

OBITUARIES

CROSS - Richard (Dick), of Dallas and Melbourne, Fla., died Friday, May 18, 2012, at the Health Center of Merritt Island Florida after a year-long battle with cancer.

He was born in New York City on December 28, 1932, and attended New York Public and Catholic schools. He joined the Navy in 1952 and served from 1954 to 1956 in the Naval Dental Corps. He then joined Metropolitan Wire Goods as one of the original employees and made the move with the company to Wilkes-Barre in 1958. He had a series of promotions and left the company after 32 years as Executive Vice President.

He started a new company, Vendors First Choice, as president, and retired from there in 2000. He was active in his church, Ascension Catholic Church of Melbourne, where he helped initiate the Adoration Chapel, worked on the Buildings and Grounds Committee for many years, as well as assisted with the Thrift Store.

Surviving are his children, Neil, Norfolk, Mass.; Timothy, Nicholson; Daniel, Manakin, Va.; and Tracy Simon, Clarks Summit; eight grandchildren.

Memorial donations to the Ascension Church Adoration Chapel.

CULP - Sister Marina, RSM, a member of the Mid-Atlantic Community of the Sisters of Mercy, died Monday, June 11, 2012, at Mercy Center.

The former Phyllis Culp, she was born September 15, 1937 in Altoona, graduated from Altoona Catholic High School in 1955 and received a B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Misericordia University, an M.S. degree in Reading from Scranton University in 1970 and an M.S. in Pastoral Studies from Washington Theological Union in 2001.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Dallas on September 8, 1955 and professed her final vows on August 16, 1961. She taught in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh, Brooklyn, Scranton and Altoona-Johnstown, and was principal at St. Therese School in Altoona, Pa. from 1968-1990.

Following her years in education, Sister Marina was invited to become the Director of Incorporation for the former Province of Scranton.

Surviving are her brother, William, of Bellefonte; sisters, Loretta Weaver, of Castroville, Texas; E. Karen, of Altoona; and Mary Jo Miller, of Hollidaysburg; devoted nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Mercy Center, PO Box 370, Dallas, PA 18612.

DEEB - John Patrick, 83, of Dallas, died Thursday, June 7, 2012, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

He was born on March 17, 1929, in Swoyersville, and was a graduate of the former Swoyersville High School, class of 1947.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara (Gozdur) Deeb; his sons, John Patrick and Jason Deeb; grandchildren and a great-grandson.

FERGUSON - Robert W. (Buck), of Tunkhannock, died Tuesday, June 5, 2012, at the Golden Living Center in Tunkhannock.

He was born in Falls on July 8, 1918, and was a graduate of Tunkhannock High School, class of 1938.

His service to the community included 16 years on the borough council, four years as mayor of Tunkhannock and 24 years as Wyoming County Jury Commissioner. In recognition of his many years of service, he received the

Wyoming County Republican Party's 11th Annual Annis Tyler Service Above Self Award in 2003.

In addition to his elected offices, he volunteered his time to his community in other capacities. He was a member of the Triton Hose Company since 1943, receiving a 48-year service award in 1991. Over the course of those years, one of his greatest joys was setting up the Triton Carnival site with his pals from Penelec, for whom he worked for 39 years, retiring in 1979.

He was a 50-year member of Temple Lodge 248, Free and Accepted Masons, the Tunkhannock Endless Mountains Barber-shop Quartet Buck and the Tunkhannock United Methodist Church where he served on numerous committees. He was also instrumental in the planning and construction of the church's education building.

Surviving are his children, Richard, Robert Jr., Diane Wilson, all of Tunkhannock; Theresa Lewis, Maineville, Ohio; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

Memorial donations to the Tunkhannock United Methodist Church, PO Box 447, Tunkhannock, or the Tunkhannock Public Library, 220 West Tioga St., Tunkhannock.

KEMMERER - Nancy S., 74, of Wilkes-Barre, formerly of Dallas, died Friday, June 8, 2012 at Riverstreet Manor Nursing Home, Wilkes-Barre, following a lengthy illness.

She was born in Lehman Township and was a graduate of Hanover Township Memorial High School. She had resided in Dallas and Wilkes-Barre most of her life and had been employed in the Luzerne County Voter Registration Bureau and by the Luzerne County Bureau for the Aging for some time.

She had been a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre.

Surviving are sons, John E. Thompson Jr., Dallas; David K. Thompson, Fortson, Ga.; and Kenneth W. Thompson, Bethlehem; daughter, Lisa A. Stevens, Luzerne; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; brother, Joseph Wheeler, Hanover Township; nieces and nephews.

KITTLE - Kerry L., 58, of State Route 118, Sweet Valley, died Wednesday, June 6, 2012, in the Hospice Community Care Inpatient Unit at Geisinger South Wilkes-Barre.

He was born March 20, 1954 in Nanticoke, served in the U.S. Army and was employed by HCSC Laundry Service.

Surviving are his mother, Bertha Cragle Kittle, Sweet Valley; sisters, Diane M. Hooker, Wilkes-Barre; Karen L. Baltier, Lehman;

Sheila A., Luzerne; brother, Kenneth J., Sweet Valley; and a nephew.

McHALE - Ann Marie, 77, of Shavertown, died Friday, June 8, 2012, at home.

She was born February 6, 1935 in Pittston and was a graduate of St. John the Evangelist High School, class of 1952.

She was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas.

Surviving are her husband, William "Buddy" McHale; her children, William J. Jr., Ramsey, N.J.; Ann Ellen, Seattle, Wash.; Sharon Resetar, Elizabethtown; Jeanne Rosengrant, Trucksville; Cathy Prater, Shavertown; 16 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

ROZELLE - Curtis W., of Tunkhannock, died June 6, 2012, at Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre after a brief bout with cancer.

He was born March 1, 1945 in Whangarei, New Zealand, grew up in Tunkhannock and graduated from Tunkhannock High School, Class of 1963. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Air Force and served as a jet engine mechanic in Okinawa during the Vietnam War. After his service, he returned to the states and went to work for P & G where he retired after 34 years, starting in Bounty as the lines were set up, doing some welding and finishing his career in engineering, managing the drawing system for the facility.

After retiring, he was employed part time by Gay's True Value, repairing small engines. He also was a coach of tee ball, Little League, U-14 youth soccer and squidget football as well as assisting with Scouts. He joined Mehoopany Baptist Church, where he served as an usher and for several years ran the sound booth for services. He joined the Wyoming County Gideons and served as Chaplain, Vice President and acting President.

Surviving are his wife of 20 years, Wendy Munkelt Rozelle; two sons, Matthew and Mark, both of Tunkhannock; three stepchildren, Denise Hudson, Texas; and Karin Nagy, Montrose; and Brian Reed, Pass Christian, Miss.; 10 grandchildren.

Memorial donations to the Wyoming County Gideons, PO Box 392, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

SANGSTON - James Howard (Howie), 71, of Dallas, died Monday, June 4, 2012, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

He was born March 3, 1941, in Trenton, N.J.

He attained the rank of Eagle Scout, graduated from Princeton High School and attended Duke University on a full ROTC scholarship. He studied electrical engineering and was a member of the U.S. Navy Marching Band. He served in the Navy on the USS

Meredith from 1964 to 1966.

Following an honorable discharge from active duty, he began his career as an industrial electrician at Western Electric in Howell, N.J., and continued in that profession until his retirement in 2004.

He was a member of George M. Dallas Lodge 531 and Irem Shrine. He was active in Caldwell Consistory, was a 32nd Degree Maso, and served as Most Wise Master of Rose Croix. He was active in Shrine for over 21 years and was a member of the Irem Legion of Honor, where he had been currently serving as treasurer. He was a member of the LOH Drill Team and served as Drill Team Commander for several years. He was an associate member of the Irem Patrol and served for several years as co-chairman of the Irem Shrine Membership Committee.

He was a member of the Irem Shrine Golf Association, the Shrine Club of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Shrine Hillbilly Clan 119.

Surviving are his wife of 33 years, Jennifer Sangston; his daughter, Kimberly Lawless, of Levittown; son, Todd, of Philadelphia; three grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to the Philadelphia or Boston Shiner's Hospitals for Children, or to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 802, Dallas, PA 18612.

YOUNG - Ruth Ann (Royston), 69, of Sweet Valley, formerly of Hunlock Creek and Wilkes-Barre, died Thursday, June 7, 2012, at the Timber Ridge Health Center, Plains Township, after fighting a battle with cancer.

She was born on May 31, 1943 in Philadelphia, and was a long-time employee of the Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre and of Dr. Radu I. Pacurariu.

She and her husband, Bob, had been an active force in the local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), serving in several officer positions and most recently being the coordinator for the Victim Impact Panels for first-time offenders in conjunction with the Luzerne County Probation and Parole.

She was an active member of Cake Decorating Frosting Friends, Care Givers Group (Bureau of the Aging), Rainbow Girls Wilkes-Barre Chapter and a member of the Sweet Valley Church of Christ, where she played the piano and organ as

part of a worship team.

Surviving are her husband of 45 years, Robert (Bob); daughter, Megan L. Young Thomas; three grandchildren; stepsister, Gail Morgan Glosser; two nieces.

Memorial donations to Mothers Against Drunk Driving State Office, 4309 Linglestown Road, Suite 209, Harrisburg, PA 17112, or the Sweet Valley Church of Christ, 5439 Main Road, Sweet Valley, PA 18656.

ZIMMERMAN - Donna Lee (Wesley), 62, of Sweet Valley, died Monday, June 4, 2012, at the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas.

She was born January 20, 1950, in Wilkes-Barre, was a 1967 graduate of Lake-Lehman High School and was employed by Luzerne Products in Plains Township, Warp Processing in Exeter and other various dress factories.

Surviving are a daughter, Tammy Traver, of Noxen; son, Russell, of Lehman; three grandchildren; brother, Jeffrey Wesley, of Lehman.

Memorial donations to Pastor's Food Pantry, c/o Pearl Race, 540 Dimmick Hill Road, Noxen, PA 18636.

CABRINI FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS



St. Frances Cabrini Church, Kingston Township, recently celebrated First Holy Communion for 10 children of the parish. Father Vincent Dang celebrated the special Mass on Saturday, May 5. The following day, the children participated in the church's May Crowning in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. From left, first row, are Michael Ford, Abigail Lusheski, Olivia Jorda, Olivia Kochan and John Paul Clerico. Second row, Nathaniel Spare, Jordon Wagner, Aidan Mateos, Richard Chihorek, James Lehane. Third row, Jessica Kozemko CCD teacher; Fr. Vincent H. Dang, pastor; and Forence Mociun.

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