

OBITUARIES

Sue Henning



Feb. 21, 1942 -
Dec. 29, 2025

Sue Henning of Worthington, 83, died unexpectedly at her home on Dec. 29, 2025. Recently, Sue had been valiantly engaging with recurring health issues, which intensified in the past month. She was the widow of Peter Foley, who passed away in May of 2024.

Sue and Peter relocated from Nantucket to Worthington in 2005. Peter, a loyal alumnus of the University of Massachusetts (Amherst), fondly recalled the Berkshires from his college days. The area became their new home after Little Compton R.I. was eliminated in a “run-off” competition Peter created to determine the location of their of their new home.

After Peter passed away, Sue would often say that their shared love of Hampshire County, its rural character and bucolic nature, made the selection of Glendale Falls in Middlefield, the final and logical resting place for Peter’s remains in 2024. His send-off was capably administered by Sue who, while on her own one Summer day, leaned over the perilous waterfalls and released him, as they agreed. She would warmly recall this among close friends.

Sue was born Feb. 21, 1942 in Selma, Alabama

and was the daughter of Joseph and Eleanor Henning. Her father, a proud son of Kentucky, finished his tour of duty in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the family re-located to Cleveland, Ohio where his employment prospects were greater. The Hennings settled on the west side of the city where Sue attended public schools.

After high school, Sue enrolled at Ohio University, (Athens) where she received her Bachelor’s degree in 1963 and then continued her education at The University of California (Berkeley), after which Sue and a close friend and classmate, headed for Nantucket in their recently purchased used VW Beetle.

Starting on the low rungs of the Nantucket employment ladder as a nineteen year old, Sue worked at the Harbor House Hotel as a chambermaid. Her energy, Southern roots and her comfort level with anyone from the “Bluegrass State,” promptly resulted in job offers for both girls from “Willy” House and his wife, the Kentucky-born African-American proprietors of what has now become a Nantucket institution known as “The Chicken Box.” Once a fishing shack, it served moderately-priced honey-fried chicken to the numerous servants and chauffeurs, who were given Thursdays and “half-Sundays” off by the “cottagers,”

who brought their staff to the island each summer. From the sixties on, the popularity of the Chicken Box grew exponentially; largely as a result of its down-home ambience; good food and its friendly staff, including Sue.

She would often humorously recall that The Chicken Box was the starting gate for her life on the island. A few years later, it took another island resident to point out to her that if she really wanted to pursue a full-time career in teaching either on or “off-island,” working in a local juke joint where the parents of her pupils might gather, was not going to be viewed as career-enhancing.

Sue went to work as an educator at The Papago (now Tohono O’odham) Indian Reservation in Sells, Arizona, a remote part of the state. Sue’s gifts as an artist and educator were recognized and her close bonds with the children and her infectious activism resulted in the exposure and subsequent dismissal of a number of administrators, who had been tolerating and shielding abusers of the Native American population there.

After returning to Nantucket she became a highly regarded elementa-

ry school teacher where her artistic ability and her easy and warm rapport with her pupils were recognized. In addition to teaching full-time, Sue was elected as President of the Nantucket Teacher’s Association from 1985-1986 where she represented her fellow teachers in contract negotiations; salary and benefit matters and staffing and working condition requirements.

A fellow teacher of biology at Nantucket High School named Peter Foley, the gentleman that had informally been her career advisor, requested her hand in marriage, to which she assented. That marriage, in November 1978, marked the beginning of a joyous union for both blessed with humor, love and mutual respect.

As a couple they visited several continents and countries including Australia, Czechoslovakia, South America, Tibet and Russia. Together, they avidly pursued, understood and appreciated the cultures of each of these nations. One trip to Ireland, recalled with true joy, involved Sue and Peter hosting two women, both members of the Sisters of Mercy (one of whom was Peter’s sister) for the 125th anniversary of the religious

order founded there in 1831.

Sue had numerous friends locally and on Nantucket. She cherished all of them, but none of them were held with the same high regard she had for their pets or their children. As the owner of a few King Charles Cavalier Spaniels and her beloved cats, she showered animals of all kinds with love, kibble, bones, bird seed, toys and affection. Sue believed that the children of her numerous friends and relatives deserved higher regard than they did and she demonstrated her generosity with gifts that transformed young children. Her homemade Valentine’s Day cards, reflecting her artistic abilities were sent every year to numerous recipients along with books, calendars and miscellaneous gifts from her inveterate weekly harvest of local thrift shops.

Sue was always a true humanist. She engaged with others with warmth and authenticity. She suspended judgment and offered acceptance; she declined indifference and extended friendship; she deferred the average and chose to elevate those she encountered.

If so inclined, please make donations in her memory to your local animal shelter or The American Indian College Fund, 8333 Greenwood Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80221.

DEATH NOTICES

COSTELLO, MAUREEN BURY

Died Jan. 2, 2026
Services at later date

HENNING, SUE

Died Dec. 29, 2025

MIKUSKI, WILLIAM A.

Died Jan. 8, 2026
Services Jan. 16, 2026
Firtion Adams Funeral Home

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Maureen Bury Costello

Maureen Bury Costello, 90 years of age from Agawam, Massachusetts, died peacefully in her sleep on Jan. 2, 2026.

Maureen is survived by her husband of over 69 years, Robert. Her brother, Vincent Bury. Her four children, Michael, Mark, Kate and Laura, in addition to nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind multiple people that called her a dear friend, cousin, teacher and confidant.

Maureen was born in Orange New Jersey and went to St. Dominics High School, then received her Bachelor’s Degree at Caldwell College in English literature and Thomistic philosophy. She started her professional life as an English teacher in Island Heights, New Jersey. She then moved to Blandford, Massachusetts with her husband Bob 60 years ago to raise her family as well as multiple farm animals. She continued her professional career teaching special needs children at Gateway Regional

High School in Huntington.

She took to nature right away and later gained the reputation as a holistic herbalist, weaver, spinner and entrepreneur. You would often find her volunteering her time teaching weaving, spinning and workshops in dyeing wool from plants found in nature. She was involved in “Sheep to Shawl” groups as well as local weavers guilds. She opened a shop called Sheepgate to give local artists a place to showcase their work. She was even featured on the cover of her alma mater magazine “Echoes” as the Artists’ Entrepreneur.

Sheepgate was well known not only in the Hilltown’s, but nationwide since it had visitors from all 50 states as well as multiple countries. The shop intrigued everyone as it surrounded you with its classical music and exquisite artwork. Maureen



loved to talk and listen with customers and a quick stop by people would turn into a couple of hours of conversations. She would then call her sheep by name to be hand fed by the patrons. In the summer months Maureen started “Talent under the Tent” a place for an artist to work on their latest masterpiece out in the open for anyone to watch. Sheepgate was an outlet that many, if not all in the art world, needed and appreciated.

In summary, Maureen loved people, animals, nature and the arts. She had lived a wonderful fulfilling life, as her last sentence was “It’s been a great ride.”

A memorial for Maureen will be announced at a later date. Southwick Forastiere Funeral & Cremation, 624 College Highway, Southwick. www.forastiere.com

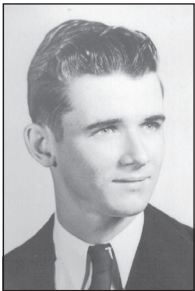
William A. Mikuski



William A. Mikuski “Bill”, 88, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026 at Berkshire Medical Center. He was born in Springfield on March 29, 1937, to the late Myron and Veronica (Jegelewicz) Mikuski and raised in Westfield.

Bill was an altar boy for St. Casimir’s Church that his family attended. After graduating from Westfield High School in 1955, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy for 4 years, spending most of that time on the USS Roy O’Hale as a radioman. After his time in the Navy, he worked as a carpentry apprentice in Springfield and gradually started his own construction business. He also served as Chief of Police in Russell for many years.

Bill later was employed by the US Postal Service



as a rural mail carrier in the Hilltowns of Russell and Blandford and retired in 2002. He was a self-taught and talented woodworker creating many unique pieces of workmanship. Bill spent many years attending craft shows and selling the beautiful wooden banks that he built with old post office fronts that came from post offices that were modernizing their mailboxes. During his younger years, Bill was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Margit (LaMontagne) Mikuski; her two sons, Kenneth Deveno and Thomas Deveno, Jr. and his wife, Jean Deveno: two step-grandchildren, Jamie Bird, Sarah (Bird) Chase and her husband Dan Chase, as well as Bill’s

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL “On-Call” Architectural Design Services

The Town of Middlefield is seeking proposals for “On-Call” General Architectural Design and Services for several miscellaneous town capital improvement projects. **Services will be effective from date of award through June 30, 2027 with two options to renew for two additional years ending on June 30, 2031.**

The Town acting through its Town Select Board, is seeking qualified architectural firms to provide on-call “house Doctor and Consulting Services for the Town of Middlefield. The Town of Middlefield will award contracts as needed by the Town.

The scope of work will generally involve repair, rehabilitation, or renovation to municipal buildings/structures. Projects may include re-roofing, window repair and replacement, building insulation, building structural repair, elevator installation, exterior envelop repairs, mechanical, electrical and structural repairs or replacement, renovations for accessibility, design and construction oversight of small municipal buildings and additions and minor interior renovations to building elements and offices as necessary.

Applicants must have experience in and be fully licensed or registered for the work mentioned in this RFP by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and must list the names of the licensed consultants that will be used as part of the RFP response. The selected firms shall have demonstrated previous experience in providing specified services to Massachusetts municipal governments. A complete RFP may be obtained, without charge, by contacting the Middlefield Administrative Assistant at, 413-623-2079 Ext.2 or at middlefield.assistant@gmail.com. **Documents will be available beginning on January 16, 2026 in the Town of Middlefield Select Board Office, Town Hall 188 Skyline Trail Middlefield MA 01243 on Mondays from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. or Wednesdays from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. and Friday’s from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. They can also be obtained by contacting the Town Administrative Assistant at middlefield.assistant@gmail.com or by calling 413-623-2079 Ext.2.** It is recommended that respondents to this request familiarize themselves with the detailed RFP.

It is the intent of the Awarding Authority to award contracts within thirty (30) business days after receiving the proposals.

The deadline for submitting Proposals to the Town of Middlefield Select Board Office 187 Skyline Trail Middlefield, MA 01243 is Wednesday February 4, 2026 by 2:00 P.M. Proposals can either be dropped off at the Select Board Office located at 187 Skyline Trail in Middlefield Massachusetts 01243 or can be sent by mail to the Middlefield Town Administrative Assistant, Mark Doane at P.O. Box 238 Middlefield, Ma 01243. Proposals should be clearly marked as such on the exterior of the envelope.

RFPs will be opened in the Select Board Office located in the Middlefield Town Hall 188 Skyline Trail Middlefield, MA 01243 on Wednesday February 4, 2026, at 2:00 P. M. A completed Non-Collusive Affidavit, Certificate of State Tax Compliance, completed Reference List, and a completed Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Designer Application Form for Municipalities and Public Agencies not within DSB Jurisdiction that is attached are required with the RFP Proposal. Questions should be directed to the Town Administrative Assistant at: middlefield.assistant@gmail.com or by phone: 413-623-2079 Ext. 2. The deadline for questions on the documents is

11:00 A.M. on Monday January 26, 2026.
01/15, 01/22/2026

**HUNTINGTON
Public Hearing
Wednesday, January 28, 2026,
at 5:00 PM
FY 2024 CDBG Progress
Hearing, Re-Programming
Funds Hearing and
FY 2026 CDBG
Application Forum**

The Town of Huntington, in association with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, will conduct a performance hearing regarding the town’s ongoing FY24 Community Development Block Grant Programs, Re-programming of remaining funds hearing in the FY24 grant, and a public forum regarding the FY2026 CDBG application. The hearing will take place at **5:00 PM on Wednesday January 28, 2026**, in person at the Town Hall, 24 Russell Road, Huntington, MA 01050.

The hearing will review the project funded through the town’s FY24 Community Development Block Grant Program including Stanton Avenue infrastructure improvements and how the Town will re-program remaining funds in the grant post completion of construction. This activity received funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Ur-

ban Development and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Massachusetts CDBG program.

This hearing will also serve as the first public forum to solicit community input on potential activities to be included in a potential Huntington FY26 Community Development Block Grant application. All community members and stakeholders are invited to share thoughts on potential CDBG-eligible activities to be included.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the performance hearing will have an opportunity to submit comments up until and through the public hearing. Please submit comments to Sarah Maroney at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission @ smaroney@pvpc.org or 413-781-6045. Persons who require special accommodation should contact the Town prior to the hearing date at 413-667-3500. 01/15, 01/22/2026

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No.
HS25P0795EA
Estate of:
Jane Elizabeth Tesla
Also Known As:**

**Jane E. Tesla
Date of Death: 10/8/25
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Merle L. Pomeroy of Rochester, NH**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Merle L. Pomeroy of Rochester, NH

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 01/15/2026