

OBITUARIES



ELIZABETH JOAN (RASSI) GRAY

Elizabeth Joan (Rassi) Gray, 91, of Wenona, passed away Sunday February 22, 2026, 1:14 pm in Peoria Heights.

Visitation will be Thursday February 26, 2026, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Calvert & Johnson Memorial Home, 201 N. Jefferson St., Washburn. Funeral services will be held Friday, 10:00 am at the memorial home. Fr. Paul Langvin will officiate. Burial will follow at St. Elizabeth's Cemetery, Washburn. Memorials may be directed to a local animal shelter.

Elizabeth was born on March 22, 1934, in Peoria, IL to Joseph Henry and Pauline Francis (Harmen) Prinzing. She married Raymond Christen Rassi on April 24, 1954. He preceded her in death on December 31, 1972. She later married Ernest Earl Gray on May 20, 1983. He preceded her in death in August 2011.

Surviving are her two sons, Robert (Frieda) Rassi, of Oklahoma, and Glenn Rassi of Washburn, four grandchildren, Tonya (Michael) Drouin, of St. Louis, MO, Angie Turner, of Arkansas, Robert Rassi, JR., of Arkansas, and Kenneth Rassi, of Oklahoma, and four great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth graduated from Low Point-Washburn High School, class of 1953. She had worked for many years as an LPN.

She was a former member of St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Washburn and later St. Mary's Church, Wenona. Elizabeth was

a lover of animals, loved to play bingo and gamble at the river boat.

Online condolences may be made to: www.calvertmemorial.com.



LINDA JOLENE ANDERSON

Linda Jolene Anderson, 81, of Peoria Illinois, formerly Lacon Illinois, died on February 17, 2026 at her home in Independence Village in Peoria.

She was born May 9, 1944 in Peoria to the late Robert A. and Doris (Olson) Carroll.

Linda is survived by her children Patricia (Jeffery) Welsh of Lacon, Michele Anderson of Peoria, Jennifer (Scott) Johnston of East Peoria, David (Suzanne) Anderson of Huntsville Alabama; Brother Robert W. (Danita) Carroll of Lacon; grandchildren Abigail (Matthew) Mangold of Lacon, William Heath of Lacon, Nate Johnston of East Peoria, Brandon (Alesha) Dawson of Dwight Illinois, JT Welsh of Denver Colorado, Gwennyth (Dakota) Ott of Roanoke Illinois, Bryce (Hailee) Welsh of Lacon; and great grandchildren Josephine, Scarlett and Lane. She was also survived by nephews Robert J. (Jillian) Carroll of Bloomington, Illinois and Sean (Brandy) Carroll of Chillicothe Illinois.

A dedicated public servant, Linda spent over 38 years as the Marshall County deputy treasurer

before retiring in 2017. In her free time she loved the challenge of a tricky crossword puzzle or complex mystery novel. A stash of pennies was always in her dresser drawer for impromptu royal rummy matches. One of Linda's greatest joys was spending time with family whether it was cheering them on in sports, going out to eat, or sharing memories and laughs at holiday gatherings.

There was always room on her lap and a smile of delight when her grandchildren and great grandchildren walked through the door.

Linda cherished the companionship of her beloved pets and enjoyed relaxing at home with the many dogs and cats she adopted over the years.

Cremation rites have been accorded and private family graveside services will be held at the Lacon cemetery at a later date where she will be buried with her parents. Donations may be made to the ARK animal shelter in Lacon in memory of Linda's love for animals. Online condolences can be left at lenzmemorialhome.com.



JUDITH "JUDY" SCOTT SMITH

Mrs. Judith "Judy" Scott Smith, 90, of Galesburg, Illinois, passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at the Knox County Nursing Home.

Judith was born July 10, 1935, in Peoria, Illinois, the daughter of Leslie C. and Elizabeth M. (Calhoun) Scott. She graduated from Mid-County High School in Lacon, Illinois, in 1953 and later attended Knox College in Galesburg. On December 31, 1954, she

married James E. Smith, at the Lacon Methodist Church. Together they celebrated seventy-one wedding anniversaries — a remarkable milestone reflecting a lifetime of love, faith, and partnership.

Judy was a woman of intelligence, warmth, and steady devotion to her family and community. While living in the Chicago area, she worked as a legal proofreader for the Law Bulletin Publishing Company, where her sharp mind and attention to detail were well suited to the task. During those years, she also served as a dedicated Girl Scout leader, guiding and encouraging young girls with patience and enthusiasm.

After returning to Galesburg, Judy worked for fifteen years at Cottage Hospital as a payroll clerk. She was known for her reliability, kindness, and friendly smile. Retirement did not slow her generous spirit. She became deeply involved with the Friends of the Library, playing an instrumental role in organizing numerous book sales and eventually serving as president. She also volunteered at Cottage Corner and gave freely of her time wherever there was a need.

Judy was an avid bridge player who treasured time spent around the card table with friends. She was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church in Galesburg, where her faith was quietly but firmly rooted. Above all, she cherished her family — celebrating their accomplishments, offering steady support, and creating a

home filled with love and tradition.

Surviving is her husband, Jim; her daughters, Amy L. Smith and Molly E. Smith; her son, Stephen S. Smith; her brother, Winston J. Scott; her sister, Valerie Scott Hannah; two granddaughters, Elizabeth and Julia; two great-grandsons, James and Jonathan; and her brother-in-law, Jerry Smith. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Per Judith's request, cremation will be accorded with no services planned at this time. Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Galesburg. Hinchliff-Pearson-West Funeral Directors and Cremation Services Galesburg Chapel is assisting her family with arrangements. Online condolences may be offered at www.h-p-w.com.

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

E	L	S	C	R	A	W	P	U	R	R
L	O	N	R	I	C	A	A	L	I	A
A	G	O	E	G	A	N	R	A	N	G
N	E	W	B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N
			U	P	S	A	A	S		
B	A	R	R	Y	E	B	B	B	B	S
T	R	O	Y	H	U	E	M	O	M	S
S	A	N	F	O	R	W	R	A	P	S
			Y	E	W	S	R	I		
A	N	C	I	E	N	T	W	I	S	D
P	E	L	E	I	R	I	S	O	N	O
O	R	A	L	C	A	N	T	S	Y	R
P	O	N	D	E	Y	E	S	E	X	T

Paint Classes

Paint Classes are the perfect place to learn new techniques, express yourself, and connect with other creative minds.

Betty Heindol, a local artist, will be leading classes.

AGE: 8 yrs. and up

WHEN: Tues. March 10th 3:45-5:45pm
Tues. April 14th 3:45-5:45pm
(planning to have more in the summer)

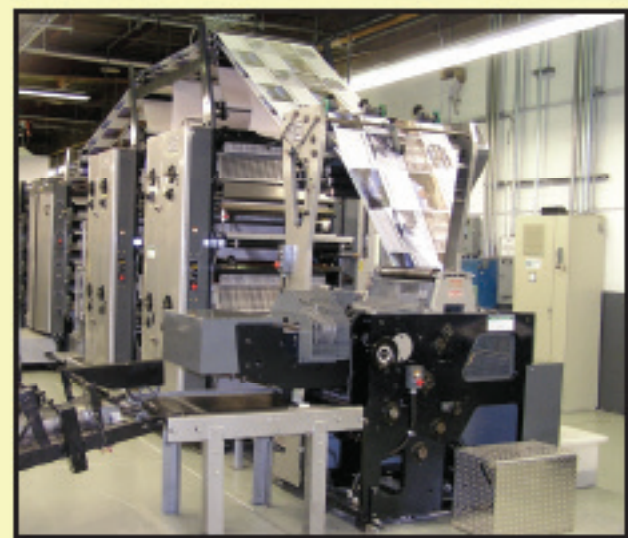
WHERE: Lacon Area Community Center
405 N. Washington St. Lacon

COST: \$5 Donation

REGISTER: Online at laconacc.com

20 SPOTS PER CLASS
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Partially sponsored by the Lacon Area Community Center Org., Jean & John Wabel, LACC membership donations.



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Spring

Lake Wildwood Craft Fair

Lake Wildwood Lodge

1000 Lake Wildwood Dr., Varna, IL

Saturday, March 7

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OPEN GATE

Featuring local vendors with a variety of unique items!