JOSEPH PRATT 1928-2011

SCOTT – Joseph W. Pratt, 83, of Scott, died at 4:47 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31, at Vancrest of Convoy in Convoy.

He was born Aug. 19, 1928, the son of LeRoy and Elsie (Brown) Pratt. On May 18, 1947, he married Cydona I. (Jewell) Pratt, who preceded him in death on June 2, 1995. He was employed at the Union Quarries for over 20 years and Van Wert County for over 20 years. He knew the names and numbers of most all of the county roads. He was a hard-working and determined man. He loved his children, grandchildren and the rest of his family. He enjoyed driving micro midget cars and had also chaperoned many roller skating parties of his children.

He is survived by his children, James (Linda) Blythe of Toledo, Joan (Jerry) Tope of Paulding, Dennis "Buck" (Sandi) Pratt of Ft. Jennings, Rocksanna (Terry) Daniels of Broughton and Stan (Deb) Pratt of Scott; a daughter-in-law, Sharon Blythe of Van Wert; a son-in-law, Larry Phillips of Green Cove Springs, Fla.; a brother, Albert Pratt of Oakwood; a sister, Alma Rhodes of Grover Hill; 17 grandchildren; four stepgrandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; nine great-stepgrandchildren; and a special friend of over 12 years, Annabet Cotterman.

He was also preceded in death by a son, Gerald "Butch" Blythe; a daughter, Beverly I. Phillips; five brothers, Jason, David, Delmar, Paul and Rolland; seven sisters, Edna Pratt, Grace McCague, Alice Fulmer, Eleanor Runion, Ida Wyatt, Norma Showalter and Bonnie Gilford; and two grandsons, Mark A. Blythe and Cory L. Pratt.

Services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 4, at the Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home in Van Wert. Burial will be in the Scott Cemetery in Scott.

Hours of visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials may be sent to Vancrest of Convoy or St. Rita's Hospice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.alspachgearhart.com

EDWIN MYERS 1948-2011

FINDLAY – Edwin F. Myers, 62, of Findlay, formerly of Oakwood, died at 1:20 p.m. Monday, Aug. 29 at his residence.

He was born Oct. 11, 1948 in Paulding, the son of Ancel and Mildred (Coil) Myers. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Vietnam War. He loved cooking and was a cook in the Navy. After the Navy, he became a construction worker, a welder and a boilermaker.

Surviving are his mother, of Oakwood; three children, James Myers, Dean Myers and Christina Trimmer, all of Findlay; a granddaughter, Lea Rose Trimmer of Findlay; and 11 sisters and brothers, Marilyn (Pete) Wiseman of Ayersville, Madeline (Paul) Rosebrock of Southport, N.C., Melvin (Judy) Myers of Oakwood, Martin (Penny) Myers of Goodyear, Ariz., Marion Myers of Napoleon, Rolland (Judy) Myers of Oakwood, Robert (Gloria) Myers of Cecil, Marsha (Eddie) Shrider of Coldwater, Mich., Keith (Pam) Myers of Oakwood, Roger Myers of Defiance, and Jan (Mark) Peck of New Riegel.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 at Heitmeyer Funeral Home, Oakwood, with the Rev. Ron Hoefacker officiating. Burial will follow in Sherman Cemetery, Oakwood, with military rites by Defiance VFW.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31 and one hour prior to services on Thursday at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are to the American Cancer Society of Northwest Ohio or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences can be sent to www.heitmeyerfuneralhome.com

MARGIE SHULZE 1920-2011

FREMONT, Ind. – Margie Irene Shulze, 91, of Fremont, Ind., died Friday, Aug. 26 at Lakeland Skilled Nursing Center, Angola, Ind.

She was born June 4, 1920 in Paulding, the daughter of Edward A. and Otillia (Parr) Tempel. On June 14, 1946, she married Phillip H. Shulze, who preceded her in death in 2004. She worked at G.E. Corp. in Fort Wayne, retiring in February 1976. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Fort Wayne.

Surviving are a son, Jack E. Shulze of Fremont, Ind.; and four grandchildren, Brian Amans of St. Petersburg, Fla., Erica Amans of Fort Wayne, Cassie Amans of Evansville, Ind. and Gregg Shulze, Columbus.

She also was preceded in death by a daughter, Theresa Amans; and a stepson, Phillip Gregg Shulze.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30 at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Father Bernard Zajdel officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation is from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 29 at Weicht Funeral Home.

You may sign the guestbook at www.weichtfh.com

FREDERICK SCHMIDT 1954-2011

PETTISVILLE – Frederick William Schmidt, age 56, of Pettisville, passed away Monday, Aug. 29 at the Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Care Center.

He was born Nov. 22, 1954 in Paulding, the son of Junnie Ray and Dorothy Alice (Squibb) Schmidt. On March 13, 1992, he married his wife Sheree and she survives. Schmidt had been employed by IAC in Wauseon as a maintenance mechanic. He enjoyed trains, guns and shooting, fixing things, riding his bike and was a history buff. He also enjoyed spending time with his kids and grandkids. He attended Solid Rock Community Church in West Unity.

Also surviving are his children, Connie (Jon) Rice of Sylvania, Ann (Jeremy) Merillat of Fayette, Michael (Melinda) Schmidt of Cecil and Crystal (Brian) Jones of Bryan; eight grandchildren, Tyler and Luc Rice, Taylor, Brett, Chloe and Lauryn Merillat, Blake Jones and Madison Schmidt; and two brothers, Ronald (Rita) Schmidt of Paulding and Jeffrey (Bernie) Schmidt of Defiance.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3 at the Solid Rock Community Church in West Unity. Interment services will be private. The Edgar-Grisier Funeral Home in Wauseon is in charge of arrangements.

Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider either the Defiance Area Hospice Inpatient Care Center or the American Cancer Society.

HIRIAM SMITH 1938-2011

PAULDING – Hiriam C. Smith, age 72, died Sunday, Aug. 28 at his residence.

He was born Sept. 22, 1938 in McNeill, Miss., the son of C.T. and Lena (Fraizer) Smith. On Jan. 15, 1960, he married Cathrin Perry, who survives. He was a U.S. Army veteran. He retired as supervisor for Lafarge Corporation in 2001 and was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church of Paulding and a life member of Paulding VFW Post #587.

Also surviving are a son, Tracy Smith, Paulding; a daughter, Regena (Gerald) Butler, Euless, Texas; a sister, Mary Ann Malley, McNeill, Miss.; two grandchildren, Randall

(Angie) Smith of Norfolk, Va. and Shawna Smith, Paulding; two great-grandchildren, Mason and Lyla Smith.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Pearlie Melvin.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Paulding, with the Rev. Drew Gardner officiating. Burial will be in Paulding Memorial Cemetery, Paulding with military graveside rites accorded by VFW Post #587.

Visitation will be from 3-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, and one hour prior to services on Friday at the church.

Memorial donations may be made to the Paulding Emmanuel Baptist Church Building Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com

ESTHER CARYER 1926-2011

Esther Viola Caryer, 85, formerly of Wren, passed away at 8:05 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28 at Vancrest Healthcare Center of Convoy.

She was born Feb. 10, 1926 in Paulding County, the daughter of George A. and Nora (Little) Burris. On Dec. 1, 1945, she married Leo T. Caryer Jr., who preceded her in death June 21, 2005.

Surviving are three daughters, Marilyn Neate of Convoy, Marcelene (Richard) Price of Ohio City and Peggy (Danny) Miller of Mount Vernon, Ky.; three grandsons, Christopher (Angie) Swygart of North Vernon, Ind. and Matthew Swygart and David Schaadt, both of Rockford; a granddaughter, Macayla Miller of Mount Vernon, Ky.; eight great-grandchildren, Brett, Sydney, Mollie, Samantha and Mason Swygart and Sarah, Johnaton and Cecelia Schaadt; and three sisters, Marge Powless, Alice Fleck and Janette Waltmire.

She also was preceded in death by three sisters, Gladys Clark, Irene Manley and Nancy Yenser; and a brother, Calvin Burris.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3 at Brickner Funeral Home in Van Wert with Pastor Carol Tumbleson, from Countryside Church of the Nazarene, officiating. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery in Van Wert.

Visitation will be held prior to services from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

Preferred memorials are to SON Distribution at Countryside Nazarene or the Alzheimer's Association.

JUDITH POWELL 1945-2011

ANTWERP – Judith Edna Powell, 65, of Antwerp, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 23 at her residence.

She was born Dec. 21, 1945 in Fort Wayne, the daughter John and Ercal (Brown) Tuto. She was a nursing assistant at Dallas Lamb Foundation Home and member of Family Christian Center, Defiance.

Surviving are her children, Teresa (Skip) Richhart and Shawn (Ruth) Powell, both of Antwerp; a brother, John (Jo) Tuto, Antwerp; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Connie Bergman.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, with visitation one hour prior to services.

Preferred memorials are to the family.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

LAURA BURDEN 1930-2011

PAYNE – Laura Charlene Burden, 81, of Payne, passed away peacefully Saturday, Aug. 20 at her residence.

She was born May 16, 1930 in Cincinnati, the daughter of Charles and Martha (Glahn) Cobb. She was a faithful member of Payne Church of the Nazarene. In 1962, she married

her husband of 49 years, Ferd Burden Jr., who survives. They raised their family in Payne all of their married life. She loved cooking and passed that love onto her children and grandchildren. She loved to read and visit with family and friends, along with attending her grandchildren's concerts, plays and recitals and telling them stories of when she was young and was always quick to say, "We love ya!" when the visit was over.

Also surviving are a daughter, Holly Jones of Payne; three sons, Ty John (Marcella) of Tooele, Utah, and David (Suzie) and Jay Paul (Shellie), both of Fort Wayne; 10 grandchildren; and a brother, Charles Cobb of Cincinnati.

She was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Rachel Belle, and siblings, Sandra Fields and Gary Cobb.

Her funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23 at Payne Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Mike Harper officiating. Burial will be in Wiltsie Cemetery. Dooley Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Visitation will be held two hours prior to the service.

Preferred memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

ANNE CONTRERAZ 1962-2011

DEFIANCE – Anne Contreraz, age 48, died Wednesday, Aug. 17 at Parkview Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

She was born Oct. 7, 1962 in Paulding, Ohio the daughter of Ambrosio and Rebecca (Perez) Contreraz.

She is survived by her mother, Rebecca (Efrain H.) Canales, Defiance; friend, Juan Hernandez, Defiance; and a niece, Brenna Contreraz, Ft. Wayne, IN.

She is preceded in death by her father and a brother, Andrew Contreraz.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 20 at Divine Mercy Catholic Parish, Paulding, with Rev. G. Allan Fillman officiating. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19 at Den Herder Funeral Home with a rosary service at 7:00 p.m. Friday at Den Herder Funeral Home.

Donations may be made to masses or a charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com

HELEN GRIFFIS 1930-2011

HAVILAND – Helen E. Griffis, age 80, died Sunday, Aug. 14 at her residence.

She was born Oct. 13, 1930 in Haviland, the daughter of the Rev. Howard J. and Alice (Holmes) Tomlinson. On Jan. 9, 1949, she married Burns L. Griffis, who preceded her in death on Sept. 11, 1991. She was owner/operator of Tipton Store, retiring in 2000 after 40 years. She was a member of Country Chapel United Methodist Church, Haviland.

She is survived by two sons, Wade (Susan) Griffis of Jenson, Mich., and Hugh (Anita) Griffis, Tipp City; a daughter, Paula (David) Alderfer, Rock Hill, S.C.; a sister, Carolyn Joan (Lester) Sherer, Haviland; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Dr. Harold E. Tomlinson.

Funeral services will be conducted 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 18 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding. Burial will be in Blue Creek Cemetery, Haviland.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 at the funeral home, and one hour prior to services on Thursday.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations are made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com

DOYL MOHR 1922-2011

HAVILAND – Doyl Remus Mohr, age 89, died at 7:23 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011 at Inpatient Services/Hospice of Defiance.

He was born April 24, 1922 in Blue Creek Township, Paulding County, the son of Remus E. and Grace F. (Kinkade) Mohr. On Nov. 22, 1942, he married Beulah E. Danklefsen, who preceded him in death April 1, 2008. He was the owner and operator of Mohr's of Scott, retiring in 1989 after 36 years. He was active in the Country Chapel United Methodist Church of Haviland and the Beach United Methodist Church of Fort Myers Beach, Fla. He was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star #48 of Van Wert, Masonic Lodge and Commandery. He was a former member of the Scott Lions Club, a past fire chief of Scott Fire Department and was an EMT. Through his lifetime, he donated 20 gallons of blood through the American Red Cross.

He and his wife were members of the Airstream Club, WBCCI and enjoyed traveling in their Airstream all over the country. His hobbies included singing in the church choir, walking, traveling, playing cards and working with stained glass. For 30 years, Doyl and Beulah spent their winters in Fort Myers, Fla.

Surviving are two daughters, Lynn (Jerry) Fensler of Defiance and Lois (Richard) Schmucker of Pioneer; a son, Stanley (Myria) Mohr of Latty; six grandchildren, Marcus (Julie) Fensler of Lapel, Ind., Amy (Jack) Johnson of Bryan, Tina Mohr of Fort Wayne, Crista Mohr of New Haven, Jennifer Vicente of Maumee and Julie (Josh) Trust of Dover, Del.; six great-grandchildren, Daulton, Garrett and Marc Ryan Fensler, Jack and Julia Vicente, and Jack Trust; a sister, Janet Hockenberry of Haviland; and a sister-in-law, Sally Mohr of Van Wert.

He also was preceded in death by a brother, Glenn Mohr; and his brother-in-law, Cloy Hockenberry.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 at the Country Chapel United Methodist Church, Haviland, with Pastor Ron Johnson officiating. Burial will follow at the Scott Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15 at the Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, and one hour before services on Tuesday at the church.

Preferred memorials are to Hospice, The Caring Way of Defiance; or the Scott EMS.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com

JEFFREY SHORT

CINCINNATI – Jeffrey Alan Short, 51, of Cincinnati, died Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011.

He was the son of Colenzo and Joy (Hesselschwardt) Short. He was married to Brigid (Graham) Hanson, who survives. He grew up in Fayette,where he attended high school as a member of the Class of 1978, and graduated from Ohio State University. He was a devoted friend to countless people from Fayette to the West Coast and lived his life with a passion that was infectious.

He is also survived by a son, Alex Hanson of Cincinnati; his mother-in-law, Mary Graham of Cincinnati; his siblings, Jerry (Linda) Short of Fayette, Jon (Judi) Short of Antwerp, Julie (Mark) Schumacher, Maureen (Pat) Gray and JoAnn Graham of Cincinnati; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by an infant brother, Terry Lee Short; and his grandparents.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Fayette with Father Gary Ferguson as celebrant.

Hours of visitation will be from 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, at Eagle Funeral Home-Barrett Chapel in Fayette.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Jeff's memory to The Mercy Foundation, Mercy Hospital Anderson Cardiac Care Unit, P.O. Box 428553, Cincinnati, OH 45242; Thomas A. Wildey School (PTO), P.O. Box 8. Owensville OH 45160; or Ventura Moose Family Center 1394, 10269 Telephone Road, Ventura, CA 93004-3508.

Friends can send condolences to the family online at www.eaglefuneralhomes.com.

ARLENE WOBLER 1939-2011

CARMEL, Ind. – Arlene Wobler, devoted wife, mother, grandmother and sister, age 72, of Carmel, Ind., passed away Sunday, Aug. 14 at her residence.

She was born Jan. 24, 1939 in Payne, the daughter of Frank and Isabelle (Wetli) Zuber.

Arlene blessed this world and the people she met with her many talents. She left her legacy using her hands and her imagination in her paintings (of Payne), handmade rustic crafts, papier-mâché dolls and her wood carved figurines. Arlene loved spending time with family and friends, camping, cooking, travel, sewing and quilting.

Surviving are her husband of 53 years, Gary; five children, Terry, Andy, Saundra, Julie and Kathy; seven grandchildren, Dylan, Koleton, James, Cassidy, Kaleb, Holly and Morgan; and three siblings, Beatrice Karr and Leonard and Russell Zuber.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 at Divine Mercy Catholic Church, Payne. Burial will be in St. John the Baptist Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation is from 4-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 and from 9-9:30 a.m. Wednesday at Dooley Funeral Home, Payne. The Rosary will be recited at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Preferred memorial donations are to Dr. Storniolo.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

LUCILLE PROXMIRE 1919-2011

PAULDING – Lucille Proxmire, age 91, died Thursday, Aug. 11 at The Gardens of Paulding.

She was born Oct. 30, 1919 in Paulding, The daughter of Dorie and Blanche (Clouse) Bryan. On Nov. 24, 1949, she married Leo A. Proxmire, who preceded her in death in

1999. She was employed by Paulding Telephone Company for 20 years.

She is survived by a sister, Thais Stallbaum, Paulding, and nieces and nephews.

She also was preceded in death by a son, John W. “Bill” Mees; a daughter, Patty Mees; four brothers, Forrest “Ducky”, Kenny, Eugene “Tuffy”, and Robert; and a sister, Catherine Sontchi.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding.

Visitation is from 10:30 a.m. until time of services on Aug. 16 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations may be made to Paulding County Cancer Society or The Gardens of Paulding Activity Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com

SAM JEFFERY 1930-2011

PAULDING – Samuel O. Jeffery, age 80, of Paulding, died at 2:14 p.m., Aug. 10, at Mercy Hospital in Defiance.

He was born Dec. 18, 1930, the son of Dorris and Alma (Gordon) Jeffery. On July 3, 1947,

he married Nancy Royer, who survives in Paulding. He was a member of the National Guard for four years, serving in Germany during the Korean War. He managed the family farm and then worked as a sales rep for Stoneco, retiring in 1997. He had also served as a county commissioner for eight years, the Paulding County Fair Board for 10 years and was on the Paulding Village council for 19 years. He was a member of the Paulding United Methodist Church. He enjoyed golfing and was an avid hunter. He especially loved to go pheasant hunting with his son, Greg, and their dog, Kelly. He was involved with horse racing for over 20 years and loved animals.

Also surviving are two sons, Greg (Carol) Jeffery of Paulding and Blake Jeffery of Indianapolis; a daughter, Becky Mayer of Paulding; 11 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Paulding United Methodist Church with Pastor Ben Lowell officiating. Burial will be in the Live Oak Cemetery. Harter and Schier Funeral Home in Delphos is in charge of the arrangements.

Hours of visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the First United Methodist Church in Paulding and one hour prior to services at the church.

Preferred memorials may be directed to the Paulding County Senior Center, Paulding United Methodist Church or the American Diabetes Association.

ENOCH SAYLOR SR. 1935-2011

OAKWOOD – Enoch F. Saylor Sr., 75, of Oakwood, died Wednesday, Aug. 10 at Laurels of Defiance.

He was born Dec. 29, 1935, in Grover Hill, the son of Anthony S. and Ilo May (Coble) Saylor. On July 31, 1954, he married Claris L. Goings, who preceded him in death Aug. 13, 2002. He worked at GM Powertrain, retiring in August 1991, and attended Bible Baptist Church, Grover Hill.

Surviving are two sons, Frank Saylor of Indiana and Brian (Beverly) Saylor, Oakwood; four daughters, Gladys Saylor of Columbus, Darlene Arnett of Gary, Ind., Kendra English of Paulding and Regina Sue (John) Matthis, Pell City, Ala.; a brother, Dave (Jackie) Saylor, Defiance; a sister, May (John) Phost, Scott; 16 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death were his parents; a son, Bob Saylor; three grandchildren, Keith and Matthew Saylor and Alfrank Arnett; a great-grandchild, Brandon Eugene Roddy-Saylor; a brother, Paul Ladd; and three sisters, Betty Joan Stuckey, Helen English and Ocie (Roughton) Shafer.

Services were held Saturday, Aug. 13 at Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home, Defiance, with the Rev. Pat Holt officiating. Burial was in Sherman Cemetery, Paulding County.

Preferred memorials are to the Bible Baptist Church, Grover Hill.

Condolences may be left at www.HCSfuneralhome.com

GWENDOLYN HEADLEY 1926-2011

HICKSVILLE – Gwendolyn Maxine (Limpert) Headley, 85, died early Monday Aug. 8 at

Hickory Creek of Hicksville.

She was born Feb. 24, 1926 in Hicksville, the daughter of Lee and Dora (Miller) Limpert. She was a 1944 graduate of Hicksville High School. On Feb. 17, 1946, she was united in marriage to Leo Headley, who preceded her in death on Dec. 12, 2005. Gwen was an active lifelong member of the First Church of Christ in Hicksville. She served as deaconess, Sunday school secretary, Sunday school teacher, a choir member and the director. She also served as chairwoman of many funeral dinners for the church.

Gwen worked alongside her husband as a bookkeeper for the family businesses H&W Automotive and H&W Realty. Gwen was very active in the Hicksville Community. For many years, she was a Boy Scout den mother and was instrumental in forming a youth bowling league in Hicksville. She served on the Community Memorial Hospital Board and volunteered as a Gray Lady at the hospital. Gwen was a strong supporter of the Hicksville High School Athletic Boosters and Music Boosters. She seldom missed a ballgame or a band concert. Along with her husband, Leo, she was named co-chairperson for the "Citizens for a New School" committee. She was a life member of the VFW Auxiliary and in 2001 she was named the Rotary Citizen of the Year.

In her spare time Gwen enjoyed cooking, sewing, bowling and taking care of her family.

Surviving are four sons, Michael (Roxanne), Mitchel (Marie), Greg (Christine) and Randy (Beth), all of Hicksville; five grandsons, Mike (Shawn), Matt, Jared (Angie), Brandon and Nathan; five granddaughters, Michele (Chad) Peter, Molly (Luke) Edwards, Melissa (Tyler) Stork, Jennifer and Megan; three great-granddaughters, Ashley and Mallory Peter and Sasha Headley; two great-grandsons, Lucas and Braden Headley; a half-sister, Betty (John) Olsen of Santa Barbara, Calif.; and a sister-in-law, Lila Wittig of Hicksville.

Funeral services for Gwen will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 11 at the First Church of Christ in Hicksville. Burial will be at Forest Home Cemetery, Hicksville.

Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 10 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville.

Preferred memorials are to First Church of Christ-Funding from the Heart, The Hicksville High School Athletic Boosters or Hickory Creek.

Online condolences may be shared at www.smithbrownfuneralhome.com