

Obituaries

Shirley Jones

Villa Grove, Il. - Shirley Jones age 78 of Villa Grove, Il., died at 3:55 am on Saturday Dec. 22, 2018 at Carle Hospital in Urbana, Il.,

There was a private Burial in the Villa Grove Cemetery, followed by a memorial service at 11:00 am on Saturday Dec 29, 2018 at the Villa Grove United Methodist Church (302 N 2nd St) Villa Grove, with Pastor Sandi Hire officiating, there will be no visitation, Joines Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Shirley was born November 29, 1940 in Talbot, In., a daughter of James F. and Marjorie (Bishop) Anderson, she married Allen Reckowsky, she later married John D. Jones, he preceded her in death on Dec. 7, 2018.

Surviving are two sons, Mark (Coralea) Reckowsky, and Mike (Connie) Reckowsky, two daughters, Dana (Rick) Evans and Deb (Steve) Stombaugh, 8 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren, and one sister, Mary Kay Anderson.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband John and her parents.

Shirley was a member of



the Delmar D. Darrah Order of Eastern Star in Tolono, Il., a member of the Villa Grove United Methodist Church, she worked at the Beckman Institute, Urbana, Il., she was the Villa Grove United Methodist Church Secretary for several years, but, she was best known for her service to the community, by visiting Nursing homes, hospitals, and shut-ins also by helping with food for those in need in the community, especially during the holidays.

Memorials can be made to the Villa Grove Peace Meal or to the Villa Grove United Methodist Church.

James E. Davis

Villa Grove, Il. - James E. Davis, age 87 of Villa Grove, Il., died

at 7:45 pm on Sunday Dec. 23, 2018 at the Newman Rehab and Health Care Center, Newman, Il., Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday Dec. 28, 2018 in the Joines Funeral Home (Il Rt 130 S) Villa Grove, Il., with Rev. Joy Starwalt and Rev. Dean Beals officiating, visitation were one hour before the services in the funeral home, burial was in the Murdock Cemetery, Masonic Rites will be at 11:00 am with the Villa Grove - Camargo - Newman Lodge Masonic #885.

Jim was born May 5, 1931 in Murdock, a son of Earl and Pearl (Taylor) Davis, he married Patricia Groves July 11, 1952, she survives in Villa Grove, also surviving are four grandchildren, seven great grandchildren.



Jim was preceded in death by his parents, son Tim and Daughter Brenda Parker, and two sisters.

Jim spent 21 years in the U.S. Air Force and retired, then spent 20 years with the U.S. Post Office and retired from there.

He was a 1949 graduate of Newman High School, he loved to work in his yard, and he and Pat loved to go dancing. Memorials can be made to an organization of the donors choice.

Harold Lee White Sr.

Harold Lee White Sr., 80, of Mattoon, IL passed away at 1:45 A.M. on Tuesday, December 25, 2018 at Mattoon Rehab and Health Care Center.

Harold was born on March 7, 1938 in Matteson, IL. He was a son of Ruben and Devona (Childress) White. He married Donna Sue Woodard on April 15, 1993 in Elgin, IL.

Survivors include his wife, Donna White of Mattoon, IL; two sons, Jerry White and his wife Tina of Neoga, IL, and Jesse White of Mattoon, IL; two step children, Jeremy Hinds and his wife Heidi of Villa Grove, IL and Cindy Wiltermood of Mattoon, IL, eleven grandchildren, Michael, Jerry, Brandt, Morgan, Collin, Madison, Kennedy, Grace, Xavier, Xander and Skylar; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one son, Harold White Jr.; one brother, Tony White, and one sister, Hazel Evans.

Harold was a member of the Arcola Free Methodist Church.

Harold retired from Mattoon Township in 2000 with over 18 years of service. After



he retired, he plowed snow for Illinois Department of Transportation.

Harold never met a stranger and was loved by all that knew him. He especially loved God, his friends and the staff at Mattoon Health Care. Harold will be missed by all.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. The Edwards Funeral Home is assisting the family.



With Jim Balmer

Psalms 36:5-12

The Goodness of God

Lord, your constant love reaches the heavens; your faithfulness extends to the skies. Your righteousness is towering like the mountains; your justice is like the depths of the sea. People and animals are in your care. How precious, O God, is your constant love! We find protection under the shadow of your wings. We feast on the abundant food you provide, you let us drink from the river of your goodness. You are the source of all life, and because of your light we see the light. Continue to love those who know you and to do good to those who are righteous. Do not let proud people attack me or the wicked make me run away. See where evil people have fallen. There they lie, unable to rise.

Letters to the Editor

To begin with,

Whether or not the proposed wind farm in Newman Township happens, we shouldn't let this project tear us apart. But I fear that if Newman passes zoning to try to block the wind farm from coming, our community is going to continue declining. People will have to go farther and farther away to find work.

As a young boy Ziegler Coal employed many families from the local area. That was a prosperous time in Newman. People found jobs close to home and spent their money locally. The mine closed and the businesses declined. Recontek came, we thought we had another chance. In a couple of short years the plant closed its doors and people had to go elsewhere for employment. I believe people still have a fear of longevity.

In early 2000, I was dispatched to work in a coal fired power plant. The smoke would go out through the precipitators into the stacks and in the middle of the summer, your skin would develop small red bumps and itch due to arsenic falling out of the smoke. These companies have spent billions of dollars to clean these power plants up. And we are all paying for it in our electric bills. These power plants, and the coal mines, are dangerous to work in and many people are still suffering from the health effects.

Wind energy does not put pollutants into our air or water. The widespread benefits that wind farms bring to communities are undeniable.

The schools and roads will improve. Even the gas stations and restaurants benefit. When I worked up at the wind farm near Rossville, I went to the Casey's every morning, and it was packed. The lumber yard went from nothing to something.

The people that are trying to stop this wind farm don't understand the damage they are doing to businesses and families that will benefit from this project for decades to come. These wind turbines have a 30 year lifespan, maybe even more. As far as I can tell, we'll still be using electricity then.

I didn't go to the zoning vote in Newman due to limited information. I've talked to a lot of people that regret not going and voting against zoning. Out of the 700+ registered voters in Newman Township, only 86 people voted for zoning. And 57 voted against zoning. I hope the Newman Township Trustees don't take this small percent of voters too seriously.

For all the hard times that this community has gone through, this is another chance. I hope that local communities do not enact wind energy zoning so that this project can be built. This wind farm is an opportunity that we can't let pass by.

I hope you take a moment to think for yourself and not let others bias opinions influence your decision. But under no circumstance please do not, let this separate us as a community.

Very Sincerely, Aaron E. Luth. Newman, IL

Helping Winter Birds

Does winter weather get you down? Brighten up those dreary days by attracting beautiful birds to your yard. Whether it's a food source or protection from the colder temperatures, there are several ways you can attract birds to your yard this winter.

Unlike other wild animals, birds actually rely on us come wintertime. Since most of their natural food supply (which consists mainly of worms, fruit and fallen seeds) is difficult to locate during winter, many birds have a hard time coping with the colder temperatures. To keep themselves warm, birds will fluff up their feathers; this movement produces air pockets, keeping the birds well insulated for a short duration. But, like typical warm-blooded animals, they can only do that for so long before exhausting themselves.

One way to coax them into your yard is by offering them high-calorie and high-fat foods. Rich in protein and packed with pure fat substance, these foods provide birds with high doses of energy so they can deal with the sudden drops in temperature. Whether you put out just one

or many types of bird seed, you are actually helping several bird species stay alive.

Now that the birds are well fed, how do they stay hydrated? Like food in winter, water is in high demand but in short supply. Since their typical water sources (ponds, streams and rivers) are frozen over, birds often have to search for fresh water. You can help these desperate birds quench their thirst by placing a heated birdbath in your backyard. And, if you already have an unheated birdbath, you can place a Birdbath de-icer at the bottom of your basin. This heating element is critical because it prevents the water from freezing, allowing the birds to sip on some crisp and cold water. Once a flock of birds identify a safe and secure water source in your yard, you'll have a lot of feathered friends visiting you in the coming months.

Villa Grove

BINGO

Every Friday Night
VFW post 2876

6:30 pm- Early Bird
7:00 pm- Regular Bingo



This Weeks Jackpots:
Egg in a Basket Raffle \$500
Blackout Jackpot \$500

Bingo Lic# B1934
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Menus

Villa Grove Peace Meal

January 7 - January 11

Monday: Savory Sausage Stew w/Beans, Pineapple Tidbits, Biscuits, Warm Fruit Strudel Bites

Tuesday: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Breaded Tomatoes, Roll, Seasonal Dessert

Wednesday: Ravioli w/ Meat Sauce, Broccoli, Corn, Wheat Bread, Banana

Thursday: Meatloaf, Delmonico Potatoes, Spinach, Roll, Cranberry Apple Salad

Friday: Tuna Noodle Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Bean Medley, Wheat Bread, Gelatin w/ Fruit

For Reservations Call at 832-9445

Skim milk and desserts with no sugar added are available in many locations. Ask the Site Supervisor for information. Sometimes we need to substitute our menus. We still guarantee a nutritious meal. The Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program suggests a donation of \$3.50 for each congregant and home delivered meal. No older person shall be denied a meal because of their inability to contribute towards the cost of the meal. We accept Illinois Link Card.

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