

# RECENT OBITUARY INFORMATION, March-April 2026

Paul Benedict, Membership Chair

When you receive word of someone passing, with little other information provided to you, obituaries can often be found by doing an advanced search using Google, using the full name of the deceased. If you do not have access to the internet, Paul Benedict will be glad to do the search. **PLEASE SEND DEATH NOTICES AND OBITUARY INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO PAUL BENEDICT AT [soilwarden@verizon.net](mailto:soilwarden@verizon.net).** Always include the position or the spouse's position with SCS/NRCS.

Surname	Year	<i>In-Memoriam</i> (Note: These are recent notices. For a complete list, please see <a href="http://www.arcse.org">www.arcse.org</a> )
Albertella	2026	<b>Joan Frances Albertella</b> (85) of Locust Grove, Virginia, passed away February 18, 2026. Joan was born January 10, 1941, and raised in a close-knit Italian family in New York, shaping her lifelong devotion to faith, family, and service to others. She was a proud graduate of Saint Joseph's College for Women where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History/Secondary Education. She traveled the globe as an Army spouse, teaching English at a university in South Korea, navigating life overseas, including driving in the streets of Seoul and exploring Europe with curiosity and confidence. She worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as an Executive Assistant to the Chief in National Headquarters in Washington, DC. No matter where life took her, Joan had an extraordinary ability to make any place feel like home for her five children/Army "brats". After retiring, she settled at Lake of the Woods, Virginia. There she served for several years as Program Co-Chair of the Lake of the Woods AARP Chapter. At St. Patrick Catholic Church, she faithfully served on the Ladies Auxiliary and Martha's Caring Hands, participating in fundraising events and helping to host funeral receptions. Joan was also a member of the Battlefield Ladies Auxiliary of Fredericksburg, Virginia. She loved cooking for family celebrations and traveled near and far to stay connected with her family. She attended birthdays, graduations, weddings, sporting events, and band concerts, always ready to show her support and celebrate. Her love was strong and deeply felt by all. Joan is survived by her five children: Robin (Don) Schulz, Matthew (Kristin) Albertella, Christopher Albertella, Stephen (Elizabeth) Albertella, and Dana (Dan) Ensley; her brother, Nicholas (Lesley) Patrone; 11 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and her former spouse and dear friend, Raymond (Rose) Albertella; and brother-in-law John (Mary Margaret) Albertella.
Coller	2025	<b>George N. Coller</b> (93) of State College, Pennsylvania, passed away on October 15, 2025. He was born June 30, 1932. George worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) starting as a Soil Conservationist. He moved to State College in the late 1970's to be the first Area Conservationist for the new Area 5 that covered central Pennsylvania from Tioga County down to Cumberland County. George retired from the SCS on June 30, 1988. George was known for his laugh. He spent the remainder of his life in the same home in State College living with his wife Joyce Coller.
DeGroot	2021	<b>Member Jon Vierling DeGroot</b> (82) Knoxville, Tennessee, passed away October 22, 2021. He was born to William and Katherine DeGroot on October 22, 1939, and was raised in Falls Church, Virginia. He had a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering. Jon first worked for the Army Corps of Engineers and then as an engineer for the USDA Soil Conservation Service. He was an Assistant State Conservationist when he retired in 1994. He was a member of Farragut Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. Golfing, fishing, traveling, and reading were his favorite past-times. He was a consummate engineer and loved to build and fix just about anything. He always helped others by taking people to doctor's appointments, participating in Habitat for Humanity through the Church, and doing small projects for widows. A memorial service was held November 6, 2021, at Farragut Presbyterian Church, 209 Jamestowne Blvd, Knoxville, Tennessee. Burial was in Ironto, Virginia.
Egbarts	2025	<b>Rodney D. Egbarts</b> (81) of Olathe, Kansas, passed away July 19, 2025. An obituary was not available. Rod was born November 1, 1943, to Henry and Esther (Harms) Egbarts of Gilead, Nebraska. He married Nancy Jane Ells at the York Baptist Congregational Church in York, Nebraska on February 16, 1969. Rod served in the United State Army National Guard from 1966 to 1972, including being a Platoon leader at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Fort Carson, Colorado. He was a graduate of the University of Nebraska. He worked for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in at least three states, Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas. When in Kansas he was on the State Office Planning staff. I could not find information on his survivors.
Eisberner	2026	<b>Timothy Alvin Eisberner</b> (67) of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, passed away on January 16, 2026. In 1987, Tim married Sue Redman. Though later divorced, they always remained good friends. Their two children, Alyssa and Emily, were Tim's pride and joy. Later, Tim graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and became a soil conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a Soil Conservation Technician in Wisconsin at the Chippewa Falls Service Center, Durand Service Center and the Altoona Area office. Throughout his life, Tim was an avid outdoorsman. He loved deer hunting, fishing, and walking in the woods. His athleticism endured as a member of many softball leagues. He loved classic cars, classic rock, singing, dancing, good meals, and good times. Tim is survived by children, Alyssa (Patrick) McCaughin and Emily (Kamrin) Eisberner; granddaughter, Rowan McCaughin and grandson Ian McCaughin; brothers, Edward (Janet) Eisberner and Chris (Tami) Eisberner; sister, Elissia Joyce Moschkau and many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Bonnie Eisberner. His children would like to express special gratitude to Chris and Tami Eisberner, Steve and Sue Marczinke and Sue and Pete Lokken for everything they did to help Tim live out his last years in dignity at his home.
Garcia-Sais	2025	<b>Rosabeth Garcia-Sais</b> (57) of Belen, New Mexico, passed away peacefully on December 31, 2025, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was born on June 10, 1968, in Belen, New Mexico. Rosabeth earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of New Mexico. She devoted 36 years of service to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, where she served as Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy. She retired on February 10, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of professionalism, leadership, and commitment. Outside of her career, Rosabeth found great joy in fishing, traveling, baking, putting puzzles together and spending time with her family. These passions brought her happiness and created lasting memories with those she loved most. Rosabeth is lovingly remembered by her spouse of 36 years, Patricia "Trish" Garcia-Sais; her mother, Rosalie Carvalho (Manual); her father-in-law, Julian Garcia; her brother, Barney Sais (Vickie); her brother-in-law, Julian Garcia (Shaun); and her sister-in-law, Sandra Mendoza (Rosemary). Connie & Rick Apache and Vickie & Alberto Suazo-Chanza. She is also survived by her nephews Brandon Sais (Jenna), Kyle Sais (Sam), Julian Garcia, and John Garcia; her nieces Jaclynn Mendoza (Jordan)

		and Gabrielle Mendoza; and her great-niece Savannah Sais and great-nephews Sterling Sais and Elias Mendoza-Padilla. Rosabeth was preceded in death by her father, Barney Sais; her stepfather, Alfonso Peralta; and her mother-in-law, Helen Garcia.
<b>Gerloff</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Bobby Sue Gerloff</b> (100) of Woodward, Oklahoma, passed away January 5, 2026, in Woodward. Bobby Sue (Owen) Ham Gerloff was born in Searcy, Arkansas to Carl Owen and Norma (Benedict) Owen. Bobby moved to Oklahoma and graduated as Valedictorian from Seiling High School and attended Woodward Junior Business College. In 1942 she married Eugene Earl "Jimmy" Ham, and they lived in Woodward until Jimmy enlisted in the United States Army which then took them to Vancouver, Washington. While living in Washington, Bobby worked at both Aluminum Company of America and Kaiser Shipyard. In 1945 while deployed in the Philippines, Jimmy was killed in action. This brought Bobby back to Woodward to be close to her in-laws. In 1951 she began working at the local radio station (KSIW), where she stayed for several years, eventually beginning her long career with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. During her 50 plus years with the USDA she served in several positions including being the longtime Area Clerk in Woodward. She earned many awards and certificates of achievement. She was also an Equal Opportunity Representative for several areas of the state. In 1980 she married Lynton Gerloff of Freedom, Oklahoma and they were together until his death in 2004. Bobby loved to travel and especially enjoyed the many trips with Lynton. She enjoyed, often participating in state and national tournaments. She was an active member of the Church of Christ in Woodward. Bobby is survived by daughters Nicki Hauser and Gail Fitts; stepson Gary (Vanessa) Gerloff; grandchildren: Julie (Rob) (Robbie and Dylan) Wilson, Jayson (Erin) (Jackson and Landon) Hauseer, Jacob Fitts, Lori (Gerloff) King, Josh (Amy) Neese, and Chance (AlyJea) Gerloff; several great-grandchildren; niece Sharon (Miller) Johnston, and nieces and nephew Cindy, Lisa, Cliff (Whetstone).
<b>Glocker</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Member Carl Leonard Glocker</b> (88) of Colorado Springs, Colorado, passed away on June 10, 2024. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on June 21, 1935, to Hans and Rose Glocker. The family moved to Wichita, Kansas, after Carl had completed two years of high school at Loyola University. Carl attended Kansas State University where he majored in Agronomy. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) fraternity, Air Force ROTC and Pershing Rifles. After graduation he was inducted into the United States Army March 25, 1958, where he served two years in the Army Chemical Corps working on biological agricultural experiments. After separating from the service in 1960, he went to work for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service for 35 years working as a Soil Scientist. His first duty station was Madison, Wisconsin. His last duty station was at the National Soil Survey Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. While working in Madison he met Elsbeth (Liz) Storch. They were married June 10, 1961. Son, William was born in 1962 and Andrew in 1964. Surviving him are his wife, Elsbeth (Storch) Glocker, sons William P. (Sharon) Glocker, Andrew (Janet) Glocker; grandsons Eric (Samantha); Adam, Kyle and Hans Glocker; granddaughter Ana Thoman (Taylor) and two great Granddaughters Petria and Rosalee.
<b>Gwinn</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Life Member Gary Augustus Gwinn</b> (83) of Hambleton, West Virginia, passed away peacefully at his home on January 11, 2026. He was born on August 2, 1942, at Fort Benning, Georgia to the late John and Eva (Hanshaw) Gwinn. Gary was a wildlife biologist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, registered professional forester and member of the Wildlife Society. Gary retired as State Biologist in 1996. He was honored for identifying and mapping all of the wetlands in West Virginia. He was a devoted West Virginia University supporter and loved the Mountaineers, his alma matter. He was also an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed passing on his knowledge of the outdoors to anyone who wanted to learn. Those left to cherish Gary's love and memories are his wife of 65 years Carol Smith Gwinn, daughter Susan Gainer (Paul), granddaughters Eva and Chesley Gainer, sister Debbie Neely (Gary), brother-in-law Cecil Hall, sister-in-law Nancy Gwinn and many cherished nieces and nephews. A funeral service was held January 18, 2026, at Smathers Funeral Chapel, Rainelle, West Virginia. The family requests that donations be made in Gary's name to Tucker County EMS.
<b>Harder</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Suzanne (Suzie) Harder</b> (80) of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away at home on January 21, 2026. She the wife of <b>James "Jim" Harder</b> , retired Resource Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Suzie was a dedicated nurse with a varied career in patient care, teaching, management, and consulting. She received her Nursing education from Cornell School of Nursing, New York Hospital, New York City. She was a lifelong learner receiving additional degrees from Chadron State College, University of Nebraska at Kearney, and the University of Phoenix. She was an active member of Southern Heights Presbyterian Church and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Suzie is survived by her husband Jim of 53 Years; daughters Janelle Oppenheimer, of Flower Mound, Texas, Ruth (Richard) Kroner, of Oro Valley, Arizona, and son Steve (Katie) Harder, of Urbandale, Iowa; grandchildren, Owen, Avery and Anneliese Oppenheimer; Ethan, William, and Matthew Kroner; and Vaughn, Faye and June Harder.
<b>Holt</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Donna Joyce Holt</b> (89) of Asheville, North Carolina, passed on December 2, 2025. Donna was the wife of Senior Conservationist and Honorary Member <b>Francis (Frank) T. Holt</b> , retired State Conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Donna was born on July 8, 1936, in Valley Park, Missouri, the daughter of the late A.R. (Lonnie) and Bernice (Bunny) Mottesheard. Donna married Francis (Frank) Holt and would have been married 71 years December 25, 2025. She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant daughter, Vicky. Surviving is her husband, her daughter, Debi Holt, and son, David Holt and wife Donna; sister Sue Miller and husband Tom; granddaughters Brittany Hobbs and husband Stephen and Megan Davis and husband David; two great grandchildren Adeline Davis and Jacob Davis. Surviving also are three nephews, Mark Holt, Tom Rea and Tommy Miller; and five nieces, Becky Alexander, Shirley Uehle, Carrie Hopley, Nancy Rea and Kerri Routsong.
<b>Lewis</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Jimmy Noel Lewis</b> (91) of Plainview, Texas, passed away on February 13, 2026. Jimmy was born on August 19, 1934, in San Saba County, Texas to Ben and Virginia Estep Lewis. He married Mary Lynn Bigham on September 28, 1970. She preceded him in death in 2019. Jimmy served in the United States Army. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 46 years, retiring in 2004. He was the District Conservationist in Plainview for many years. He is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lynn Lewis; his son, James Colvin; his daughter, Pam Lewis and his son-in-law, Randy Ware. Jimmy is survived by his brother, Jack Lewis; his daughters, Jo Beth Ware and Dewana (Joe) Wynn; his grandchildren, Jeremy (Beth) Ware and Tiffani (Coby) Niell; his great grandchildren, Jameson Ware, Halston Ware, Kenzli Blackburn, Caleb Niell and Caysen Niell. A memorial service was held February 17, 2026, at Seth Ward Baptist with Robert Malcolm officiating.

<b>Rakestraw</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Life Member Bobby E. "Curly," "Bae" Rakestraw</b> (85) of Monrovia, Maryland, passed away at Johns Hopkins Hospital on March 21, 2021. Bobby was born in Slaughters, Kentucky on March 15, 1936, the son of the late Marvin A. and Helen E. (Woods) Rakestraw. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Kentucky State College in Bowling Green, Kentucky in 1959. He was a United States Army Veteran serving from October 1959 to February of 1962. In 1962 he was employed by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service until his retirement in 1996 as the RAMP National Program Manager. Bobby was a lifetime member of the New Market Lions Club for almost 50 years. One of his favorite activities was organizing the club's Basket Bingo fundraiser. He was also the chairman of the Frederick County Soil Conservation District, a member of the Frederick County Farm Bureau, and a member of the Providence United Methodist Church in Kemptown, Maryland. Bobby enjoyed restoring tractors and was a member of the Mid Atlantic Alis Chamblor Tractor Club as well as the MDIHCC Tractor Club. He loved visiting family and spending time on the farm he grew up on in Kentucky. He was the loving husband of Donna (Hammers) Rakestraw, his wife of 55 years. In addition to his wife, Donna, survivors include his daughter, Wendy (Rakestraw) Wilson of Frederick, Maryland and son, David Rakestraw of Pembroke Pines, Florida; and his beloved grandchildren, Craig Wilson, Jason Wilson, Rachel Wilson and Emily Wilson.
<b>Roberts</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Charles Vernon Roberts</b> (75) of Hendersonville, Tennessee, passed away on February 11, 2026. He was born on February 25, 1950, the beloved son of Ray Roberts and Amanda Cook. Charles earned his Bachelor of Science in Agronomy with honors from Tennessee State University (Nashville, Tennessee) in 1972 and completed additional post-graduate studies from 1978 to 1980. Charles dedicated 38 years of service to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), building a career grounded in stewardship and public service. Over the years, he served in numerous roles including Student Trainee, Soil Conservationist, District Conservationist, IRM Coordinator, Area Resource Conservationist, Area Conservationist, and Assistant State Conservationist. Charles was also deeply involved in professional and civic organizations. He was a past member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society of America, a Life Member of the National Organization of Professional Black NRCS Employees where he served six years as National Treasurer. He also contributed as an Instructor at the National Employee Development Center (NEDC). His community presence was just as strong. Charles was a member of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, supported alumni and civic efforts through multiple organizations, and served in leadership roles including President of the Bransford High School (BHS) Alumni Class of 1968 and Chairman of the BHS Alumni Parade for multiple years. He was also a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Masonic Universal Lodge #239, and Hason Temple #150 (32° Shriner), along with other service-minded community groups. Charles' survivors include daughter, TaJuan Roberts Watson (Donald); and his granddaughter, Zoey Browder. Funeral services were conducted February 16, 2026, at Oakhurst Chapel of Robertson County Funeral Home with Rev. James Brown officiating. Burial was in Restlawn Memorial Gardens in Cedar Hill, Tennessee.
<b>Sheets</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Alice Marie Sheets</b> (84) of Somerset, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully on January 25, 2026. She was the wife of Phillip Sheets, retired Soil Conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, who retired in 2005. Alice was the daughter of the late Alfred and Louise (White) Fortunato. She was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and was active in Catholic Daughters of America. She enjoyed bible study and sang in the choir. Alice was a member of the Red Hats, Newcomers of Somerset, T.O.P.S., Track II Squares and Wheelers and Dealers Square Dancing Club. She enjoyed dancing any chance she got. Alice traveled 3 times to the National Square-Dancing Convention. Alice volunteered for Meals on Wheels. Alice was preceded in death by son, Michael Sheets. She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Phillip Sheets; daughter, Sharon (Mark) Stuart; grandchildren, Evan (Alicia) Sheets, Ashley Walther, Alexander (Larry) Lang, Anthony Lubinski and Jacob Sheets; and great-grandchildren, Aden and Liam Walther and L J Lang and Easton Sheets.
<b>Skemp</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>Samuel J. Skemp, Jr.</b> (60) of La Crosse, Wisconsin, passed away on December 7, 2025, after a medical emergency on the family land. He was born July 31, 1965, to Samuel J. and Jean Skemp. Sam attended Fox Valley Tech School in Appleton, Wisconsin, for 2 years and earned his Conservation degree at the University of Wisconsin Platteville. He had a long career with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, working at offices in Onalaska, Sparta, Richland Center, Wisconsin; and finally serving as District Conservationist for Vernon County starting in 2006. He enjoyed providing fellow farmers and other clients with advice and guidance on agricultural land use and native prairie restoration. He deeply appreciated being in the Driftless area and enjoyed giving tours and talks about its unique history. His kind and friendly demeanor, sense of humor and jovial laugh will be greatly missed. Sam loved driving tractors and raising beef cows and listening to music and often attended concerts and music fests. He was an avid rock and arrowhead collector and took great pride in the prairie restoration work he had completed to over twenty acres located on the ridge of his family's farm. Sam is survived by his parents and his 4 siblings, Sheila, Jeff, Andy (Ana), and Matt as well as 8 nieces and nephews and many family relatives. His sister, Julie, died in 2021.
<b>Tackett</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>David Leroy Tackett</b> (72) of Shenandoah, Iowa, passed away on December 23, 2025, at home with his wife and four sons by his side, after a hard fight against cancer and Parkinson's. He was born on September 20, 1953, at Hand Community Hospital, in Shenandoah, Iowa, to David and Arlene (Sugden) Tackett. David spent his life rooted in hard work and dedication. In his early years, he held many jobs, including grain bin construction, working at Eaton Corporation, and farming. Those experiences shaped his strong work ethic and practical approach to life. He later built a long career with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, where he worked as a Soil Conservation Technician from 1991 until he retired in 2018. David was a dedicated member of the Page County Chapter of Pheasants Forever, and a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church in Shenandoah. He is survived by his wife, Denise (Sligar) Tackett of 51 years; their four sons: Nathan (Tekyn) of Grimes, Iowa, Kyle (Katie) of Dillon, Montana, Jordan (Lindsey), of Ames, Iowa, and Seth (Krissy) of Shenandoah, Iowa; and six grandchildren: Sawyer, Garrett, Baker, Eli, Sloan and Mesa. Services were held at the First United Methodist Church in Shenandoah, Iowa, on December 31, 2025.
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Member Brenda Kay McDonald Thomas</b> (76) of Herndon, Virginia, passed away on January 1, 2026, after a short illness, following a long journey with rheumatic heart disease and rheumatoid arthritis, which she had met with strength, grace, and resilience. Brenda was born on September 22, 1949, in Barbourville, Kentucky, to Lewis and Sylvia McDonald, the youngest of five children. After high school, she went on to attend Union College, choosing a home economics degree with an accounting minor. It is here she met her future husband Dennis R. Thomas. They married the evening before graduation and relocated to the Washington D.C. area to set roots and build their family. Brenda spent most of her professional career working in the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service budget office at National

		<p>Headquarters. After 30 years of service, she retired in 2004 as a Chief Budget Analyst to dedicate herself to caring for her grandchildren, a role she cherished much more than her career and approached with deep love and pride. Brenda expressed her love through baking. Whether cookies, banana or zucchini bread, cake or pies, she found happiness in sharing homemade treats with family and friends, an enduring symbol of her generosity and care. Throughout her life, Brenda was an active member of the Herndon United Methodist Mary Martha Women's Circle and in recent years dedicated her time as leader and chair of the group. She was very proud of their ongoing mission of collecting and providing new socks for the homeless. She is survived by her devoted husband, Dennis R. Thomas; her daughters, Jennifer (David) Gentry and Sara (John) Simanski; and her beloved grandchildren, Annabella Gentry, Lily Simanski, Emma Simanski, and Tate Simanski, who brought her immense joy.</p>
<b>Vrana</b>	<b>2026</b>	<p><b>Jon David Vrana</b> (71) of Fairfax, Virginia, passed away at home on February 1, 2026. Jon was born November 22, 1954, to Elaine and Verlon "Tony" Vrana (Jon's father served as Associate Deputy Chief for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, retiring in 1980). He graduated from Virginia Tech (Bachelor of Science in Agronomy, 1977) and George Washington University (Master's of Science in Information Systems Technology, 2004). At Tech, he met Mary Helen Miller, the daughter of a colleague at the USDA Agricultural Research Station. Jon worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service for 43 years. Jon was a passionate and driven man, devoting his life to work and a series of hobbies, from historical interpretation to volunteer rescue squad, Challenger Little League Baseball to just about any musical instrument he cared to pick up. He loved to sing and tell stories. In Franklin, North Carolina he played in the house bluegrass band Southbound and Down at the world premiere of the Foxfire play. He was a Boy Scout and a science guy who loved soil science, agronomy, computers, and wetlands. He valued conservation (environmental) and preservation (historical). He wanted the land and our human stories to be carefully kept for future generations. In later years, he took a keen interest in Ireland and Irish-American history, a way of connecting with his own genealogy. A licensed soil scientist and management analyst, he won too many awards to name comprehensively, but he was especially proud of a few: Soil and Water Conservation Society Berg Fellowship, the USDA Secretary's Award, and the USDA Chief's Award. He celebrated local Virginia history at Burke, Vienna (where he wrote a short play to celebrate the town's 1890 incorporation and was Volunteer of the Year in 2015), Sully Plantation, Pamplin Park, and the Silas Burke House. He co-created numerous programs and displays with the Burke Historical Society, Historic Vienna Inc., and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. He performed twice at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. He is survived by Mary (wife); Heather and Anna (children); siblings Verlon, Tim, and Carolyn; Laura Wyatt (sister-in-law); nieces and nephews Julie, Tony, and Maggie and their families; and hundreds of friends. In lieu of flowers, we ask that you donate to your favorite environmental conservation or local historical organization. May his memory remind us to live life fully and loudly.</p>
<b>Warren</b>	<b>2026</b>	<p><b>James "Jim" Edgar Warren</b> (94) of George West, Texas, passed away on February 2, 2026. Jim was born February 20, 1931, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the son of George Edgar Warren and Emily Amanda (Petty) Warren. After high school he worked a few jobs before joining the Air Force on December 19, 1950. Jim served in the Air Force until 1954, most of his service being in Honshu, Japan on the Johnson Air Force Base. He then attended Texas College of Arts and Industries in Kingsville, Texas (now Texas A&amp;M University-Kingsville) working toward a degree in animal husbandry. Jim married Joyce Elaine Lauderback on June 1, 1958, at the George West Methodist Church. They were married for 55 years before Joyce passed away in 2013. Jim and Joyce were members of the George West Methodist Church for more than 50 years, where Jim was part of the choir. Jim worked at the USDA-Soil Conservation Service where he eventually became an archeologist. He held many titles in his life. He was the first Archeologist for the Soil Conservation Service nationwide, Ranch Manager of the Longfellow Ranches, President of the Texas Longhorn Cattle Breeders Association, President of the Texas Archeological Society and President of the George West Lions Club. Jim also served as Chairman of the Grace Armantrout Museum Board of Trustees in George West, as well as Archeology Chair for Live Oak County Historical Commission. Aside from the many contributions Jim has contributed to Live Oak County, he also oversaw the archeological dig on Calliham before Choke Canyon was placed between Three Rivers and Tilden. He worked right up to the age of 82 with his last job being an archeological dig in Laredo. He wrote two books, The Fort Merrill Letters and The Falls of Miquihuana. Survivors include his sons, Wade (Tammi) Warren and T.E. Warren; grandchildren, Starla (Christian) Harber, Samantha (Clayton) Sebesta, Kayce (Cody) Oxford, Colton (Kelsey) Warren and Jayme (Tyler) Bruce; and great-grandchildren, Randon Sebesta, Cale and Kullen Oxford, John and James Warren and Wayden, Wylie and Waverly Bruce. Preceding Jim in death include his wife, Joyce Elaine Warren.</p>
<b>Zimmerman</b>	<b>2026</b>	<p><b>Donald James Zimmerman</b> (86) of Buffalo, Wyoming, passed away February 7, 2026, at the Billings Clinic Hospital following a short illness, surrounded by his family. Donald was born on August 21, 1939, in Casper, Wyoming to Ed and Betty Zimmerman. After high school he drove truck for Zimmerman Crude Oil. He was married on July 8, 1972, in Casper to Barbara (Kuykendall) Bias and they made their home in Casper. In 1975 he was sent by his company to attend the University of Wyoming where he studied Civil Engineering for 3 years. Don and Barbara moved back to Casper in 1978 where Don worked for USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as a draftsman who designed retention ponds, dams including Flaming Gorge Dam. In 1996 they moved to Glenrock, Wyoming for a short period and in 1997 Don retired. After retiring, they bought an RV and spent the next 20 years on the road. From 2012 until 2018 they were campground hosts and later mountain managers in the Bighorn National Forest. Shortly after they moved to Buffalo where they have lived until his death. Don was a member of the Odd Fellows and was an avid bowler and in 1988 he bowled a 300-game. He loved woodworking and made each of his daughters a jewelry box and hope chests. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and golf. He is survived by his wife Barbara of Buffalo; five daughters, Beckie Terzich (John), Robyn Landsiedel (Joe) and Lisa Hemsath all of Buffalo; Pam O'Connell of Casper and Kathy Boehler of Billings, Montana; three sons Brad Zimmerman of Buffalo, Scott Zimmerman of Casper and Steve Zimmerman of Rapid City, South Dakota; twenty-two grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one daughter Lori Clark, two sons-in-law, Moe Hemsath and Rodney Clark and one grandson Matthew Hemsath.</p>