

OBITUARIES

Martha J.(Ritter) Vires Buckner

Dec. 17, 1949 - Aug. 25, 2021

Martha Jeanette (Ritter) Vires Buckner, 71, Rochester, passed away at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at Woodlawn Hospital, Rochester.



She was born on Dec. 17, 1949, in Atwood, the daughter of Bishop Armond and Betty (Nitcher) Ritter. Martha devoted her life to God, her children and grandchildren. She followed in her father's footsteps, becoming an ordained minister and was privileged to baptize two of her grandchildren. She spent more than 20 years delivering newspapers for The Rochester Sentinel and The Shopping Guide. She enjoyed/loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, Southern Gospel Music

and going to church, was an avid animal lover and collecting all things Elvis.

Survivors include her

husband, Rufus Buckner III, Rochester; children, James (Jewelie) Vires, Colorado, Michael Vires, Rochester, Angela (Randell) Fields, Akron, Crystal (Andrew) Hill, Rochester, Rufus Buckner IV, Florida; grandchildren Shawn, Jesse Vires and Nichole Hudson, Samantha and Jonathon Fields, Abbigayle and Jaxon Tuttle, Kennedy and Andrew Hathaway, Irene, Valerie, and Arianna; brother Rev. Richard (Annetta) Ritter; Roches-

ter; sisters Ruth (Don) Bean, Argos, Carole Jones, Rochester; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Bishop Robert Ritter and lifelong friend, Robert J. Nye Jr.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m., Monday Aug. 30, 2021, at Zimmerman Bros. Funeral Home, Rochester, with Pastor Steven Lee officiating.

Friends may visit from 4-8 p.m. Sunday and one hour prior to service at the funeral home. Burial will be in Tippecanoe Cemetery, Tippecanoe.

Memorial contributions may be made to her memorial fund. Online condolences may be expressed at www.zimmermanbrosfh.com.

Rochester Sentinel
Aug 28-29, 2021

Cameron James Fairchild

Cameron James Fairchild, age 17, of Warsaw, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021, in Wells County.

Born on April 25, 2004, in Warsaw, Cameron was the son of Ashley Carpenter and Billy Fairchild.

Cameron was a member of Warsaw Community Church, where he accepted Christ as his personal Savior. Cameron attended WCC student ministries. He enjoyed working during summer break at Heiman Construction. He loved playing football, weightlifting and spending time with his family and friends. He especially enjoyed taking welding classes at Plymouth through Ivy Tech.

Cameron is survived by his mother, Ashley Carpenter and Brodie Ewert, of Warsaw; and his father, Billy Fairchild, of Syracuse. Surviving maternal relatives include grandparents: Kirk and Linda Swaidner, of Winona Lake; Ted Carpenter and Robin Racolta, of Bourbon; great-grandparents: Charles and Elaine Fletcher, of Etna Green; Verna and Wayne Carlin, of Warsaw; Mary Carpenter and late Charles Carpenter, of Etna Green; Jane Brallier and late Art Brallier, of Winona Lake; Ward Swaidner, of Michigan; uncles: Scott Swaidner, of Lafayette; Cody (Lacy) Carpenter, of Nellis AFB, Nev.; and his special friend, Kora Slone.

Paternal surviving relatives include grandparents: Jenette and Bart Aker, of Winona Lake; James Fairchild, of Kentucky; aunts: Jessica Fairchild, Alyssa Lake, Stephanie Alsoudani, Kim Elisech, Paula Altamirano and Jenny Shepherd; siblings: Jeremiah Moody, Kennidee Reiff, Tanner and Taylor Reynolds and Marleigh Santamaria.

A visitation with family and friends is planned from 3 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 2 at Warsaw Community Church. A funeral service in celebration of his life will begin at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 3 at Warsaw Community Church. Pastors Jordan Ickes and Ken Cooke will be officiating the services. Interment will follow in Etna Green Cemetery.

Memorial donations to assist Cameron's family may be made to McHatten-Sadler Funeral Chapel, 2290 Provident Court, Warsaw, IN 46580.

To sign the guestbook or send a condolence, go to www.mchattensadlerfuneralchapels.com.



Times Union
Aug 31, 2021

OBITUARIES

Donna Belle French

July 22, 1929 - Aug. 25, 2021

Donna Belle French, 92, of North Manchester and formerly of rural Silver Lake, passed at 7:25 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at Timbercrest Senior Living Community of North Manchester.

Donna was born July 22, 1929, in Kosciusko County, to the late Harmon O. and Ethel F. (Landis) Bucher. On May 10, 1947, in the Silver Creek Church of God, Silver Lake, she married Richard E. French, who preceded her in death on July 26, 2012.

She was a 1947 graduate of Burket High School. Donna had worked for General Tire, The Akron-Mentone News, as a secretary for Manchester College, and was a cook at Akron School. She raised her family near her childhood home. She lived in the same home for 69 years before moving to Timbercrest.

Donna was an active member of the Silver Creek Church of God and had attended the Akron Church of God in years past. She was a member of the National Conference



of Churches of God and the Gideons Women's Auxiliary. She was very talented. She was a pianist, organist, song leader as well as performing skits that she, and others, had written. She was known as a collector of owls.

She and her husband wintered in Florida, where they made many friends. She enjoyed spending time with her christian friends and shared her faith all of her life. She lived her life and loved the Lord in everything that she did.

She is survived by a daughter, Suzanne and husband Mark Holt, Sweetser; two sons, Joseph and wife Sara French, Nappanee, and David and wife Marlyn French, Fort Wayne; grandchildren, Melissa Klotz, Cherie Dupor, Amanda Manley, Derek French, Amanda Thompson, Ashley Holt, Allison Nelson and Alexis Holt; great-grandchildren, Brady, Natalie, Tyler,

Sydney, Merin, Sava, Draza, Ninah, Adah, Grayson, Ellie, Oakleigh, Bear, Hannah and Mackenlee.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, brothers Gerald L., Earl D., Robert H., and Charles Edward Bucher, and a sister Mildred E. Clinker.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, a private funeral service will take place at Hartzler Funeral Home 305 W. Rochester St., Akron. A link to funeral service will be available on the funeral home website on Monday, Aug. 30, 2021, after 3 p.m.

Burial will take place following the service in the Silver Creek Cemetery, Silver Lake, next to her husband.

Donations can be made in Donna's memory to the Silver Creek Church of God.

The family would like to express a special thank you to the staff at Timbercrest Senior Living Community.

Share a memory or send an online condolence at: www.hartzlerfuneralservices.com.

Rochester Sentinel
Aug 27, 2021

Donna Belle French

AKRON - Donna Belle French, 92, of North Manchester, and formerly of rural Silver Lake, passed at 7:25 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at Timbercrest Senior Living Community of North Manchester.

Donna was born on July 22, 1929, in Kosciusko County, to the late Harmon O. and Ethel F. Landis Bucher. On May 10, 1947, in the Silver Creek Church of God, Silver Lake, she married Richard E. French, who preceded her in death on July 26, 2012.



She was a 1947 graduate of Burket High School. Donna had worked for General Tire, The Akron-Mentone News, as a secretary for Manchester College and was a cook at Akron School. She raised her family near her childhood home. She lived in the same home for 69 years, before moving to Timbercrest.

Donna was an active member of the Silver Creek Church of God and had attended the Akron Church of God in years past. She was a member of the National Conference of Churches of God and the Gideons Women's Auxiliary. She was very talented. She was a pianist, organist, song leader as well as performing skits that she, and others, had written. She was known as a collector of owls. She and her husband wintered in Florida, where they made many friends. She enjoyed spending time with her christian friends and shared her faith all of her life. She lived her life and loved the Lord in everything that she did.

She is survived by a daughter, Suzanne and husband, Mark Holt, Sweetser; two sons: Joseph and wife Sara French, Nappanee; and David and wife Marlyn French, Fort Wayne; grandchildren: Melissa Klotz, Cherie Dupor, Amanda Manley, Derek French, Amanda Thompson, Ashley Holt, Allison Nelson and Alexis Holt; great-grandchildren: Brady, Natalie, Tyler, Sydney, Merin, Sava, Draza, Ninah, Adah, Grayson, Ellie, Oakleigh, Bear, Hannah and Mackenlee.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; brothers: Gerald L., Earl D., Robert H. and Charles Edward Bucher; and a sister, Mildred E. Clinker.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, a private funeral service will take place at Hartzler Funeral Home, 305 W. Rochester St., Akron. A link to funeral service will be available on the funeral home website on Monday, Aug. 30 after 3 p.m.

Burial will take place following the service in the Silver Creek Cemetery, Silver Lake, next to her husband.

The family would like to express a special thank you to the staff at Timbercrest Senior Living Community.

Donations can be made in Donna's memory to the Silver Creek Church of God.

Share a memory or send an online condolence at www.hartzlerfuneralservices.com.

Times Union
Aug 26, 2021

Virgil L. Gagnon

Virgil L. Gagnon, 86, passed away Monday, Aug. 23, 2021, at his daughter's home where he went to live in 2018 in Henderson, Nev.



He was a longtime residence of Warsaw, where he attended Warsaw Community Church and enjoyed the morning Bible Study group. He was a carpenter and handyman and never met a stranger. He graduated from Burket High School with the class of 1953, where basketball was his favorite sport. He has trophies to show his competitiveness in bowling.

He enlisted in the Army from 1959 to 1963 and received an excellent job performance recognition award.

He worked many years at MGM Bally's Las Vegas, Nev., in maintenance, before moving back to Warsaw in 1999-2018.

He was born in Kosciusko County April 2, 1935, to O'Neal and Mamie Linebrink Gagnon.

He was preceded in passing by his parents; brothers, Jesse, David; and sister, Martha Lucille.

Surviving are sisters, Rose Boyer, Linda and (Claude) Manuel; daughter, Holly Moore; son, Todd and (Heidi) Gagnon; granddaughter, Mindy Moore; and two great-granddaughters.

No services are planned.

Times Union
Sept 1, 2021

Danny K. Hoffman

Danny K. Hoffman, of LaOtto, loving husband, brother, father and grandfather, died suddenly and unexpectedly on Friday, Aug. 27, 2021, at his home.

Dan is survived by his loving wife, Rita Rinehart Hoffman; his two children: Jeff (Sarah) Hoffman and Julie (Gregory) Brubaker; his brother, Randy (Pam) Hoffman; his two bonus children: Mike (Amanda) Himes and Nicole Flath; his two grandchildren: Charles and Paul Brubaker; and his three bonus grandchildren: Gavin Flath, Brooke Himes and Reese Himes.



Dan was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Elaine Walgamuth Hoffman; his wife, Karen Loechner Hoffman.

Dan grew up in Akron and graduated from Akron High School in 1965. He moved to the big city to complete his Bachelor of Arts in mechanical technology at Purdue Fort Wayne before enlisting in the Army National Guard. After completing his service, he joined Iron Workers' Local 147. He worked for many years for G&L Corporation and eventually retired from Doc's Crane & Rigging in 2002.

He spent his retirement doing what he loved, spending time with his family and friends, fishing, hunting, traveling and fussing with his tractor. Dan had the privilege of cruising around much of the world with Rita, Randy and Pam - Australia, Alaska, Caribbean and the North Atlantic. Dan was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, where he served on the church council and volunteered at the food bank with Rita. He was also a member of the Tri-State Tractor Club.

There will be a visitation at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne on Tuesday, Aug. 31 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a funeral service at 12 p.m.

Sheets and Childs Funeral Home Churubusco in charge of arrangements.

Times Union
Aug 30, 2021

OBITUARIES

Brandon M. Lowe

July 1, 1983 – Aug. 25, 2021

Brandon Michael Lowe passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at the age of 38.

He was born on July 1, 1983, and raised in Rochester, where he attended Hearth and Home Christian Academy, New Life Christian Academy and Rochester High School. After a slight detour, he earned his GED in 2001. Brandon was employed at Heartland RVs in Elkhart and was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ, Argos.

He lived life to the fullest and never hesitated to extend a helping hand, even when he may have needed one himself. Brandon loved the outdoors and spending time with his dog, Zeke. He enjoyed fishing in any pool of water he happened upon, regardless of any fish actually living in the fishing hole.



Unfortunately, his sometimes-disappointing fishing endeavors helped prepare him for the recent lackluster performance of his beloved Indianapolis Colts.

He was preceded in death by his uncle, DeWayne O'Connor and grandfather, John Hensley.

Brandon is survived by his mother, Deborah O'Connor of Fort Wayne; father Michael (Pam) Lowe of Mentone; sister Ashela (Andrew) Denicola of San Diego, Calif.; stepbrother Drew (Cindy) Heinold of Mentone; stepsister Kelly (Ryan) Travis of McKinney, Texas; stepsister Megan Heinold of Warsaw; maternal grandmother Thelma Jo

Hensley of Argos; paternal grandmother Ruth Lowe of Akron; as well as numerous extended family members who cared for him deeply.

All services will take place at the Church of Jesus Christ, 15676 Michigan Road, Argos. Visitation is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 3, 2021, from 3 to 7 p.m. Funeral services will be on Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021, at 10 a.m., with Brandon being laid to rest at Akron IOOF Cemetery, Akron, immediately following.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you donate in his memory to the Riley Children's Foundation Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to earllovefuneralhome.com. The Staff of Earl-Love Funeral Home considers it a privilege and an honor to care for the family and friends of Brandon Lowe.

Rochester Sentinel
Sept 1, 2021

Obituaries

Brandon Michael Lowe

Brandon Michael Lowe passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at the age of 38.

He was born on July 1, 1983, and raised in Rochester, where he attended Hearth and Home Christian Academy, New Life Christian Academy and Rochester High School. After a slight detour, he earned his GED in 2001. Brandon was employed at Heartland RVs in Elkhart and was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ in Argos.

He lived life to the fullest and never hesitated to extend a helping hand, even when he may have needed one himself. Brandon loved the outdoors and spending time with his dog, Zeke. He enjoyed fishing in any pool of water he happened upon, regardless of any fish actually living in the fishing hole. Fortunately, his sometimes-disappointing fishing endeavors helped prepare him for the recent lackluster performance of his beloved Indianapolis Colts.

He was preceded in death by his uncle, DeWayne O'Connor; and grandfather, John Hensley.

Brandon is survived by his mother, Deborah O'Connor; of Fort Wayne; father, Michael (Pam) Lowe, of Mentone; sister, Ashela (Andrew) Denicola of San Diego, Calif.; stepbrother, Drew (Cindy) Heinold, of Mentone; stepsister, Kelly (Ryan) Travis, of McKinney, Texas; stepsister, Megan Heinold, of Warsaw; maternal grandmother, Thelma Jo Hensley, of Argos; paternal grandmother, Ruth Lowe, of Akron; as well as numerous extended family members that cared for him deeply.

All services will take place at the Church of Jesus Christ, 15676 Michigan Road, Argos. A visitation is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 3 from 3 to 7 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Sept. 4 at 10 a.m. with Brandon being laid to rest at Akron IOOF Cemetery, Akron, immediately following.

The arrangements have been entrusted to Earl-Love Funeral Home, 811 E. Rochester St., Akron.

The staff of Earl-Love Funeral considers it a privilege and an honor to care for the family and friends of Brandon Lowe.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you donate in his memory to the Riley Children's Foundation Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to



Times Union
Sept 1, 2021

Samual Arnold Remfrey

Samual Arnold Remfrey, of Bourbon, passed away surrounded by family at 3:52 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, at Mason Health and Rehabilitation Center in Warsaw, at the age of 83.



He was born on May 26, 1938, in Prestonsburg, Ky., to Malissa Hackworth Yates and Samual Arnold Remfrey.



Samual was married in August of 1965 to Katherine Juanita Blankenship. They raised three children together, enjoyed their expanding family, sharing their lives throughout their 54 years of marriage together before she passed away on Dec. 6, 2019.

Samual moved to Indiana when he was 12 years old and attended Claypool High School in Claypool, where he was a 1954-1956 all-star in several sports. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on Sept. 29, 1961, and served until his honorable discharge on Sept. 27, 1963. While in the Army, he served as an MP.

Samual was a hardworking man, spending 17 years working at the Arnolt Corporation in Warsaw as a supervisor and 15 years working at Flexsteel in New Paris until he retired at the age of 65. He loved being involved and joining in activities with his children when they were growing up. Samual enjoyed golfing, bowling, horror movies and old westerns. In his later years, he enjoyed working on his adult coloring books, telling life stories and discussions on world matters. He was quite proud of the fact that he knew ALL the 50 states and their capitals in order. Samual was a huge Kentucky fan but overall he was the biggest fan of his Lord and Savior. For most of his life he had always been involved in church and most recently when he was able to attend he enjoyed worshipping at Claypool Full Gospel Church. Samual will be forever loved and missed by his family and many friends.

He will be lovingly remembered by his son, Joshua Wayne (Tara) Remfrey, Waterloo; two daughters: Regina (Jerry) Wadkins, Kimmell; Sonja (Jeff) Lett, Bourbon; 12 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Katherine; one grandson; his dog, Sugar; and his cats: Gray, Bud and Lady.

Friends and family are invited to visit from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 29 at Redpath-Fruth Funeral Home, 225 Argonne Road, Warsaw. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 30 at Graceland Cemetery in Claypool and officiated by Jerry Wadkins. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post #49 and V.F.W. #1126, both of Warsaw, and active duty members of the Army Honor Guard.

Memorial donations may be directed to Animal Welfare League of Kosciusko County, 1048 S. 325 W., Pierceton, IN 46562.

Online condolences may be sent through the funeral

Times Union
Aug 28-29, 2021

John A. Smith

MENTONE - John A. Smith, 77, of rural Tippecanoe, passed at 3:35 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, at Kosciusko Community Hospital of Warsaw, due to complications of respiratory disease.

John was born on Nov. 4, 1943, in Rochester, to John F. and Fannie McClain Smith. He was married in 1966 in the Walnut Church of the Brethren of Argos to Marsha D. McDowell; she survives.

He was a 1961 graduate of Tippecanoe High School. John retired from RR Donnelley & Sons of Warsaw in 1998, where he worked in the Solvent Recovery Department. Prior to Donnelley's, he worked in the RV industry.

John lived most of his life in the Tippecanoe area. He was an avid fisherman. He was a member of the Marshall County Bass Masters and enjoyed participating in bass tournaments in the area. He was a big Purdue Boilermaker fan.

He was survived by his wife, Marsha Smith, of Tippecanoe; sons: John A. Smith, of West Lafayette; Bart D. and wife Elisa Smith, of Lisle, Ill.; and Eric M. Smith, of Tippecanoe; five grandsons: Cameron, Levi, Logan, Caleb, and Luke, all of the Lafayette area; sisters: Patricia and husband Jim Hensley, of Tippecanoe; and Joyce Roe, of Warsaw; brothers-in-law: Michael and wife Donna McDowell, of Elizabethton, Tenn.; and Richard McDowell, of Rochester; many nieces and nephews; and former daughter-in-law, Jacqueline Smith, of West Lafayette.

John was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Barbara Harrell and Thelma Cress.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, a private graveside service will take place at a later date. The interment will be in the Walnut Church of the Brethren Cemetery Argos, with Pastor Bob Rice officiating.

The arrangements have been entrusted to King Memorial Home, 101 N. Tucker St., Mentone.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John's memory to the Tippecanoe Improvement Association or the Tippecanoe Fire Department.

Share a memory or send an online condolence at www.hartzlerfuneralservices.com.



Times Union
Aug 28-29, 2021