duane Ortgies while singing at a friend's wedding where he was a groomsman, and they were married on May 31, 1964. She and Duane established The Travelling Companion bed and breakfast and tearoom in their beautiful home. She later opened The Tinder Box gift shop in downtown Elk Horn. Karolyn is survived by her husband, Duane Ortgies; son Tony (Sally) Ortgies of West Des Moines, Iowa; granddaughter, Clara Ortgies , and her fiancé, Matthew Schmitz of Urbandale, Iowa.
Paulsgrove	2024	Senior Conservationist and ARCSE Life Member Glenn Harold Paulsgrove (98) Knoxville, Illinois, passed away on April 12, 2024, at the Knox County Nursing Home. He was born January 27, 1926, east of Abingdon, Illinois, the son of James R. and Alta Hatch Paulsgrove . Glenn served in the United States Navy during World War II on a Landing Ship Tank (LST) in the Pacific Theater, which participated in the Leyte invasion of the Philippines. Glenn was honorably discharged from the service in May 1946 and enrolled at Knox College in the fall. In 1947, he transferred to the University of Illinois, starting at the Galesburg branch, and then moving to the Champaign-Urbana Campus. Glenn graduated in June 1950 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. Glenn began his career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in the summer of 1949. He served in several locations in Illinois, retiring in 1986 from the Area Conservationist position in Northern Illinois. Glenn married Bettelou Flory of Monmouth in 1950. They had three children; Steven, Teresa (Teri) , and Robin . Glenn later married Fern Lucille (Lucy) Camper of Galesburg, Illinois in 1971. Glenn was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post #285, Veterans of Foreign Wars #2257, and State Associations of LST Navy Veterans, SCS Retirees Association, and the Elks Lodge 894. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Galesburg. Glenn was an avid Chicago Cubs fan. Glenn and Lucy enjoyed traveling and took many trips and cruises after retirement. They spent winters in Arizona enjoying bowling and playing shuffleboard. Glenn is survived by his children: Steven (Christy) Paulsgrove of Goliad, Texas; Teresa (Randell) Crump of Cleveland, Tennessee; and Robin (Ray) Paulsgrove of Dallas, Texas; four grandchildren: Casey (Cara) Horny, Jamison Horny, Zachary (Dayna) Paulsgrove, and Lindsay Weeks ; and five great grandchildren: Carsyn, Breslynn, and Evelyn Govednik; Jude Mendez, and Maeve Paulsgrove . Glenn also leaves two stepchildren: Larry (Mary Jo) Camper and Kathleen Wolny ; five step-grandchildren: Jason (Allyson) Camper, Sarah Camper, Stephanie (Nick) Roske, Jessica (Joel) Snape, and Nicholas Wolny ; and five step-great grandchildren. Glenn was preceded in death by his wife, and the mother of his children.

Pewthers	2024	<p>Lt. Col. John O. Pewthers (87) of Waurika, Oklahoma passed away peacefully in his home on March 1, 2024 with his 3 daughters at his side. John was born on December 22, 1936, at home in Mountain View, Oklahoma to Keith and Margie Pewthers. He graduated in 1959 from Oklahoma State University (OSU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy Field Crops with Range Management Option. While at OSU, he did 4 years of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He was in the US Air Force for 36 years, 3 of which were active duty as a Photo-Radar Intelligence Officer and an Air Police Officer. He retired from the Air Force Reserve as a Lt. Col. in 1996. He received his pilot's license in 1963. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for 34 years as a range and district conservationist. John married the love of his life, Phyllis Joy Roles on September 25, 1955. He was an active member in his community and was involved in the Civil Air Patrol, Society for Range Management, Lions Club, American Legion and many others over the years. He accepted Christ at the age of 9 at the First Baptist Church in Mountain View, Oklahoma. He was an energetic member of The First Baptist Church of Waurika, Oklahoma for over 40 years. John is preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Joy. He is survived by his 3 daughters, Janice Joy Mackiewicz (Jake) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Johnna Kim Duell (Doug) of Burlington, Colorado, and Terri Dian Moore (David) of Amarillo, Texas, 6 grandchildren: Erica Hunt (Andrew) of Grove, Oklahoma, Barrett Duell (BreeAnn) of Goodland, Kansas, Amber Torres (Joe) of Amarillo, Texas, Tyrel Duell (Sarah) of Sterling, Colorado, Courtney Mayo (Adam) of Kansas City, Missouri, and Jamie Moore (David) of Amarillo, Texas, and 15 great grandchildren.</p>
Pietzsch	2024	<p>Jerome Wayne Pietzsch (88) of Hamilton, Texas, passed away March 26, 2024. Jerome was born May 1, 1935, in Hamilton to Gustave and Emma Eilers Pietzsch. He joined the United States Army in 1957. He went through basic training at Fort Chaffe in Arkansas and continued training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He was honorably discharged May 31, 1963. He went to work for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in 1962. He retired from the SCS on April 1, 1994, after 32 years of service. Throughout his life he called Pottsville home where he farmed the family land and custom farmed in his time off from the SCS up until his 80th birthday when he retired from custom farming. In 1971 he married the "Love of his life" Alice Ann Ash in Cranfills Gap, Texas. He joined St. John Lutheran Church in 1970 where he led an active role in the church serving as an Elder. He is survived by his wife, Alice. His daughter Patricia (Lynn) Diepenbrock of Davis, Oklahoma, Deborah (Brad) Benne of Round Rock, Texas, Becky (Chris) Andrews of Hamilton, Texas. Son Wayne Pietzsch (Renee) of Georgetown, Texas; his nine grandchildren Tiffany (Jeremy) Mitchell, Ethan Benne, Braden Andrews, Cody Diepenbrock, M'kayla Benne, Christy (Jordan) Ricketts, Camden Andrews and fiancé Dylan Childress, Breely Pietzsch, and Taryn Pietzsch; and one great grandson Sutton Ricketts.</p>
Ramsey	2024	<p>James Floyd (Chipper) Ramsey (78) and Betty Faye Ramsey (75) of Greenback, Tennessee, passed away unexpectedly on March 31, 2024, at their cherished home, the victims of a double homicide. Chip and Betty were high school sweethearts and were married for almost 58 years. Chip worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which led him across the Southeastern United States. He finished his professional journey in the Washington D.C. National Office where he worked in the Conservation Planning Division. Betty and Chipper devoted countless hours to encouraging and supporting AI and their grandchildren in their various activities. Whether it was pageants, cheerleading, golf tournaments, BBQ cooking, soccer, basketball, or football games, they could often be found in the audience or stands, proudly cheering on AI, Taylor, Creed, and Averi as their most enthusiastic fans. Their unwavering support served as a constant source of inspiration and motivation for their loved ones, embodying the true essence of family bonds and love. They are survived by their son Allen (Tiffany), their beloved grandchildren Taylor Brooke Ramsey (Evan Wise), Sr. Airman Allen "Creed" Ramsey USAF, Averi Maddox Ramsey (Dalyn), and great-granddaughter Stevie Brooks Wise, all of Knoxville, Tennessee.</p>
Reinke	2024	<p>Barbara A. Reinke (80) of Victoria, Texas, passed away March 26, 2024, a day shy of her birthday. Barbara was the wife of Stan Reinke who worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a Range Management Specialist from 1997 to 2004. Barbara was born March 27, 1943, in Refugio, Texas to William H. and Anna Marie Crawford. She was a member of Faith Family Church in Victoria. She is survived by her loving husband, Stan; daughter, Kim Stary (Chad); son, Tim Reinke; grandchildren, Emmitt Reinke, Melyn Yaklin (Jacob), Emily Bohac (Matthew), Isabella Najus, and Reilly Reinke; great-grandchildren, Bryant and Weston Bohac.</p>
Rolewicz	2024	<p>Deanna "Dee" Marie Rolewicz (62) of Woodland, California, passed away on March 12, 2024. Deanna was born October 27, 1962. She worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 31 years. Most of her time she worked at the Davis, California State Office in Soils, Financial Management and Programs. She retired in October 2018 as a Program Management Specialist. Dee loved life, she loved her family and friends but most of all she loved her grandkids more than anything in this world.</p>
Rose	2024	<p>Kenneth Herman Rose (90) of Hutchinson, Kansas, passed away February 22, 2024, at Welsey Towers in Hutchinson. Ken was born June 17, 1933, on the family farm near Bloomfield in Knox County, Nebraska, to Herman Philip and Emma (Hinzmann) Rose. He served in the United States Army in Korea, having volunteered for the draft to earn the GI Bill, and then learned that was a hazardous way to fund an education. He graduated from the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in agronomy and joined the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS), now known as the Natural Resources Conservation Service. He worked for SCS for the next 37 years in several northeast Nebraska locations before transferring to Rochester, Minnesota, and eventually Hutchinson, Kansas where he served</p>

		as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations. He was a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, the American Legion Lyle Rishel Post #68, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and the National Rifle Association. On December 22, 1955, he made what he felt was the best decision of his life and married his Bloomfield High School sweetheart Vivian Boland . Their oldest child Douglas Kenneth Rose was born in 1959 and succumbed to a glioblastoma brain cancer in 2010. In addition to Vivian, Kenneth is survived by daughter, Kellye Jean Rose (Brent Gregoire) of Burnsville, Minnesota, daughter-in-law, Erica Bergsland of Edina, Minnesota, grand-children Emily Rose Nghiem (Huy) of Denver Colorado, Henry Douglas Rose of Venice, California, Matthew Boland Gregoire (Emilie) of Saint Louis Par, Minnesota), Benjamin Ryan Gregoire of Burnsville, Minnesota and great-grandson Tye Douglas Nghiem
Sando	2024	Ronald D. Sando (83) of Bismarck, North Dakota, passed away peacefully on April 8, 2024 with his family at his residence in Laguna Woods, California. Ron was born in Grafton, North Dakota, on July 5, 1940. He attended Denver University, University of Colorado, and University of North Dakota where he graduated in January 1965 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. On March 29, 1961, Ron married the love of his life Karen Sue Knutson . Ron was the Design Engineer in the Bismarck, North Dakota State office for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for many years. He then became the State Conservation Engineer and retired as Assistant State Conservationist for Programs after the agency became the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. He received multiple awards for his work and was most proud when his peers recognized him with the prestigious North Dakota Water Users Hall of Fame. He was a registered professional engineer in North Dakota for 50 years. Upon retiring from government service, Ron continued to participate in his water resource consulting and his work for the Bismarck Parks and Recreation Department. He was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Bismarck and an associate member of the Lutheran Church of the Cross in Laguna Woods, California. Ron is survived by his wife, Karen; sons Todd (Lunette) and Bradley (Terri) ; and grandsons, Bradley, Nicholas, and Derek ; a brother, three sisters and a brother-in-law. He was preceded in death by his parents. Honorary ARCSE Member John Clarence Lowrey (92) of Sun City West, Arizona, passed away on April 13, 2024. John was born December 25, 1931, the youngest of 6 siblings and was raised in Illinois. John joined the United States Army and served in Germany after World War II in the 5th armored division as a field artillery cannoner and received an occupation medal during his service in Germany. John later became a proud member of American Legion Post 94 of Sun City West, Arizona. John went on to marry Rose and loved and cherished her through many years. John was a graduate of the University of Illinois. Both John and Rose worked and retired from the federal government working for the US Department of Agriculture. John was an economist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and worked in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Washington, DC. John is survived by his loving wife Rose of almost 32 years, a son Mark Lowrey of Texas, a daughter Jean Zertuche of California, and granddaughters Kristine, Renee' and Katie . He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and three sisters.
Shields	2023	ARCSE Life Member Lee B. Shields (86) of Greenbelt, Maryland, passed away December 7, 2023. An obituary is not available. Lee was the Assistant Director of Information for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service when he retired at the end of 1986. Lee and his wife Bonnie Shields were fixtures of ARCSE luncheons and other functions in the Capitol Area before COVID-19 restrictions came along. Lee and Bonnie were very active in community activities and Greenbelt city government. They were proud of living in their starter home in Greenbelt for over 50 years as is shown in this video: https://vimeo.com/46113466 . If an obituary becomes available, we will have more information in a future newsletter. Lee is survived by his wife Bonnie but information on other survivors is not currently available.
Smith	2017	Senior Conservationist Philip Randolph Smith (94) of Madras, Oregon (formerly of Seattle, Washington), passed away April 3, 2017, at his home. Philip was born June 4, 1922, to Randolph and Mary Abigail Smith in Lockett, Utah. Philip attended college at Utah State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Technical Soils in 1949 and received a Master's in Soil Fertility at Purdue University in Indiana. He served in the United States Navy from April 1942 until 1946 on the USS Enterprise. On June 12, 1946, he married Eleanor Mae Jones in Salt Lake City. She passed away January 8, 2015. They lived in several places including Indiana, Missouri, Hood River, Eugene, Seaside, Seattle, and Madras. Philip worked as a soil scientist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, helping to map soils in Hood River, Lane and Clatsop counties. He was party Leader when he retired in 1984. He was a member of the Church of Latter-Day Saints (LDS), serving in many leadership positions, and went on an LDS mission from 1984 to 1986. He was a member of Boy Scouts of America and the Soil Scientist Society of America. Philip enjoyed gardening, family history and family newsletters. Survivors include his sons, Phil (Sue) Smith of Madras, Peter (Sheue Wen) Smith of Provo, Utah; daughters, Nancy (Dwight) McLean of Tukwila, Washington, and Shirley (Donald) Robinson of Madras; 20 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren.
Spencer	2023	Senior Conservationist and ARCSE Life Member Loren John Spencer (97) of Kaysville, Utah (formerly of Reno, Nevada) passed away October 5, 2023. Loren was born December 30, 1925, in Kanab, Utah to Homer and Clara Spencer . His father passed away when he was eight years old. He grew up working with an uncle running the family's farm. He enjoyed riding horses and herding the cattle. During the late 1930's he was an extra in a few of the movies that were made near Kanab. He volunteered for the Marine Corps after graduating high school. He was attached to the 4th Marine Division and sailed to Hawaii for additional training. On New Year's Day, 1945 the Division left Pearl Harbor for the Island of Iwo Jima. The invasion began on February 19, 1945. The unit he joined—K Company, 23rd Regiment—

		<p>suffered 130% casualties during the campaign. He returned to Maui by way of the Marshall Islands on the USS Kingsbury. He, and all Privates, was promoted to Private First Class. The unit was brought back to full strength. After the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan in August, 1945, he was assigned to an MP company and went to Guam on the Aircraft Carrier USS Bon Homme Richard. One of his assignments was guarding about 500 Japanese prisoners who had survived Iwo Jima. They could not go back to Japan because their families would not accept them. They were supposed to have died for their country. He sailed home in June of 1946 arriving in San Francisco. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal and was told he could keep the rank if he would re-enlist. He declined and was discharged on June 18, 1946. When home, he enrolled in the School of Engineering at the Branch Agricultural College in Cedar City, Utah in the Fall of 1946. In 1948 he went to Fillmore, Utah to get a job with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). While he was in Fillmore, he met LaRene Petersen when he went to her window at the bank. They were married in the Manti Utah Temple on September 17, 1948. They moved to Logan, Utah where he completed his degree in civil engineering at Utah State University. In 1950 they moved to Beaver, Utah to continue his career with the USDA Soil Conservation Service SCS. As his career advanced, he worked in Cedar City, Utah, American Fork, Utah, Lehi, Utah, and Provo, Utah. In 1968 he was promoted to a planning engineer out of the state office in Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1971 he was assigned as the assistant conservation engineer in the state office. Loren was transferred to Reno, Nevada in 1975 as the state conservation engineer. He retired from the Soil Conservation Service in December of 1994 after a 45-year career, 25 years with the agency in Utah and 20 years in Nevada. In retirement he was a consultant for a local engineering company. He moved to Kaysville, Utah to live with his son, Neil, in 2018 after LaRene passed away. Loren was very devoted to his church. He served as Elders Quorum President and as a counselor in two bishoprics. He worked with the youth, which included the Boy Scouts. He served as Bishop of the Mount Rose First Ward in Reno, Nevada from 1980 – 1985. Served on the Reno Stake High Council for 10 years. He served as Director of the Reno Nevada Family History Center for 22 years. Loren also served many years as the Nevada State Rep for the Association of Retired Conservation Employees. He is survived by his three children: Ross (Margo) Spencer, JaNene (Forrest) Carter and Neil (preceded in death by Donece) Spencer. His posterity includes 13 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.</p>
Stamatel	2023	<p>Senior Conservationist and Life ARCSE Member Henry S. Stamatel (99) of Camillus, New York, passed away May 17, 2023, at home, after a brief illness. Born 100 years ago in Stamford, Connecticut, his parents were immigrants from southeast Poland and their lives were extremely modest. By 1930, his Uncle Steven had taken him in, and he lived with Uncle Steven's family, while his mother worked as a domestic in nearby Rye, New York. In the 1930s, Henry, his widowed mother, and sister moved into subsidized housing in downtown Stamford. By 1941, Henry was an Eagle Scout, ready to graduate from Stamford High School and go to work in a factory to support his family, but then the Japanese Air Force bombed Pearl Harbor and he joined the military. Henry was trained to be a navigator of a B-29 in the Army Air Corps. As a father, he did not readily share his memories of the war until he was in his 80s when told his adult children, "I flew over the Empire three times." Henry took part in the bombing of the oil reserves at Akita, Japan, the longest bombing raid ever attempted by the 20th Air Force. He remembered that this mission began with the plane positioned for takeoff at the end of the runway while a fuel truck drove out to top off the B-29's tanks one final time. A chaplain was riding in the front seat of the truck. The mission was an American success, and Henry and his fellow aviators were returning to Guam when the radioman announced that Hirohito had surrendered. Weeks later, he boarded a troop ship and made his way through the Panama Canal to Fairfield Court in Stamford. Henry's military service paid for his education at the University of Connecticut and Yale University, where he earned civil engineering degrees. He married Mary Pat Fraser in 1954 and began a family immediately. Henry worked as an engineer for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for his entire working life, helping municipalities manage flooding and create reservoirs for drinking water. He retired in 1986 as State Conservation Engineer. In later years, he was magnanimous about the change in philosophy that undammed many American rivers. A good friend who was also his boss, Bob Addison, took Henry with him when he moved from New Hampshire to New York in 1971. In Camillus, he mounted a tall rotating antenna on the roof of his home so he could watch hockey night in Canada on Saturdays. He was a steady parishioner at St. Joseph's Church in Camillus, where he lived with his family in the same house until his passing. Henry was a dedicated naturalist who regularly took his five children and devoted wife camping in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Adirondacks of New York. He once nailed a fish to a log and then hid, camera in hand, until a raccoon showed up. Henry was an early Nordic skier when equipment had to be ordered directly from Norway! In retirement, he and Pat enjoyed winters in their Airstream trailer in the citrus groves of Florida for a time, where he cultivated bananas, blood oranges, and pink grapefruits. Henry was predeceased by his wife of 56 years, Mary Pat, whom he nursed through her final days with grace and resolve. Surviving are his five children, Thomas (Tracey), Stanley (Helen), Mary (Mark), Elizabeth (Ray), and Lawrence (Viola); and seven wonderful grandchildren, Savanna, Brendan, Lauren, Andrew, Patrick, Henry, and Theo.</p>
Strom	2023	<p>Senior Conservationist Elwood Malcolm Strom (105) of Dwight, Kansas, passed away December 2, 2023 in Council Grove, Kansas. Malcom was born March 24, 1918, to Albena and Elwood Strom on their farm near Dwight. It was during the same month, only 20 miles away, that the great pandemic of 1918 began. In 1939 Malcolm graduated from Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (now Kansas State University) with a degree in agronomy. In August of 1941 he began his work with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Alcester, South Dakota. Following his service in World War II, he returned to the</p>

		<p>SCS where he spent most of his time in South Dakota. In 1964 he transferred to New Hampshire, where he became the assistant state conservationist. Toward the end of his career, Malcolm had the opportunity to spend 2 years in Nigeria, where he headed an agricultural school under the auspices of United States Agency for International Development. In 1973, Malcolm retired from SCS, and with his wife, Edith, moved back to the family farm at Dwight, where his mother, Albena, still lived. Though retired from government service, he spent several years as an agricultural consultant with Dr. Everett Dennis, of Manhattan, Kansas. Malcolm served his country during both WW II and the Korean War. He was sworn into the army on December 8th, 1941, the day war was declared on Japan. After officer candidate school, he was assigned to the 102nd Evacuation Hospital and trained as their transportation officer. His unit left California for Europe in April 1944. His unit crossed France, Luxembourg, and Belgium, finally entering Germany at the end of the war. He was released from service on December 8, 1945, four years to the day after taking his oath of enlistment. He stayed in the Army Reserves and was then called up for duty in 1951 during the Korean War for eighteen months. On December 17, 1942, Malcolm married the love of his life, Edith Kelley, who passed away in September 1999. During their fifty-six years of marriage, the couple had three children: Eric was born in March 1944, just as Malcolm prepared to ship out for Europe. Sadly, he survived only one day and is buried in Vinland, Kansas. Following the war, the couple had two more children: Byron Malcolm (b. 1946) and Katharine Elaine, born (b. 1948). In addition to his love for his family and his church, Malcolm had several other interests, including history, travel, birdwatching, photography, and genealogy. Malcolm was raised in the United Methodist Church in Dwight. After retirement, he once again became a member of the Methodist church and held several church roles and responsibilities in its local, county, and state organizations. He was active in Friends of Kaw Heritage, and the Morris County Historical Society. Malcolm loved to travel with Edith. They had the opportunity to visit their daughter, Kathy and her family in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Nepal, and the Netherlands. He made a connection with his Swedish relatives and traveled several times to visit them. In addition, they went to Haiti and Mexico for several Methodist mission trips and to Poland for a Heifer Project trip. In the later years of his life, he was able to visit the Amazon and Alaska with his daughter, Kathy and her husband, Gertjan. Survivors include a sister, Helen Fowler, a son, Byron Strom (Becky), his daughter, Katharine Renes (Gertjan), four grandchildren: Laura O'Halloran (Jeff), Joanna Des Marteau (André), Willem Renes, Sophia Gustafsson-Renes (Anders), and 6 great grandchildren: Cian, Kaitlin and Grady O'Halloran, Rémy and Elsa Des Marteau, and Sigrid Gustafsson-Renes. He was preceded in death by his wife, Edith, son, Eric Kelley Strom, sisters Deloris Strom and Dorothy Wasmund, and brother, Paul Strom.</p>
Walker	2015	<p>Senior Conservationist Helene Ruth Kiser Walker (97) of Somerset, Kentucky, passed away December 29, 2015. Helene was born November 21, 1918, to the late George and Elizabeth Trimble Kiser in Somerset, Kentucky. She met the love of her life, Kenneth Walker, and they married on Valentine's Day 1953. Helene was stricken by the dreaded disease known as polio at the age of two, however, it did not deter her. After receiving treatments at polio hospitals around the country, her family returned to Somerset where Helene attended school and was a member of the 1937 graduating class of Somerset High School. She continued her education to become a business professional and began her career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Office in Somerset. She served as the Area Clerk in Somerset for many years. After retiring, Helene and Ken traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and many countries in Europe. Helene was a member of First Baptist Church Somerset, where she was enrolled on the Cradle Roll as an infant. Helene is survived by a niece and four nephews who live in Wisconsin.</p>
White	2024	<p>Cecil Irving White (73) of Des Moines, Iowa, passed away March 29, 2024. Cecil was born on September 4, 1950, to Cecil G and Stella (Stadeker) White. He attended Dowling Catholic School, Des Moines Public Schools, and graduated from Tech High School. Cecil was a former member of St. John's Parish, where he was an altar boy. As a youth, Cecil enjoyed riding his "English" bike and playing basketball. Cecil was a long-suffering Chicago Bears, White Sox and Bulls fan. He considered Chicago a 2nd hometown. Cecil retired from the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a Budget Analyst in 2002. He was also a credentialed photographer, who was published by The Iowa Bystander, the Des Moines Register and Ebony and Essence Magazine. He enjoyed a long retirement which included time spent with friends and loved ones. Cecil was well known as a bass player and later a percussionist in the Des Moines area. He enjoyed playing many instruments. Cecil enjoyed playing alongside many bands, including Split Decision Band, Goodcat, Bittersweet, Nation Band, SP3, Its Complicated, Des Funk, Beewitched Belly Dance, Des Moines Drum Circles and a host of others. Cecil loved jazz and was a DJ with KUCB and KFMG radio. Cecil became popular in later years as a Facebook Sage. He shared his wise and humorous personality with all who would engage. Cecil recently posted that "He is an old man, and Facebook is his porch". Survivors include his children, Kali Newsome, Shane (Tricia) White and Jazzy Blues; his stepdaughter, Samita (Joe) Kaufmann, and his longtime partner Christine Anania.</p>
Bednarek	2024	<p>ARCSE Life Member Richard James Bednarek, Jr. (63) of Altoona, Iowa, passed away January 25, 2024 from heart complications. He was born April 3, 1960, in North Fond du Lac, Wisconsin to his parents, Richard and Gloria (Warner) Bednarek, Sr. Rick earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. He married Elizabeth VanSomeren in 1986. Rick worked for the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service as a soil scientist in Illinois, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Iowa. He retired in 2019 as the State Soil Scientist of Iowa after 33 years of service. Rick was always athletic and</p>

		enjoyed many different sports. After playing football at the University of Wisconsin, he became an avid golfer and bicyclist. Rick's greatest joy came from spending time with his children and grandchildren. Rick is survived by his wife of 38 years, Elizabeth ; daughters, Hannah (Kurt) Witte and Kelly (Alex) Ager ; and grandchildren, Jasmyn and Carter Witte . Services were held February 17, 2024 at Hamilton's near Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery, in Des Moines, Iowa.
Boeckman	2024	Anthony Paul (Tony) Boeckman (78) of Medford, Oklahoma passed away on January 27, 2024, following a tragic accident. Tony was born in Okeene, Oklahoma, on June 14, 1945, to Anthony Conrad Boeckman and Arlene Luetkemeyer Boeckman . He earned a bachelor's degree in Agronomy from Oklahoma State University. Tony married Jean Shreve on June 1, 1968. Tony worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and was the District Conservationist in Medford for many years. He retires after 34 years of service in 2004. He was an expert at anything pertaining to soil. After his retirement, Tony and Jean traveled in their RV for several years. They visited 49 states in their RV and traveled to Europe last summer. Tony led a very active lifestyle. He enjoyed spending time with Jean and their children, gardening, cooking, golfing, reading, attending church, and spending time with his siblings. Tony's survivors include his wife of 55 years, Jean; son, Drew Boeckman of Grand Prairie, Texas; daughter, Laural Boeckman of Austin, Texas.
Bricker	2024	Ronald Ray Bricker (74) of Masontown, West Virginia, passed away January 28, 2024, at Morgantown Health and Rehabilitation, with family by his side. Ronald was born at home in Fairchance, Pennsylvania, on July 8, 1949, a son of the late Herbert and Myrtle (Hostutler) Bricker . Ronald is a Vietnam Veteran who proudly served in the United States Army. He retired from the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service after 23 years where he served as the Budget Officer in the West Virginia State Office. Ronald played the keyboard with the Hilltoppers, Conway Twitty , and Loretta Lynn . He loved his cars and motorcycles. Ronald is survived by his loving wife, Mary Catherine (Radabaugh) Bricker ; two daughters, Rhonda Kay Johnson (Lloyd) and Teresa Shelton (Jeremiah) ; grandchildren, Tamara Johnson , Harley Johnson , Keisha Ponceroff (Zach) , and Jacob Nestor and girlfriend Kira Arbogast ; and soon to be great-grandchild, Adalyn Ponceroff . Chaplain Keaton Forsythe held the funeral service at the Field Funeral Home in Masontown on February 1, 2024. The Preston County Honor Guard and the West Virginia Army National Guard Honor Guard provided full Military Honors at the graveside ceremony at the Pleasant Grove Cemetery.
Castille	2024	Joseph J. Castille (75) of Huntsville, Texas, passed away February 19, 2024, in Willis, Texas. Joe was born August 13, 1948. He was a soil scientist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and worked on several soil surveys in Texas. He retired in 2006. He was preceded in death by his wife Joann Matthews Thomas Castille in 2017. Funeral services were held February 24, 2024, at Greater Zion Missionary Baptist Church. He was laid to rest at Brooke Cemetery, in Huntsville.
Cecil	2024	Loretta June Cecil (74) of Dodge City, Kansas, passed away January 11, 2024, at her home. Loretta was born on June 9, 1949, in Satanta, Kansas, the daughter of John and Doris (Golnick) Meyer . She received an associate degree from Dodge City Community College and then went on to attend Fort Hays State University. She married Jim Cecil on June 13, 1970. Loretta held a few occupations over the years including working at Combs Auto, Sears, Coordinator for the Southwest Kansas Library System, and as an Administrative Assistant in the Dodge City Area Office for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 17 years, retiring in 2017 She was also part owner of Cecil's BBQ for 25 years. Loretta was an animal lover. She also loved tending to her flowers and garden as well as being outdoors and working in the yard. She also enjoyed traveling. She is survived by her loving husband, Jim Cecil; children, Cory Cecil (Caralea) of Minneola, Kansas, Daniel Cecil (Lindsey) of Dodge City, and Brian Lies (Samantha) of Satanta, Kansas; grandchildren, Trent Cecil , Parker Cecil , Lainey Cecil , Claire Cecil , Annie Cecil , and Harper Lies .
Elder	2024	Brad Duane Elder (74) of Hinton, Oklahoma, passed away February 5, 2024, at his home in Hinton. Brad was born January 10, 1950, in Stillwater, Oklahoma to Vernon Joseph and Violet Marguerite (Jardot) Elder . He earned a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1972. After college Brad worked on road construction, in the oilfield, raised pigs and worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Brad served as the District Conservationist at the office in Hinton and then worked in Anadarko, Oklahoma as a Soil Conservationist until he retired in 2011 with over 40 years of service. Brad didn't stay away long and returned to help the Anadarko Field Office staff until November 2015 when he fully retired. On December 19, 2023, Brad married Connie Miller in their family home. He was a loving father and husband and always made his family feel special. Brad enjoyed sports, University of Oklahoma sports, football, the Kansas City Chiefs, and spending time with family and friends. Brad is survived by his wife, Connie Elder of their home in Hinton; daughter, Michelle (Chris) Brandner of Yukon, Oklahoma; two sons, Bradly Elder of Hinton, and Ty Duane Elder of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and two grandchildren, Braden (Anna) Elder and Natalie Elder .
Garrett	2024	Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE Member John Joseph Garrett (95) of Raleigh, North Carolina passed away on January 1, 2024, in Waynesville, North Carolina. John was born on January 17, 1928, in Springfield, Ohio. He was married to his wife of 71 years, the late Mildred Garrison Garrett , whom he met in high school in Sidney, Ohio. After serving in the United States Navy for four years, including duty inside the Artic Circle, John began his family with Mildred in 1950. He graduated from Ohio State University with an Agricultural Engineering Degree on the GI Bill. John went to work for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Ohio, working as local project engineer, area engineer, and statewide watershed

		<p>programs staffer. He transferred to the Raleigh, North Carolina SCS State Office as the River Basin and Watershed Coordinator in 1971. He retired from federal service after 38 years in 1990; reaching the position of Assistant State Conservationist for Water Resources. After retirement, John consistently volunteered for many years with the North Carolina Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation. He reached the status of "Senior Conservationist" as a member of the Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees and was a member of the international Soil and Water Conservation Society. John, and Mildred, were longtime members and volunteers at Capital City Church of Christ, which has become part of Lifepointe Church of Cary. He had a lifelong passion for fishing, and fishing rod building and repair. Other hobbies included landscape plant and flower propagation. John is survived by three sons: J. Keenan Garrett of Athens, Ohio; Timothy E. Garrett (Lynne) of Waynesville, North Carolina, and Randall S. Garrett (Ami) of Southport, North Carolina; four grandchildren: Amanda L. Nowell, Timothy M. Garrett, A. Tyler Garrett, and Jessica E. Morris; and eight great-grandchildren. A celebration was held February 3, 2024, at Lifepointe Church in Cary, North Carolina, followed by burial at Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh.</p>
Garrett	2022	<p>Mildred Garrison Garrett (93) of Raleigh, North Carolina, passed away on January 9, 2022. She was the wife of Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE Member John Joseph Garrett who served as the Assistant State Conservationist for Water Resources for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service before retiring in 1990. Mildred was a native of Sidney, Ohio, the daughter of the late Aaron and Delma Snider Garrison. Mildred volunteered at Rex Hospital for many years. She was a longtime member of Capital City Church of Christ which has become part of Lifepointe Church in Cary. She enjoyed raising her three sons and supporting their families, including being active in High School Band and Athletic Boosters.</p>
Goertz	2024	<p>Larry Alfred Goertz (75) of Burleson, Texas, passed away unexpectedly on February 20, 2024 at his home. Larry was born on April 17, 1948, in San Antonio, Texas, to Emma and John A. Goertz. He left the farm to attend Texas A&M University on a presidential scholarship and received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering in 1970. During college summers, Larry interned with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and was hired by them full time after graduation. Later, he returned to school at the University of Texas at Austin to obtain one of the first Masters of Civil Engineering in Hydraulics degrees ever awarded by the school. Larry worked as a hydraulic and hydrology engineer with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He was one of the first hires at the National Design, Construction, and Soil Mechanics Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Before that he had worked with the Watershed Planning staff San Marcos, Texas and at the Texas State Office in Temple, Texas. He was known for his grace and good humor, his professionalism and intellect, and his quiet focus on people and service. He was a great mentor to many. Larry was instrumental in working with the team that brought the Corp of Engineer's Hydrologic Engineering Center's (CEIWR-HEC) River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) website to NRCS as well as the development and application of SITES as a rainfall-runoff model for hydraulically proportioning the principal spillway and auxiliary spillway of a dam. After retiring from NRCS in 2006 he went to work as a part-time hydraulic engineer for M&E Consultants.</p>
Heirman	2024	<p>Alan Leo Heirman (77) of Albany, Texas, passed away January 8, 2024. Alan was born November 5, 1946, in Abilene, Texas to Leo Alphonse Heirman and Lucile Elizabeth Gravens Heirman. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Abilene Christian College and then his Master of Science Degree from Texas Tech University. He earned double majors from both institutions in Animal Science and Range Management. On July 26, 1969, he married the love of his life, Mary Louise Brubaker in Abilene, Texas. Alan worked as a Wildlife Biologist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 36 years. He was a leading pioneer of prescribed burning in the 1970s and later introduced prescribed burning to Shackelford County ranchers where it flourished. At the time of his retirement from NRCS, he had recorded 404 prescribed burns which is the most for the state of Texas and a record that will be hard to break. The Heirman family were active members of the Albany Methodist Church. Alan was very active in community and professional organizations. Alan earned several awards in his life and career including Soil Conservationist of the Year, Outstanding Leader in Fire Ecology, and the Honorary Lone Star Farmer Degree. Alan is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Mary Heirman of Albany; two daughters, Michelle (Stephen) Kayga of Albany, and Jennifer (Casey) Meador of Abilene; his mother Lucile Heirman of Abilene; and four grandchildren, Blaine Alan Kayga, Brooke Hope Kayga, Aubrey Renae Meador, Shaylee Casey Meador.</p>
Leeper	2024	<p>Shirley Leeper (79) of Woodland, California, passed away about January 4, 2024. She was born at the Woodland Clinic on November 27, 1944, and lived her early life in Esparto, California. She moved to Woodland with her second husband Preston Leeper where she stayed for the rest of her life. Shirley loved people and always wanted to help those most in need or neglected. She worked as a telephone operator and shoe repairman before she came to work for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, where she worked for the California Area 1 office and the California State Office as a data entry specialist, and computer technical analyst. She was never afraid to learn something new and was willing to put the work into that learning. She suffered polio at age 2 and wore a leg brace for most of her life, but never let that stop her from driving a stick-shift or playing tennis with her sons. She loved to travel and the beach was one of her favorite places to just sit and enjoy God's creation. Her husband Preston passed away in 2019. Shirley is survived by her younger brother Steven Johnson, her older brother Vernon Johnson, and both of her sons Michael (Andrea) Pixton and Randy (Denise) Leeper; and six grandchildren: Natalia Leeper, Brittany Leeper, Kyle Leeper, Cameron Pixton, Joshua Pixton, and Erik Pixton.</p>

Lingle	2024	ARCSE Affiliate Member Erlene Moore Lingle (96) of Auburn, Alabama, passed away peacefully on January 2, 2024, at Bethany House in Auburn. She was preceded in death by her husband, William "Bill" Bryan Lingle in 1988. Bill was the former State Conservationist in Alabama for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Erlene was a long-time resident of Auburn, where she had been active in Auburn United Methodist Church, a founder of Life Long Learning (which later became Olli), Women's Club, Book Club and strong supporter of all Auburn University athletics. She was an avid golfer, loved to travel, a loyal friend and most of all, loved her family and three great-granddaughters. Erlene is survived by her daughter, Deborah Lingle Steindorff (Gilbert) of Montgomery, Alabama and her grandson, Gilbert C Steindorff, IV (Amy) and three great-granddaughters, Margaret Darby, Elizabeth Ann and Mary Benedict Steindorff , all of Birmingham, Alabama. A graveside service was held January 7, 2024, at Auburn Memorial Park.
Lucas	2024	Cynthia Marie Lucas (71) of Salina, Kansas, passed away on January 9, 2024 at Salina Regional Health Center. Cynthia was born on May 07, 1952, in Griffin, Georgia to parents Thelma Stroud and Sylvester (Spider) Jackson . She was the first female District Commander of the American Legion Post in Griffin, Georgia, organized the Athletes Hall of Fame for local athletes from Griffin, Georgia. She worked at McDowell Funeral Home, Inc., Griffin, Georgia and then with the Willie A. Watkins Funeral Home, Atlanta, Georgia and finally the USDA-Natural Resources in Salina, Kansas where she worked as an Administrative Assistant for the State Office Engineer, and Easements Teams. Cynthia is survived by her husband James Oscar Lucas ; Sons: Anthony Hastings (Jennifer) of Salina, Andre Favors (Bridget) of El Reno, Oklahoma; and Grandchildren: Shameeka Hastings, Lashandre Favors, Quinton Caldwell, Aubreale Favors, Markell Hastings, Zenovia Favors, Makelti Hastings, Makaen Hastings, Makambri Hastings ; and 7 Great Grandchildren.
McNiff	2024	Howard Hugh McNiff (84) of Cook, Nebraska, passed away January 30, 2024, at his home. He was born on the family farm near Riverton, Nebraska on September 21, 1939, to Thomas and Eva (Bach) McNiff . He graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) in 1965 with a Bachelor's Degree in Geology. While he was at UNL, Howard was the commander of the Rifle Team from 1959–1961 and led the Nebraska Rifle Team to a National Championship in 1961. He was united in marriage to Bridget (Gross) McNiff in 1965. Howard served his country in the U.S. Army from his enlistment March 4, 1966, until his honorable discharge May 3, 1968. He was proud of his service in Vietnam as an officer in the 299th Combat Engineer Unit. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Star, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and Army Commendation Medals. He continued to serve in the Army Reserves until 1978 and achieved the rank of Major. Howard was a member of the Cook American Legion and Tecumseh VFW Posts. He was instrumental in getting Cook named "The Best Small Town In America." After college, he worked for the Nebraska Department of Roads as a geologist. He went back to school and attained his engineering degree in 1973. He then began working for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service as an engineer. He also worked for the Five Rivers Resource Conservation and Development area. He was preceded in death by his son Patrick McNiff . He is survived his loving wife Bridget , sons Sean McNiff (Wendy) and children Seamus and Evan, Matthew McNiff (Brenda) and sons Jackson and Benjamin , and Mark McNiff (Jamee) .
Mollenhauer	2024	Jude Mollenhauer (84) of Vienna, Virginia and Columbus, Ohio, passed away January 19, 2024. Jude was the wife of Senior Conservationist and Life ARCSE Member Richard (Rich) L. Duesterhaus . Jude and Rich reconnected at their 50th high-school reunion in 2008 and were married a few years later in 2011. Jude was born on December 16, 1939, in Quincy, Illinois, the daughter of George Lewis Mollenhauer and Jessie Margret Siepker . She received a Bachelor of Music from Curtis Institute of Music, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1962 and a Master of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania in 1969. Jude was a skilled musician and served as the Principal Harpist for the Columbus Symphony for many years. She was on the faculty of Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio since 2001 and the faculty of Capital University in Columbus, Ohio since 2004. Jude is survived by two daughters, Jude Webster Guterl of Bloomfield, New Jersey, and Jennifer Webster Schickram of Delaware, Ohio; her husband of 13 years, Rich Duesterhaus of Vienna, Virginia.; sons-in-law Fred Guterl of Bloomfield and Hanno Schickram of Delaware; grandchildren Sophie Guterl of Minneapolis, Minnesota., Benjamin Guterl of Brooklyn, New York, and Nik Schickram of Columbus, Ohio.
Mull	2022	Carolyn Joyce (Bright) Mull (84) of New Paris, Ohio passed away April 10, 2022, surrounded by many loving family members. She was the wife of ARCSE Life Member Norman Mull , retired Soil Conservation Technician for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Carolyn was born to Simeon A. and Hilda (Knott) Bright on April 16, 1937, in Richmond, Indiana. In 1956, Carolyn met Norman, when he "fell over her desk at work," and they were married 6 months later that year at her parent's home. Carolyn was also known as "Cycle Sam," and loved riding motorcycles and managed the Running Springs mini-bike farm and Campground. Carolyn was a faithful member for 59 years at St Paul United Methodist Church in New Paris, Ohio. In addition to her husband Norman, Carolyn's survivors include sons Daniel (Angela), Jim, Rick (Shelly) and David ; 12 grandchildren: Nigel (Jadwiga), Amanda (Marc), Alex (Tyler), Kristin (Matt), Ben, Roger (Katie), Leah (Vinny), Keaton, Victoria (Chris), Bethany, Krista (Stephen) and Keith , and 8 great grandchildren.
Northey	2024	William "Bill" Northey (64) of Urbandale, Iowa, passed away suddenly on February 5, 2024. Bill was born on May 27, 1959, to Margaret and Wayne Northey of Spirit Lake, Iowa. He studied Agricultural Business at Iowa State University, graduating in 1981. He was a member of the FarmHouse Fraternity and served as its president during his senior year. In 2004, he

		<p>earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Southwest Minnesota State University. In 1979, Bill met his wife, Cindy, in Ames, Iowa. They married in 1983. Bill served as president of the Iowa Corn Growers Association and later the National Corn Growers Association. He also served in many other roles, including on the Iowa USDA Farm Service Agency State Committee, on the Ag Ventures Alliance board, as a Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner, and as president and committee chairman of the Dickinson County Farm Bureau. He co-founded and served as president of Innovative Growers, LLC. In 2006, he was elected Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Iowa, a role he proudly held for eleven years. His leadership had a tremendous impact on issues including soil conservation, water quality, renewable energy, foreign animal disease preparedness, and agricultural trade in the state of Iowa and beyond. In 2018, he became the nation's first undersecretary for Farm Production and Conservation at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, serving until 2021. Most recently, Bill was the CEO of the Agribusiness Association of Iowa. His contributions as a farmer, public servant, and leader positively impacted countless individuals and communities worldwide. Survivors include his wife, Cindy; his mother, Margaret Northey; daughters Jessica (Thomas) Meierotto, Emily (Eric) Brown, and Katie (Eric) Mattson; and six grandchildren: Margaret, Paul, and Eleanor Meierotto, Ava and Jack Brown, and Zoe Mattson.</p>
Oelman	2023	<p>Douglas Bernard Oelmann (76) of Altoona, Iowa, passed away on December 15, 2023. Doug was born on August 25, 1947, in Eldora, Iowa to Bernard and Elma (Abbas) Oelmann. Doug graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Agronomy. He was a Soil Scientist and Assistant State Soil Scientist with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for over 40 years. He enjoyed working on his soil site evaluation business which he had for several years. Doug enjoyed working on his acreage, gardening, fishing, camping, watching Iowa State football, and spending time with family. Doug is survived by his wife of 37 years, Cheri; their sons Jason Oelmann (Andrew Greenberg) of Des Moines, Iowa, and Matthew Oelmann (Francisca Rivas) of Mitchellville, Iowa. He is also survived by his three children from his previous marriage, Jeff (Leigh) Oelmann of Auburn, Alabama, and their daughters, Janie (Garret) Barr, Anna Oelmann, and Allie Oelmann; Jean Oelmann of St. Paul, Minnesota, and her daughter Hannah Fischer; Jennifer Beckett (Travis Accord) of What Cheer, Iowa, and her children Brad Beckett, Brady Beckett, Bryce Beckett (his daughter Cecelia and his fiancé Shyanna Chenet), and Jazmine Beckett.</p>
Peterson	2024	<p>Jermene "Jerri" Kathryn Peterson (85) of Council Bluffs, Iowa, passed away January 18, 2024 at Country House in Council Bluffs. She was the wife of the late Lyle C. Peterson who served as the District Conservationist in Council Bluffs for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service before retiring in 1998. Jerri was born on May 7, 1938, to Elmer and Eleanor (Clausen) Bakken in Northwood, Iowa. Jerri married Floyd Field in 1957. He passed away in 1961. They were blessed by the birth of three children, Rhonda, Brian and Kimberley. Jerri then met Lyle Peterson and they were married on May 31, 1963, at the First Lutheran Church in Northwood, Iowa. Lyle passed away in 2009. Jerri was an Interior Decorator for 25 years, helping to transform people's houses into a home.</p>
Pointer	2022	<p>ARCSE Life Member Thomas Hampton Pointer (95) of Cookeville, Tennessee, passed away August 28, 2022, at Charter Senior Living in Cookeville with his friends and family by his side. Tom was born in Algood, Tennessee on September 8, 1926, to the late Benton Mack Pointer and Orga Hampton Pointer. He joined the US Navy at the end of World War II where he served on the USS Talladega and was honorably discharged. On his return to Tennessee, with the GI bill in hand, he graduated with a degree in Agriculture from Tennessee Polytechnic University. After college he began his career working for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). During this time, he married Connie B. Huddleston. They had two children: Susan Annette Pointer Jensen-Patterson and Thomas Keith Pointer. The SCS kept him moving throughout Tennessee and the United States. He eventually landed in Washington DC as the Chief Fiscal Examiner for the SCS. He retired in 1982. He retired to Algood, Tennessee where he built a house on the family's city farm and set about enjoying retired life. He was an active member of Algood United Methodist Church, Algood Lions club, Tennessee Tech University Ag Foundation, Middle Tennessee Antique Engine and Tractor Club, National Association of Retired Federal Employees and a State Envirothon Volunteer. He cherished his time with his friends and family. He thought it was neat that he was able to be retired longer than he worked. Tom moved to Cookeville in his later years to an assisted living center. He still enjoyed gallivanting all over town with the help from friends. He is survived by his children Keith and Annette, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.</p>
Reed	2024	<p>Bobbie Lee Reed (94) of Alva, Oklahoma, passed away February 20, 2024, at his home. Bobbie was born October 27, 1929, in Alva to the late Ray Jesse Reed and Christie Virginia Ritchie-Reed. Bobbie joined the National Guard, where he served in the Korean War. On August 24, 1952, he married Nadine Joy Reed at her parents' home in Dacoma, Oklahoma. Bob worked many jobs over the years. From a cook in the National Guard that helped cultivate his love of cooking (garlic smoked cheese was his specialty) to what most people remember him for, his work for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and farming. He worked 32 years for the SCS before retiring and continued farming well after retirement. During this time, he built the majority of the ponds in Woods County. Bob was preceded in death by his wife Nadine in 2013. He is survived by his two sons, Allyn Lee Reed of Alva and Leland Don Reed of Dacoma, Oklahoma; one daughter, Gayla Marie Schubert (Jon) of Lyons, Kansas; seven grandchildren, Amy Seck (Keith) of Sterling, Kansas, Lezlee Reed of Norman, Oklahoma, Melissa Reed of Enid, Oklahoma, Alicia Reed of Alva, Audrey Widman (Mike) of Manhattan, Kansas, Dustin Schubert (Christy) of Lyons, Kansas, and Tara Morasch (Mason), of Kansas City, Missouri; 20 great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.</p>

Risinger	2023	William "Mike" Michael Risinger (78) of Belton, Texas, passed away unexpectedly on December 31, 2023, in Temple, Texas. He was born on November 26, 1945, in Wellington, Texas. He graduated from Bula High School in 1964 as Valedictorian and continued his education at West Texas State University and South Plains Junior College before ultimately obtaining both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Texas Tech University. It was through mutual friends that he encountered Susan McDonald , and with determination and persistence, they were married on June 2, 1990. The world has lost a remarkable individual whose life was dedicated to his family, career, and passions. Mike had an illustrious career as a Soil Scientist for the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service. After forty-two years of remarkable service, he retired in June of 2008. Not content with simply enjoying his well-deserved retirement, Mike started his own consulting company called Risinger Soil Survey in Bell County. His expertise and dedication were renowned throughout the industry. Outside of his professional pursuits, Mike found solace in a variety of hobbies and interests. He was an avid angler, golfer, hunter and fisherman. He worked on cars and excelled in the art of knife making. Survivors include his wife, Susan Risinger of Belton, four cherished grandchildren, his daughter in law, Amber Risinger of Temple, numerous family members, and friends. Mike is preceded in death by his son, Dennis Michael Risinger , his daughter, Sara Ruth Minan and her husband, Jose .
Roy	2023	Clifford Roy (96) of Fort Kent, Maine, peacefully passed away at home on December 30, 2023, with family by his side, after a brief period of declining health. Clifford was born on October 20, 1927, in Fort Kent, Maine, a son of George and Leona (Daigle) Roy . He was a veteran of World War II and served in Italy. Clifford graduated from the University of Maine with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Economics and started his career teaching Vocational Agriculture and Sciences at Patten Academy. In 1955 he married Annette LaFrance and they shared a happily married life of 68 years. In 1956 he pursued his career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. He was District Conservationist from 1956 to 1991 in the Fort Kent, Maine Field Office. He was awarded the "Superior Service Silver Medal", the highest award presented in USDA. He was well respected by coworkers for his sharp wit and sense of humor. He retired in 1991 after 35 years of service. Clifford was a communicant of St. Louis parish, made his Cursillo and was a Eucharistic minister for 24 years, along with his wife. He was a 4th degree honorary member of Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Fort Kent Senior Citizens Club. Cliff was predeceased by his son-in-law, Timothy McCue . Surviving Cliff are his beloved wife Annette of 68 years, daughter Janice McCue , son David Roy (Debbie) , son John Roy (Karen) , and daughter Sharon Saucier (Dean) ; grandchildren Ryan Roy and fiancé Lauren with children Ashlynn and Rias , Daniel McCue (Barbara) with children Burns and Briar , Zachary Roy , Jeremy Saucier and fiancé Ashley Williams , Ryan Olberding (Kristen) and children Madison and Brendan , and Natalie Olberding .
Rucker	2024	Senior Conservationist and longtime ARCSE Member Harry Sidney Rucker, Jr. (95) of Heber Springs, Arkansas, passed away January 3, 2024, in Heber Springs. Harry was born August 30, 1928, to Harry Rucker, Sr. and Virgie Hazzard Rucker . He grew up in Comyn, Texas. Harry was a graduate of Tarleton State College, and The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas (Texas A&M). He served in the United States Army in Europe in from 1945 to 1947. Harry began his career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in 1953 in Robert Lee, Texas. He served as District Conservationist in Sweetwater, Texas from 1955 to 1966 and then served as District Conservationist in Canyon, Texas from 1966 to 1968. In 1968, Harry was promoted to Area Conservationist in Amarillo, Texas, serving from 1968 to 1973. In 1973, Harry and his family moved to Alexandria, Louisiana where he served as Assistant-, Deputy- and finally State Conservationist for Louisiana. Harry retired from the USDA Soil Conservation Service in 1985. Upon Retirement, Harry and Dorothy declared Louisiana too hot to live in during the summertime and spent the summers at their cabin in Colorado. Harry was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria, Louisiana. In 2021. Harry moved to Heber Springs, Arkansas to be closer to his son, Roger. Harry Rucker is preceded in death by his wife of 73 years, Dorothy Jean Rucker , and his daughter Karen Rucker Garner . He is survived by his sons Cliff (Judith) Rucker of Lufkin, Texas and Roger (Linda) Rucker of Edgemont, Arkansas, and his son-in-law Steve Garner of Weatherford, Texas. Harry is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.
Skala	2023	ARCSE Member Ronnie Glen Skala (64) of Colorado Springs, Colorado (formerly of Temple, Texas) passed away October 30 or 31, 2023. Ronnie was born August 18, 1959, to Henry Edward Skala Sr. and Shirley Ann Meier Skala . He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), most recently as a Hydraulic Engineer in the Temple, Texas State Office. He took an early retirement in 2009. Note: An obituary for Ronnie was not available. I was able to find out that Ronnie had sold his home in Temple, Texas in June of 2023 and moved to another property he owned in Colorado Springs. He had been experiencing unexplained health problems. Ronnie's older brother, Henry Edward Skala Jr. , also worked for NRCS and passed away in 2010 at age 53. Ronnie is survived by a son, Stephen Skala (Lindsay) of Killeen, Texas.
Svetlik	2023	Dexter James Svetlik (70) of rural Witting, Texas (8 miles southeast of Moulton, Texas) passed away on December 30, 2023, after a lengthy battle with heart disease. Dexter was born in Hallettsville, Texas to Anton and Frances Svetlik . Dexter went on to attend Texas A&M University, graduating with a degree in Horticulture in 1975. After college, he began his career with Greenleaf Nursery in El Campo, Texas, following his love of plants, nature, and the outdoors. In 1982, he continued his career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, now known as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), serving in various roles, including serving as a Soil Conservationist, Resource Conservation and Development

		Coordinator, Area Conservationist and Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations. After 28 years of service, Dexter retired from the NRCS in 2011 to his farm in the Witting, Texas area. After retirement he spent his time tending to his cattle and pecan trees. He had a soft spot in his heart and made a home for many kittens and puppies that had lost their way. He would often be seen walking the local roads, following his strict exercise routine. Dexter is survived by five brothers: Dennis of Witting; Larry (Carolyn) of Hallettsville; Gary (Beverly) of Shiner, Texas; Archie (Virginia) of Smithville, Texas; Kenneth (Mary Ann) of Hurst, Texas; and five sisters: Blanche Cavarretta (Roy), Joyce Timm (Carl), Diane Munson (John) all of Hallettsville; Val Hardt (Tim) of Castroville, Texas; and Debbie Barron (Bill) of Katy, Texas. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Dexter was preceded in death by his brother Patrick Svetlik and nephew/godchild Ryan Munson .
Vavra	2023	Geraldine (Deany) Vavra (96) Boerne, Texas (formerly of Bryan, Texas) passed away surrounded by loving family members on December 15, 2023. Deany was the wife of Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE member Martin E. Vavra who passed away 2 months earlier in October 2013. Deany was born July 21, 1927, in Kurten, Texas, the daughter of William Fritz and Matilda (Stroppe) Schram . After high school graduation she was employed at Texas A&M University as a laboratory technician in the Meats Research Center for seven years. In 1950, Deany met Martin at a dance, and they married in 1951. She then worked as a secretary for the Martin County Hospital. Deany was very active with her children serving five years as a den mother for Cub Scouts, involved in Parent Teacher and Homeroom Mother activities and Little League baseball. She enjoyed sewing, quilting and was very talented in making costume jewelry and creating her own designs. After the children started high school, Deany spent the next 12 years working for the federal government before retiring in 1982. She is survived by her daughter Karen (Robert) Freeman of Boerne; son Dennis (Alicia) Vavra of Houston, Texas; grandchildren, William (Melissa) Freeman, Robert (Rachael) Freeman, Adrienne Vavra, and Alexis (Jason) Thurston ; and great grandchildren Clara Nell, Finley, and Dean Freeman; Tyler, McKayla, and Gabriel Thurston .
Webb	2024	Herbert "Herb" E. Webb (64) of Polson, Montana, passed away on January 6, 2024, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula, Montana. He was born October 22, 1959, in Yreka, California to James and Mary Coralee (Dumond) Webb . He attended Southeastern Oklahoma State University and completed his master's degree in Range Management from North Dakota State University. On May 27, 1989, Herb married Vickey Skelton in Chinook Montana. Herb worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, finishing his career as the Tribal Conservationist for the Pablo Field Office. He retired on December 31, 2022, after 39 years, having worked in Choteau, Chinook, and Ronan/Pablo, Montana. Herb was active in the Facebook group, the Cardiac Athletes and was a member of the American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS and Society of American Indian Government Employees. Herb was very artistic and created shadow boxes and awards for AIANEA and SAIGE. He did custom framing and matting and created art in many different mediums including pen and ink, beads, watercolors, and many others. Herb also worked with taxidermy and was proficient in carpentry and woodworking. Herb enjoyed fishing Flathead Lake with his brothers-in-law, playing poker with friends and attending mountain man rendezvous. He had a great sense of humor and loved pulling a fast one on friends and family. Herb's survivors include his wife of 34 years, Vickey, his father Jim Webb , brother, John Webb , mother-in-law, Renie Skelton , sisters-in-law, Margi Salisbury, Sharon (Mark) Bosch, Andi (Tom) Pindell , several nieces and nephews and many aunts and uncles. He will be greatly missed by his dogs, Ofi and Zen.
Williams	2023	ARCSE Life Member Clifford Lee Williams (90) of Sayre, Oklahoma passed away August 10, 2023. Clifford was born March 20, 1933, in a two-room house near the banks of Sandstone Creek to Raymond Lee and Dulcie Bell (Marshall) Williams . He attended Oklahoma A&M College and then served in the United States Army in artillery during the Korean Conflict. Following his discharge, he returned to Oklahoma A&M College where he completed his undergraduate and master's degree in Agronomy. He married Bobbie Vernell Hayden on January 24, 1953, at his parent's home. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Montana, New York, Colorado, and Texas and then the National Plant Materials Center in Beltsville, Maryland. During his career, he completed graduate and post graduate studies including courses at the USDA Graduate School in Washington, D.C. Clifford's primary work was in the field of plant materials where he was involved in the development and release of several grasses for use in the Great Plains Region. He was privileged to serve as a consultant on major federal highways, airports, railroad construction sites and military installations. Clifford was an avid student of wind erosion in the Southern Great Plains Region. He was also an advocate of the certification for Agronomist and worked hard for the success of the program. After retirement in 1986, he spent the next 30 years raising black angus cattle back on his old family farm in Sayre, Oklahoma. He served many years on the Beckham County Rural Water District No. 3 Board of Directors. He also inherited his dad's job of caring for the Berlin Cemetery. Clifford was a long-time member of the Church of Christ. He is survived by his two sons, Don (Elizabeth) of Golden, Colorado, and Tom (Gina) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and one granddaughter, Sarah Stephanie Williams of Elk City, Oklahoma. He was preceded in death by his wife Bobbie in 2020. He was laid to rest in the Berlin Cemetery which lies within the drainage area of Sandstone Creek
Abernathy	2023	Edward J. Abernathy (92) of Poteau, Oklahoma passed away peacefully on September 19, 2023, surrounded by family. He was born in Milton, Oklahoma to Dolar Edward and Mary Elizabeth (Tolbert) Abernathy. He attended Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma, and graduated from Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State University) in

		<p>Stillwater, Oklahoma, in 1953. Ed married Joanne (Williams) Abernathy, on September 4, 1954, as he began his soil scientist career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, assisting the LeFlore County District Soil and Water Conservation. Ed was relocated to Beaver, Oklahoma, Duncan, Oklahoma, Sallisaw, Oklahoma, and in 1964, he was transferred to Poteau, Oklahoma where he continued his work with the USDA until his retirement in 1985. He then was a director of the LeFlore County Conservation District. He retired the district in 2022 after honorably serving as Chairman of the Steering Committee for the Wister Lake 319 Water Quality Program in LeFlore and Latimer Counties, Chair of the Watershed Advisor Group for the Wister Lake Program, and finally the District Director of the LeFlore County Conservation District. In 2022, Edward received a Congressional Citation for his service. Ed served the First Baptist Church in Poteau for over 40 years as a Deacon, Chairman of the Deacons, and numerous committees, prayer groups, and community outreach. Ed was preceded in death by his loving wife of 50 years, Joanne Abernathy in 2005. He is survived by a son, Dr. Bryan Abernathy, and a daughter, Shauna Sterling (Brent) of Fayetteville, Arkansas; five grandchildren, Brett Sterling (Jenny) of Fayetteville, Jordan Hoff (Chris) of Seminole, Florida; Lauren Sterling of Fayetteville, Sydnee DeAngelis (Matt) of Boston, Massachusetts, and Reid Abernathy of Fayetteville; and five great-grandchildren.</p>
Anderson	2023	<p>Dellas Neal Anderson (91) of Chickasha, Oklahoma, passed away on September 15, 2023, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Dellas was born on February 2, 1932, in Tulsa, Oklahoma to Dupree Coffman Anderson and Bessie Mae (Watson) Anderson. After high school, he joined the United States Army and served his country for two years at Fort Chaffee Army Base. After being honorably discharged from the Army he attended Oklahoma State University for his undergraduate degree, then went on to get his master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Oklahoma. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for 38 years, where he retired in 1994 after working on the Chickasha watershed planning staff. He married the love of his life Pat Blackerby in Martha, Oklahoma on August 18, 1957. Dellas was very devoted to his faith, which he did as a Sunday school teacher and an active Gideon. Dellas is survived by his wife, Pat Anderson of Chickasha, son, Greg Anderson of Frisco, Texas; daughter, Cindy Avers of Frisco Texas; and grandsons, Parker and Ethan Avers.</p>
Birdwell	2023	<p>Bobby Thomas Birdwell (90) of Stillwater, Oklahoma, passed away October 19, 2023, at his home. He was surrounded by his wife, Billie and their children. Bobby was born on June 11, 1933, on Flynns Creek in Gainsboro, Tennessee to Doxie and Lillie Birdwell. Bobby met his wife and lifelong partner, Billie, at Oddie's Drive Inn in Cookeville, Tennessee in 1951 and they married on November 5, 1952. Bobby voluntarily enlisted in the United States Army in 1952 and served his country as a Master Drill Sergeant at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was honorably discharged in 1954. Bobby graduated from Tennessee Tech University with a degree in Agriculture. He would continue his education throughout his career and earned his PhD from Oklahoma State University in 1982. After leaving military duty, Bobby began work with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. His career would take him to live and work in Tennessee, North Carolina, Texas, Oklahoma, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. He began as an Assistant Soil Surveyor and rose to be the National Leader and Director of the USDA Soil Survey Division. Bobby served as the State Soil Scientist in Oklahoma from 1976 to 1982. He then moved back to Tennessee and then to Washington DC. where he stayed until his retirement in 1988. He traveled to several countries as a representative for the USDA and was in Tehran, Iran just days before the US Embassy was taken and held hostage by the Iranian government. Bobby retired in 1988 after a long and successful career. Bobby and Billie returned to Stillwater that same year to live closer to their children. Bobby is survived by his wife, Billie, of 71 years, his daughter, Susie McCord (Larry) of Plano, Texas. His son, Richard (Suzanne) of Stillwater and his youngest daughter, Beth Borland (Jeff) of Plano, Texas; 5 granddaughters, Tracy, Cassie, Sara, Rebecca and Macey and one grandson, Garrett; and 6 great grandchildren, Colby, Ryder, Owen, Nevaeh, Caden and River. Funeral services were held October 23, 2023 at the Stillwater Church of Christ, with burial following at Sunset Memorial Gardens.</p>
Blohm	2023	<p>Catherine Diane Abbott Blohm (75) of West Sacramento, California, passed away on August 25, 2023. An obituary was not available. Diane, as she was known by coworkers, was born April 28, 1948. She worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in the California State Office as an Administrative Assistant for the State Resource Conservationist and the Resource Technology staff for many years. Survivors include her son Walter "Josh" Blohm of West Sacramento.</p>
Bluhm	2023	<p>George Charles Bluhm (82) of Kelso, Washington, passed away in mid-December 2023. George was born in Grand Rapids, Minnesota to Howard and Hattie Bluhm. His family moved to Tacoma, Washington when he was just 4 years old. George attended Washington State University (WSU) where he graduated with a degree in Agriculture Engineering in 1963 and was co-awarded as the top Agriculture Engineer in his graduating class. He finished top of his class and received many accolades while attending WSU, including president of Farmhouse Fraternity, Alpha Zeta (an honor agriculture fraternity), ASAE (American Society of Agriculture Engineers) Sigma Tau (National Engineering Honor), ROTC, and Crimson Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa. Shortly after graduation, George married his first love, Karen Keil. They moved to Pennsylvania to further George's education, where he attended Pennsylvania State University and received a master's degree in meteorology. George and Karen went on to spend their next 4 years in Ramstein, Germany where he was a captain in the Air Force. Upon returning to the United States, George worked on his PhD at the University of Washington while working for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS). George wrote part of the Farmers Act in Washington DC for the SCS. He also worked on the National Air Quality Workshop and was part of SCS for 30 years. George continued in the Air Force and</p>

		in the Air National Guard Reserves where he was part of the 113th regiment and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. George retired as the Director at the West National Technology Center, in Portland, Oregon. In 1985, George was fortunate to find love again in marriage to Patricia Damery . George's love for farming and people led him and Patty to open Polar Farms together. They believed in the farm to table philosophy for dining. They grew, sold, and delivered fruit and vegetables to many respected restaurants in the surrounding area. George is survived by his two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.
Burt	2023	ARCSE Member John Patrick Burt (80) of Temple, Texas, passed away peacefully in Temple surrounded by family on December 5, 2023. John was born in Neshoba County, Philadelphia, Mississippi on January 20, 1943, to John L. Burt and Ida Francis (Kilpatrick) Burt . He graduated from East Central Junior College in 1963 and Mississippi State University in 1965 with a degree in Civil Engineering. John met his wife, Betty Lea Douglass in Jackson, Mississippi and the two were married on March 17, 1973. He was employed in 1965 with the United States Army Traffic Ability Research Section of the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi. The primary mission was to develop tools to predict and improve the mobility of military equipment in Vietnam. Mr. Burt joined the U.S. Army in 1966. He received an officer commission as 2nd Lieutenant and entered the Medical Service Corps, United States Army in Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. His first military duty assignment was in the Military District of Washington, Washington, D.C. The next assignment was Vietnam from 1967 to 1968. He was awarded the Bronze Star medal for Meritorious Achievement in ground operations against hostile forces, primarily controlling Bubonic Plague during the 1968 Vietnam Tet Offensive. Other medals received include the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal (3 Campaign Stars), Vietnam Campaign Medal, and 2 Overseas Bars. John completed military service as a Captain in 1969 at the 3rd Army, Environmental Health Laboratory, Fort McPherson, Atlanta, GA. Upon leaving the Army in 1969, John was employed by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Jackson, Mississippi, as an Environmental Engineer. He was the first Environmental Engineer hired by the Soil Conservation Service. In 1976, Mr. Burt was promoted to the South National Technical Service Center in Fort Worth, Texas. This position provided technical assistance to Soil Conservation staff in 12 Southern states. In 1989 John was promoted to the National Headquarters of Soil Conservation Service in Washington, D.C. He was selected as a member of the Senior Executive Service of the United States of America and served in different leadership capacities. In 1997, John returned to Texas as State Conservationist. He retired from this position in 2002 after 31 years of service. He enjoyed traveling, fishing, and spending time with family. He was a member of First Methodist Church of Temple and Sons of the American Revolution Texas Society. John is survived by his wife Betty Burt , son Brian Patrick Burt of Round Rock, Texas, son James Michael Douglass (Ruth Anne) of Clifton, Texas, and daughter Stacey Lea (Ronnie) Boiles and husband of Crowley, Texas; four grandchildren, Lauren Douglass , Jordan Hainsfurther , Trevor Boiles and Juliann Boiles along with one great granddaughter, Annabelle Hainsfurther . A funeral service was held December 9, 2023, at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home in Temple, Texas. Burial was at Greenwood Memorial Park in Fort Worth, Texas.
Burton	2023	Loretta Mae Burton (86) of Alex, Oklahoma, passed away September 14, 2023, at her home in Alex surrounded by her loving family. She was the wife of retired USDA-Soil Conservation Service Soil Conservation Technician Durl Ray Burton. Loretta was born November 17, 1936, in Chickasha, Oklahoma, to Everett and Xelpho Cox. Loretta was raised on a farm Northeast of Alex. She attended Alex Public Schools until she married Durl Ray Burton at age 16. They were married on July 18, 1953, and were married for 70 wonderful years. She worked at Grady Memorial Hospital for many years. She then worked for the highway department where she retired.
Carlson	2023	Donald D. Carlson (86) of Spencer, Iowa, passed away October 26, 2023, at the Spencer Hospital. Donald was born on January 26, 1937, at home in Laurens, Iowa. He was the son of Eric (Pete) and Fern (Waldron) Carlson . After high school he enlisted and served in the Air National Guard in Fort Dodge, Iowa. He worked for the USDA Soil Conservation Service for 32 years as a Soil Conservation Technician in northwest Iowa, retiring in 1994. He then surveyed for Luft & Sons for 16 years. Post-retirement, he worked for Rural Community Insurance Agency as a hail adjuster. Don was a member of the United Methodist Church in Pocahontas, Iowa, and Grace United Methodist Church in Spencer. Don's survivors include his daughter, Kristi (Jim) Shimon , son Kevin (Tanya) Carlson , daughter, Kelley Nedved , stepson, Chris (Michelle) Stimson , stepdaughter, Kelly (Brad) Johnson , grandchildren, Zach Carlson , Zevin Carlson , Haley Shimon , Karter Shimon , Allena Shimon , Kellen Shimon , Jack Nedved , Allie Nedved , Henry Nedved , step-grandchildren, Bailey Stimson , Hannah Stimson , step great granddaughter Harlow ; and friend Pat Carlson .
Chaney	2023	J. Cecil Chaney (98) of Kaufman, Texas, passed away April 8, 2023, surrounded by family. Cecil was born March 17, 1925, to Thomas Monroe and Dovie Bailey Chaney five miles northeast of Canton, Texas. After graduating high school in 1943, he volunteered for the United States Navy. He spent his time at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station where he worked on planes until his discharge in 1946. With the help of the GI Bill, Cecil entered Texas A&M University in 1946 and received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education in 1950. Cecil's first job teaching was Veteran's Ag for one semester in Wills Point, Texas. He married Onetta Gilmer in Canton on December 23, 1950. They moved to Winters in West Texas where he taught vocational ag that spring semester. Cecil then accepted employment with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and served as a District Conservation in Mabank, Texas. From Mabank, the job took them to Hubbard, Saint Jo, Muenster and finally in 1969 to Kaufman, Texas. Cecil retired after 30 years of service for the Soil Conservation Service in 1981. At that

		time, he received his real estate license. He also serviced cars at Eagle Lube two or three days a week. Also, during this time, he served as a part-time secretary/bookkeeper and did lake dam maintenance for the Soil Conservation District. Cecil was a member of the First Baptist Church in Kaufman. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Onetta; two children, Judy Reznicek (Randy) and Steve (Charlotte); 5 grandchildren Brian Reznicek (Krystal), Brad Reznicek, Jennifer Perry (Dallas), Michael Chaney (Candy), Allison Cocchi (Michael); 8 great-grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter.
Clark	2023	John Calvin “Jack” Clark, III (70) of Danville, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on November 17, 2023, at his home. Jack was born on April 8, 1953, in Danville, the son of the late John C. and Louise Durlin Clark . He attended Keystone College and graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1977 with a degree in Agriculture Business Management. Jack was employed by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a soil conservationist, working in multiple counties throughout his career, retiring as District Conservationist in Snyder County in 2010. He was a member of St. John’s “Vought’s” Lutheran Church Danville, where he served as Treasurer for the Church Council for many years. His other memberships included fire companies in the Danville area and the American Legion Post #40. He was also a member of Danville Moose #1133. He is survived by his children: daughter, Leslie Jo Warriner (Adam) of Millheim, Pennsylvania, and their children: Emily Louise, Elizabeth Joan, Katherine Helena, William John, and Adam Robert ; daughter, Jessica Clark of New York City, New York, and son, Aaron Clark (Katelyn) and their son Parker John of Danville.
Davidson	2023	James Scott Davidson (64) of Stanton, Nebraska, passed away September 14, 2023 at his home. James Scott was born March 11, 1959 in Norfolk, Nebraska to John Vernon “Jim” and Georgia June (Petersen) Davidson. He graduated from Stanton High School in 1977. Following graduation, he attended Northeast Community College and the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He returned to the family farm. Also, Scott worked as a technician for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 34 years. On August 20, 1999, Scott married Jeanette Houdek in Lake Tahoe, California. Over the years, Scott served on the Stanton County Fair Board and the Pheasants Forever Chapter. Additionally, he held a variety of positions as a member of the New England United Church of Christ in Stanton. In 1984, Scott received awards for his heroism from the Nebraska Funeral Directors Association and VFW Auxiliary 3602 for saving his father from a grain bin accident. Survivors include his wife Jeanette, sons Gunnar and Gatlin; father Jim of Stanton.
Davis	2023	Mark Rowland Davis (76) of Appomattox, Virginia, passed away on September 12, 2023. Mark was born on September 7, 1947, in Front Royal, Virginia, the son of the late William and Cora Jane Reid Davis. Mark was a veteran of the United States Air Force. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with degrees in Forestry and Wildlife Management. Mark worked for the Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He was a District Conservationist for the Rustburg Service Area and took great pride in helping local farmers install conservation practices on their land. Landowners spoke highly of Mark well after his retirement. Mark was a kind man who was devoted to his family. He had a sharp intellect and many interests including reading, hunting, and fishing (especially with his brother and nephew), walking the woods, checking timber sites, and tending to his many collections. He cherished his many pet dogs through the years. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Yun Hui; his daughters, Gina Kelley (Tim) of Charlottesville, Virginia, and Elizabeth Amacher (Mike) of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and his grandson, Dylan Kelley. A memorial mass and celebration of life service was held at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Appomattox on September 16, 2023.
DePue	2023	Julie Chalfant DePue (55) of Silver Spring, Maryland, passed away November 23, 2023, at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring following a stroke after a heroic battle against lung cancer. Julie was born in Suffolk, New York on May 7, 1968, to Wanda Sutherland Chalfant and Richard Chalfant . She was a natural storyteller and pursued education in writing and filmmaking. Julie had the talent to make a reader feel transported to whatever destination she wrote. Her first attempt to work on a film behind the camera, however, ended with her in front of the camera in The Arrowtooth Waltz (aka Arizona Dream). She was a natural beauty and a star. Julie’s love for the arts filled her life. Ballet, Jazz, Piano, and chorus informed hours with loved ones listening to music and critiquing movies. In 2008 she began work with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a data manager at National Headquarters. She is survived by her husband Dean Anthony DePue , and brothers David Chalfant and Mark Chalfant , and stepsons Jody, Zach, and Jeremy .
Estep	2023	Ronald Estep (79) of Old Fields, West Virginia, passed away October 1, 2023, at his home. Ron was born on December 27, 1943, in North Matewan, West Virginia, the son of the late Alfred Herman Estep and Zola Cook Estep. Ron was a 1967 graduate of Berea College before earning a master’s degree in Agronomy from West Virginia University in 1969. Ron worked as a soil scientist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service from 1969 until he retired in 2000. During his service as a soil scientist Ron oversaw the mapping and investigation of soils throughout the eight counties in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. Ron loved living in Hardy County so much that he turned down opportunities for advancement several times because that would have required him to move away from the beauty of the South Branch Valley. As a man of many interests and talents, Ron made several muzzle loaders, fly fishing rods, bookcases, cabinets, desks, sewing desk and cutting table, a pool table, a chest of drawers, and a dining table. He was a member of the Moorefield Church of Christ for almost 53 years where he performed any task needed done from cleaning the

		baptistry to leading singing. Surviving is his loving wife of 56 years, Majorie "Vivian" Russell Estep ; a son, Jody Bret Estep of Melrose, Florida; and daughter, Amanda Estep of Little River, South Carolina.
Floyd	2023	Bennie Lee Floyd (82) of Omaha, Nebraska, passed away on August 15, 2023. Bennie was born on July 30, 1941, in Sunflower County, Mississippi, in what's referred to as the "Delta". His parents were Purvie and Mary (White) Floyd. His father worked for the Illinois Central Railroad and wanting to leave the south's "Jim Crow" environment, readily volunteered for railroad work in the north laying track. In the summer of 1945 he, along with other workers, were loaded into crude company box cars making stops in various cities like Memphis, Tennessee; Springfield and Chicago, Illinois; Fulton and St. Louis, Missouri; and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The last city stopped at was Council Bluffs, Iowa, so Purvie decided to make this the place to work and make a home for his growing family. Bennie graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1959. He worked as a Civil Engineering Technician for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Council Bluffs beginning in 1971 and retiring in 2004. Bennie dedicated his life to Jehovah God on Nov 25th, 1967, and faithfully served his Heavenly Father until his death. He is survived by: Daughter Zillah (Jim) Ingles; grandsons Beau and Benjamin Ingles; stepdaughter Joyce Dillahunt (Tim); and stepson Richard Giandomenico (Cara).
Ford	2023	Donald "Don" L. Ford (77) of Tomball, Texas, passed away November 21, 2023, in Tomball. Don was born February 1, 1946, in Paris, Texas to Byron and Joan (Caton) Ford . He married Betty Taylor , the love of his life, on August 31, 1968. Don attended Texas Tech and graduated in 1975 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering. He worked one year at Fort Hood then went to work as an engineer for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, from which he retired from in 2010 in San Angelo, Texas. Don and Betty moved to Tomball, TX in 2017 to be near their children. While in Tomball, he formed his own engineering business and contracted work for other companies. Don worked for the Harris County Flood Control District from June 2019 to August 2023. He loved working and retired only when he could not work anymore. Don loved soccer and tennis. He coached soccer for both boys and girls for many years in San Angelo. Don was preceded in death by a son, Christopher Kyle . He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Betty Taylor Ford , son Kevin (Allie) , and son Jason (Julia) and 3 grandchildren, Lawson, Brooks, and Stella .
Franzen	2023	Robert "Bob" W. Franzen (82) of Corning, New York, passed away December 15, 2023, at Guthrie Corning Hospital. Bob was born March 10, 1941, in Corning. He worked as a wildlife Biologist with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service beginning in the 1970s, including working as the Regional Biologist at the Northeast National Technology Center in Chester, Pennsylvania. He was a devoted professional and a dedicated employee. A day in the woods with Bob, and you would begin to understand the important relationships that occur in nature. Bob and his family always hoped to return to their birthplace in upstate New York someday. Upon retirement, their dream came true, and they returned to Corning to live out their lives. Bob enjoyed hunting, fishing, and any activity close to nature; this is where he was most comfortable. ARCSE member Frank Resides reports that Bob had been in declining health the last few years after having a series of strokes and having a pacemaker installed. He was preceded in death by his wife, Cynthia Franzen in 2009 and their son Martin Franzen in 2001. He is survived by his siblings David (Margaret), Gerald (Laura), Jon, and Ellen .
Haggard	2023	Mary Janice (Vance) Haggard (76) of Stillwater, Oklahoma, passed away December 12, 2023. She was the wife of David W. Haggard, retired Construction Engineer for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Janice was born January 15, 1947, in Henryetta, Oklahoma to the late Everett W. and Helen (Martin) Vance . Janice and David Haggard met at a basketball game in Morris, Oklahoma at the age of sixteen. They married August 21, 1965, two years later in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Their first child was born while David was serving his country in Vietnam. Janice was active in the church choir, played the accordion, and later in life became talented in calligraphy. Janice loved genealogy, reading, and spending time with her family. She possessed a great love for all animals, but particularly dogs, and had many that she adored over the years. Her self-proclaimed 'major hobby' was her grandchildren. Survivors include her husband, David; son Chris Haggard , daughters, Kellie (Ryan) Ebert and Laura Little (Brett) Price ; and grandchildren, Tyler Ebert, Jake Ebert, Cole Ebert, Gentry Ebert, Ashlynn Price, Collier Little and Malone Price .
Hale	2023	Dwight Dean Hale (83) of Huron, South Dakota, passed away September 2, 2023, in an auto accident near Madison, South Dakota. Dwight was born January 19, 1940, to Clarence Willard and Roberta (McCoy) Hale in Bethany, Missouri. He received a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia. This led him to a 42-year career with the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service and included several years as the State Conservation Engineer in the South Dakota state office in Huron. After retiring, he did some consulting work. His favorite hobby was gardening. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sherri Timperley; and his wife, Elaine Hale. Survivors include his daughter, Cindi (Terry) Ivestal of Custer, South Dakota; and four grandchildren, Uriah Herding, Tyler Herding, April (Jim) Wingle and Amber (Zach) Gronewold.
Hamer	2023	Thomas "Tom" H. Hamer (84) of Tecumseh, Nebraska, passed away August 15, 2023. He was born August 11, 1939, to Lewis K. and Josephine K. (Shackleton) Hamer in Pawnee City, Nebraska. He received his degree in Agricultural Engineering, with a focus on Civil Engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. On September 9, 1962, Tom and Karen Glenn were married in Pawnee City. Tom served as a project engineer with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Hebron and Tecumseh, Nebraska. He advanced to Assistant State Conservation Engineer and then State Conservation Engineer for Nebraska. After

		retiring, Tom continued to serve the state for many years, volunteering with the Five Rivers Resource Conservation and Development office and the Nebraska Environmental Trust Advisory Committee. Survivors include his wife, Karen, of Tecumseh, sons, Matt (Adrienne) Hamer of Miami Beach, Florida and Jake Hamer (Jenny Wallner) and children Louisa and Nicholas, Dallas, Texas.
Hansen	2023	Verella Jean Hansen (82) of Napoleon, North Dakota, passed away November 2, 2023, at the Wentz Living Center in Napoleon. Jean was the wife of Chris A. Hansen , retired Napoleon District Conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Jean was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota on December 20, 1940, to Christoph and Martha (Frigen) Biederstedt . Jean met Chris on a double-blind date in 1967. They married on August 31, 1968. Jean loved making quilts. She helped the Golden Age ladies make quilts and made many Baptismal quilts for church over the years. She enjoyed making shirts and clothes for her children and husband. Later in life, she created many clothes and quilts for her grandchildren, too. She was preceded in death by foster son Keith Vaulters . Survivors include her husband, Chris; children, Kurt (Tonja) Hansen and Kirsten (Darin) Schadler ; and grandchildren, Alexandra (William Deane) Hansen , Robert Hansen , Andrew Schadler , and Alyssa Schadler .
Haslem	2022	Dolores Faye Haslem (87) of Albany, Oregon, passed away March 23, 2022. She was the wife of the late Donald W. Haslem , former USDA-Soil Conservation Service Area Engineer, who retired in 1985 and passed away in 2012. Her husband Donald was a Life Member of ARCSE. Dolores was born August 9, 1934, in Florence, Oregon, to Joseph and Wanda (Miles) Riesenhuber . Dolores was just 20 when she met and married Donald. Donald's career took them to Hawaii, India, Washington State, Pakistan, New Jersey, Oregon, and Haiti. In Albany, Dolores worked as a travel agent, was an enthusiastic volunteer and at one time the oldest employee of Samaritan Health Services when she was managing the Albany General Hospital Auxiliary gift shop. She enjoyed friendships with many women through her involvement in the hospital auxiliary, Thursday Study Club, P.E.O. Sisterhood, and Springhill Country Club. She enjoyed golf, bridge, and the company of her dogs. She was a gracious and willing hostess with a home filled with art and interesting objects from their lives abroad. Dolores is survived by sons David of San Jose, California and Douglas of Hillsboro, Oregon; three grandchildren Sierra Schroder , Kaden , and Kyle Haslem (all in Oregon); her brother Delvin Riesenhuber , and her dog Missie.
Hildebrandt	2023	Jerome Garfield Hildebrandt (86) of Stewartville, Minnesota, passed away December 14, 2023, at Cottagewood Senior Community in Rochester, Minnesota, where he had been a resident since 2020. Jerome was born February 14, 1937, in Faribault, Minnesota, to Jerome Sr. and Clara (Gunderson) Hildebrandt . He attended the University of Minnesota earning a bachelor's degree in Soil Science and a minor in Economics, graduating in 1959. Jerome was married to the love of his life, Ferrolyn McCusker on June 27, 1959, at Vasa Lutheran Church in Vasa, Minnesota. Jerome was employed with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Olmsted County, Minnesota as the District Conservationist for 30 years and with Dean Witter in Rochester as a financial advisor for a few years. He was employed as a feedlot compliance inspector with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the County of Winona and enjoyed getting to know many area farmers for 10 years. After his final retirement he drove a shuttle van for Luther Motors and Rochester Ford. Jerome was a longtime active member of the Stewartville United Methodist Church and Stewartville Lions Club. He and Ferrolyn helped establish the Interstate Hi-Flyers 4-H Club. He enjoyed fishing, farming, singing in the church choir, traveling, playing games and cards with friends and family. Jerome is survived by his wife Ferrolyn; daughters Cathy (Mike) Podein of Stewartville and Chris (Mitch) Scrobeck of Dayton, Minnesota; sons Doug (Jill) Hildebrandt of Stewartville and David (Denise) Hildebrandt of rural Stewartville; 9 grandchildren Joy (Josh) Harris , Josh (Kayla) Podein , Andrew Scrobeck , Bridget (Dan) Anderson , Jesanna (Danny) Fisher , Kyle (Blair) Hildebrandt , Kaylyn Hildebrandt , Corrie Hildebrandt , and Carlie Hildebrandt ; and 10 great grandchildren Britney , Emily , Landon , Brooks , Parker , Gannon , Brecken , Lane , Finley and Harper .
Hobson	2023	Howard L. Hobson (83) of Clinton, North Carolina, passed away peacefully on September 17, 2023. Howard was born on April 30, 1940, in Raeford, North Carolina. He was the first member of his family to attend college, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in soil science from North Carolina State University. Howard proudly served in the United States Army from 1958 to 1962. Howard was employed as a District Conservationist with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) serving the farming community for thirty years. After retiring from the SCS, he was employed for ten years as Senior Technical Specialist with Carroll's Foods. Howard served as president of the Clinton Rotary Club and was an active member of First Methodist Church in Clinton. An avid nature lover, Howard enjoyed boating and fishing, especially along the Pungo River. He also loved attending North Carolina State football and basketball games with family and friends. Howard was predeceased by an infant daughter, Kathryn. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Helen Langdon Hobson, his son, David Howard Hobson (Jana) of Clinton; and by his beloved granddaughters, Emma Langdon Hobson, and Kate Norris Hobson.
Honeyfield	2023	Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE Member Harold Rex Honeyfield (92) of Davis, California, passed away November 24, 2023, at Sutter Hospital in Sacramento, California. He was born December 28, 1930, in the same house that his father was, on Johnson Mesa, 19 miles east of Raton, New Mexico, the son of Ed and Elizabeth (Black) Honeyfield . After graduating from high school in 1948, Harold served 3 1/2 years in the United States Navy being promoted to Yeoman 3rd Class, then he served 2 years as a Midshipman at the United States Naval Academy. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from New Mexico State

		<p>University in Agricultural Engineering in 1956 and a Master of Science degree from Purdue University. He was employed by the USDA, Soil Conservation Service (SCS) from January 1958 to September 30, 1989, with positions as Head Design Section in Albuquerque for 18 years, then to Afghanistan for 2 years, and then to Portland, Oregon as a Design Engineer at the West Regional Office of SCS, then to Davis, California as Assistant State Engineer for the SCS. for 11 years. After retiring from Federal Service, he became a Consultant with Harza Engineering in Pakistan. He was a Registered Engineer in the State of New Mexico. and a Registered Civil Engineer in the State of California. He enjoyed working as a design engineer as one could exercise the creativity of one's own ideas, and to teach younger engineers the thought process of evaluating the pros and cons of a design that conforms to the goals of the project s purpose. He was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity being inducted at Alpha Lambda Chapter at NMSU. During his time in Davis, he was the Chapter House Advisor for the local Phi Chapter of the Fraternity, He was a devoted genealogist, having published 7 books of genealogy information, 5 of which were devoted to his family, and 2 were for Pioneer Families of Colfax County New Mexico, and Saline Co. Nebraska. In 1997 he hosted a family reunion of the Honeyfield s, in Raton, New Mexico and in 2015 traveled to New Zealand to attend a reunion of the Honeyfield s living there. He was a prostate cancer survivor, and a charter member of the Yolo Prostate Cancer Support Group, to which he was an active supporter. He is survived by his wife, Valma (nee Thompson) of the home, and by three sons: Holin (Rose) of Spokane, Washington, Keith (Joann) of Davis, California and Jason of Phoenix, Arizona. Memorials may be made to the Yolo Prostate Cancer Support Group, (in care of Mr. Gil Walker, 800 Donner Way, Woodland, CA 95695 or to the Alpha Lambda Chapter of AGR Fraternity, 2545 So. Espina, Las Cruces NM 88001.</p>
Knudson	2023	<p>Dennis L. Knudson (85) of Woodland, California, passed away on October 24, 2023. Dennis was born May 14, 1938, to Ervind and Amanda (Nelson) Knudson of Devils Lake, North Dakota. Dennis enrolled at North Dakota School of Forestry in Bottineau, North Dakota where in 1958 he graduated with an associate degree in Horticulture and then attended North Dakota State University for 2 years. Dennis worked on the family farm until he was drafted into the United States Army. During his 2 years of service, he served at Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Riley, Kansas, West Germany, and West Berlin before being discharged in 1963. In January 1966, he accepted a position in Woodland, California with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. In his role as Conservation Technician, Dennis served the Yolo County farming community for over 28 years working with farmers, evaluating different cropping systems, designing sprinkler systems and pipelines and other engineering tasks until his retirement in 1994. He married Marlyn on December 31, 1971, and began raising a blended family. One of Dennis' lifelong hobbies was his garden and fruit trees. He enjoyed growing all types of fruits and vegetables throughout the different seasons. Dennis was a member of St Paul's Lutheran Church, American Legion, VFW Woodland, and past president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Dennis is survived by his wife Marlyn of 51 years, daughters Denise (Tim) Prigge, Brenda Hawley (Scott Stewart), and Janene (Shawn) Scoonover of Woodland, son Michael Hawley of Sparks, Nevada. Grandchildren Elena (Christopher) Gorsett of Sparks, Nevada, Stephanie (Corey) Shepherd, of Fair Oaks, California, Holly Subia, of Portland, Oregon., Sara Scoonover, Woodland, Justin Scoonover, Santa Rosa, California, Joshua and Tyler Prigge, Woodland; and great grandchildren Izabelle Gorsett, Valen and Ivy Shepherd.</p>
Larson	2023	<p>Wisconsin State Conservationist Tyrone "Ty" Larson (50) of Madison, Wisconsin, passed away on October 8, 2023. Ty was born and raised on Lake Waubesa in Madison, Wisconsin. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Reclamation. After graduation, he started as a temporary employee with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, and then climbed the ladder, becoming a Soil Conservationist, a District Conservationist, Area Conservationist, and then Assistant State Conservationist, working across Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Ty became the State Conservationist of Wisconsin in the summer of 2023. He had a career of service to conservation and rural America. Ty's hobbies included fishing, hunting, following many sports, traveling with family, and indulging in his favorite music. He often did these with family and friends, and loved introducing people to his favorite activities. Ty also loved bringing these experiences to those who had never done them, as well as the youth. He was involved with many different conservation and wildlife organizations. Ty earned his two-gallon pin from the Red Cross for blood donation. He was involved in so many organizations, too many to list, but gave his all to each and every one. Ty is survived by his wife, Laura; son, Alex; mother, Kathy Larson; father, Richard Larson; sister, Amanda Larson; and aunts, uncles, cousins, and nieces and nephews. A celebration of life was held at Gunderson Oregon Funeral and Cremation Care, 1150 Park St., Oregon, Wisconsin on October 17, 2023. The family requests donations be made to Groundswell Conservancy.</p>
Logan	2023	<p>Glen Harold Logan (91) of Boise, Idaho, passed away September 22, 2023. Glen was born May 17, 1932, in Smith Center, Kansas to Sam and Barbara Logan. Arriving 2 years into the Great Depression, followed by 7 years of the Dust Bowl, created an upbringing of determination and hard work. Glen spent 1 year at Estherville Jr. College, and 4 years at Iowa State University, graduating in 1953 at the age of 21 with a degree in soil science. While in College, he completed the requirements for ROTC and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He was proud of the fact that he worked his way through all 5 years of college. In April of 1954, he began his active service, 1st year in Denver in photo radar intelligence at Lowry Air Force Base, and his 2nd year as a targets officer in Osani South Korea. After his honorable discharge, Glen worked 9 months at Albert Dickenson Seed Company as a seed analyst, and in 1957 took a position as a soil scientist with the</p>

		USDA-Soil Conservation Service. That same year he met and eventually married Florence Holmes Howard, a widow with a young son, John Edmund (Pete) Howard. Glen became an immediate father. The family grew to 3 with the birth of Nancy and Linda. Glen's career took him to Emmett, Idaho, then Nampa, Burley and finally Boise, Idaho. In 1991, they lost son Pete to a heart attack. During his tenure as a soil scientist, Glen taught at Boise State University. Upon retirement, he became an appraiser and an independent soils analyst for property development. Florence passed away in October of 2015, having battled dementia for some time. Glen had an unwavering dedication to caring for her at the entire time. He is survived by his daughters, Nancy (Steve) Osborne and Linda Borup (Burke), grandchildren, Audrey (Rutger) Vanderlaan, Alex Borup, Laurel Osborne (fiancé, Henry), Olivia Osborne and Carly Osborne; and great grandson Thorne.
Long	2023	Former USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service employee John Earl Long (52) of Horseheads, New York passed away on October 17, 2023. John was born on November 12, 1970, in Altoona, Pennsylvania, son of the late Earl and Rosemary Rohaley Long. He grew up on a family farm in Patton, Pennsylvania and used that experience to shape a 30-year career as an agricultural economist where he worked for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Washington DC, Maryland, and Maine. For the past 10 years he ran his own consulting business Long Watershed Planning and Economics, where he supported conservation projects across numerous states. He was a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, where he met the love of his life and future wife, Stacey. He also completed masters-level coursework at both the University of Maryland and University of Maine. He is survived by his wife of 29 years, Stacey Carman Long; children, Sydney, Benjamin and Kathryn Long and other relatives.
Lull	2023	ARCSE Life Member Deanne K. (Nagel) Lull (83) of Salina, Kansas, passed away September 9, 2023. Deanne was born on July 4, 1940, in Orchard, Nebraska to Dr. Henry A. and Blanche F. (Schultze) Nagel. She grew up in Washington, Kansas, and graduated from Washington High School. Deanne received an associate's degree from Brown Mackie College in 1959. While there, she met her husband, Ronald Lull. They were married for 63 years. Deanne spent 49 years with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service working in clerical roles. She continued to serve through the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association and the Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE). Deanne had served as the ARCSE Kansas State Representative for the past 13 years and had recently received a Distinguished Service Award for her volunteer work for ARCSE. Deanne was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church. Her faith was very important to her. Within the church, she was active in the Crusaders Sunday School Class, and the First United Methodist Women of Faith, Ruth Circle. She volunteered for many years in the church office and prepared meals for shut ins. In later years, she enjoyed doing Christ Centered Yoga. Deanne loved watching sports, especially football and the Kansas City Chiefs. She enjoyed playing bingo and going to plays at the community theatre. She collected nativity scenes and horse themed memorabilia. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Lull; son, Steven Lull (Janelle); daughter, Judi Waliczek (John); brother, Randy Nagel (Mary Hillman); two grandchildren, Samantha Metcalfe (Tyler) and Bryan Lull. A Celebration of Life was held September 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Salina.
Lund	2023	Robert Glen Lund Jr. (74) of Townsend, Montana, passed away November 13, 2023, after a battle with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. Glen was the first of 12 kids born to Robert Glen Lund Sr. and Mary Elisabeth Duchanie on December 28, 1948. After high school Glen was drafted and began enlistment in the United States Marine Corps. He was deployed as a Field Wireman & Radio Operator in Vietnam and actively served in Dongha, Cameron Bay and Quantree until he was wounded and received his Purple Heart. He then returned to Portland, Oregon and worked as a surveyor in Port Orford, Cottage Grove, and McDonald Pass in Helena, Montana. It was around this time he would soon meet his lifelong wife, Judy . From 1971 until 1976 Glen and Judy lived in Portland, Oregon and had three children, one daughter and twin sons. During their time in Oregon, Glen worked as a Cartographic Technician for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service or NRCS) and retired in 2007. After two brief years of retirement, he returned to his job with NRCS on a part time basis. He permanently retired in 2009. Glen enlisted with the Air National Guard and served three years in Portland before his job transferred to Bozeman, Montana in April of 1976 where Glen enlisted in the Montana Army National Guard. Glen served over 30 years in the military, retiring in 2006. After retirement, he became a member and president of Big Sky Toastmasters (Bozeman) and served as Board President of Rae Water & Sewer subdivision for 9 years (Bozeman). He also served as a member and historian of American Legion Post 42 (Townsend). Glen is survived by his wife Judy of 52 years; their 3 children, Jenny (Michael) and twins Patrick (Kate) and Travis (Karen) ; 3 Grandchildren, Katelyn (Aukeyla) , Kyle and Emma ; 3 step-grandchildren Ethan , Emma , and Colin .
MacLauchlan	2023	Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE Member Robert "Bob" Scott MacLauchlan (96) of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away September 30, 2023. Bob was born in Edmunds, Maine June 19, 1927, to Neil S. and Eleanor 'Nellie' Walker MacLauchlan. He served in the United States Coast Guard during World War II, Asiatic Theater. Bob graduated from the University of Maine and had additional graduate studies at Oregon State University, University of Nebraska, and Oklahoma State Universities. Bob married Doris Ruth Henderson in Pleasanton, California, on September 25, 1950. Bob was briefly employed by Agricultural Extension Service in Maine and then worked 37 years with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (S.C.S.) with positions in Pleasanton, California; Bellingham, Washington; Harrisburg, Hillsboro and Corvallis, Oregon. In Corvallis he was headquartered on the Oregon State

		<p>University campus with a cooperato appointment to the faculty and served SCS field offices in Oregon and Washington in plant materials. He transferred back to California serving the state and western Nevada field offices in plant materials. He was promoted to the regional office in Lincoln, Nebraska serving the 12 mid-western states in plant materials for three years. Then he was promoted and served twelve years as Chief Plant Materials Specialist in the SCS National office, Washington, D.C. providing technical guidance and coordination to the SCS's 26 multi-state cooperative Plant Materials Centers, while living in Annandale, Virginia. He traveled repeatedly to all fifty states, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands providing national leadership and coordination to the SCS cooperative plant materials research. He participated in technical exchange assignments to Algeria, Mexico, Peoples Republic of China, and the former Soviet Union. He and Ruth moved back to Lincoln, Nebraska following retirement in 1985. He was a member of First Plymouth Congregational Church: member and past president Cornhusker Kiwanis Club; member and past president Chapter 199 National Association of retired Federal Employees; member American Legion, Post No. 3; member and past president of the SCS retirees Club; member Izack Walton League; early member Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; volunteer Tabitha Meals on Wheels for 18 years; an Admiral, and active in several other organizations. Survivors include daughters Debra (John) Horner, Omaha, Nebraska; Nancy (George) Bess, Crete, Nebraska; Pam Henning, Beatrice, Nebraska; son Neil (Robin) MacLauchlan, Seneca, South Carolina; grandchildren: Jonnie Ruth Horner Robinson (Zac); Jordan Horner Sochor (Joal); David Henning (Rosanna); Steven Henning; Mac Henning (Shaina); Andrea Bess Bridgmon (Nick); Spencer Bess; Garrett and Katie MacLauchlan; great-grandchildren: Zane, Leo and Ruthie Robinson; Uriah and Amaurice Henning; Josiah, Joah, Jagur and Joalie Sochor; Nettle Henning; Georgia and Ryker Bridgmon. He was preceded in death by beloved wife of 51 years, Ruth and grandson Zachary MacLauchlan.</p>
Martin	2023	<p>Cheryle (Henneman) Martin (75) of Ankeny, Iowa, formerly of Clarinda, Iowa, passed away October 23, 2023, at her home. Cheryle was born August 6, 1948, in Clarinda, Iowa to Lee Henneman and Violette (Jensen) Henneman. She was married to retired Civil Engineering Technician Rodney L. Martin who retired from the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in 1994. Cheryle and Rodney were united in marriage March 12, 1971. Cheryle became an administrator of nursing homes. Later she worked at the Farm Bureau. When they moved to Des Moines she worked for the State of Iowa. Survivors include her husband, Rodney Martin of Ankeny; children, Lisa Overgaard (Kevin) of Des Moines and Lori Barnett (Billy) of Texas; grandchildren, Joey Burt (Michelle) of Omaha, Nebraska, Sarah Burt of Des Moines; great grandchildren, Jared Bean, Riley Bean, Conan Rinderman, Bailynn Martin, and Brandon Martin.</p>
McCullough	2023	<p>James (Jim) Marvin McCullough (81) of Decatur, Alabama, passed away December 10, 2023, at his home in Decatur. Jim was born June 10, 1942, in Birmingham, Alabama, son of the late Marvin McCullough and the late Irene Doty McCullough. Jim was a 1965 graduate of Auburn University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for over 30 years where he retired as Area Conservationist in 2001. He also served in the Army Reserve where he retired as a Sergeant after serving over 30 years. Jim enjoyed his life in Decatur and loved time spent on the Tennessee River, whether boating with friends and family, or overlooking it from his home. Jim was active in the Fraternal Order of the Eagle. Jim also enjoyed spending time attending Auburn University Football games with friends and family. Jim was preceded in death by wife Judy B McCullough. Survivors include his wife, Charlo McCullough; Daughter, Amy (David) Mitchell; Son, Jason (Lisa) McCullough; Son, David (Melinda) McCullough; Stepson, Bo Harris; Stepson, Kelly Harris; Stepdaughter Paige Blankenship; Grandchildren, Tristen Mitchell, McKenzie Mitchell, Pate (Adi) McCullough, Parker McCullough, Sam McCullough, Bo Tyler Harris, Eli Harris, Tab Harris, Thad Harris, and Naomi Blankenship.</p>
Mehlhoff	2023	<p>Donavon Wade Mehlhoff (63) of St. Helens, Oregon, passed away at his home on September 1, 2023. Don was born May 4, 1960, in Minot, North Dakota and raised on a family farm. He married Tracy Slavens on October 5, 1985. Don was educated at North Dakota State University-Bottineau and University of Idaho. Don was employed as a District Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for nearly 38 years. He retired in January 2021. Don was a man of deep faith. He loved the Lord, and his ministry was music. In his youth, he and his closest friends formed a Christian band, Journey's End. Over the years he enjoyed serving on the worship team at the churches he attended with his family in Minot, North Dakota, Colfax, Washington, Lewiston, Idaho, and Columbia River Foursquare in St. Helens, Oregon. Don's survivors include his wife, Tracy; daughters, Sarah (Andrew) Woodall, Hillsboro, Oregon, Alexis (Daniel) Cole, St. Helens, Oregon, and Emily Mehlhoff, St. Helens, Oregon; grandchildren, Eloise and Norah Cole and Sawyer Woodall, a foster grandchild. He was preceded in death by grandson Iaen Cole.</p>
Nechero	2023	<p>James Steven "Steve" Nechero (62) of Benbrook, Texas passed away September 24, 2023, with family and close friends by his side. Steve was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer that he fought for over 10 years, well beyond the expectations of his medical team. Steve was born September 19, 1961. He attended the University of New Mexico where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Geography in 1986 and a Master of Arts in Geography/Geospatial Science in 1988. He started work with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in 1989 as a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist in the Salina, Kansas State office. In 1993 he went to the NRCS National Cartography Center in Fort Worth, Texas as a Supervisory Cartographer. He served as the Technology Applications Team Leader from 2005 to 2010, and in 2010 became the Geospatial Data Management Branch Chief. In 2020</p>

		his position was transitioned to the USDA-Farm Production and Conservation agency where he served as Geospatial Science Map & Data Leader. Steve was a pioneer in elevation data, passionate about GIS, a mentor to so many, but perhaps more importantly a friend to anyone who let him. Survivors include his wife Shelly and children Rhiannon and Drake.
Olynyk	2023	Max Olynyk (73) of Monroe Township, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on October 27, 2023. Max was born April 24, 1950, to Ukrainian immigrants, Nina and Micola Olynyk . He was raised on the Lower East Side of New York City before moving to Brooklyn. The son of an avid geologist, Max worked on the tunnel project in New York City before coming to work as a geologist with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Max and his wife Valerie shared wonderful times together traveling around the world and enjoying concerts and the theatre. As devoted Ranger fans, Valerie and Max attended many games and cheered both the Yankees and Mets. Max had a passion for cars, motorcycles, scuba diving, and sky diving. Upon retiring, Max enjoyed time golfing, playing ping pong, and reading mystery novels. He will be missed by his beloved wife Valerie of 37 years, his brother, Henry , sister, Ina , and brother-in-law, Michael Gerber ; brother-in-law, Robert , and sister-in-law, Theresa Bruno ; many nephews and nieces, great nephews and nieces and numerous friends.
Porter	2023	Dexter Porter (78) of Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, passed away unexpectedly on November 22, 2023. Dexter was born on May 19, 1945, to the late Sylvester and Kathryn (Peterman) Porter . He was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He married Jean Bursack on August 28, 1976, at Peace Lutheran Church in Wautoma, Wisconsin. He was a United States Army veteran. Dexter retired from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service after serving many years as a District Conservationist. He continued working on conservation projects after retirement. Dexter was an active church member and participated in various church activities. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, painting, birding, wood working, fly tying, gardening, pistol/rifle shooting. But most importantly Dexter loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Survivors include his loving wife, Jean Porter ; children Matthew (Nikki) Porter and Melissa (Jon) Witkowski ; and four grandchildren Peyton, Hunter, Sawyer, and Lincoln .
Ralston	2023	Margaret Speer Ralston (93) of Fairfax, Virginia, passed away peacefully on September 2, 2023. She was the widow of Senior Conservationist David C. Ralston, who served as the National Design Engineer for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. David retired in 1990 and passed away in 2020. Margie, as she was referred to, was born in Kingman, Kansas on January 22, 1930. She was the daughter of William Scott and Genevieve Martin Speer. After graduating from Kansas State University, Margie worked in the Chicago test kitchens of Swift and Co. Over the years she involved herself as a homemaker followed by working in the kitchen of the Fairfax County school system for about 10 years. In her spare time, she enjoyed gardening, was skilled at textiles and fiber work including weaving, knitting, basketry, and many other crafts. She was an active member of the Fairfax Presbyterian Church for more than 45 years, including serving in leadership positions. She enjoyed staying on top of the news of day, reading, and learning something new every day. She was a positive force in her community, much loved and touching many lives. She married David C. Ralston in 1956 and has four surviving children, Roger (Elisa Nappa), Peter, Barbara, and Andrew (Shannon Walton), and one grandchild, Grace Nappa-Ralston.
Restad	2023	Jason Henry Restad (68) of Fort Collins, Colorado passed away on November 19, 2023, peacefully at Pathways Hospice with his wife Karen by his side and surrounded by family and friends. His long courageous fight with prostate cancer was emblematic of his tenacity for life. Jason was born in Duluth, Minnesota on September 2, 1955, to Carol and Sigmund Restad and grew up in Palmer, Alaska. Jason obtained a bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1978 from the University of Alaska. His enduring curiosity and drive for knowledge fueled his passion for computers and paved the way for a successful 33 years as a Computer Scientist including serving as the Lead Application Architect for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Jason was instrumental in conceiving and driving the development of the NRCS application system architecture that produced the Customer Service Toolkit, PLANTS.usda, Web Soil Survey, Resource Data Gateway, Performance Results System, and many other agency software tools. His early work with web services helped provide the foundation for the on-line presence the agency and USDA have today. Jason and Karen met at the Fairbanks Choir of the North. In their 42 years of marriage and sharing lives, music was a lasting bond. Jason is predeceased by his mother, Carol Restad . He is survived by his wife, Karen, four children, Joshua, Evar, Phaedra, and Jacobi , and two grandchildren, Ethan and Rowan . He is also survived by his father Sigmund and siblings, Mary, Lori, Eric, Joyce, and Mark .
Stevens	2023	Senior Conservationist and ARCSE Member Jesse Ray Stevens (88) of Clayton, North Carolina, passed away December 12, 2023. Jesse was born on September 16, 1935, the sixth child of the late Almon and Dora Austin Stevens in Clayton. He was a proud Korean War veteran, serving in the United States Army from April, 1954 to April, 1957. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal and remained a dedicated member of the American Legion Post 71 for 32 years. Jesse enjoyed a distinguished career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service as an Engineering Technician in the Design Section of the state office, retiring in 1993 after 34 years of service. After retirement, he and Barbara enjoyed many years traveling with the Clayton Senior Travel Club. Jesse was an avid fan of the University of North Carolina Tar Heels basketball and tried his best to help them win as a 'couch' coach. Jesse was a committed Christian and a faithful member of Mount Calvary Baptist Church for 65 years. He was sustained by his faith and was an inspiration to many in his long battle with Multiple Sclerosis. Surviving is his devoted wife of 65 years, Barbara

		Johnson Stevens , his loving daughter, Kelli Stevens Padgett , and many other relatives and friends.
Stover	2023	James "Jim" Stover (75) of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, passed away on September 4, 2023, in Kingfisher. He was born on December 4, 1947, to parents Otto and Jean (Little) Stover in El Reno, Oklahoma. He married his high school sweetheart, Janet Murray, after dating for 4 years on June 23, 1967. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their family in Mexico 6 years ago. He grew up on a dairy farm, milking Holsteins, and farming wheat, and took over the farm from his dad to run Stover Dairy with his brother Mike. He worked for both Kingfisher County Conservation District and Logan County Conservation District as well as the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Jim was the Soil Conservation Technician in Guthrie, Oklahoma in the early to mid-1990s. He worked in Information Technology before it moved to its own agency, and he also worked under Jim Henley as a GIS Specialist before he retired. Jim was active in many areas. He served for years as a little league coach for his children while they were growing up and was a big supporter of Cashion, Oklahoma sports. He was also President of Cashion AllSports. Along with the many things Jim was active in, he also taught GPS Mapping at Langston. Faith was important to Jim. He served as the church administrator at First Baptist Church in Cashion and was ordained as a Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Kingfisher. Jim is survived by his wife Janet of the home, his three children; Jaime Stover (Tara) of Crescent, Oklahoma, Jana Stover-Trello of Cashion, and Jeremy Stover (Sarah) of Edmond, Oklahoma, seven grandchildren; Jaici and Tucker Stover, Otto and Levi Trello, Karsyn, Kadence, and Kyzer Stover, and bonus grandson Braylin Babb.
Todd	2023	ARCSE Member Hewlett Freeman Todd (90) of Chico, California, passed away September 1, 2023. Hewlett was born in Peking, China on March 19, 1933, the youngest of four children born to Dr. Lois Pendleton Todd (medical missionary) and Oliver Julian Todd (civil engineer tasked with harnessing the Yellow River, "China's Sorrow"). In 1938, the family moved back to the United States due to WWII, settling in Palo Alto, California where he spent the remainder of his childhood. At age 12, he learned to play the accordion and acquired his first vehicle. As a Boy Scout, he learned and taught sailing. He graduated with a degree in Agricultural Engineering from California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) and worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in Corning and Redding, California for 35 years as an engineer. In 1954, he fell in love and married Susan Lynell Swig; they had three children. Sadly, the marriage did not last and in 1979, he married widowed Mary Bidwell Elledge and became a devoted father to her three sons. To him, his most important role in life was being a father. In his retirement, he joined the YMCA and enjoyed Zumba, water aerobics and the many friendships made there. He also made daily visits to Morgan Stanley where he enjoyed studying, engaging in the stock market, and making friendships. After the death of his second wife, he moved to Chico to be closer to his daughter. He enjoyed life at the Terraces where he actively participated in fitness classes, swimming, music, dancing, and making many new friends. He could often be heard playing the accordion or engaging in conversations. He was known for his kindness, optimism and great love for family and friends. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary, and stepson Bruce Elledge. Survivors include daughters Ginny Todd, Joyce Todd, son Hewlett Todd and stepsons Dan (Sara) Elledge and Rod (Stacey) Elledge, four grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.
Tupas	2023	Deputy Chief Luis Madamba "Louie" Tupas (61) of Vienna, Virginia, passed away August 29, 2023. Louie was born March 1, 1962, in the Philippines where he grew up until his college years. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Sciences from the University of the Philippines (Dilman) in 1982. He received his Master of Science degree in Marine Science from the University of Tokyo Ocean Research Institute in 1988, and then his Doctor of Philosophy in 1991. Louie served as a faculty member at the University of Hawaii at Manoa from 1991-2002. His research and teaching careers were in the fields of biogeochemistry, microbial ecology, aquaculture, and biological oceanography. He began his federal government career in 2002 as a program director at the U.S. National Science Foundation. In 2004, he joined USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, now the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). He served at NIFA as a national program leader, division director, and deputy director for Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment. He joined the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in 2020 as Deputy Chief for Soil Science and Resource Assessment at national headquarters. Dr. Tupas provided leadership for addressing the scientific basis for conservation and sustainable agriculture through research, national surveys of soil, snow, water, and other natural resources, inventories of U.S. natural resources and their ecological transitions, and analyzing the impact of conservation practices, including soil, water, and climate studies. He provided national leadership to address global change and climate impacts on agriculture, forestry, and other landscapes, develop and expand climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, and enhance the sustainable utilization of agricultural working lands and waters. He also worked to implement strategies for sustainable natural resources utilization and environmental systems management and promotes domestic and international partnerships and engagement through collaborative research, education, and outreach programs. Louie is survived by his wife Jermelina, his son Mishail (Miko) and his sister Maria Isabel (Marisa) Tupas-Morgan.
Vavra	2023	Senior Conservationist and Honorary ARCSE Member Martin E. Vavra (98) of Boerne, Texas (formerly of Bryan, Texas), passed away October 13, 2023. Martin was born in College Station, Texas. Upon graduating from A&M Consolidated High School in 1943, he joined the United States Navy and served as a gunner in the Merchant Marines and a fire fighter at the Los Angeles Naval Air Station before being discharged in 1946. Martin attended Texas A&M University and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Engineering in 1949.

		<p>Martin met his wife Geraldine (Deany) at a country dance in Kurten, Texas and they were married in 1951. He was employed by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service throughout Texas for 34 years. He obtained his Professional Engineer License and was a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. Martin was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church where he served as an usher and served on the Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery board of directors. He was a life member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1834, the American Legion Post 159 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4692. Upon retirement in 1983, Martin and Deany returned to Bryan and built their retirement home in the Kurten area. Together they enjoyed country living until 2013, when they moved to Arbor Oaks in Bryan, and later to Morningside Ministries at Menger Springs in Boerne. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Deany; daughter, Karen (Bob) Freeman; son, Dennis (Alicia) Vavra; grandchildren, Bill (Melissa) Freeman, Bobby (Rachel) Freeman, Adrienne Vavra, and Alexis (Jason) Thurston; great grandchildren, Clara Nell, Finley, and Dean Freeman; Tyler, McKayla, and Gabriel Thurston. Funeral services were held October 21, 2023, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bryan, Texas with Reverend Monsignor John McCaffrey officiating. Burial with military honors was at the Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Bryan.</p>
Warren	2023	<p>Ronnie Joe Warren (69) of Altus, Oklahoma, passed away at his home on September 25, 2023. Ronnie was born on November 16, 1953, to Leota (Roberts) and Jeff Clay "J.C." Warren, Jr. He attended Altus High School and graduated with the Class of 1971, later attending Altus Junior College. He worked as a Technician for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service until his retirement. Ronnie was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing and especially quail hunting. Among those left to honor Ronnie's memory are his son, Jeff Warren (Dee); grandchildren, Ansley Warren, Adison Warren, and Aspen Stephens (Trenton); and great grandson, Truitt Stephens.</p>
Whittington	2023	<p>Senior Conservationist Rosalie J. Whittington (96) of Raleigh, North Carolina, passed away October 14, 2023. Rosalie was born in Coats, North Carolina on October 27, 1926. She was the daughter of the late Millard Smith Whittington and Vada Turlington Whittington. Upon graduating from Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina, she moved to Raleigh and worked her entire career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, serving as Personnel Officer. Her interests included many years of ballroom dancing, trips to North Carolina beaches in Emerald Isle, Ocracoke and Outer Banks with family and friends, and travel abroad. While she had no children, she made many trips with her nieces and nephews, including fun days at the pool and parks. She shared her love of history with them, especially pertaining to North Carolina, its capital, and the Outer Banks. The family is so appreciative of her dedicated group of caretakers, who have become family to her and her niece Lynne. They loved her and were wonderful companions as she shared with them many stories of where she grew up, her interests, family, and career. She is survived by her sister-in-law Cheryl Whittington (brother Hartwell deceased) and 10 nieces and nephews and many grand nieces and nephews.</p>
Williams	2023	<p>Timothy Wayne Williams (63) of Sardis City, Alabama passed away November 10, 2023, at his home. Tim was born July 25, 1960. He graduated Snead State Community College in 1980 and Auburn University in 1982, where he majored in agricultural engineering. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 35 years, retiring in December 2019 as Area Engineer. In retirement, Tim helped his son, Daniel, begin his farming operations. Tim and his wife also worked diligently in their vegetable garden and took every opportunity to give away the bounty of fruits and vegetables he and Susan harvested. They also enjoyed retirement by travelling with their friends, children, and grandchildren. They crossed off quite a few locations like Alaska, Montana, Wyoming, and Maine. He was a member of Good Hope Delta Missionary Baptist Church. He is survived by his loving wife, Susan Haynes Williams of Sardis City; daughters Ivy Malone (Mark) of Washington, D.C., and Leigh Dinarte (Carlos) of Bowdon, Georgia; sons Daniel Williams (Mary) of Sardis City and Alex Reynolds (Julie) of Vestavia Hills, Alabama; grandchildren Ben Dinarte, Major Malone, Vivienne Malone, Haynes Reynolds, and Bonnie Ann Williams.</p>
Wisniewski	2023	<p>Ronald Kenneth Wisniewski (77) of Ruther Glen, Virginia, passed away December 14, 2023, at Spotsylvania Regional Memorial Center. Ron was born in Chicago, Illinois, on November 2, 1946, to Joseph and Ann Kabara Wisniewski. Ron was a United States Army veteran. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and was the District Conservationist in Fredericksburg, Virginia when he retired. Ron was a member of St. Mary of the Annunciation, where he enjoyed volunteering, especially with the food bank. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed tending to and raising sheep and enjoyed his dog, Charlie. Ron was preceded in death by his wife, Annette M. Wisniewski. He is survived by three children, Norma Smith, Frank Haegle and Acina Nester; nine grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.</p>
Woodrich	2023	<p>Chi Robert Woodrich (50) of Salina, Kansas, peacefully passed away at Salina Regional Hospital on October 6, 2023, with his wife Karen at his side. His wife Karen Woodrich is currently the Deputy Chief for Programs for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and served as the State Conservationist of Kansas from 2018 until January 2023. Chi was born on March 16, 1973, in Lacrosse, Wisconsin, to Joanne and the late George Woodrich. Chi lived a life guided by humility, gratitude, and commitment to service. Chi's faith in God was the foundation of his life, and he found solace and strength in his active membership in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod since his baptism. He was also a proud member of the Ho-Chunk Nation. At the young age of 13, he met the love of his life, Karen, while playing broom ball at Pastor Erdman's cottage. Their bond deepened over the years, and they exchanged vows on October 21, 1995, at St. John Lutheran Church in the Town of</p>

		<p>Easton, Wausau, Wisconsin. Chi had a diverse career that showcased his talents and passions. He began his professional journey as an auctioneer, working alongside his mother and father in the family business, Woodrich Real Estate & Auctions. Later, he owned his own car hauling business, Chief Auto Transport, after spending many years at the Central Wisconsin Auto Auction. Chi also served as a volunteer firefighter with the Town of Texas in Wausau, Wisconsin. Most recently, he worked as an animal educator at the Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina. However, his ultimate passion was raising cattle and caring for the land. Chi's educational journey was marked by a thirst for knowledge. He graduated from Wausau East High School in 1991 and went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology from the University of Kentucky. Driven by his passion for learning, Chi also completed his coursework for a master's degree in Archaeology. The family would like to thank the medical professionals at Salina Regional Health Center for the care and compassion they provided during his brief stay. A funeral service for Chi Woodrich was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Salina on October 16, 2023, with burial following at Crown Point in Culver, Kansas. Contributions in his name can be made to the Wausau East (Wisconsin) FFA or your local 4H/FFA chapter. Additionally, donations to volunteer fire departments would be greatly appreciated. Chi leaves behind his loving wife of 28 years, Karen (Valent) Woodrich, his mother, Joanne Woodrich of Sun City, Arizona, his sister, Noya Woodrich of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, and his nephew, Tuari Woodrich Landa, also of Brooklyn Park along with many other relatives.</p>
<p>Wyckoff</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Nancy Sue Wyckoff, previously known as Nancy Ellis, (83) of Nowata, Oklahoma, passed away July 13, 2022. She was born in Nowata, on December 3, 1939, to James Harold Bodle and Lois K (Ward) Bodle. Nancy graduated from Nowata High School in 1958. Nancy lived in Nowata her whole life and loved to reminisce about growing up in the 50's. On July 21, 1959, she married her high school sweetheart, Jack R. Ellis. On July 21, 1994, they celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary and on August 3, 1994, he passed away. Nancy married Michael Wyckoff in 1997 and had 25 and a half years together. Nancy worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 20 years, first as a District Clerk in Nowata and then the Area Clerk at the Claremore, Oklahoma Area Office. She retired in 2000. Nancy was a charter member of the Hillside Christian Church in Nowata. She was a dedicated mother and grandmother. She loved music, traveling, and was an avid reader. She is survived by her husband, Michael, of the home; a daughter Regina Swan (Kevin) of Barsndall, Oklahoma; a son Brett "Dink" Ellis (Khristina) of Hugo, Oklahoma; one step-son, Derik Wyckoff of California, one-step daughter, Dawn Wyckoff of Michigan, and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren; Ashley K. Newton of Edmond, Oklahoma, Matthew B. Miller of Dewey, Oklahoma, Dally Jack Ellis and Amelia Vaughn of Nowata, Dillon Jacob Ellis of South Coffeyville, Oklahoma, Nathan Gage Miller, Nickolos Blake Miller, Colton James Miller, Macy K. Miller, Draven Shane Lowe, Hendrix Lee Steele, Marley Monroe Dunlap, Lexi Thomas, Axton Thomas, Alijah Thomas, Will Swan, Drew Swan, Hannah Crawford, and Greyson T. Wyckoff.</p>