

Area Deaths

Norma Alice Burgess

Norma Alice Burgess passed away at 10:03 p.m. on Saturday, December 22, 2018, in Kirby Hospital, Monticello. The daughter of Robert Chester Kirk and Ola Ellen Foster, Norma was born on May 2, 1924, in Lintner, Illinois, and grew up on the family farm in Milmine, Piatt County, the fourth of five children.



She attended Bement High School where she met Robert Harold Burgess, her future husband. They graduated in 1942 and married on June 2, 1943, while Bob was serving in the U.S. Army at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

When Bob was discharged from the Army in 1945, he and Norma moved to married student housing at the University of Illinois. After graduation, Bob's career took the couple and their two daughters to New Jersey, Ohio, and back to Illinois. When the girls were grown, Bob and Norma also lived in Missouri, Iowa, and Indiana for a few years. In the 1990s they moved back to Bement, to the farm that has been in the Burgess family since 1868.

A lifelong homemaker, Norma was a kind and intelligent woman who took a lively interest in everyone she met.

She read widely, preferring nonfiction to fiction, and followed the news until her death. She loved antiques, gardening, and handwork like quilting and crochet.

No matter where they lived, Norma made a warm and beautiful home for her family.

She was an exemplary role model for her daughters and a loving grandmother. She will be sorely missed.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, one sister, her husband, and one grandchild. She is survived by her two daughters, Mary Sue Postlewait of Bement and Jo Burgess of Bloomington, Indiana; her grandson Eric Conley (wife, Erica) of Cerro Gordo; and her granddaughter Kara Peterka and her two children, Ethan and Makenna, of Mahomet.

Graveside services were held for the family on December 26 in Bement Cemetery. Roux-Hinds Funeral Home of Bement was entrusted with arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Robert G. Conlin

Robert G. Conlin, 86, of Arthur passed away at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 23, 2018, at St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur.



Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday morning, December 27, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Arcola with Father Angel Sierra officiating. Burial with Military Rites was in Arcola Cemetery. Visitation was held Wednesday evening, December 26, at the church. A Rosary Service was also held Wednesday evening.

Edwards Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

Robert was born December 17, 1932, at home in Arthur. He was a son of John A. and Zoe (Kellems) Conlin. He married Barbara Jane VonLanken on June 5, 1954, in Arthur. She passed away on February 27, 2012.

Surviving are five children, Patricia Yoder and husband Larry of Sullivan, Robert Conlin Jr. of Canton, Michigan, John Conlin of Venice, Florida, Alan Conlin and wife Deonah of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Michael Conlin and wife Vickie of Champaign. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Greg Yoder and wife Jennifer of Sullivan, Eric Yoder of New York City, Adam Yoder and wife Hayley of Savoy, Curtis Yoder and wife Kaylee of Shelbyville, Cody Drew Conlin of Venice, Florida, and Andrew Michael Conlin of Champaign; five great-grandchildren, Noah, Levi, Lexi, Collin, and Everly; and one brother, Al Conlin of Chula Vista, California.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Barbara; one sister; and two brothers.

Robert was a 1950 graduate of Arthur High School. He was an Army veteran. He lived his entire life in the house he was born in, except for the time he spent in the Army. He retired from USI in 1992 with 33 years of service, and all the while he farmed the family farm.

Robert was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Arcola where he served as Head Usher for 30 years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Arthur Lions Club and Arthur American Legion Post 479.

Robert truly enjoyed serving his church, his family, and his community.

Memorials may be made to

St. John's Catholic Church in Arcola or Arthur Lions Club.

Danny Gullion

Danny Lee Gullion, 67, of Arcola died at 4:28 p.m. Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon.



Memorial services were held Thursday afternoon, December 27, at Shrader Funeral Home, Arcola, with Rev. Matt Stump officiating. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Military rites were accorded.

Danny was born November 25, 1951, in Mattoon. He was the son of Howard "Ned" and Betty Jones Gullion. He married Vickie Mason on November 14, 1975, in Arcola. She survives.

Also surviving are his children, Amy Gullion of Sullivan, Jeremy (Jennifer) Gullion of Arcola, and Tiffany (Kevin) Gullion-Kreig of Wood River; mother, Betty Swanson of Palmetto, Florida; grandchildren, Gunnar (Hannah) Brown, Holly Lamb, and Danny Lee Gullion; a great-grandson, Clark Brown; four

brothers, Mike (Debby) Gullion of Bradenton, Florida, Jack Gullion of Nashville, Illinois, and Dave (Donna) Gullion of Weldon; and a sister, Debbie (Mike) Priester of Henderson, Nevada.

He was preceded in death by his father, "Ned" Gullion; stepfather, Fred Swanson; and brother, Jerry Gullion.

Danny was a graduate of Mattoon High School Class of 1969. He was a driver for Kraft Foods in Champaign for 35 years.

Danny served in the U.S. Army.

Danny loved his children, grandchildren, and golfing. He wore Bob Marley wigs during his treatment.

Memorials are suggested to Sarah Bush Lincoln Regional Cancer Center or to the Gullion Family.

Online condolences to the family may be sent to www.hilligossshraderfh.com.

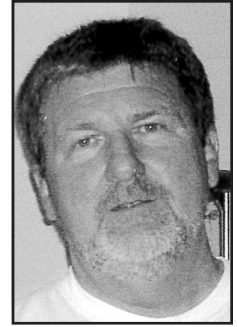
Anthony Raymond Roberts

Anthony Raymond "Tony" Roberts, 57, of Tuscola passed away at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 25, 2018, at his residence.

Tony was born on November 15, 1961, in Paris. He was a son of Jack Edward and Ruby Mae (Duvall) Roberts. He married Laurie Lansing on February

14, 2008, in Largo, Florida.

Survivors include his mother, Ruby Roberts-Pangburn and husband



Charles of Mattoon; one brother, Gregory Thomas Roberts of Pinellas Park, Florida; his uncle, Tom Roberts of Corona, California; and his wife, Laurie Roberts of Eldo-

rado, Kansas.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Edward Roberts, and his grandparents.

Tony was a 1981 graduate of Tuscola High School.

Tony drove a semi since 1996, having worked for McLane Trucking of Danville; MBM Trucking of Lakeland, Florida; and most recently for Liquid Transport of Tuscola.

To honor Tony's wishes, no formal services will be held. Edwards Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Lake Land College announces GED schedule

Lake Land College's Adult Education is offering GED classes throughout the district beginning the second week of January. Classes are 100 percent federally funded thanks to the U.S. Department of Education.

Orientation locations and dates are as follows:

Arthur—Arthur Public Library, 225 S. Walnut Street; 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 8.

Charleston—Coles County Health Department, 825 18th Street; 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 8.

Mattoon—Lake Land Col-

lege Workforce Development Center, 305 Richmond Ave. E; 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wednesday, January 9.

Student tuition will be waived and all class materials will be provided for the GED classes. To find a GED class near you, to find more information, or to register call (217) 238-8292 or email adulthoodeducation@lakelandcollege.edu.

Happy New Year!

Church Directory

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

FORGIVENESS We have all heard the saying, "to err is human, to forgive is divine." The Lord's prayer depicts this by us asking the Lord to forgive our wrongdoings as we forgive those who do us wrong. Forgiveness doesn't necessarily mean that we forget; however, forgetting would sometimes be a good thing. It should reflect no resentment towards the individual who harmed us. A divorced friend of ours told us about going to the store and recognizing the sales clerk as her ex-husband's old girlfriend whom he was seeing while they were still married. After the wife left the store, she realized that the clerk had not recognized her, however she felt compelled to go back to introduce herself, and to let her know that she held no resentment towards her. After the woman talked for awhile, they embraced, forgave each other and with tears in their eyes, they departed, both feeling much better. Forgiving someone in our hearts or in person is not always easy, but it is important for our mental well-being, and especially for our souls. When Jesus was unjustly crucified, He asked his heavenly Father to forgive them for they know not what they do.

Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger...instead be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another as God has forgiven you through Christ. Good News Bible Ephesians 4:31,32

ARCOLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - USA, 311 E. Jefferson, Arcola. Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. Phone 268-3212

ARCOLA FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE - Rev. Ivan Jess 268-4769, 276-3020; Sam Miller, SS Supt. 202-6094. Sunday School, 9:30am Morning Worship, 10:30am; (Sign Language Interpreter) Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm; Wednesday evening Bible Study 6:00pm; Missionary Meeting second Wednesday night of each month.

ARTHUR CHURCH OF CHRIST - 415 W. Fourth, Arthur. Ronald Bartanen, Minister, 728-7280. Sunday Bible Class 9:45-10:15am; Weekly Communion, 10:30am; Everyone Welcome! Church web site: www.arthurcoc.com

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH - 710 E. Park, Arthur. Sundays: Christian Education 9:30am; Worship Celebration 10:30am For youth group and small group schedules, call 543-2781. Ministry Team: Glen Rhodes, Minister of Administration and Community Life; Ashley Litwiller, Minister of Worship and Youth; Jeff Marner, Minister of Discipling; Lamar Miller, Minister of Outreach. Everyone Welcome! Come Worship with us this Sunday! Church web site: www.arthurmennonite.org, email: arthurmennonite@gmail.com

ARTHUR SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH - 530 N. Vine St., Arthur. Pastor: Doug Davis, Worship 10:00am; Children's Church every Sunday morning at 9:30am, Nursery provided. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm, Wednesday: Service 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. 543-2672.

ATWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 229 S. Main, Atwood. Pastor Don Gerkin. Phone 578-2880. Sunday School 9am; Church, 10am; Bible Study 6:30pm

BOURBON BAPTIST CHURCH - David Babb, Pastor, Sunday Worship, 9:30am; Sunday School 10:45am; bourbon.baptistchurch@yahoo.com

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - Missouri Synod. 1 mile south of Sullivan on Highway 32. Glenn Strohschein, Pastor. Sunday Morning Service 10:00am; Sunday School 9:00am; Saturday services 5:00pm. Online services: www.worshippanew.com

FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH - 320 Surrey Lane, Arthur, Gawain Bevis, Minister. Sunday School 10am; Morning Worship 10:45am; Evening Evangelistic Service 6pm; Family Night, Wednesday 7pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (ABC/USA) - 120 E. Park, Arthur. John Stewart Pastor; Sunday School 9am, Worship 10am; American Baptist Women's Ministries meets 2nd Mon. 7pm; Prayer chain, 543-2296. For other activities and information, call church 543-2592 or Internet at www.firstbaptistarthur.com

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 231 N. Illinois, Atwood, 578-2555. Lanny Faulkner, Pastor. Sunday School 9am; Morning worship 10am; Youth 5:07pm; Discipleship Class 6pm; Woman's Bible Study Tues. 9am; AWANA Children's Ministry Weds. 6:30-8pm. Child care provided at all services. Website www.aplacetothrive.org

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH - 300 Northline Rd., Tuscola, 253-2084, Sunday School 9:30am; Morning Worship 10:30am; Evening service 6pm; Wednesday Evening 6:30pm. A Ministry for Everyone: Sunday School for all ages, King's Kids, Teen Dept. Homebuilders & more! www.faithtuscola.org

LOVINGTON FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - Corner of County (Route 32) and Church Streets. Worship 9:30am; Children's Church 4 yrs.-1st grade 10:15am; Sunday School 10:45am for all ages; Wednesday night Bible Study, 7:30pm. Brian Talty, Pastor.

LOVINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 241 S. Broadway, Lovington Sunday School 9:15am; Worship 10:30am Larry Bricker, Minister. **FAITH FAMILY FELLOWSHIP** - 228 N. Broadway St., Lovington. 873-8791. Pastor Matthew Perkins. "Real Faith, Real Life". Sunday Service 10am. Wednesday Midweek 6:30pm. Thursday Impact Youth 6:30pm. www.lovingtonfaith.org.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN - Assembly of God. Pastor Darin Elder, 253-4444, 401 E. Sale St., Tuscola. Sunday Services, 10am and 6:30pm and Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm Nursery and children's ministries provided during all services.

SUNNYSIDE MENNONITE CHURCH - Larry Rocke, Senior Pastor, Lonnie Gingerich, Assistant Pastor. Sunday School 9:30am; Services 10:30am; Evening Services 6pm.

JONATHAN CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH - "Forward in Christ, United in Love, Come as You Are". 1425 Jonathan Creek Rd, Sullivan, 728-4369. Website: jcreek.org. Email: jonathancreekchurch@yahoo.com. Pastor Tim Henderson. 9:00am Adult Sunday School; **Sunday Worship**: 8:00am Traditional Service, 10:00am Contemporary Service; 10:00am FROG Super Kids Church (for children 4-12); 6:00pm Contemporary Service. **Family Night**: Wednesday Evening (Sept.-May) 6pm-8pm (with a light meal provided), (May-Sept.) 6:30pm-8pm (no meal during the summer months). Men's Ministry Meetings 6:30pm, 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month @ JCC Church. Women's Ministry Meetings (Home Fires Ministry) 6:30pm, 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month contact Helen Moore @ 856-839-6012 for info. Come Join Us, Everyone Welcome.

NORTH VINE MENNONITE CHURCH - 312 N. Vine, Arthur, Brian Petersheim, Sr. Pastor; Mike Helmuth, Asst. Pastor. Sunday School for all ages 9:30am; Message 10:30am; Sunday evening services 6pm. No services on last Sunday night of every month. All are welcome.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH - Washington & Pine Streets, Arcola, 268-3766. Rev. Angel Sierra, Pastor. Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.; Weekday Mass Thursday 5:30 p.m. Confessions Thursday 5:15 p.m. or by appointment. Email: johnbaptist@consolidated.net

LIFEPOINTE CHURCH - 700 E. Main, Arcola. Nondenomination/Spirit-Filled Church. Ph. 217-268-4586. Pastor Henry Schrock - 217-246-0104. Sunday Worship Service: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rogelio Gutierrez - Spanish Church. Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. Friday Service: 7:00 p.m.

ARTHUR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 128 E. Illinois, Arthur. Rev. R. Bruce Weiman. Worship 8am & 10am; Sunday School 9am Nursery for Sunday School and 10am Service. www.arthurunitedmethodist.org

VINE STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 249 S. Vine, Arthur. Pastor Bob Silvanik. Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am. Christian Women's Fellowship meets first Wednesday each month 1:30pm, September-June. Nursery and air conditioning.

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - Rev. Dennis Gartung. P.O. Box 252, Arthur. 2 1/2 miles south of Garrett. Church Worship 9:00am.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m

LOVINGTON FIRST CHURCH OF GOD (ANDERSON) - 301 W. State St. Lovington, IL 61937. Pastor Rodney Houser. Phone 873-4749 9am Sunday School, 10am Morning Worship, Wednesday 7pm Midweek Services, adult and childrens ministries.

PRAIRIE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH - 2423 CR 500 E, Lake City, IL 61937. Phone 677-2464. Nursery available for all services. Sunday School for K4-Adults 9:30 a.m. Worship and Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening services 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night Bible Study 7 p.m. with Flyer's Club (K4-1st Grade), King's Kids (2nd-6th Grade) and Teens (7th-12th Grade) every Wednesday (Sept.-May). Email: info@prairieviewbaptistchurch.com Website: www.prairieviewbaptist.com

LOVINGTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 360 W. Springfield Rd. Sunday School 9:30am, Morning Worship 10:30am, Evening Service 6pm, Wednesday Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study, 7:00pm Church phone: 873-5116. www.fblovington.org

NEW LIFE CHURCH - R.R. 1, Sullivan, IL 61951 (3 1/2 miles east of Sullivan on the Cadwell Rd.) Ph. 728-4200 Dave & Debra Dolan, Pastors; Liz Dolan, Minister of Music; Debra Dolan, Secretary. Sunday Worship 9am. Wednesday Worship Service (for all ages), 7pm. Website www.newlifesus-livan.org

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP -212 E. Third Street, Arthur. Sunday Worship services 10am, Sunday evening worship service 6:30 pm. Everyone warmly invited to join us for worship.

COWBOY CHURCH - Penn Station, 122 E. Progress, Arthur. 217-254-8624. Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings. Rev. Jess Adams and Randy White. Everyone welcome.

UNITED CHURCH OF ATWOOD - 210 N. Main St., P.O. Box 379 • Atwood, IL 61913 • 578-2832. Mike Drake, Pastor. 8:30-10am, Coffee & Donuts; 9am Sunday School, 10:15am Worship Services, Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-Noon

Life & Hope A Weekly Devotion

Three Wise Men?

Many of the nativity scenes you have witnessed over this past month most likely include three men and three camels. Not always, but often these wise men, or Magi, that are mentioned in the second chapter of Matthew are included in the Christmas scene with baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the animals.

Many scholars believe that these wise men (Magi) from the East probably arrived sometime within the first year or two of Jesus' birth. In other words they may not have actually been there at the manger right after Jesus was born. And, there may not have only been three of them.

In Verse 11 Matthew tells us that when the Magi did arrive they presented Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts are why we often see three camels and three Magi coming to see Jesus. However, there could have been more than just three, and there could have even been less than three. Scripture does not give us an exact number other than the three gifts that were presented.

We do know from verses 13-18 that after the Magi left, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt in order to escape the wrath of King Herod who wanted Jesus killed. Since Verse 13 mentions a child instead of a baby, it could mean that the Magi's visit occurred sometime later than Jesus' birth.

These are interesting things to study and consider when thinking about the Christmas story. Having the Magi at the scene of the manger in many ways represents a part of this wonderful story and not the exact timing of the events or numbers of people. This is why I have never minded this portrayal of Jesus' birth, even though the events could have actually been a bit different.

The most important part is that we receive this story for what it means for us and the world. A Savior has been born and he is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

Make it Personal: Read: Matthew 2:1-12.

Along with the visit of the Magi, there are many other interesting things that can be studied and learned about the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. I encourage you to do some study yourself and learn more about this most wonderfully, Holy night, that happened over 2,000 years ago.

Happy New Year, Everyone.

Pastor Glen Rhodes,
Arthur Mennonite Church
710 E. Park Street

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