

Obituaries — October 3, 2012 - Herald-Times (Bloomington, IN) - October 3, 2012

October 3, 2012 | Herald-Times (Bloomington, IN) | Herald-Times

Ora I. (Washburn) Holt, 96

SEPT. 23, 1916 — OCT. 1, 2012

Ora I. (Washburn) Holt, 96, of Bloomington, died Monday. Friends may call 4 p.m. until services at 6 p.m. Friday at The Funeral Chapel of Powell and Deckard.

Larry Lane Shelley Sr., 69

JULY 23, 1943 — SEPT. 30, 2012

Larry Lane Shelley Sr., age 69, of Gosport, Indiana, joined the Lord on Sunday, Sept. 30, at IU Health Bloomington Hospital after his year-long battle with cancer.

He was born July 23, 1943, in Spencer, Indiana, to Leo "Pete" and Helen (Lane) Shelley. He moved to Gosport from Spencer with his family as a young boy. He graduated from Gosport High School in 1961 and served in the Navy from 1961 until 1966. He worked at Rolls Royce/Allisons for over 25 years until he retired in 2011.

Larry was an amazing, thoughtful, giving, caring, inspirational and loving father, brother and son. He blessed and touched many lives and had an impact on everyone he met. He was heavily involved in his community and in particular his VFW post where he was a past commander. Larry was awarded the Outstanding Senior Citizen Award at the 2012 Gosport Lazy Days.

He is survived by his two sons, Larry (Carrie) Shelley Jr. from Gosport and William Shelley of Spencer and one daughter, Angie (Steven) McGahee of Walker, Louisiana. His surviving siblings are Sharon (Ted) Pacala of Arney, Gary (Mary) Shelley of Ellettsville, Lana (Larry) Parrish of Gosport and Tary (Tina) Shelley of Gosport. He is also survived by two grandchildren, Katelyn and Zachary Shelley of Gosport and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Tina Shelley, and one sister, Neva Taylor.

A memorial service will be held at the Gosport United Methodist Church on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. followed by a Celebration of Life at the Gosport V.F.W. Post 7850 beginning at 5 p.m. The family requests that any donations be given to the Gosport V.F.W. Post, Attn: Veterans; P.O. Box 122; Gosport, IN 47433.

Online condolences may be given at www.deremiahfryemortuary.com.

Sophia Grace (Mackie) Travis, 46

OCT. 4, 1965 — SEPT. 19, 2012

Sophia Travis was born on Oct. 4, 1965, in Omaha, Nebraska, to William and Okja Mackie. She was a devoted mother, wife, daughter, friend, artist, musician, and public servant. She lived throughout the world and chose Bloomington to call her beloved home. She is survived by her parents William and Okja Mackie of Sterling, VA; her husband Gregory Travis and son Finnegan Travis of Bloomington; her mother-in-law, Cynthia Travis of San Francisco, CA; and her sister-in-law, Jessica Travis of Conway, MA.

Her father is a retired Air Force colonel and diplomat, and Sophia lived the life of a military brat with stays in Nebraska, Illinois, Virginia, Germany, Michigan, New York, Korea, and Finland. Through her peripatetic childhood, Sophia gained fluency in English, Finnish, and Korean. She cemented deep connections with her cultural identity as an American of Finnish and Korean heritage. She also developed her genius for connecting with people of wildly disparate ages, ethnicities, and world views, and delighted in understanding what makes people both unique and deeply connected as fellow humans. She nurtured friendships from every phase of her life.

Her talent for piano was discovered at an early age, while the family was stationed in Germany. She was a classically trained musician and is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan. She matriculated at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in 1984 and eventually graduated with a degree in East Asian Languages and Cultures. In her own words, she “began nesting in Bloomington right away.” Her studies were somewhat less interesting to her than the rich social and cultural life in Bloomington, and she quickly became entrenched in the community of local music, local businesses, and local organizations.

She married the love of her life, Gregory Reed Travis, in 1997. Together, they created a beautiful home on an historic property in southern Monroe County, the site of many epic summer pool parties and the repository of her locally-built harpsichords and collections of vintage accordion and hedgehog curios. Greg and Sophia supported each other in their professional and community endeavors and adopted many stray animals who were lucky enough to show up on their doorstep. Their joy as a couple was compounded exponentially by the birth of their son, Finnegan William Travis, on June 5, 2008. Finn was the center of Sophia’s vast universe and she was a phenomenal mother.

Throughout the years, Sophia’s genius for making connections led her to playing with a wide array of bands and musical ensembles. The inheritance of her Finnish grandfather’s accordion opened up even broader vistas for musical expression and collaboration. Highlights of her career included a national tour in 1995 supporting Michelle Shocked, and a performance at the 1997 Lillith Fair. More locally, she played with the bands Lola, Mitten, Squash Blossom String Pullers, and the Vulgar Boatmen, to name just a few. She was a frequent collaborator with the Latin American Musical Ensemble and the group Hoosier Squeeze. Her love of tango music led her to organize several Tango & Beyond events featuring musicians playing tango music from different cultures. In addition to playing on too many of her friends’ records to count, she recorded two collections of her own original music: Music for Picnics and Music for Swimming.

This year’s Lotus Festival was dedicated to Sophia in recognition of the catalytic role she played in connecting local music with world music.

Not many people can see a logical and intuitive connection between music and public service, but

Sophia did. She recognized that local musicians are embedded in the community and constantly donate their time and talents to important causes. She also recognized that the skills learned through training for musical performance are translatable to the public sphere and she became a talented — if iconoclastic — politician and public servant.

She ran for Monroe County Council in 2004, earning the nickname “The Velvet Steamroller.” Her musical background, beauty, and soft voice led some to underestimate her at their peril. An early political rivalry between her and Warren Henegar blossomed into a deep lifelong friendship of earned mutual respect. Warren succinctly described her campaigning style in 2004 as “Sophia really worked her ass off.”

She took her deep commitment to her chosen home and all of its citizens, and her genius for connecting with people, to create positive change in her community. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Karst Farm Splash Pad, a fully accessible water park for children, inviting local bands to play at its launch party. She also ensured that public Monroe County buildings have lactation rooms for nursing mothers and children. These are just a few of the lasting changes she made in the community. After a brief hiatus from office while she focused on Finn, she began campaigning for County Council again this year, winning the primary and was on the ballot for this November election.

Her social service was deeply important to her, and deeply integrated in her life. She served on the boards of Options for Better Living, fundraised for Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard, and served as treasurer for Your Art Here. She was also the president of the IU Asian Pacific American Alumni Association and was founder and chair of the Monroe County Commission on the Status of Women. This merely scratches the surface of the many ways in which she supported and served the people of Monroe County and the causes that were dear to her heart. She envisioned and worked toward a sustainable community that embraced all of its citizens, and in which she would be proud to raise Finn.

The best way to honor **Sophia Travis** is to strive for genuine openness to other people. Make connections. Create without self-consciousness. Be generous with your compliments. Be fierce in your love and loyalty to your family and friends. Be steadfast in your commitment to social progress. Laugh heartily. Live fully.

A public celebration of Sophia’s life is being planned for Sunday, Nov. 11. The family thanks Allen Funeral Home for its assistance.

Netha Izola Utt, 77

JULY 19, 1935 — SEPT. 15, 2012

Netha Izola Utt was of the Christian faith. She was a homemaker and an excellent seamstress. She also had her own business, called Sundance Treasure of Time. She worked in her husband’s business, Lee Utt Land Surveyor, and also got her real estate license.

She had two daughters: Kathy J. Robbins, husband Frank (Robbie), and Diana O’Rourke and husband Daniel (Dan); two grandsons, Eric Deckard, wife Tia, and Jason Deckard, wife Michelle; one step-

grandson, Brian Masterson, wife Amanda. She had two great-grandsons, Colin and Ryan Deckard, and one great-granddaughter, Chloe Deckard. She had three step-great-grandsons, Mavrick, Garrett and Hunter Masterson. She had one living sister, Martha Eads, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by husband Alfred Lee Utt, mother Evie Hollers, father John Hollers and five brothers: Charlie, Robert, Sollie, Walter (Bubbie) and Pete Hollers, and one sister, Mary Jane Lynch.

You are much sadly missed. Love you always, your family.

Mom, I am pretty sure that I didn't make life easy for you and I'm also pretty sure that you will agree with me. You are an incredible mother. Through all the tears and laughter, we made it. No one can take that away from us. I will always love you forever. Mom and grandma's kid. Love, your daughter Kathy.

Eva Mae Rio, 85

OOLITIC — Eva Mae Rio, 85, of Oolitic, died Tuesday. Friends may call 5-8 p.m. today at Ferguson-Lee Funeral Home in Bedford. Services will be 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.

Ilene W. Houpt, 90

BEDFORD — Ilene W. Houpt, 90, of Bedford, died Sunday. Friends may call 4-8 p.m. Friday at Day & Carter Mortuary in Bedford. Services will be 10 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Paul J. Terrell, 85

BEDFORD — Paul J. Terrell, 85, of Bedford, died Tuesday. Friends may call 4-8 p.m. Thursday at Day & Carter Mortuary in Bedford. Services will be 10 a.m. Friday at Green Hill Cemetery.

Walter 'Ray' Wagner, 92

FEB. 15, 1920 — SEPT. 30, 2012

BEDFORD — Walter "Ray" Wagner, 92, of Bedford, died at 8:05 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, at Stonebridge Health Campus.

Born February 15, 1920, in Silverville, he was the son of Walter and Iva Mae (Hackler) Wagner. He married Norma E. Quakenbush on June 21, 1940, and she survives. He was a graduate of Fayetteville High School and the owner of the Shell Service Station on Lincoln Avenue for forty years, retiring in 1981. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during WW II and a member of the Silverville Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Norma, of Bedford; two sons, Michael Wagner and wife, Patty of Bedford, Timothy Wagner and wife, Lisa of Bloomington; a brother, Gilbert "Gib" Wagner of Ellettsville; four grandchildren, Luanna Smith and husband, Steve, Anne Stauffacher and husband, Brent, Nicholas Ackerman and Zachary Wagner; three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in

death by his parents, two sisters, Wanda May Wagner and Helen Smith, a brother, Robert "Bob" Wagner and a daughter, Lana Bourland.

Graveside services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Thursday, October 4th, in the Silverville Missionary Baptist Cemetery with John Lee officiating. Burial will follow. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 3rd, and from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 4th, at Day & Carter Mortuary in Bedford. Family and friends are invited to sign the guest book and light a candle in memory of "Ray" at www.daycarter.com.

Merl Emmons, 94

SEPT. 21, 1918 — OCT. 1, 2012

SHOALS — Merl Emmons, age 94, of Shoals, Ind., passed away Oct. 1, 2012, at his residence.

He was born on Sept. 21st, 1918, in Martin County, Ind., to William Emmons and Minnie (Campbell) Emmons.

He married Roberta Archer on April 30, 1942, and she preceded him in death.

He was a farmer and a member of the Farm Bureau Co-op association.

Merl was a hardworking farmer as well as a devoted husband and father. He enjoyed mushrooms, squirrels, corn on the cob, and those little children.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Roberta on May 17, 2001, and his 11 brothers and sisters. Merl was the last member of the William Emmons children.

He is survived by four daughters, Frances Shields (Jim) of Bloomington, Ind., Linda Self (Eddie) of Shoals, Ind., Judy Simpson (Kelly) of New Salisbury, Ind., and Sheila Merlene Wright (Randy) of Ellettsville, Ind.; 13 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and two more on the way.

Funeral services will be Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of the Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home in French Lick, Ind. Friends may call on Thursday, Oct. 4, 2012, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and from 9 a.m. until the time of service on Friday at the Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home.

Pastor Matthew Sullivan will officiate.

Burial will follow at the Emmons Ridge Cemetery in Shoals, Ind.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to Hoosier Uplands Home Health Care.

Arrangements are in the care of the Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home, 9640 W. Ind. 56, French Lick, IN 47432. Condolences may be made by email to: brosmerkemplefh@hotmail.com, on our Facebook page, Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home, or at our website www.brosmer-kemplefuneralhome.com.

Benis Breidenbaugh, 103

CUZCO — Benis Breidenbaugh, 103, of Cuzco, died Sept. 30 at Brookside Village in Jasper. Friends may call on from noon until services at 2 p.m. today at the Mount Lebanon United Methodist Church in French Lick. Brosmer-Kemple Funeral Home in French Lick is in charge of arrangements.

Stephen Dean Allen, MD, 69

SEPT. 8, 1943 — SEPT. 26, 2012

INDIANAPOLIS — Stephen Dean Allen, MD, 69, a James Warren Smith Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Director of Clinical Microbiology Laboratories at IU Health and VA Medical Center in Indianapolis, died peacefully at his home in Indianapolis the night of Sept. 26 after a short illness.

Born in Linton, Indiana, on Sept. 8, 1943, Dr. Allen earned his Undergraduate Degree (1965) and Masters Degree (1967) in Microbiology from IU Bloomington and MD degree (1970) from the IU School of Medicine. He did his Pathology Residency at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. Steve also served as Medical Officer with the United States Public Health Service at the CDC in Atlanta, Georgia, from 1974 to 1977

His Indiana University appointment in the Pathology Department began in 1977 where he was responsible for the administration of Clinical Microbiology Laboratories at IU Health, Wishard and the Veterans Administration Hospitals. Dr. Allen also served as Director of the Disease Control Laboratories with the Indiana State Board of Health from 1994 to 2004. He belonged to many Medical and Pathology Societies and received numerous awards and recognitions including membership in the Alliance of Distinguished and Titled Professors.

He served as a Trustee for the American Board of Pathology during 1995 to 2006 and served as President of that Board during 2003.

Through authorship and co-authorship of 30 text books and several hundred publications, Dr. Allen became respected internationally as a researcher and educator of his field of anaerobic microbiology.

From Steve's early age, music was a favorite hobby. He played trumpet and electric bass in many bands over the years and more recently was a member of the "The Residue", "The Midnight Sanity" and "The Shirley Judkins Band." He was passionate about Fly Fishing along with hunting as being some of his favorite hobbies.

Steve is survived by his wife Vally of 48 years, his son Christopher (Antonia), his daughter, Amy (Todd); two grandchildren, Esme, 11 years old, and Samuel, 8 years old; mother-in-law, Frances Autrey.

There will be two memorial services.

The first is Thursday, Oct. 4, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 6050 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis,

starting at 3 p.m., with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m.

Another memorial service will take place on Friday, Oct. 5, at 3 p.m. at the Switz City Cemetery with a gathering to follow, location will be announced at the service.

In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made to: Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, www.pancan.org and/or the Indiana Medical History Museum, www.imhm.org.

Arrangements entrusted to Albertsons Mortuary, Sherman Chapel.

Mary D. Fuller, 102

SEPT. 25, 1910 — SEPT. 26, 2012

AUSTIN, Texas — Mary Dodson Fuller was born Sept. 25, 1910, in Bowling Green, Ky. She grew up in Bloomington, Indiana, where she and her sister and brothers graduated from Bloomington High School. She received her Bachelor's degree from Indiana University and was always an IU basketball fan during the good years and the not so good years. During World War II, she and her sister Inez moved to the Washington, D.C., area. When she first applied for a job in the Federal government, the man who interviewed looked at her and said "Blondie, can you do this job?" Mary looked right back at him and said "I guess we are going to find out." She rose to become national personnel director for the U.S. Savings Bonds Division of the U.S. Treasury Department. In 1966 she retired, moved back to Bloomington, Indiana, and married John Fuller. They enjoyed many years of retirement with family and friends until his death.

In 1994, she moved to Austin, Texas, to be near her beloved nephew, Michael Becker and his wife Heather. She holds the record for the longest resident at Englewood Estates in South Austin. Mary enjoyed seeing the many parts of Texas she had previously read about, such as the streets of Laredo and the Texas Hill Country. She was an avid reader and sports fan, accomplished seamstress and knitter, and played a mean game of Wii bowling.

Mary Fuller is survived by her brother, Morrison Dodson, four nephews and many grand-nephews and nieces. She has been blessed by the many friends she has made in Texas and the wonderful staff of Home Instead and of Harbor Hospice who have been so good to her in the last years of her life.

Graveside Service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, at Valhalla Memory Gardens, Bloomington, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that contributions be made to The University of Texas School of Nursing Faculty/Staff Scholarship Fund in appreciation for the wonderful nursing care Mary received. (https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/utgiving/online/nlogon/?menu1NUR**)

Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home South Congress, 2620 S. Congress, Austin, TX 512-442-1446. You may view memorials at www.wcfish.com.

CITATION (AGLC STYLE)

Herald-Times, 'Obituaries — October 3, 2012', *Herald-Times* (online), 3 Oct 2012 <<https://infoweb-newsbank-com.ezproxy.monroe.lib.in.us/apps/news/document-view?p=AWNB&docref=news/144308BB12E72068>>

© Copyright 2012 Herald-Times. All rights reserved.