

OBITUARIES

Wisconsin State Journal

Obituary information: Marci Rosen, (608) 252-6320

A6 • Tuesday, April 29, 2003

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Indicates organ and tissue donor.



Anderson, Marilyn
 MINNEAPOLIS - Marilyn Kay Anderson, age 50 passed away on Sunday, March 30, 2003, at her home, after a brief battle with cancer. She was born on Aug. 2, 1952, in Milwaukee, Wis., a daughter to Ernest and Frances (Lien) Anderson. Marilyn was a graduate of the class of 1970 from Madison West High School. She received her teaching degree from Edgewood College in 1977, and pursued graduate studies in education at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Western Michigan University and University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn. Marilyn was a teacher that touched many lives through her work with alternative education students and displaced workers seeking to rekindle their vocational skills. She is survived by her two sons, Ali (Latifah) Newman and Nicholas Newman, both residents of Minneapolis; a grandchild, Faheem, age 2; a brother, John (Sue) Verona; and her mother, Frances, also of Madison. She was preceded in death by her father, Ernest. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2003, at the ORCHARD RIDGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, Madison. Memorial gifts can be made in to the American Cancer Society by calling (800) 227-2345.

Bartels, Roland "Rollie"
 SHAWANO - Roland J. "Rollie" Bartels, age 97, died Sunday, April 27, 2003, at Birch Hill Health Care Center in Shawano. Rollie was born Dec. 16, 1905, in Cecil, Wis., the son of the late Charles and Margaretha (Hartman) Bartels. He married the former Estella Davis on July 31, 1935, in Gillett. She preceded him in death on August 12, 2000. He is survived by his three sons, James (Lynn) Bartels, Lawrence (Joan) Bartels, both of Reedsburg and Thomas (Judi) Bartels of Shawano; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Ione Collins of Milwaukee. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Estella; granddaughter, Kathleen Ann Bartels; three sisters; and a brother. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH in Shawano with Father Len Evers officiating. Friends and relatives may call at the SWEDBERG FUNERAL HOME, Shawano after 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, until the procession leaves for church. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. Swedberg Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Bridge, Russell W.
 MADISON, Russell W. Bridge, age 75, passed away Sunday, April 27, 2003. He was born August 17, 1927, in Madison, son of Ernest and Elsie (Prey) Bridge. He served in the U.S. Navy and married Marion Koenig on July 11, 1953, in Madison at St. Bernard's Catholic Church. Russell was a lifetime resident of Madison. He worked for MG&E for 32 years in various positions. He coached softball and baseball

for many years and enjoyed playing cards and watching the birds. He was also an avid Packers, Brewers, and Badgers fan. He is survived by his wife of 49 years Marion of Madison; children, Mark (Jeanne) of Mesa, Ariz., Ronald (Cathy) of San Antonio, Texas and daughter, Cathy of Madison; grandchildren, Tim, Katie, Ryan, Jake and Tyler; step-grandchildren, Sam and David Hultman; he leaves also his three step-great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Don. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to charity of ones choice. Memorial Mass will be at 11 a.m., on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 602 Everglade Drive with Father Robert Butz presiding. Memorial visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. until time of service at the church. Private family burial will be at Sunset Memory Gardens.

Cress Funeral Home
 3610 Speedway Road
 (608) 238-3434
 www.cressfuneralservice.com



Buck, Norma Marie
 RICHLAND CENTER AREA - Norma Marie Buck, age 71, of the Richland Center area passed away on Sunday, April 27, 2003, due to complications of heart surgery which she received on March 5, 2003. She was born May 18, 1931, in Richland County, the daughter of Earl and Grace (Klingaman) Gray. She married Clifford W. William Buck on April 28, 1951, in Loyd, Wis. After her three children were raised and through school, Norma continued her own education at Madison Area Technical College graduating on July 27, 1979, with her G.E.D. During her adult life, Norma continued to demonstrate her quest for personal growth by learning to swim and ride a bicycle. She was employed as a machine operator for Celon Corp., a nurse's aide for the University of Wisconsin Hospital, a sewing machine operator for Riviera Sportswear, an assembler for Admiral T.V., and a food server for the Madison School System. Norma was a loving wife and mother. She developed a strong faith in God as demonstrated by serving her church community. She had a special relationship with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Norma's love of the outdoors included growing flowers, and watching and feeding the birds. She had a strong spirit which allowed her to live independently during her last few years. She was rich with the blessing of family and friends and will be greatly missed. Her memory will always be alive in our hearts and minds. Survivors include: three children, Kenneth (Karla) Buck of Beloit, Virginia (James) Carr of Janesville, and Suzette (Charles DeFrance) Buck of Madison, four grandchildren, Joshua (Tracy) Buck, Alexander Buck, Alyson and Aron Carr; two great-grandchildren, Gabriella and Jordan Buck; a brother Willard (Martha) Gray of Panama City Beach, Fla.; and a sister Erma (Arland) Ripley of Richland Center. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Clifford on November 18, 1999; two sisters, Thelma Paulus and Velma Denman; and a brother, Melford Gray. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday April 30, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. at the PRATT MEMORIAL CHAPEL in Richland Center with the Rev. C.D. Fretz officiating. Burial will be held at the Loyd Cemetery. Friends may call on Tuesday at the PRATT MEMORIAL CHAPEL from 5

p.m. to 7 p.m. and also on Wednesday from 8 a.m. until the time of service at 10:30 a.m. Norma's family wishes to thank the nursing staff of St. Marys Hospital and the Don and Marilyn Anderson HospiceCare Center in Madison for the outstanding care they gave Norma during her illness. Her family also wishes to thank those who provided her with assistance and those who sent so many caring cards and letters.

Cooper, Grace

MADISON - Grace Cooper, age 82, departed this world on Monday, April 28, 2003, at home, in the loving care of her family. She was born on June 8, 1920, in Xonia township, to Ewald and Mabel Kraehnke. Grace married Donald Cooper 51 years ago on April 13, 1952, in Madison. She worked for many years as a cashier in various grocery stores. Grace enjoyed camping, traveling and corresponding with her many pen pals. She loved life, but her greatest love was her family and friends. Grace and Don wintered in the Clearwater, Florida area for over 30 years. She was a member of Lakeview Moravian Church. Grace is survived by her husband, Donald; four children, Debra LaBrosse (Noah Powell), DuAne (Marilyn) Mundt, Gary Mundt and foster daughter, Judy (Dan) Killian; 19 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Shirley Kottwitz; two sisters-in-law, Jerina Kraehnke and Lois Kraehnke; a daughter-in-law, Marcia Mickelson; a niece, four nephews and many close friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Darwin Mundt; and two brothers, Stanley and Harold Kraehnke. Funeral services will be held at LAKEVIEW MORAVIAN CHURCH, 3565 Tulane Avenue, Madison, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, with the Rev. Christine Johnson presiding. Burial will be in Union Cemetery. Visitation will be held at GUNDERSON EAST FUNERAL HOME, 5203 Monona Drive from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2003. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Lakeview Moravian Church or HospiceCare Inc. The family would like to thank HospiceCare for their care and compassion.

Gunderson East Funeral Home
 (608) 221-5420



Eldred, Stephen E.

BRODHEAD - Stephen E. Eldred, (best known as Gene or Geno), a longtime resident of Brodhead, Wis., passed away very peacefully on Saturday, April 26, 2003, at the V.A. Hospital, Madison, Wis. Gene was born on October 22, 1932, in Madison, the son of Stephen C. and Edna Mae (Spaeni) Eldred. Gene was an avid sports fan. He loved to watch and in his younger days play football. His favorite pastime was to play cards with his buddies and if the weather was warm you would see him driving around in his convertible with the top down. He attended East High School from 1949 to 1951, where he played football. He was named to the All City and All State Second Team. He played in the North-South game behind Al Amache in the summer of 1951. Gene had been a bartender in the Madison and Brodhead area for many years. He also was an Army Veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by his longtime special lady, Kathy Scheidegger, Brodhead; seven children; Debora Burkheimer, Gary (special friend, Cindy) Eldred, both of Janesville, Stephen (Janet) of Hot Springs Village, Ark., Randy (Caren) Eldred of Brodhead, Cheri (Roger) Johnson of Juda, Barbara (Hance, Bruce Tyler) Stuessy of New Glarus, David Eldred of Monroe; eighteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two sisters, Patricia (Ron) Bredeson of Madison, Sue (Paul) Williams of Brighton, Tenn.; an aunt, Harriet (Spaeni) Westmore; an uncle, Raymond Westmore, both of Madison; many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday,

April 30, 2003, at the NEW-COMER FUNERAL HOME, Brodhead, Wis., with the Rev. Dan Herman officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Brodhead. Visitation will be Tuesday from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home. *He will be deeply missed by all of his relatives and friends.*

Ellestad, Maurice S.
 MCFARLAND - Maurice S. Ellestad, age 68, passed away on April 25 2003, in Temple V.A Hospital, Texas. A full obituary will follow at a later time.

Ferguson, Pauline A.
 MADISON - Pauline A. Ferguson, age 100, died April 26, 2003, at Sunny Hill Health Care Center. Pauline is survived by a daughter, Marjorie Kuehne of Madison; 10 grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. Pauline is preceded by a daughter, Donna Gresk; and two husbands, Wilfred Elterich and Walter Ferguson. A graveside service will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at WISCONSIN MEMORIAL PARK, 13235 W. Capital Drive, Brookfield, Wis.

Cress Funeral Service
 3610 Speedway Road
 Madison, Wis., 53705
 (608) 238-3434



Haesler, William
 DARLINGTON - William Haesler, age 80, passed away on Sunday, April 27, 2003, at Lafayette Manor Nursing Home in Darlington. He was born on December 24, 1922, in Argyle, Wis., the son of John and Bertha (Schneider) Haesler. On October 22, 1944, William was blessed in his marriage to Gunvar Lien at the Yellowstone Lutheran Church. He farmed until 1956, after which he owned and operated a construction business until 1973. Since 1974, he found great fulfillment in the full-time voluntary traveling ministry as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. This is a work he loved and he served with his wife, Gunvar in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and California until 1996. He is survived by his wife, Gunvar; his sons, David (Laurie) Haesler of Richland Center, Robert Haesler of Darlington; as well as his sisters, Margaret (Neelien) Nelson of Argyle, Bertha (Henry) Kolb of Argyle; and a brother, John (Alvera) Haesler, Jr. of Argyle. He is also survived by his eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter-in-law, Connie Haesler. William was widely known for his diligent work ethic in all of his endeavors. He will be fondly remembered as a loving husband and father of two sons; for his teasing sense of humor and for his love of music and of dancing. He will be remembered for his strong appreciation of the creation surrounding him and abroad, and of his enjoyment of capturing these sights and memories on film. Above all, he will be remembered for his deep faith in God and love for His word the Bible. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 7 p.m. at the ERICKSON FUNERAL HOME in Darlington. A visitation will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the ERICKSON FUNERAL HOME in Darlington.



Leister, Brandon H.
 PRAIRIE DU SAC - Brandon H. Leister, age 27, of Prairie du Sac, died on Saturday, April 26, 2003, as the result of an automobile accident. He was born in Prairie du Sac on July 25, 1975, the son of Diane K. Lins and Patrick Leister. Brandon was a 1994 graduate of Sauk Prairie High School and a 1995 graduate of LaCrosse Tech WTC. He was currently employed by ADS Mechanical in Cottage Grove. Brandon was known for his good nature, his smile and his huge heart. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, softball and his work. He was a member of the Sauk Prairie Sports Boosters. He is survived by his fiancé, Sindee Steuber of Prairie du Sac; his mother, Diane K. Lins of Prairie du Sac; his father, Patrick Leister, of Prairie du Sac; his brother, Mike (Charity) Leister of North Freedom; his sister, Deena (Matthew) Alt of North Freedom; grandparents, Donald J. and Imelda Lins of Sauk City; nieces and nephews, Connor

and Brooks Leister and Emma Alt; his cat, Liddy (Litten); and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Harvey and Virginia Leister. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at ST. ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH, Sauk City, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2003, with Father Kevin Holmes officiating. Burial will be in St. Aloysius Cemetery. Friends may call at St. Aloysius Catholic Church from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2003. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Sauk Prairie Sports Boosters or St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Gnewikow-Hooverson Funeral Home
 Sauk City, Wis.



Pederson, Lori
 MIDDLETON - Lori (Marjorie) Pederson, 75, of Middleton, Wis., died suddenly of a heart attack on April 24, 2003. She is survived by her husband Donald, (Don) of 54 years; her brother, George Lorenz; five children and spouses, Julie and Bill Spielberger, Christine and Bruce Jacobs, David Pederson and Karen Pratt, Mark and Susana Pederson, Stephen and Dawn Pederson; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Lori will be dearly missed by all. Born Marjorie Nichols Lorenz on Nov. 27, 1927, in Melrose, Mass. Lori was awarded a Bachelors of Arts with honors in Sociology from Bates College. The same year she married Don, of Geneva, New York. After he completed medical school in Rochester, NY, they lived in Lakehurst, NJ; Copenhagen, Denmark; Melrose, Mass., and in 1959, settled in Marshfield, Wis. After Don's retirement in 1988, they moved to Madison. Lori strove to live her life to the fullest as a dedicated wife, mother, and grandmother. She was a very close friend to her mother in Boston, as well as countless others throughout the country and other parts of the world. She was giving and principled in all that she did and served throughout her lifetime to help people in need and be a source of encouragement and motivation for many. In Marshfield Lori was active in the schools through the PTA, worked part-time for Head Start, served as the President of the Area League of Women Voters, and volunteered in the Hospital Auxiliary, 4-H, Planned Parenthood, UNICEF, Head Start, and Meals-on-Wheels. She was also active in local and national political campaigns. Lori established the Unitarian Fellowship in Marshfield in 1964. She gave tirelessly to it as the fellowship met first in their home, and occasionally amidst the towering trees along the adjacent river bank. She served extensively with the Unitarian Universalist Association in several local, regional, and national capacities, including eight years as District Trustee on the National Board. Just prior to her death, Lori was honored with the prestigious Jean Kapuscik award for her service to the Association. After moving to Madison, Lori continued many of her social and political activities including volunteering with the First Unitarian Society. She was instrumental in establishing the Wisconsin Hemlock Society and served as its President from 1991 to 2001. Lori was a voracious reader and talented writer. She shared those gifts with school children, in the reading of dramas, through contributions to the media, and in several other forms. Through her work and her and Don's service-oriented travels to Afghanistan and St. Lucia, Lori continually demonstrated her sensitivity and compassion for people near and far. She loved to garden, walk in the woods, play games, entertain in her home, and visit the ocean with family and friends. She was known for her gentle spirit, musical gifts, diverse creativity, attention to detail, and selfless giving to others. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 24, 2003, at the FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to Habitat for Humanity, The Nature Conservancy, or the First Unitarian Society Music Fund.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of those who cared for our mother with love and compassion during her illness, and our deepest appreciation to family and friends who have prayed for and shown endless love throughout our mothers life.

Jones-Jensen Funeral Home
 Columbus 920-623-5850

Ripahn, Russell T.
 ANTIGO/SUN PRAIRIE - Russell T. Ripahn, age 41, passed away on Saturday, April 26, 2003, at the Antigo Hospital. He was born on Nov. 16, 1961, in Madison, Wis., the son of George and Norma (Smelcer) Ripahn. Russell was united in marriage to Ginger Schmidt in June of 1986. He was a longtime resident of the Sun Prairie area and attended school in Sun Prairie. Russell is survived by his wife, Ginger of Antigo; his father, George (Anita) Ripahn of Beaver Dam; his sister, Debra (Bob) Vera of Madison; a niece, Kayleigh; and a nephew, Tyler; and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother and a sister, Jeanne. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 1 p.m. at the CRESS FUNERAL HOME, 1310 Emerald Terrace, Sun Prairie, Wis. with the Rev.

verse creativity, attention to detail, and selfless giving to others. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 24, 2003, at the FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to Habitat for Humanity, The Nature Conservancy, or the First Unitarian Society Music Fund.

Rake, Hazel Lillian
 COLUMBUS Hazel Lillian Rake age 81, passed away peacefully on Sunday April 27, 2003, at the Don & Marilyn Anderson HospiceCare Center, Fitchburg, following a brief illness. She was born on April 29 1921, in the town of Columbus the daughter of Edwin and Louise (Kind) Duenow. She graduated in 1939 from Columbus High School. She worked at the dime store in Columbus and for several years as an assistant to Dr. C. F. Cheli. She was married to Oscar Charles Rake on Feb. 7, 1948, in Columbus. The couple farmed together in rural Columbus until the time of Oscars death in 1986. In 1989, she moved to the city of Columbus where she lived until the time of her death. Hazel was a loving mother and homemaker and was blessed with six children. She was a lifelong member of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbus. She was a member of the Van Buren county school Mothers Club until its closure in 1962. She was a member of the Dodge County Homemakers. Together with her husband she was a member of AMPI and the Farm Bureau where she received the award for Woman of the Year. Together they were active in the development and support of the Cal-ba Winners 4-H club. They were inducted into the Wisconsin Master Farmers organization in 1978. They traveled as a part of the People to People tours traveling to Europe in 1978. She was an avid card player and bird watcher and enjoyed the companionship of many dear friends. She is survived by her children, Lois (Steven) Mathews of Overland Park Kan., Robert (Lu Ann) Rake of Columbus, Marilyn (Dennis) Arkowski of Delafield, Susan Rake of Middleton, Douglas Rake of North Freedom, and Nola (Mathias) Allen of Madison; eight grandchildren Heather (Noah) Marquardt, Bryan Chesen, Eric and Sarah Arkowski, Brandon and Austin Rake, and Payden and Saylor Allen; a sister-in-law, Ruth Rake of Birmingham Mich.; a brother-in-law, Leo Rake of Madison; several nieces, nephews, cousins, and many dear friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Oscar Rake; sister, Clara Lewke; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, nieces, other relatives and friends. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday May 1, 2003, at ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, Columbus. Rev Robert Wilke will officiate. Interment will be in Hillside Cemetery, Columbus. Friends may call at the funeral home from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Wednesday only.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of those who cared for our mother with love and compassion during her illness, and our deepest appreciation to family and friends who have prayed for and shown endless love throughout our mothers life.

Jones-Jensen Funeral Home
 Columbus 920-623-5850

Ripahn, Russell T.
 ANTIGO/SUN PRAIRIE - Russell T. Ripahn, age 41, passed away on Saturday, April 26, 2003, at the Antigo Hospital. He was born on Nov. 16, 1961, in Madison, Wis., the son of George and Norma (Smelcer) Ripahn. Russell was united in marriage to Ginger Schmidt in June of 1986. He was a longtime resident of the Sun Prairie area and attended school in Sun Prairie. Russell is survived by his wife, Ginger of Antigo; his father, George (Anita) Ripahn of Beaver Dam; his sister, Debra (Bob) Vera of Madison; a niece, Kayleigh; and a nephew, Tyler; and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother and a sister, Jeanne. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 1 p.m. at the CRESS FUNERAL HOME, 1310 Emerald Terrace, Sun Prairie, Wis. with the Rev.

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