

Obituaries

Michael C. Zoppo, treasurer for many Bristol organizations

Michael C. Zoppo, 78, husband of Mary Ellen (Tracy) Zoppo, died Feb. 23 at Bristol Hospital following a brief illness.

Born Aug. 11, 1931 to Angelo and Rosa Zoppo, he grew up on the North Side and attended local schools, graduating from Bristol High School in 1949. He earned an accounting degree from the Hartford School of Accounting, and went on to operate his accounting firm for over 40 years. Locally, he served as the treasurer for many community organizations over the years including the Bristol Democratic Town Committee and the Cedar Lake Owners Association.

He served as a member of the City of Bristol's Board of Finance for over 20 years, and as a member of the St. Joseph's Parish Finance Committee. He was a past member of the Bristol UNICO Club, the Bristol Historical Society, the Bristol Federal Hill Association, and St. Joseph's Church.

In addition to his wife of 44 years, he is survived by his daughter, Ellen Zoppo; his grandchildren Michaela, Zachary, and Carson Sassu; his son, Michael Paul Zoppo of Geneva, Switzerland; a brother, Joseph C. Zoppo of Bristol; and two sisters and brothers-in law, Jack and

Patricia Mullin of Bristol and Jack and Paula Baker of Convent Station, New Jersey, and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Feb. 27 from the funeral home to St. Joseph Church for a Mass of Christian Burial. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Boys & Girls Club and Family Center Rookie League baseball program, 105 Laurel Street, Bristol; or the Bristol Historical Society's Third Thursday lecture series, P.O. Box 1393, Bristol CT 06011-1393.

Albert W. Thorpe, retired from Pratt and Whitney

Albert W. Thorpe, 84, of Bristol, husband of Phyllis (Perreault) Thorpe, died on Monday, Feb. 22 at Hartford Hospital.

He was born on Sept. 10, 1925 in Pawtucket, RI and was the son of the late Harry and Susie (Taylor) Thorpe. He was raised in Pawtucket and attended local schools before enlisting in the United States Navy during World War II where he had sea duty aboard the USS Gemini in the Pacific. A Bristol resident since 1959, he was employed at Potter and Johnson and then Pratt and Whitney Machine Tools in West Hartford before retiring in 1988. He was a mem-

ber of the Family Motor Coach Assn (FMCA) and was past president of the Mountain Laurel Travelers Chapter. He was a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's and at one time a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, Bristol, where he helped establish the Sunday school program.

In addition to his wife of 62 years, he is survived by two sons, David Thorpe of Burlington and Kenneth Thorpe of Bristol; two daughters, Lynda Krueger of Middletown, and Nancy Watson of Middletown; and



Thorpe

three grandchildren, Justin Watson, Christopher Thorpe, and Jason Thorpe.

He was predeceased by his granddaughter, Erika Lin Watson.

Funeral services were held on Friday, Feb. 26 at Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Memorial donations may be made to the Myeloproliferative Disorders (MPD) Foundation, 233 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 375, Chicago, IL 60606.

www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Clarence J. Levesque, ran cleaning business with his wife

Clarence J. "Bede" Levesque, 80, husband of Leatrice (Nadeau) Levesque, died on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at home.

He was born in Caribou, ME on May 5, 1929 and was a son of the late Willie and Madeline (Dube) Levesque. He formerly resided in Wolcott and has lived in Bristol since 1973. He served in the United States Army and worked as an auto mechanic for 30 years before establishing his own cleaning business along with his wife. He was a member of St. Matthew Church, Forestville.

In addition to his wife of 57 years, he is survived by two sons, Regan "Ricky"

Levesque of Terryville, and Danny Levesque of Bristol; a daughter, Debra Bard of Southington; a brother, Patrick Levesque of Caribou, ME; a sister, Lorraine Reid of New Jersey; seven grandchildren, Carrie Jansen, Danny Joseph Levesque, Matt, Amanda, and Michael Levesque, and Devin and Jacqueline Bard; two great grandchildren, Tristan Miller and Kiley Levesque; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a son, Steve Levesque; two



Levesque

brothers, Percy and Omer Levesque, and three sisters, Caroline Michaud, Irene Morin, and Barbara Lizotte.

The funeral was held on Saturday, Feb. 27 from Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, to St. Matthew Church for a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated. Burial, with military honors, followed in the State Veteran's Cemetery, Middletown.

Memorial donations can be made to VITAS Innovative Hospice Care, 1579 Straits Turnpike, Unit C, Middlebury, CT 06762.

www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Charles Kucinkas, served on last Naval ship to leave Pearl Harbor before Dec. 7 attack

Charles "Leo" Kucinkas, 92, of Bristol, widower of Josephine (Cascone) Kucinkas, died on Monday, Feb. 22 at Countryside Manor.

He was born Dec. 23, 1917 in New Britain and was a son of the late Adolph and Mary (Aneol) Kucinkas. A longtime Bristol resident, he was employed at Superior Electric prior to retiring and was a member of St. Anthony Church, Bristol. A veteran of World War II, he was a Chief Electrician's Mate in the United States Navy and his sea duty included serving aboard the USS Portland, the last ship

to leave Pearl Harbor before the Dec. 7 attack.

He is survived by two sons, Robert D. Kucinkas and John H. Kucinkas, both of Bristol; a daughter, Mary Ann Niland of Burlington; six grandchildren: John, Beth, Julie, Emily, Charlie, and Donna; four great grandchildren: Jon, Michael, Joey, and Robbie; two brothers, Henry and Judy Kucinkas of West Granby, and Arthur and Jessica Kucinkas of Wethersfield; two sisters:



Kucinkas

Florence Simmons of Newington and Helen Cynar of Waterford; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Feb. 27 from Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol to St. Anthony Church, Bristol for a Mass of Christian Burial. Burial, with military honors, followed in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol.

Memorial donations may be made to Bristol Boy's and Girl's Club, 105 Laurel Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Hilda Burkhardt, member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Hilda (Potz) Burkhardt, 91, of Bristol, widow of Everett C. Burkhardt, died Wednesday, Feb. 24 at home.

She was born July 11, 1918 in Bristol and was a daughter of the late Emil and Emilie (Manke) Potz. She was a life-long Bristol resident, a former member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, and a current member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her four children: Donna Gruel

of Effingham, NH, Thomas Burkhardt of Wethersfield, Nancy McLellan of Bristol, and Jon Burkhardt of Bristol; a sister, Elna Lynch of Wolcott; 10 grandchildren, Dave and Chris Gruel, Luke McLellan, Kate Brewer, Brian, Kevin and Julia Burkhardt, and Josh, Ryan and Tracy Burkhardt; seven great grandchildren, Isabelle and Jade Brewer, Dylan and Ethan Gruel, Josh Moore, Kaylynn Burkhardt, and Alyssa Gruel; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held March 1 at the Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol.

Burial will follow in West Cemetery, Bristol.

Memorial donations may be made to The Lutheran Hour, 660 Mason Ridge Center, St. Louis, MO 63141 or to Meals for the Needy, c/o Zion Lutheran Church, 27 Judd Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Paul Nicoletti, former high school sports team captain

Paul Nicoletti, 82, of 111 Hull St., Bristol, died at the Bristol Hospital, Wednesday, Feb. 24. He was the husband of Jennie (Ozirsky) Nicoletti.

He was born in Bristol on April 21, 1927, the son of the late Samuel and Amelia (Morrini) Nicoletti.

He was a lifetime resident of Bristol and graduated from Bristol School system, where he excelled in sports. He was nick name "Cappy" because he was the captain of the baseball, football and basketball teams in high school. He played fast pitch softball for the West End Club. He was a member of St. Stanislaus Church and West End Athletic Club. He was a World War II veteran serving in the US Navy. He was employed by New Departure Division of General Motors for over 30 years, retiring 25 years ago.

Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Terri Morin of Wakefield, RI, Donna Nicoletti of

Sausalito, CA and Karen Nicoletti of Barkhamsted; a brother, Fred Nicoletti of New Hampshire; two sisters, Edith Knight of Bristol and Pauline Santoro of Waterbury; three granddaughters, Rae, Jade and Gia Nicoletti; plus several nieces



Nicoletti

and nephews.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 1 from Dunn Funeral Home to St. Stanislaus Church for a Mass of Christian Burial. Burial followed in St Joseph Cemetery.

Memorial donations can be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

www.dunnfh.com

St. Paul planning craft fair May 8

The St. Paul Catholic High School Spring Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 50 vendors will be showcasing

their crafts. Crafts include homemade chocolates, handmade quilts, jewelry, American Doll clothing, garden tools, art and so much more. There will be a full

lunch menu and lots of drawings. Admission is \$1, which benefits the school.

For information, email lynn.damboise@snet.net.

Cullen receives degree from WNEC

Kara L. Cullen of Bristol received a bachelor of arts

degree from Western New England College on Feb. 15.

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