

## Gloucester City News Obituaries

### February 2025

To see the obituaries in context on the newspaper page and to see any photos included, please ask to see the back issues, which may be in paper or microfilm format.

#### *Dorothy Szlachta (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)*

Dorothy Szlachta, 85, of Cherry Hill passed away on December 5, 2024.

Born in Philadelphia, Dorothy is survived by her loving daughter, Catherine Szlachta, and many cherished friends. Graveside services were celebrated in Calvary Cemetery, Cherry Hill.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Dorothy Szlachta.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

#### Joseph Raube Sr. (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Joseph D. Raube Sr, 86, of Gloucester City, passed away peacefully on January 21, 2025 at his home with his loving family by his side.

Born on June 25, 1938 in Camden, Joseph was the beloved husband of Dolores Raube (nee Cleary) from more than 60 years. Together, they raised three sons: Joseph D. Raube Jr., David Charles Raube and Michael George Raube. Joseph was a proud grandfather of seven grandchildren: Gregory, Patrick, Madeline, Olivia, Charlotte, Regina and Dylan, all of whom he adored and cherished deeply.

Joseph graduated from Gloucester City High School in 1956 and dedicated his life to his work and his family. He began his career as a butcher and later owned a butcher shop at Market Street and Lane Avenue in Gloucester City, where he was a well-known figure in the community. In addition to his career as a butcher, Joseph obtained his real estate license and invested in various properties throughout Gloucester City, showing a remarkable entrepreneurial spirit.

In the late 1990s, Joseph purchased Gloucester Travel and successfully ran the business until selling it in 2004. He continued to work at various jobs until he retired in 2020. Throughout his life Joseph was a self-taught handyman, taking on countless projects around his home and real estate properties – always seeking to improve and care for those around him. His love for cooking was legendary, as many fondly remember the Sunday evening meals he prepared for his family.

Joseph was predeceased by his parents, Charles and Clara; and his sister, Barbara Williams (nee Raube. He is survived by his brother, Charles Dan Raube. He was a devoted family man who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Relatives and friends are invited to his visitation on Saturday, February 15, 2025 from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. in St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. Interment will follow in New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Joseph's memory to the American Cancer Society at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) and the American Heart Association at [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org).

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Joseph Raube Sr.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City. For inquiries call (856) 456-1142.

Minnie Mealey (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Surrounded by her loving caregivers, Minnie V. Mealey (nee Rowand), 97, of Gloucester City passed peacefully at home on January 27, 2025.

Loving and devoted wife of the late William J. "Yogi" Mealey Sr. Loving mother of Bobbie Monteros (Stephen) and Bill Mealey. Cherished grandmother of the late Meredith Gruff-Flinn (surviving Jim), Billy Mealey and Rick Mealey. Beloved great-grandmother of Jeté Lockett (Lance), Brittany Mealey, Kady Flinn and Donna Mealey and great-great grandmother of Alexia, Reign and London. Loving brother of John Rowand (Joyce). Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

One of six children born to the late Hazelton and Minnie Rowand, Minnie was a lifelong resident of Gloucester City and graduated from Gloucester City High School Class of 1945. She worked for 20-plus years for Camden County in Weights and Measures in Camden and Lakeland. Minnie was a longtime, active member of the Gloucester City Seniors Association, where she helped organize many trips and activities over the years. She enjoyed reading and crossword puzzles. Minnie was an avid supporter of the Lions and Rams in Gloucester City and enjoyed attending games with her friends and family.

Relatives and friends are invited to her visitation on Friday morning, Feb. 7, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St, Gloucester City, where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Minnie with a donation to Msgr. Lucitt's Needy Children's Fund, PO Box 87, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 or to Shriner's Hospital online at <https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/>. Please memo, Minnie V. Mealey.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Minnie V. Mealey. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City. For inquiries call (856) 456-1142.

Robert Herzog (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Robert Herzog, 65, of Cherry Hill passed away on January 16, 2025.

Born in Berlin, Germany, he was the son of the late, Morris and Marion (nee Schwinzer) Herzog. Robert, affectionately known as “Bobby,” is survived by his housemates, friends and caregivers of Kelsch Associates in Westville.

Bobby had a kind and gentle spirit. He enjoyed spending his time looking through magazines and books. Bobby liked going out in the community and would give the staff a thumbs up letting them know of his approval. Despite his medical challenges, Bobby wanted to be independent. He would move through the house in his wheelchair, often throwing away his trash and putting his dirty dishes in the sink.

Bobby will be remembered for being well dressed and having an outgoing personality. Our beloved friend will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Friends and relatives attended his Visitation in the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth Street, Gloucester City, where his Funeral Services were celebrated. Robert was be interred privately in Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery, Waterford.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Robert Herzog.

Ruth E. Daniels (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Ruth Elizabeth Daniels, 72, of Gloucester City passed away peacefully on January 28, 2025.

Born on April 5, 1952, she was the daughter of the late Lawrence M. and Barbara (nee Horvath) Daniels. Ruth is survived by her loving son, Steven L. Daniels (Deborah); cherished grandchildren, James (Julie), Stephanie (Andy) and John (Lindsay); great grandchildren, Abigail and Lucy; brother, Larry Daniels (Denise); sister, Louise Daniels; and many nieces and nephews.

At Ruth’s request, Cremation and Inurnment will be held privately.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Ruth Elizabeth Daniels. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Victoria L. Ryan (Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>)

Victoria L. Ryan (nee Rapchick), 70, of Cherry Hill passed away on January 23, 2025.

Loving mother of Leslie Quaid (Jesse), Patricia Ryan and Richard Ryan Jr. (Kristin). Cherished Nana of Reese and Rhett. Predeceased by her parents, Robert and Velma Rapchick. Also survived by her sister, JoAnn Reifsnyder (Mark), many loving nieces and nephews and her beloved dog, Penny.

Vicki was a graduate of Paul VI High School Class of 1972. She previously worked in real estate and as a pre-school teacher at The Beechwood School in Haddonfield. Vicki enjoyed taking trips to the Jersey shore, gardening, swimming and sunbathing, but most of all spending time with her grandchildren.

Relatives and friends attended her visitation in the Healey Funeral Home, 9 White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, where her Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was private in Locustwood Memorial Park, Cherry Hill.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Vicki with a donation to the Animal Welfare Association online at <https://www.awanj.org/>. Please memo, Victoria L. Ryan.

### ***Joyce Schaffer (Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>)***

Joyce A. Schaffer, 81, of Bellmawr passed away on February 7, 2025.

Beloved wife of the late Harry J. Schaffer Sr. Devoted mother of Harry J. Schaffer Jr. (Dolores), Christopher Schaffer (Julie), Eileen Schaffer and Katherine Schaffer. Loving grandmother "Mimi" of Alyssa (Michael), Steven (Colleen), Krystiana, Alayna (Daniel), Olivia, the late Jesse, Alexis, Jenna, Michael and Kevin. Cherished great-grandmother of Jaxon and Jordan.

Joyce was a proud breast cancer survivor, known for her strength and determination. She worked for many years at Bell Oaks Elementary, where she was loved by all who knew her. Joyce had a distinctive sense of style, always rocking her signature pink lip and perfectly manicured pink nails. Joyce was often seen in the audience of dance recitals, in the crowds at sporting events, and cheering on her children and grandchildren with unwavering support and pride. She was a constant presence in their lives, offering love and encouragement every step of the way.

She was also the beloved sister of the late Eileen Graham (and the late John "Jack" Graham) and is survived by many nieces, nephews and other loved ones. Joyce was fortunate to have had lifelong friends, including the late Pat McGuinty, the late Betty Potts, and the late Eileen McShane, whose friendship and love meant the world to her throughout her adult life.

Relatives and friends attended her viewing in Annunciation BVM Church, Bellmawr, where her Funeral Mass was celebrated. Entombment was at New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Joyce's memory to the Breast Cancer Foundation <https://www.komen.org/> or to the American Lung Association 55 W. Wacker Drive Suite 1150 Chicago, IL 60601 <https://www.lung.org/get-involved/ways-to-give>.

[Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Gardner Funeral Home, 126 S. Black Horse Pike, Runnemede.](#)

### ***Mason A. Gerber (Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>)***

Mason Andrew Gerber, 18, of Gloucester City passed suddenly on February 2, 2025.

Mason is the adored and cherished son of Albert Gerber (Don) and Judith Davis-Gerber (Michael). He was predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Albert Gerber Sr. and Patricia Gerber (nee Reddy). Loving maternal grandson of John Davis and predeceased by Antoinette Davis (nee Scuderi). Beloved nephew of Debbie and predeceased by John (Tina). Dear cousin of Jordan, Sean, Victoria (Christopher), Krystal, John III and Matthew. Mason was a true original who left his mark on everyone he encountered. His enthusiastic bear hugs were legendary, and he was well loved everywhere he went. He was uncommonly kind, particularly to younger children, animals and insects. He loved to search through gardens for crickets and praying mantises, and he was one of the few who truly loved the infamous spotted lantern fly.

He was passionate about his iPad above anything else, but that passion was really about his love for space and rockets and an absolute delight in the history of finding burial places of historic and famous people. Mason would have been overjoyed to know that his future gravesite will have its own place on findagrave.com, a website he poured through endlessly, testing his family and friends on the history he was discovering. He also loved searching for landmarks and exploring the history of other countries.

Mason was an old soul who loved music from before his time. He would be horrified to know that you were being told that his favorite song was “Bye, Bye, Bye” by NSYNC, followed closely by “For Your Entertainment” by Adam Lambert. He would listen to them endlessly.

He will be eternally missed by his dog-brothers Ziggy and Charlie.

Relatives, friends, teachers and staff of the Gloucester County Special Services School District and Bankbridge School attended Mason’s visitation and Eulogies at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City. Cremation and Inurnment were private at New Saint Mary’s Cemetery, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, Mason’s family requests memorial contributions may be made to the “Memorial for Mason A. Gerber” to benefit the students at Gloucester County Special Services School District: Checks can be made to: “Memorial for Mason A. Gerber” and given any family member.

Additionally, a “Go Fund Me” site has been created for online donations at the following link: <https://gofund.me/2f9b6841>.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Mason Andrew Gerber.

### ***William McKane (Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>)***

William Daniel McKane, 54, of Runnemede passed away peacefully after battling liver disease on February 6, 2025.

He is survived by his parents, Dennis and Fran McKane; his beloved companion, Cecilia Allor; his sister, Kim (Stephen) Myers; his niece, Emma; his nephews, Sam and Grady; his Aunt Pat, Aunt Cindy (Stanley), Uncle Mark and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dan was a lover of music, campfires and the ocean. He drove to California as a young adult and had adventures there before returning to New Jersey, when he followed in his father's footsteps spending 29 years as a Local 692 Sprinkler Fitter.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing in the Healey Funeral Home, 9 White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, where a Celebration of His Life was celebrated. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dan's name to either the Special Olympics (<https://www.sonj.org/>), Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (<https://www.pennmedicine.org/giving>) or Sweet Relief Musicians Fund (<https://www.sweetrelief.org/>).

***Marie A. Palmer (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Marie A. Palmer, 60, of Gloucester City passed away on February 1, 2025.

Loving wife of the late James M. Palmer. Beloved daughter of Rosemarie (nee Carrubba) Fischer and the late Elmer Fischer. Cherished mother of Bradley (Christina Lombardi) Palmer, Keenan (Celena) Palmer, Kari Palmer and Christopher Palmer. Loving grandmother of Kylie, Kaylee, Brooklyn, Blake and Noah. Marie was also predeceased by her son Vincent Palmer and her brother Elmer Sonny Fischer.

Relatives and friends attended Marie's Visitation at Four Star Event Catering, Wenonah.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

***Martha N. Ray (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Martha N. Ray (nee Neuhauser), 84, a lifelong resident of Gloucester City, passed away on February 7, 2025.

She is predeceased by her husband, Alfred Dennis Ray Sr. Martha is survived by her children, A. Dennis Ray, Jr. (Brenda) and Tracey A. Conway (Richard); grandchildren, Corinne Namba (Masahiko), A. Dennis Ray III, Richard Conway, III, Thomas Conway and Erin Conway; her great-grandchildren, Leila and Amaira Namba; and her sister, Midge Scott.

Martha was a graduate of Gloucester High School and worked many years as a court clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Camden, before her retirement. Martha thoroughly enjoyed traveling after retirement. Visiting Japan, Alaska, Florida, New England and many trips to the Jersey Shore.

At Martha's request, services will be private.

In lieu of flowers to her family, please remember Martha with a donation in her memory to: American Cancer Society <https://donate.cancer.org>, Disabled American Veterans <https://help.dav.org/> or Voorhees Animal Orphanage <https://www.vaonj.org/>.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

***Michael Joy (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Michael J. Joy, 86, of Gloucester City passed away on February 2, 2025.

Beloved son of the late Anthony and Victoria (D'Amico) Joy. Cherished father of Michael Joy (Michele Gosciniak); loving grandfather of Jemmalena and Aubrieanna Joy; and brother of Carmen Marra. Michael was also predeceased by his wife Betty Jane (nee Stankunas) Joy in July 2019 and his brother, Anthony Joy.

Michael proudly served his country in the U.S. Army following his high school graduation. He later worked as a manager for Lees Auto Parts and Al's Auto Parts in Pennsauken. He was a long-time parishioner of Saint Mary's Church in Gloucester City.

Relatives and friends attended Michael's viewing in St. Mary's Church, where his Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment with military honors was at New Saint Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

***Paul Filon (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Paul E. Filon, 83, of Audubon, formerly of Bellmawr, passed away on February 5, 2025.

He is survived by his daughter, Traci Filon; his son, James Filon; and his brother, James Filon. He was predeceased by his parents, Paul and Mary Filon, and his brother, George Filon.

Paul worked many years in the hospitality industry including as a maître d' at the Cherry Hill Inn. At Paul's request, services will be private.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

***Robert Burgess (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Robert D. Burgess, 55, of Delran passed away suddenly on February 2, 2025.

Robert was born in London, England, United Kingdom, and was the son of the late Larry and Marie (nee Schneider) Burgess. He was the loving husband of 13 years to Marta (nee Torres) Burgess. Beloved father of Robert, Isabella, Joseph and Natalie. The devoted grandfather of Brandon and Ellias, he is also survived by his dear Uncle Cliff and beloved cousins Catherine, Della, Bernard, Neterkhuray, Jane and Nile.

Robert graduated Willingboro High School (Class of '87) and honored his country by serving in the U.S. Navy. He later became a police officer and served with the Willingboro Police Department. He attended Norfolk State University in Virginia, where he became a member of the undergraduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Relatives, friends and the Willingboro Police Department officers attended Robert's visitation at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where his Celebration of Life was celebrated. Interment with U.S. Navy Military Honors was in the Chapel at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veteran Memorial Cemetery, Wrightstown.

Family requests memorial donations in lieu of flowers due to cemetery regulations, to the Willingboro Police Department. Please write in memo: Robert D. Burgess.

Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com) under the obituary of Robert D. Burgess.

***Veronica Virden (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

Veronica M. "Vicky" Virden (nee Settar), 78, of Gloucester City passed peacefully surrounded by her family at Inspira Hospital in Mullica Hill.

Loving and devoted wife of 56 years to the late Thomas E. Virden Sr. Loving mother of Thomas E. Virden Jr., Veronica M. Hemphill, Sharon (Troy) Lail and Lisa (George) Dobleman. Cherished Mommom of Owen (Emily) Dobleman, Brianna (Anthony) Indelicato, Gabrielle Lail, Ashlee Lail, Barry Hemphill, Troy (Maria) Lail, Jr., Dalton Dobleman and the late Austin Dobleman. Loving great-grandmother of Olivia and Sienna Indelicato. She was predeceased by her father, Owen Settar as well as her siblings, Joseph Settar, Mary Settar (MOM), Charles Settar, Sam Settar, John "Babe" Settar, Winifred Settar, Louise Liebrand and Wilhelmina Dobbins.

Vicky was a longtime resident of Gloucester City where she was a member of the Town Watch program. She was an Avon sales rep for over 50 years. Vicky was a longtime faithful, devoted parishioner of St. Mary's Church. She loved her dog Snoopy and her laptop computer. Above all, Vicky loved to be surrounded by her family.... especially her grandchildren.

Relatives and friends attended Vicky's viewing in St. Mary's Church, Gloucester City, where her Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated. Interment was in New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, NJ 08030. Please memo, Veronica M. Virden.

Condolences and Memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com). Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

***William M. Epright (Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>)***

William M. "Butch" Epright, 51, of Gloucester City passed on February 10, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.



Loving son of Barbara A. Epright-Collins (late Bob Collins) and the late William E. Epright, III. Father of Lucas Epright and Justin Domico. Grandfather of Caleb. Brother of Lisa Pierman. Beloved companion of Michele Mader. Butch was a graduate of Camden County Vocational School Class of 1991. He worked many years in construction. Butch loved to travel and camp with his family. He enjoyed playing the guitar and drums. He loved listening to music and attending concerts.

Relatives and friends attended his Viewing in the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where his Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was private in Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Butch with a donation to Homeward Bound <https://www.homewardboundnj.org/>  
Condolences and memories may be shared at [www.mccannhealey.com](http://www.mccannhealey.com).