

Gloucester City News Obituaries June 2024

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.

Chad Vega (June 6th)

Chad Vega (born Edwin Antonio Rivera Vega), 67, of Maple Shade passed away on May 14, 2024.

He was only six months old when his parents Felicita and Gilberto Vega left Puerto Rico for a new life in New York City. He was their first born and had four siblings (Carmen, Edgardo, Gilbert and Gerard) and a half sister, Rosemary. Being raised in the Bronx, NY, he attended the William H. Taft High School. His dream of being an artist started with acting lessons in Manhattan and he enjoyed performing in professional regional children's theater and then studied photography at The New School in Manhattan.

Chad proudly served our country in the U.S. Army. Following two years away in Dublin, Ireland working as a general photographer and five in Los Angeles as a freelance photographer at various Hollywood publications, he returned to Manhattan in 1992. Working at LTI Photographic Laboratory, he met Josephine Bentley (then an English citizen and a glamor/life model, born in London) in 1998 and they quickly fell deeply in love.

Together, they established a photographic business, Chad Vega Photography, and created actor headshots, model portfolios, baby/family portraits, glamor shots, sweet sixteen/ engagement/ wedding galleries, etc. In 2001, they married in New York and soon bought a Victorian house and garden in NJ, which were big enough to accommodate their photographic business.

His love of acting never waned, though, and he was a member of SAG/ AFTRA, the actors' union, as a background actor on various NYC TV shows and a stand-in for various stars. Chad's hobbies included reading artistic, historical and political books, watching movies, listening to music and taking care of feral and domesticated cats. Mitchie, Benjie and Minnie are beloved furry friends buried in their garden.

Chad was very well liked and respected by his friends, colleagues, half-sister Rosemary, neighbors and former wife's family, he will be remembered as a kind and decent citizen of the world. His good energy will live on indefinitely.

His peaceful death at the Palace Care Center in Maple Shade was expected, due to inherited early-onset Alzheimer's disease. Chad was very thankful for Earl, his main care giver there. Josephine remains his one true love, profound lover, soul mate, former wife...and forever friend. 'Love is patient, love is kind, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always preserves.' (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

She will always remember him with the following, as he used to call her "My thing of beauty and my joy forever" from their favorite poem by John Keats.

“A thing of beauty is a joy for ever: Its loveliness increases; it will never Pass into nothingness, but will still keep A bower quiet for us, and a sleep Full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet breathing.”

Relatives and friends attended Chad’s Catholic Service and U.S. Army Military Honors in the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Wrightstown.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

James Capra (June 6th)

All the world’s a stage and James J. “Jimmy Capra, 75, of Gloucester City and the Villas, who passed away on May 7, 2024, filled it with music. He was outgoing, enjoyed the company of other others, eager about his performances and shared his wisdom in percussion.

Born in Philadelphia, Jim spent his formative years in Lindenwold and as a young musician he joined the junior Thunderbirds Drum & Bugle Corps in Clementon. He then served in the U.S. Marines, performing with their drum corps, and also played with the Archer Epler Musketeers in Upper Darby, PA, the Reilly Raiders Drum & Bugle Corps in Willow Grove, PA, and the Durning String Band in Gloucester City.

Jimmy was a percussion instructor with the Gloucester City High School Band for more than 10 years, and worked as a mail handler with the U.S. Post Office. He was an avid bowler and enjoyed going on sea cruises.

The son of the late James V. and Caroline (nee Nitteouer) Capra, Jim is survived by his loving wife, Patricia Capra (nee Connell), and his children, Wendy Capra and Timothy (Nicole) Capra. He is the proud grandfather of Brody, Kaileigh, Marleigh and Finleigh and the brother of William “Bill” (Jean) Capra. He is also survived by his in-laws Maureen, Kathy and Ralph and John and Sherri.

Relatives, friends and Mummers will gather to celebrate a lifetime of music on Friday, May 17, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. from the Etherington-Creran Funeral Home, 700 Powell St., Gloucester City, followed by his Mass of Christian Burial in St. Mary’s Church at 12 noon. Interment will be in Locustwood Memorial Park, Cherry Hill.

Contributions can be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

James T Rodgers (June 6th)

March 1, 1946 — May 23, 2024
Gloucester

Being a barber is all about taking care of people. It's not where you go. It's who you meet along the way. These artists refresh men to become better versions of themselves. Jim did just that. He was a simple man, quirky, funny, and loyal who enjoyed the simple things in life... a backyard BBQ, working around the yard, Piskers bakery, and of course covering everything in mayo.

We'll look back on Jim and smile because it was life and he decided to live it. On Thursday, May 23, 2024, after 78 years, we boxed up all of James T. Rodgers’ yesterdays and safely set our memories aside.

Jim was born in Camden and had been a longtime Gloucester neighbor. He made his career as a barber and spent years at Hair Connection in Woodbury. Jim enjoyed his time with family, adored his grandchildren, and in later years spent his hours watching game shows especially Jeopardy.

Mr. Rodgers is survived by his loving and doting wife Emily (nee Long) Rodgers. Jim is the father of Jennifer & her husband Steven Innendorf and Nichole & her husband Christopher Korenak. He is the proud grandfather of; Kelsey, Connor & his wife Analyn, Brett, Camille, Luke, Sierra, and great grandfather of Amelia. Jim is the brother of Joe & his wife Pat, Jeff, Jerry & his late wife Theresa, and the late John. He is also survived and will be sadly missed by his nieces and nephews.

Relatives, friends, and neighbors are invited to gather with the Rodgers family. We'll come together in tribute and thanksgiving to remember Jim on Wednesday morning between 10:00 am and 11:00 am at Creran Celebration Etherington & Creran Funeral Homes 700 Powell St. Gloucester where United States Air Force Military Honors will be offered at 11:00 am. As an expression of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Jim's memory to serenity Hospice www.serenityhospicenj.com 56 Georgetown Rd., Bordentown, NJ 08505.

#crerancelebration #heartfelt
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Jerman Suarez (June 6th)

Jerman Suarez, 68, of Gloucester City, formerly of Camden, passed away on May 9, 2024.

Loving and devoted husband of 49 years to Nydia M. Suarez. Loving father of Josue Suarez (Kara), Karen Suarez Rivera (Moises Jr.) and Ivelisse Vega (Joey). Cherished grandfather of Katherine Suarez, Daniel Suarez, the late Ramon Santiago III, Moises D. Rivera, Miguel E. Hernandez and Jaydon Hernandez. Beloved son of the late Otilia Ruiz and the late Hector Negron. Loving brother of the late Francisco Suarez, Edwin Suarez, Nellie Vardijian and David Suarez. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Jerman was born in the Bronx, NY, on March 24, 1956, to the late Jacinto Suarez and Otilila Ruiz. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Army Reserves. He was a longtime resident of Camden before recently moving to Gloucester City.

Jerman retired from NJ Transit after 20 years in Camden and Egg Harbor Township. He was an avid pool player and enjoyed playing in the Gloucester City Pool League with his son. Jerman was an auxiliary member of Townsend C. Young VFW Post #3620.

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 Arlington Cemetery, Pennsauken. Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com.

Louis Wronski (June 6th)

Louis Wronski, 94, of Voorhees passed away on May 12, 2024. Louis is survived by the caring staff of the Autumn Lake Healthcare at Voorhees.

His burial will be in the Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery, 629 Pestletown Rd., at a date and time to be announced.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral Arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Veronica Purzycki (June 6th)

Veronica A. Purzycki, 94, of Deptford, formerly of West Deptford, Westville and Gloucester City, passed away on May 12, 2024.

She was predeceased by her husband, Erwin E. Purzycki; her parents Edward and Ella Ronan; and her sister, Ella Shanklin. Veronica is survived by her loving children, Len Purzycki and his wife, Marian, and Robert Purzycki and his wife, Melissa. Also survived by her grandchildren, Matthew T. Purzycki (Carlene T.) and Mark P. Purzycki (Marleigh A.), and great-grandchildren Shane, Ryan, Tyler, Sadie and Phineas.

Veronica was born and raised in Gloucester City and was a graduate of St. Mary's High School Class of 1948. She worked many years in clerical positions at John-Jeffery Corp. in Gloucester City and as a secretary at Thomas Scientific in Logan Twp.

Relatives and friends attended her visitation at 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, consider a donation in Veronica's memory to House of Hope Animal Rescue, PO Box 430, North East, MD 21901 or online at <https://hohanimalrescue.org/donate/>.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Denise Bangura (June 13th)

Denise Bangura, 70, of Maple Shade, formerly of Philadelphia, passed away on May 14, 2024.

Denise is survived by the caring staff of the Palace Care Center, Maple Shade.

Her burial was in the Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Emily Walker (June 13th)

Emily Walker, 90, of Sewell, formerly of Bellmawr and Gloucester City, passed away on May 8, 2024.

Born in Camden, she was the daughter of the late Anthony and Rose (nee DiFrancesco) Valentine. Emily is survived by her grandson, Jasen Walker, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was also predeceased by her husband, Hugh T. Walker Sr.; her sons, Hugh T. Walker Jr. and Harry L. Walker; her grandson, Adon Walker, and 11 brothers and sisters.

Emily had worked for 22 years for Harcourt Educational Publishing.

Relatives and friends are invited to her viewing on Thursday, May 16, from 9:15 to 9:45 in St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

Condolences and Memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Joseph Conpra (June 13th)

Joseph Conpra, 89, Toms River passed away on May 15, 2024.

Born in Philadelphia, PA. Joseph was predeceased by his loving wife Gertude E. Conpra in 2022.

Joseph proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and later worked as a Boilermaker. His burial will be in the BG William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 350 Province Line Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562 at a date and time to be announced.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Joseph Cuff (June 13th)

Joseph J. Cuff, 96, of Lindenwold, former longtime resident of Collingswood, passed away on May 12, 2024.

He was predeceased by his wife, Marjorie Ann Cuff; his son, Joseph Cuff; his grandchildren Lori Ross, Michael Vincent Jr. and Andrew Vincent; and siblings James Cuff, Thomas Cuff, Margaret Cuff and John "Jack" Cuff. Joseph is survived by his children, Kathleen Ross, Michael Cuff and Jo-anne Cuff; grandchildren Melissa Ross, Jerry Ross, Season Cuff, Michael Cuff Jr., Wesley Cuff and Derrick Vincent; great granddaughter Cassidy Gellura; son-in-law Michael Vincent; his longtime loving companion, Virginia Davies, and many loving nieces and nephews. Born in Turkey Run, PA, to the late John and Anna Cuff, Joseph proudly served the country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Joe worked many years for West Jersey Paper Mill in Camden. He enjoyed the many years bartending at Krazy Kat in Deptford and growing vegetables in his garden.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing in the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where Joe's Funeral Service with military honors was celebrated. Interment was private in Harleigh Cemetery, Camden.

Condolences and Memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com.

Joseph Reilly (June 13th)

Joseph Reilly, 76, of Pennsauken passed away on May 16, 2024. Born in Puerto Rico. Joseph is survived by the caring staff of the Riverfront Rehabilitation and Healthcare, Pennsauken.

His burial was in Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Lillian Mayo (June 13th)

Lillian E. Mayo (nee Getzinger), 92, of Audubon Park, formerly of Camden, passed away on June 2, 2024.

Beloved wife of the late Kenneth L. Mayo. Devoted mother of Sandra Rodgers (Kevin), Kenneth Mayo, Joseph Mayo (Valerie), Robin Mayo (Joe) and the late Ronald Mayo. Loving grandmother of Eric (Jules), Jennifer (Brandon), Christy (Chris) Kenneth Jr. (Sarah), Keith (Jamie), Antoinette (Bobby), Kyle (Jenny), Matthew (Bridget), Patrick, Julia (Dean), Kingston and the late Joseph, Jr. Doting Great-grandmother of 17 and adoring Great-great grandmother of two. Lillian is also survived by her nieces and nephews. Dear sister of the late Mary Jones.

Relatives and friends attended her Visitation at the Gardner Funeral Home, 126 S. Black Horse Pike, Runnemede, where her Memorial Service was celebrated.

Interment was private at the request of the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Lillian's memory to Bayada Hospice, <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/1441751>.

Lorraine Adams (June 13th)

Lorraine H. Adams, 88, of Burlington, formerly of Beverly, passed away on May 18, 2024.

She is predeceased by her son, Gelen R. Adams, and her parents, Warren and Helen Floyd.

Lorraine was raised in the Frankford section of Northeast Philadelphia. She worked many years for Strawbridge & Clothier before following her passion and started her own interior design business.

Relatives and friends attended her Graveside Service at Fountain Lawn Memorial Park, Ewing.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Lugene McKay (June 13th)

Lugene “Gino” McKay, 85, of West Deptford, formerly of Camden, passed away on May 13, 2024.

The loving father of Sandy Brooks, Gino was born in Wagram, NC, to the late Sam and Maggie McKay. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Gino worked many years as a security guard.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where his Funeral Service and military honors were celebrated. Interment was private.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of Lugene McKay.

Mary Ann Corson (June 13th)

Mary Ann Corson, 91, formerly of Mount Ephraim and Deptford, passed on June 1, 2024.

Beloved wife of the late Joseph “Frank” Corson Jr. Devoted mother of Debra Day (Lawrence), Patricia Hollen (James), Barbara Fedorak (Wayne), Denise Creato and Kirk Corson (Anna). Loving grandmom of 11. Adored great grandmother of 11.

Relatives and friends attended her viewing in the Gardner Funeral Home, 126 S. Black Horse Pike, Runnemede, where her Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was at Bethel Memorial Park, Pennsauken.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary Ann’s memory to American Cancer Society – Greater Philadelphia 1818 Market Street, Suite 2820 Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Sylvia Blum (June 13th)

Sylvia Blum, 74, of Maple Shade passed away on May 25, 2024. She is survived by the caring staff of the Sterling Manor Nursing Center, Maple Shade.

Her burial was in the Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Alfred Mayes (June 20th)

Alfred I. Mayes, 96, of Bellmawr, a cherished family man, respected veteran and dedicated craftsman, passed away peacefully on June 6, 2024.

Born on April 6, 1928, in Lancaster, PA, Alfred's life was marked by his intelligence, handiness, and loving nature. Alfred's early life in Lancaster laid a strong foundation for his unwavering work ethic and commitment to service. He proudly served his country as an Electrician's Mate third class in the U.S. Navy during World War II, stationed on the Midway Islands. His valor and dedication were recognized with several commendations, including the Pacific Theater Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Following his military service, Alfred established a long and distinguished career as a steel rule die maker at Edgar Barcus and Company, Inc. in Westville. His precision and expertise in his craft were unparalleled, and he continued to share his knowledge and mentor others well into his eighties, exemplifying a lifetime of dedication to his trade.

Alfred's commitment to community was evident through his active involvement in various organizations. He was a vital member of the Bellmawr Drum and Bugle Corps and the Audubon Bon-Bons Drum and Bugle Corps, where he also served as a bus driver.

His passion for communication led him to become an avid ham radio operator, connecting with people across the globe. Additionally, Alfred was a proud member of the Seabees, the construction battalions of the U.S. Navy. His faith played a significant role in his life, as he was an active member of the Advent Lutheran Church and the Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church. Alfred's love for his faith community was evident in his participation and the friendships he cultivated within these congregations. A man of diverse interests, Alfred enjoyed participating in the South Jersey Sports Car Club, where he shared his love for automobiles and the thrill of the drive with fellow enthusiasts.

Alfred was predeceased by his loving wife, Mildred A. Mayes (nee Laird), his parents, John A. and Bessie I. Mayes (nee Grady), his stepmother, Mildred R. Mayes, his daughter, Mildred A. Webb and his sister, Mildred (Mickey). He leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion to his family, including his daughter, Victoria Fiorelli and son-in-law Paul, his grandchildren, Robert G. Greene, Jr. (Peggy), Dawn R. Greene and Brianna E. Franklin (Brandyn), and his great-granddaughter, Emma Rose Greene. Alfred's life was further enriched by the companionship of his beloved dog, Two-Two, who had a special place in his heart. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing in the Earle Funeral Home, Blackwood, where his Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was next to his beloved wife at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Washington Twp.

Gertrude Mary Armstrong (June 20th)

Gertrude "Gertie" Mary Armstrong (nee Niven), 87, of Gloucester City, formerly of South Philadelphia, passed away on April 16, 2024 in the loving care of her daughter, Jacquelyn E. (Mike) Valvardi in Haddon Heights with her sons Joe, Chuck and Mike Glennan by her side.

Predeceased by first husband, Joseph Glennan. Cherished wife of 40 years to the late John B. Armstrong. Devoted mother of Joe (Liz) Glennan, Chuck (Louise) Glennan, Mike Glennan, Jacquelyn (Mike) Valvardi, Patricia (Bob)

DuCoin (nee Armstrong) and the late John B. (surviving wife Carole) Armstrong and the late Edmund F. (surviving wife Jane Carroll) Armstrong. Devoted grandmother of Edmund, Marsha, Kelly, Jamie, Grace, Alivia, Aaron, John, Courteney, Rebecca, Megan, Jameson and Keira. Beloved great-grandmother of Johnny, Cody, Marissa, Christopher and Matthew, Leilani, Genevieve, Mason, Melanie, Myles and Lucas, and also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by her parents Thomas and Amelia Niven. Dear Sister of Dorothy (Dot) Bowman, and the late Edward Palmer, Agnes Niven, Raymond Niven, Elizabeth Grassigner, Thomas Niven and Charles Niven.

Gert was born and raised in South Philly and grew up in the neighborhood of Second and Reed and had a long time love of anything involving a Mummer or a String Band. You could always find her strutting with the Captains of the string bands as they marched down Broad Street on New Year's Day and then later on "2 Street" with her nieces and nephews or various friends. "You can take the girl out of South Philly but never the South Philly out of the girl," family members said.

Gertie was a longtime resident of Gloucester City, moving to her home on Bergen Street in 1961. She was a stay-at-home mom who devoted her time to her children. She made lunches, cheered on the sidelines at all sporting events and helped in whatever capacity or activity necessary. She was that parent who was the room mom, chaperoned class trips, or would just be seen somewhere on school grounds making sure everyone was safe.

Gertie loved bowling and had played on numerous teams and even a few mother and son teams with her son, Joe. She and Jack were block captains when Gloucester City had their Town Watch program. They enjoyed bus trips to the casinos and various travel with two of their favorites being a train ride across the USA and a cruise to Alaska. She loved eating shrimp and her favorite, crab legs.

Around 1988, she started working at RxD Pharmacy, formerly of Gloucester City, and made many a friend or acquaintance while working there. Gertie loved the shore and all it included-beach, boardwalk and ice cream. She enjoyed all the parades held in town, especially the Gloucester City St. Patrick's Day Parade. You would find her enjoying a dance in the street and meeting old and new friends.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to Gert's visitation on Sunday, June 23, from 4 to 6 p.m. and on Monday, June 24, from 10 to 11 a.m. in the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, NJ 08030, where her Catholic Service will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Interment to follow with her late husband, John, in the Washington Crossings National Veterans Cemetery, Newtown, PA.

Family requests memorial donations in Gertrude's name to Gertrude M. Armstrong Memorial Scholarship: Gloucester City High School: 1300 Market St., Gloucester City, NJ, 08030. Attn: Roxanne Reinhart. Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of Gertrude Mary Armstrong.

Kathleen Navickas (June 27th)

Kathleen Navickas (nee Mrozowski), 71, of Runnemede and Bellmawr, passed away on Saturday June 15, 2024.

Kathy was predeceased in death by her loving husband Jack, her parents Joe and Mary and her sister Mary. She is survived by her stepmother Elsie; her aunt Barbara Mrozowski; her siblings Monica Caza, Patricia Grisbacher, Daniel Shamblin and Mary Podralski and many nieces and nephews. Also survived by many loving friends, unofficial family members Marlene Dilworth and Karen McClean, and "Aunt Kathy" to Mary and Sean McClean.

Raised in Collingswood, Kathy was a graduate of Paul VI High School and Rutgers University. She worked as a medical biller at Physicians Choice in Pennsauken for more than 20 years.

She was an active member of Runnemede VFW 3324, and previously active Westville Grove VFW 2174, Woodbury American Legion 133 and Mary Mother of the Church in Bellmawr.

Her viewing was at the St. Joachim Parish Church, where her Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated. Interment was at New St. Mary's Cemetery Bellmawr.