Obituaries

Margaret Collins

Margaret Evans Collins passed peacefully, Friday, June 23, 2023, at 3:03 p.m. in the Arcola Health Care Facility. She was born April 23, 1930, in Washington, Ind., the daughter of the Rev. Floyd and Matilda Chapman Pyle. She was united in marriage to Charles Collins in Rockford, December 12, 1969. He preceded her in death July 22, 2004.

Collins

Margaret is survived by two sons, Kevin Fitzjarrald of Foley, Ala.; Kerry and wife Mary Jo Fitzjarrald of Jasper, Tenn.; a daughter, Cheryl Pace and husband Ken of Rio Verde, Ariz. Also surviving are stepdaughter, Susan Starkey of Champaign; two brothers, Richard Pyle of Alexandria, Va.; Charles Pyle of Bushnell; grandchildren, Austin Jered Blackwell and wife Angie; Jeremy Blackwell and wife Ashley; Joshua Blackwell; Jason Fitzjarrald and wife Nicole, Alex Fitzjarrald, Sami (Garrett) Anderson, and Rhendy Fitzjarrald; great grandchildren, Frank, William and J.C. Blackwell, Mason, Maggie, Grayson, Skyler, Alex Faith, and Caleb Fitzjarrald; stepgrandchildren, Gale Starkey and wife Christine of St. Louis, Mo., Jill Stahl and husband the Rev. Jeff of Sadorus, Suzanne Walthall of Urbana; step great grandchildren, Emily and Michael Starkey, Sarah Stahl, and Cati Walthall. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Jordan Blackwell; daughter-in-law, Sheryl Fitzjarrald; stepdaughter, Betty Walthall; and stepgrandson, Chris Starkey.

Margaret was a member of the First Baptist Church in Arthur since 1943. She was a member of the choir and also sang at funerals and weddings. She taught Sunday School as well there. Margaret served as President of the Arthur Evening Women's Club, helped form the Zeta American Society in Arthur, and was past president of the Arthur Garden Club.

Visitation will be 10–11 a.m. Wednesday, June 28, at the Shrader Funeral Home, 431 S. Vine St., in Arthur. Burial will follow in the Keller Cemetery, Lovington. A Celebration of Life memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorials are requested to the First Baptist Church, Arthur. Online condolences to the family may be shared at www.hilligossshraderfh.com.

Norma Fay

Norma Jean Fay, 89, of Atwood, passed away at 1:50 a.m., Saturday, June 24, 2023, at the Arthur Home, Arthur.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, June 29, at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 66 East US Highway 36, Atwood, with Danny Powell officiating. Burial will follow in the Lake Fork Cemetery, rural Atwood. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Norma was born on October 26, 1933, in Atwood, the daughter of Martin and Helen Keyes Fombelle. She married Melvin D. Fay on June 8, 1955, in Atwood. He preceded her in death on July 30, 2022.

Fay

Survivors include several nieces, nephews and lots of friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, George (Alberta) Fombelle, Glenn (Betty) Fombelle, Robert Fombelle; sisters, Dorothy (Elton) Haynes and Betty (Harold) Frye.

Norma was a homemaker and farm wife.

She and Melvin raised a lot of livestock and exotic animals, including zebras, donkeys and miniature horses.

Memorials are suggested to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com.

Carole Jacoby

Carole Mae Jacoby, 66, of Mt. Zion, passed away at 12:20 a.m., Wednesday June 21, 2023, in St. John's Hospital, Springfield.

A service to honor Carole's life was held Tuesday, June 27, at Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home, Mt. Zion. Burial will be in Keller Cemetery, Lovington. Visitation was Monday evening at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to New Life Pregnancy Center. Messages of condolence may be sent to the family at dawson-wikoff.com.

Carole was born January 9, 1957, in Decatur, the daughter of Irvin Emmett and Laura Evelyn (Adkins) Burcham. She married Steven Jacoby on June 12, 1977. Carole was a licensed X-ray technician for several local orthopedic surgeons. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Carole was a member of GT Church. She had served her community in many ways including as an elected trustee of the Mt. Zion Township board and as a commissioner of the Mt. Zion Village Parks and Recreation board.

Jacoby

Surviving is her husband, Steven of Mt. Zion; daughters, Janelle Bruner of Chatham, Lisa Jacoby of Chatham, Jill Trimby (Jay) of Long Creek, and Careth Jacoby of Mt. Zion; sisters, Sara Gale (Tom) of Lovington, Laura Stinson (Ken) of Somonauk, and Julie Yantis of Decatur; seven grandchildren, Macayla Bruner, Lauryn Jacoby, Brooklyn Trimby, Carson Jacoby, Emmett Bruner, Adalyn Trimby, and Grant O'Brien.

Carole was preceded in death by her parents.

Carole has ended her long-time battle fighting cancer. During her battle, she never lost her faith and belief in Jesus Christ walking beside her during this trying time in her life. She patterned her life as a true Christian. Carole was often described as selfless, caring and wise. Her love for her family was truly felt by her husband, girls, and her grandchildren. She will be sadly missed.

Ada Miller

Ada J. (Otto) Miller, 86 years, 7 months and 7 days, of Tuscola, passed away at 11:46 a.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at the Arthur Home.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 27, at the Otto Center. Bishop Matthew Miller officiated. Burial was in the Otto Cemetery in rural Arthur. Visitation was held Sunday, June 25, and Monday, June 26, at the Otto Center. Edwards Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

Ada was born on November 17, 1936, in Douglas County. She was a daughter of Jonas and Sarah (Mast) Otto. She married Harvey S. Miller on February 23, 1956, in Douglas County. They lived in Holy Matrimony for 52 years. He preceded her in death on October 25, 2008.

Ada is survived by four sons, Elva and his wife Katie of Arthur, Ernest and his wife Betty Mae of Tuscola, Monroe and his friend Rebecca of St. Joe, and Rueben and his wife Cheryl of Arcola; four daughters, Irlene Chupp and her husband Vernon of Arcola, Susanna Graber of Arthur, Barbara Ann Bontrager and her husband Lamar of Sullivan, Laura Mae Chupp and her husband Glen of Tuscola; 23 grandchildren and 46 great grandchildren; two brothers, Dannie Otto and his wife Fannie of Tuscola, and David Otto and his wife Christina of Arcola; six sisters, Ella Otto, Lydia Otto, Mary Otto, Susanna Otto all of Arcola, Miriam Schrock and her husband Jonas of Arcola, and Verna Herschberger and her husband Monroe of Sullivan.

Ada was preceded in death by her parents, Jonas and Sarah (Mast) Otto; her husband, Harvey; one great grandson, Curtis Lee Miller; one stillborn great-granddaughter, Kyli Ann Bontrager; one sister, Sarah Otto; one daughter-in-law, Carol Jean Miller; and two sisters-in-law, Anna Mae Otto and Marilyn Otto.

Ada had worked at the bakery in the Old Red Barn in Tuscola and later went to work for Ivan Gingerich at Kreative Kitchens.

Ada was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

Doris Birkner

Doris E. Birkner, 91, of Camargo, passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023, at Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital in Mattoon.

Doris was born on May 24, 1932, in Arcola to William and Agnes (Moore) Lough. She married Fred Birkner on August 12, 1952, in Tuscola.

She is survived by two children, Kathy Badman and Mike Birkner; two grandchildren, Jason (Cami) Badman and Shayla (Aaron) Birkner; four great-grandchildren, Xavier Birkner, Bryce Badman, Silent Birkner-Reeves, and Sofia Birkner-Reeves; three sisters-in-law, Liz (Bob) Schuster, Bertie Humes, and Jenny (Larry) Kearns; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Agnes Lough; her husband, Fred Birkner, one brother, Duke Lough; one sister, Marie Duzan; and one great-grandson, Samuel.

Doris enjoyed working in her lawn and was an avid reader. She knew the Lord her whole life and had a great love for her God.

A celebration of Doris's life will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 2, at Walnut Point State Park; Pastor Duane Piercy and Ted Shearer will be officiating.

Memorial donations may be made to the Murdock Food Pantry or to Victory Church in Camargo.

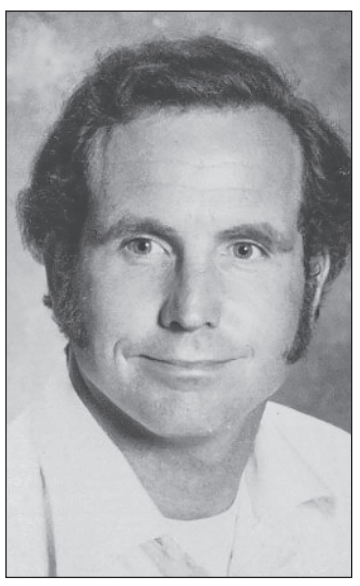
James Stevens Sr.

James Curtis Stevens, Sr., 73, of Dunlap, formerly of Arthur, passed away at 10:50 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at OSF St. Francis Hospital in Peoria.

Graveside funeral services were held Tuesday, June 27, at the Arthur Cemetery. The Rev. Glen Rhodes officiated. The Edwards Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

James was born on July 10, 1949, in Los Angeles County, Calif. He was the son of Elmer Ernest and Mary Frances (Thayer) Stevens. He married Sandra Marlene Schrock on February 4, 1978, in Arthur.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra, of Dunlap; four children, Melissa Markle and her husband Brad of Dunlap, James Curtis Stevens, Jr. of Abingdon, Cynthia Stevens of Dunlap, and Allison McCollum of Abingdon; three grandchildren, Calli Stevens, Curtis and Corissa Markle; one brother, William "Bill" Stevens and his wife Jill of Pahrump, Nev.; and his mother-in-law, Marie Schrock of Arthur.



Stevens

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Wayne, Gary and Bobby Stevens; and his father-in-law, Simon Schrock.

James was an Army Veteran of the Vietnam War. He had been a member of the Arthur Mennonite Church.

Growing up, James worked with his family in their Christmas Tree Farm in California. He, along with his father-in-law, owned and operated the Arthur Casket Company. He maintained firebreaks and park grounds for the government and constructed trails in national parks for many years. Recently, he along with his family, owned and operated 2 x 4 pallet recycling.

James was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. He enjoyed reading western books, woodworking, having built cedar chests, dressers, and bedroom furniture for his family. His most favorite thing of all was spending time with his grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions/donations may be made to Edwards Funeral Home to help the family with expenses.

Kenny Rigney

Oral Kenneth "Kenny" Rigney, 80, of Arthur, passed away at 10:13 p.m. Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Carriage Crossing Senior Living, in Arcola.

Kenny was born October 12, 1942, in Albany, Ky., the son of Burbee and Luella Stinson Rigney. He married Diana Jent in Arthur on April 29, 1966.

He is survived by his wife, Diana Rigney, of Arthur; son, Travis Rigney of Arthur; daughter, Tonya Willemain and husband Duane of Monticello; granddaughters, Lindsey Dunlap of Mansfield; Lauren Franklin of Ivesdale; great granddaughters, Caroline Dunlap and Rebekah Dozier; two brothers, Lloyd Rigney and wife Vickie, Stanley Rigney and wife Hazel, all of New Castle, Ind.; and several nieces and nephews. Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ralph; and sister, Irene.

Rigney

Kenneth served his country in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He returned and worked as a machine operator at Caterpillar in Decatur until retiring after 30 years. He later owned and operated Kenny's Gun Shop in Arthur. He was regularly seen walking his beloved black Labrador Retrievers throughout Arthur.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 27, at the Shrader Funeral Home, 431 South Vine Street, Arthur, with the Rev. John Stewart officiating. Burial will follow in the Arthur Cemetery with Military Rites accorded. Visitation will be held from 12 noon until time of services.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association. Online condolences to the family may be shared at www.hilligossshraderfh.com.

County fair

Continued from page 1

overnight into the social conciseness of young country music fans.

Zeiders walks a fine line, but it's that space he lives in — between lonesome outsider and magnetic performer — that helps him relate to listeners from all walks of life through songs fueled by an unshakeable soul-searching. To date, Warren Zieders has amassed over 790 million TikTok views globally, in excess of 492 million audio streams and well over 39 million video plans on the heels of his recently released debut album 717 Tapes The Album, this past September.

Zieders performs Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at the grandstand. A local favorite, Silver Lake, will be the opening act at 7:30 p.m. Concert tickets will be available on Saturday, July 1, from 4-6 p.m. during fire works at the Fair Office located in a ticket booth near the pool with a blue fair office flag.

Concert tickets will also be available during fair week, July 5-8, at the Fair Office located in a small building near the park restrooms. Tickets will be discounted during the week and higher on Saturday, the day of the concert. Tickets are cash only. An ATM will be available on the fairgrounds.

Domestic art entries will be accepted from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday. The queen pageant will be on Wednesday this year beginning with the Little Miss Contest at 6 p.m. The Miss and Jr. Miss Moultrie-Douglas will be held at 7:30 p.m. This is the first year all the pageants have been held on the same evening.

The small animal 4-H show will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday; large animal show at 9 a.m. on Thursday with the 4-H Project Auction at 6:30 p.m. on Friday.

The beer garden opens at 5 p.m. on Thursday in the south arena and the famous ITPA tractor pull will begin at 6 p.m. Classes featured will be 5,500 lb. Classic; 10,000 lb. Pro Stock; 9,500 lb. Limited Pro; 5,200 lb. 2 WD trucks; 11,000 lb. Pro Farm; and 6,850 lb. Pro Farm. The excitement of a tractor pull is definitely a must for fair goers.

The Midway Stage will feature Sisters & Company on Thursday, July 6, at 7 p.m.; and Battle Creek Country at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Dueling Pianos will entertain at the grandstand at 7 p.m. on Friday; and Jane Doe will be at the grandstand/beer garden at 10 p.m.

Bring out your beautiful babies for the Baby Pageant at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

The beef show will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. and the sheep show at 11 a.m. You may not raise cattle or sheep where you live, but you can rely on the show being very interesting.

The hog show will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 9, and Domestic Art can be picked up from 1-1:30 p.m.

For more information or to buy concert tickets on line, visit the website: moultriedouglascountyfair.org.

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