

Gloucester City News Obituaries

September 2023

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.

George W. Beadling III (Sept. 7th)

“Big” George W. Beadling of Brooklawn, formerly of Gloucester City, passed away on August 22, 2023.

He was the life of the party who approached each day and each person with a genuinely kind heart. George was the best gift to all of us. He loved his family and was a dedicated dad and husband. He enjoyed fishing, burned ride tickets during boardwalk day trips and held on to a competitive edge, cheering on the Eagles and Flyers.

George was born in Camden and started his family in Gloucester City, before moving to Brooklawn. Everyone knew that distinctive mustache. He graduated from Burlington County VoTech, Class of 1974, and made his career working at MAFCO in Camden.

George is the husband and widower of his loving wife of 42 years, Angela (nee Melhuish), and was the son of the late George W. Jr. and Edna (nee Visciti) Beadling. He is survived by three sons, George, IV, Brian, and Timmy, and was the proud grandfather of Audrey and George V. He is also survived by his best friends, Pat and Rosemary Franco, and was the brother of Charles and Bettyjane “Bbet” Beadling.

Relatives, friends, and neighbors shared heartfelt stories in the Etherington & Creran Funeral Homes Gloucester City, where his remembrance ceremony was celebrated. The tradition of reuniting those we love with nature was private.

George T. Griffiths (Sept. 7th)

George T Griffiths, 53, of Wenonah passed away on August 23, 2023. He was the son of the late Charles P. and Mildred L Griffiths.

Born in Camden and raised in Gloucester City, he graduated from Saint John of God School in Westville in 1988. George worked for over 20 years at Abilities Solutions in Westville, becoming a celebrity when he was featured in a commercial made at Abilities Solutions.

George was a sweet person who loved babies and animals, and was always ready to give a hug and kiss the hand of any lady that was paying attention to him. He loved to dance, go bowling and competed in the Special Olympics for Sparcs Bowling league.

He was the brother of the late Sarah Franks, with whom he lived until her passing in 2019. George is survived by his four brothers, Charles of Merchantville, Peter of Louisville, Kentucky, James of Morehead City, North Carolina, and Robert of Wenonah, with whom he lived and who was his caretaker along with Aileen Stepsis until his passing. George is also survived and loved by 14 nieces and nephews, as well as Peyton and Russell Houghton

Family and friends attended George's viewing at Etherington & Creran Funeral Homes, Gloucester City, where Catholic Services were celebrated. Burial will be alongside George's parents in the Brigadier General Doyle Cemetery, Wrightstown.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Abilities Solutions, 1208 Delsea Dr., Westville, NJ 08093.

Joann Perez (Sept. 7th)

Joann Perez (nee Kavlick), 77, danced down her path of time with the beauty of innocent days and good memories. Her nails were done with perfection and her house was perfectly appointed for the season. She spent hours lost in Nintendo and on Monday nights it was time to "play the game" with H.H.H. Joann, "To the world you were just a wonderful mother and grandmother. But, to your family, you were our world."

Joann passed away at Jefferson Hospital in Cherry Hill on Sunday, August 27, 2023. "Our tears not only fell, they crashed around us."

Mrs. Perez was born in Camden and had been a longtime Gloucester City neighbor before spending her later years in Cherry Hill. She raised five children as a doting homemaker, and even found time to take care of "Pidgery" and the family dogs, Ginger & Max.

She was an avid professional wrestling fan, cheered on the Philadelphia "Iggles" and soothed her soul with HGTV cooking shows. She loved Christmas because it did not matter what was under the tree, but who was around it. Christmas, like Mrs. Perez, was about family, hope, joy, memories, peace and love.

Joann is the loving mother of Joanne (Arthur) Beebe, Earline (Thomas) Gellura, Josephine (Charles) Cheeseman and Adam Garrison, and was predeceased by her late son Edward Kavlick. She was the proud "Me-Mom" of Denise, Kimberly, Katie, Charles Jr. (Debra), Dallas and Samantha (Michael). Mrs. Perez was the great-grandmother of 10 and great-great-grandmother of one. She is also survived and will be deeply missed by her best friend and longtime companion Kenny Shaffer.

Relatives, friends, and neighbors shared heartfelt stories in the Etherington & Creran Funeral Homes, Gloucester City, where Joann's Remembrance Ceremony was celebrated. The Graveside Tribute was at Arlington Cemetery, Pennsauken.

Mildred Piscopio (Sept. 7th)

Mildred "Millie" Piscopio, 83, of West Collingswood Heights passed peacefully on August 31, 2023. Born in Camden, she was the daughter of the late Daniel F. and Mildred M. (nee Eckerle) Lynch.

She is the cherished mother of Linda J. Piscopio and Joseph P. Piscopio (Lisa), and loving grandmother of Daniel, Christian, Nola and Grace. She is also survived by her life-long friends, Ginny Horn and Sandra Andreas, as well as many nieces and nephews. Millie was predeceased by her husband of 57 years, Joseph S. Piscopio.

Millie worked for several years as a secretary for the Quartermaster National Cemetery Supervisor Office in Philadelphia. She was a longtime member of St. Mary's Church in Gloucester City and member of the Belles of St. Mary's, where she played the snare drum and served as drum captain.

She was a drum instructor for the Cadets of St. Mary's and director of the United Regiment. In 1963 she was honored to play with the Belles of St. Mary's in the inaugural parade for President John F. Kennedy.

Relatives and friends attended her viewing on Wednesday, Sept. 6, in St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where her Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated. Entombment was in New St. Mary's Cemetery Mausoleum, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Voorhees Animal Orphanage, 419 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043 or to the West Collingswood Heights Volunteer Fire Company, 152 Nicholson Road, Mt. Ephraim, NJ 08059.

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

Robert L. Hodge Jr. (Sept. 7th)

Robert "Bob" L. Hodge Jr., 65, a longtime resident of Gloucester City, passed peacefully on August 26, 2023, at the age of 65. Born in Philadelphia, he was the son of the late Robert L. Sr. and Vita (nee Finazzo) Hodge.

Loving and devoted husband of 45 years to Karen L. (nee Cowley) Hodge. Proud father of Kimberly A. Hodge (James), Robert L. Hodge III, Kristina M. Smith (Nicholas) and Sean M. Hodge (Jessica). Devoted and doting grandfather of Mikhayla, Demian, Jesse, Robert IV, Alexander, Amber, Nicholas, Jeremy and Matthew. Bob is also survived by his beloved sisters, Brenda King (Butch) and Madia Foulke, his special aunt Arlene Finazzo, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. Known to many of his children's friends simply as "Dad."

Bob attended St. Nicholas of Tolentine in Philadelphia, where he served as an altar boy; attended St. Anthony of Padua in Camden; Woodrow Wilson High School, subsequently Camden County Vo-Tech and completed his drafting studies at Lincoln Tech, where he obtained his AutoCAD degree. He worked with Opex Corporation in Moorestown, NJ for 22 years as a machine designer and contributed to and obtained several patents on his designs. Bob also was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council #674 in Gloucester City and a 4th Degree Knight, previously serving as Grand Knight. As a young teen, he was a member of the Cramer Hill Rough Riders Drum Corps. Bob also enjoyed volunteering as coach of the Gloucester Mustang Football teams, Gloucester City Boys Baseball and Girls Softball Organization and enjoyed umpiring for both local and regional high school baseball/softball teams, where he was routinely referred to as "Coach Hodge" or "Hodgie." He also had been a member of the Gloucester City Celebrations Committee.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City. His Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Gloucester City. Interment was private. In lieu of flowers, donations to the family are welcomed to defray hospitalization charges. Please write Robert L. Hodge Jr. in the memo.

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

Walter P. Fritchie III (Sept. 7th)

Walter P. Fritchie III of Cherry Hill has passed away. Born in Philadelphia, he is the son of the late Walter P Fritchie II and Marie Henry (nee Barfeld) Fritchie.

Survived by his aunt, Ann Lyndell, and cousins, Elizabeth Lyndell, Susan Pepiak, Steven Lyndell and Stacey Robinson and her husband, Jonathan K. Robinson, and their daughter, Shannon Kelly Robinson. He was a devoted son and nephew who always looked out the safety of his loved ones.

Walter enjoyed reading and history. He was a great conversationalist when it came to discussing worldly topics. He always had interesting stories and liked to make simple and delicious meals. He was a car enthusiast and loved auto racing. He was very skilled and clever at fixing anything from automotive to household repairs.

Walter was a self-employed professional painter who worked in Pennsylvania at Longwood Gardens for many years. He lived in Florida and Georgia before moving back to NJ for his final years. He will be loved and missed dearly.

His Funeral Service and burial will be private.

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

Nancy Storms (Sept. 14th)

What a beautiful woman, who moved with grace in her heart, she was entirely feminine, and yet, she possessed incredible inner strength. There was kindness in her voice and love in her soul.

Nancy Storms (nee Blome) of Westville, formerly of Gloucester City, passed away on Sept. 1, 2023. She believed in family first, and invested all of her effort into her family and her faith.

Nancy was born in and spent her formative years in Gloucester City, and moved after marriage to Westville. She was a lifetime, active parishioner of St. Mary's Church, Gloucester City, and had bowled in the St. Anne's league for over 44 years. Nancy was a member of the Westville Library Commission and will be fondly remembered as a sweet, caring, doting homemaker.

Nancy is the widower of her late husband Joseph W. Storms, Jr. She is survived by her children, Nancy Reed, Joseph III, Jeff and John (Diane) Storms. She is the proud grandmother of Michael, Lee, Justin, Jeffrey Jr., Matthew, Parker, Ryann and Joseph IV, and great-grandmother of Ellison and Taliah.

Relatives, friends, neighbors, parishioners and league bowlers paid tribute to Nancy at the Etherington & Creran Funeral Homes, Gloucester City, where her Remembrance Ceremony was celebrated. Her graveside tribute was at New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

Linda D. Wiese (Sept. 21st)

Linda Dawn Wiese (nee Sanford), 55, of Gloucester City passed away on September 8, 2023.

Devoted wife of the late Brian C. Wiese Sr. Loving mother of Brian C. Wiese Jr. (Erica), Deanna Wiese and Rebecca Camp (Matthew). Cherished grandmother of Brian III, Anthony, Spencer, Madelyn, Auden and Wyatt. Loving daughter of the late Charles D. Sanford (surviving Brenda) and the late Carol Jo Poore (late Ronald). Beloved sister of Tamara Hillary and the late Carol Jo Mead (surviving James). Also survived by her beloved nephew, Kevin Frymyer, as well as other loving nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are invited to her visitation on Saturday, September 23, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City. Family and friends will be encouraged to share their memories of Linda during the service beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the funeral home. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, Linda's family encourages everyone to spend their money making memories with family and friends.

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

Marie Fortuna (Sept. 21st)

Marie Fortuna, 82, of Williamstown, formerly of Voorhees, passed away on September 9, 2023.

Born in Edwardsville, PA on May 25, 1941, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Helen (nee Tabol) Fortuna. Cared for and loved by her friends and staff at Kelsch Associates, she was adored by many including her boyfriend, Mark. Marie was a very independent person. She attended the Active Day and Communicare adult day program for many years prior to retiring. She also enjoyed word search puzzles.

Graveside Services will be celebrated on Thursday, Sept. 21, at 11 a.m. in Waterford Memorial Park, 679 Pestletown Rd., Waterford.

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

Marylou Turlington (Sept. 21st)

Marylou Turlington, 58, of Paulsboro passed peacefully on September 1, 2023.

Born in Woodbury, she was the daughter of the late Richard and Mary (nee Haddock) Magri. Beloved mother of Justin Hall and Alexis Turlington; loving grandmother of Braden Turlington; and cherished brother of Rick and Tom Magri.

Marylou worked for several years as a home health aide out of Marlton and Woodbury.

At the request of the family, cremation is private and there are no services.

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

Michael A. Marchionne Sr. (Sept. 21st)

With heavy hearts, we announce the sudden passing of Michael A. Marchionne Sr., 59, of Mount Laurel, formerly of Brooklawn, on September 9, 2023.

He is survived by his wife, Stephanie Marchionne (nee Adler); children, Dia Marchionne (Andrew), Dana Marchionne (Tommaso), Michael A. Marchionne, Jr. (Heather) and Jason Streit; grandchildren, Lorenzo, Grafton, and Libero; brothers, Carmine Marchionne, Mark Marchionne (Jane) and Steven Marchionne (Trina); and his beloved dog, Jake.

Mike was a graduate of Gloucester City High School Class of 1982. He was a longtime employee with the United States Postal Service, dedicating 38 years of service in Camden. Also, Mike was a lifetime member of the Brooklawn Fire Company #344 since 1991 and worked many years for Woodbury EMS. He loved spending time with his family and friends and had many laughs being a practical joker. He volunteered many years as a coach for Brooklawn Little League.

Mike was an avid outdoorsman and spent much of his free time making memories with his best buddies and son, Michael, hunting, fishing, and camping. Mike enjoyed attending his son Jason's soccer games over the years and they enjoyed watching and playing Jeopardy together. Mike was also a big New York Giants fan.

Relatives and friends attended his visitation at the Brooklawn Fire Company #344, where his Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Michael's memory are requested to Brooklawn Volunteer Fire Company and Hunt of a Lifetime (huntofalifetime.org), a nonprofit organization with a mission to grant hunting and fishing dreams for children age 21 and under who have been diagnosed with life threatening illnesses or disabilities.

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

Richard McConnell Sr. (Sept. 28th)

Richard J. McConnell Sr. was a kind, family man who understood the importance of two words, "Thank you." Rich always had the wind at his back and needed it for that long drive when he was teeing off. He was present, reliable, and led by example of how to be fishers of men.

On Monday, September 18, 2023, life changed, in his home, but had not ended. Rich was at the gates of Heaven a half hour before the devil knew he was gone.

Rich was born in Woodbury and had spent his early years as a Gloucester City neighbor. He raised his family in Hi-Nella where he was an auxiliary member of the Hi-Nella Fire Co., Station 691. It was here he got to be “best friends” with Santa.

Rich enjoyed his retired years at “McConnell’s By The Bay” in Egg Harbor Township and recently made his home in Haddon Township to be closer to his family. Rich graduated from Gloucester High School in 1953. He began his career at New Jersey Bell, which later became Verizon, in 1955. He started as a craftsman and finished his career as a Write Away Agent, retiring after 37 plus years.

Rich was an avid golfer and always enjoyed his day, good or bad, on the links. He enjoyed fishing, crabbing, skiing, and long rides with his family on his boat, “The Mac-N-All.” He always looked forward to “Grandkid Fishing Day.” At home, Rich was a dedicated Eagles fan. He watched the games with no sound, trusting only Merrill Reese and Mike Quick to give him the play by play.

Rich was cared for by Susan, who was fortunate enough to be his loving wife for 58½ years. Rich is survived by his children, Cheryl (Pat) Colleluori, Linda (Mike) Missanelli, Sister Karen McConnell, F.M.I.H.M., Richard Jr. (Lynn), and Lisa (Stephen) Cronin. Pop was the biggest fan of his grandchildren: Pat Jr., Daniel, Michael, Michael, Jaclyn, Declan, Matthew, Aidan, Meghan, Brenna and Payton, and eight great-grandchildren. His grandchildren, Nicholas and Brynne, met him at the Pearly Gates along with his parents, Walt and Ruby; sister Lois, and brother, Rob.

Relatives, friends, and neighbors paid tribute to Rich at St. Mary’s Church, Gloucester City, where his life was celebrated life through faith with a Memorial Mass. Interment was private.

As an expression of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research www.michaeljfox.org P.O. Box 5014 Hagerstown, MD, 21741 or The Parkinson Council www.theparkinsoncouncil.org 12 W. Willow Grove Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118.