Gloucester City News Obituaries
March 2026

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.

Claire M. Scheurich (March 5th)
March 2, 1934 – February 23, 2026

Claire M. Scheurich (nee Oxley), 91, of Sewell, formerly of Mullica Hill and Gloucester City, passed away on February 23, 2026. Age 91.

Loving wife of 70 years to the late John V. "Jack" Scheurich. Beloved mother of Claire M. Sciarra (late Jon) and John V. Scheurich III (Sue Rathbone). Cherished grandmother of Melanie Sciarra Thomas (Stephen), Melissa Epstein (late Michael), Bria Dougherty (Dennis) and John V. Scheurich IV (Mariza). Cherished great-grandmother of Taylor, Keira, Gabriel, Jake, Mason, John 5th and Oliver.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to St. Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, NJ 08030 or Mass Offerings in Claire's name. Please memo: Claire M. Scheurich.

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

Scott Rodman (March 5th)

Scott Rodman, 71, of Voorhees, formerly of Plainsboro, passed away on February 3, 2026.

He is predeceased by his father, Dr. David Rodman, and stepmother, Arlene Rodman. Scott enjoyed movies, spending time with friends, watching the New York Football Giants, walking, hiking and loved a great meal with friends. Scott is survived by his cousin, Mike Rothstein of East Windsor, his dear friend, Donald (Roberta) Lind of Hummelstown and family, as well as the caring staff at Echelon Care & Rehab in Voorhees.

Graveside services were celebrated Waterford Memorial Park Cemetery.

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

William H. Ward Jr. (March 5th)

William Henry Ward Jr., 97, of Gloucester City passed away peacefully on Friday, February 20, 2026, at home in the loving care of his children.

Born on July 8, 1928, in Philadelphia, Bill was the son of the late William H. Ward Sr. and Amanda (nee Bivians) Ward. Raised in South Philadelphia, he answered the call to serve his country. Bill proudly served in the United States Navy. He was awarded the World War II Victory Medal.

Bill and his late wife, Margie, raised their children in Westville where he was a longtime resident. Following his military service, Bill worked for many years for Fox Transport in Philadelphia. Bill loved his Philly sports team and also going to Rams and American Legion baseball games with his son, Bill. He was also a longtime member of the Cherokee Club of South Philadelphia with his best friend, Sonny. Family was everything to Bill and he enjoyed spending family vacations in Wildwood.

Bill was the beloved husband of the late Margaret "Margie" (née Hatty) Ward, with whom he shared 45 years of marriage. He was predeceased by his son, Joe Ward; and sisters, Elizabeth, Cass and Franny. Bill is survived by his cherished children, Bill Ward, Marge (Ken) Sherrer and Betsy Ward; his beloved grandchildren, Christina, Katie Mae (Danny), Jaclyn (Dave), and Gary; and five great-grand-children, Zachary, Chase, Beau, Grace, and Carson. Dear brother of Peg Busch and his number one brother-in-law, Jim "Sarge" (Barb) Hatty, as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends who will miss him dearly.

Relatives and friends attended his viewing at the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where Bill's Prayer Service was celebrated along with Family Eulogies. Interment with U.S Navy Funeral Honors were at New Saint Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

Family requests memorial donations in lieu of flowers to Samaritan Hospice Gift Processing Center: P.O. Box 71425, Philadelphia, PA 19176 - 1425 or online www.samaritannj.org Please write in memo: William Henry Ward, Jr.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of William Henry Ward, Jr.

Kathleen Tice (March 10th)

Kathleen "Kathy" Tice, 78, passed peacefully at home in Clarksboro on February 25, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

A longtime and beloved resident of Gloucester City before moving to Clarksboro, Kathy spent many happy years as a dedicated secretary at the Mary Ethel Costello School. Her kindness, quick smile, and steady presence brightened the days of everyone she worked with.

Kathy's greatest joys were simple and heartfelt: the unconditional love of her dog Curly, laughter-filled lunches with family and friends, and the excitement of shopping for special gifts for her grandnephew and grandnieces. She had a generous heart and a gentle spirit that touched everyone who knew her.

She is survived by her brother, Robert “Bob” Tice (Bernie); her nephew Rob Tice (Lindsay) along with their children grandnephew Ben and grandnieces Claire, Lydia, and Ella; and her nieces Lauren (Brian P) and Megan. Relatives and friends attended her Visitation in the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where her Funeral Service was celebrated. Interment was at the Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Kathy’s memory may be made to Msgr. Lucitt’s Needy Children’s Fund, P.O. Box 87, Gloucester City, NJ 08030. Please note “Kathleen Tice” in the memo line.

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

Edmund A. Walens Jr. (March 19th)

Edward A. “Snook” "Snooky" Walens Jr., 93, passed away at home in Gloucester City on March 6, 2026.

Ed was the loving and devoted husband of 61 years to the late Mary A. Walens (nee Gordon). Loving father of Cheryl Hill (Ron), Edmund A. Walens III (Kim), Carole Walens (Andy) and Donna Hutchinson (late Mike). Cherished grandfather of Mindy Knight (Ryan), Andrew Myers (Renee), Steven Myers, Andrea McGuigan (Mike), Marci Hutchinson, Megan Freeman (Tim), Tyler Hill (Joy) and Keith Walens. Beloved great grandfather of Elias, Michael, Ryan, Brayden, Adalena, Julian, Juniper and Lily. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and fur babies. In addition to his parents and wife, Ed was predeceased by his nine brothers and sisters.

A lifelong resident of Gloucester City, Ed was a proud graduate of Gloucester High School, Class of 1951. He honorably served his country in the US Air Force during the Korean War and continued his military service for 14 years with the US Army National Guard.

Ed was deeply committed to serving his community. He volunteered with the Gloucester City Fire Department Company #1 from 1970 to 1979, rising to the rank of Lieutenant and was instrumental in starting the EMS for Gloucester City. He also enjoyed a dedicated 23-year career with the Texaco Coastal Oil Refinery in Westville.
A man of strong faith, he was a lifelong member of Highland Park Church of God. He was also a longtime member of Townsend C. Young VFW Post 3620, where he proudly served as curator of the “Doc” Doherty Museum. In addition, he was a longtime member of American Legion Post #135 in Gloucester City.

Relatives and friends are invited to his visitation on Saturday, March 21, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Highland Park Church of God, 111 Baynes Ave., Gloucester City, NJ 08030, where Ed’s Funeral Service will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Interment with his late wife in Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro, will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be sent to “For the Love of Cats,” 225 Rosalind Ave., Gloucester City, NJ 08030 or to the Highland Park Church of God, at the above church address. Please memo Edmund A. Walens, Jr.

Condolences and memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of Edmund A. Walens Jr. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the McCann-Healey Funeral Home, 851 Monmouth St., Gloucester City.

Rev. Dr. Richard G. Leaver (March 19th)

Rev. Dr. Richard G. Leaver, 80, of Gloucester City passed away on March 8, 2026.

Rich filled his years with humanity, service and faith, ministering to those who needed it most. Dr. Leaver, loved as just Rich, was unassuming, truthful, fair and generally concerned for those around him. He earned his undergraduate degree at Drexel University and then attended the Easter Baptist Theological Seminary and finally Drew Seminary, where he earned his Doctor of Theology. He ministered to United Methodist congregation as pastor for 22 years, and worked as a chaplain for 10 years. Rich joined the Gloucester City-Brooklawn Rotary Club in 2010 and actively served as president and secretary over the years. He was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow and served NJ Rotary District 7505.

The son of the late Russel W. and Elena Leaver, Rich was predeceased by his wife, Dalene (nee Crowder) Leaver. He is survived and will be deeply missed by his dear friend Beth and her husband, Michael Kazmar, as well as his great nieces and nephews and fellow Rotarians.

Relatives and friends attended his tribute at the McGee Celebration Etherington Funeral Home, Gloucester City, where his Funeral Service was celebrated by Pastor Daniel Amey. The graveside tribute was at Woodbury Memorial Park.

Stephen B. Heister Sr. (March 19th)

Surrounded by his loving family, Stephen B. "Pop" Heister Sr., of Gloucester City passed away peacefully on March 11, 2026, at the age of 75.

Steve will be dearly missed by his beloved wife of 54 years, Lois D. Heister (née Devine) and children Stephen B. Heister Jr. and his wife, Pam, and Jeanette Shoemaker and her husband Garrett. He was the cherished and proud grandfather of Braydon and Kayla Heister, and Rhya and Grayson Shoemaker, who brought him endless joy.

He was the beloved son of the late Benjamin and Gloria Heister and the dear brother of the late Benjamin E. Heister, Jr. (surviving Hortensia "Honey"). He is also survived by many loving members of the Heister and Devine families. Steve was a proud graduate of Gloucester High School, where he was a three-sport standout athlete in football, basketball, and track. He later retired as a Central Office Technician for Verizon/NJ Bell Telephone, where he dedicated many years of hard work and commitment.

Steve loved spending time with family and friends, especially traveling and making memories with those closest to him. Nothing made him happier than being with his grandchildren, cheering them on and sharing in their lives. Above all else, Steve treasured the life he built with Lois, his partner and best friend for more than five decades. He was also a lifelong Philadelphia sports fan, proudly supporting the Phillies, Flyers, Sixers, and Eagles through every season. He loved attending games with his family and had especially fond memories of joining his grandkids in celebrating the Eagles Super Bowl wins.

Relatives and friends attended his visitation in St Mary's Church, 426 Monmouth St., Gloucester City, where his Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated. Interment was in New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr.

In lieu of flowers, Mass Cards in memory of Steve for St. Mary's Church would be appreciated.

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

Walter P. Houser II (March 19th)

Surrounded by his loving family and friends, Walt Houser II, 60, a lifelong resident of Gloucester City, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2026, at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia.

Walt is survived by his loving wife, Diana (nee Handy) Houser; sons, Robert Revero and his wife, Amanda, and Kevin Revero and his wife, Jessica; 11 grandchildren; brothers, Robert Houser, Jr. and Neal "Shorty" Houser. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and beloved friends who were family to Walt. He is predeceased by his parents Robert and Rita Houser and his sisters, Rita Gerber (late John) and Jackie Stinsman.

Walt was a graduate of Gloucester High School Class of 1983. He was a union painter for Local 1331 for over 36 years, which had him working the smallest jobs to the largest bridges in the area. Walt could always be found fishing somewhere between Gloucester and the Florida Keys. He loved to bake cookies that were enjoyed by his family, friends and cancer nurses who cared for him.

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 in Woodbury Memorial Park, West Deptford.

In lieu of flowers, donations to his wife Diana would be appreciated.

Condolences and Memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of Walter P. Houser II.

Colleen Ziegler (March 26th)

Colleen S. Ziegler (nee Chew), 52, of Gloucester City, a devoted wife and loving mother, passed away on Feb. 28, 2026.

She was the amazing wife of Adam Ziegler for 30 years, building a life together rooted in love. Colleen is also survived by her three sons, Kyle, Kory and Drew. She will be lovingly remembered by her sister, Christy Thatcher (Mike) and brother-in-law Doug Ziegler (April), as well as her extended family – cousins, uncles and a large circle of nieces and nephews who adored her.

Despite battling a painful disease, Colleen faced each day with grace and dignity without complaint. Her strength, courage and quite perseverance were inspiring. She enjoyed simple things – especially Disney World, taking peaceful walks with her husband, and spending time with her boys and their dog, Kobe.

Relatives and friends attended her viewing and Funeral Service at the McGee Celebration Creran Funeral Home, Oaklyn. Donations can be made in Colleen's memory to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.