

Obituaries



Lois Ann Roney

April 19, 1954 — June 23, 2026

Lois Ann Roney, 72, of Frederick, Maryland, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at Frederick Health Hospital.

Born on April 19, 1954, in Baltimore, MD, she was the daughter of the late Raymond F. and Helen M. Everett.

Lois was raised in Baltimore, MD, Liberty Crest and Randallstown. She graduated from Randallstown High School then graduated from Hood College with a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry and math.

Lois taught at Frederick County Public Schools including elementary school for 5 yrs at Liberty Elementary School and middle school math for 20 yrs at New Market, West Frederick, and Urbana.

Her interests included traveling, bowling, square dancing, reading, puzzles, theater performances, and concerts. Lois enjoyed special memories on family trips to Italy in 2022 and, especially Alaska in 2025. She was a member of four-square dance clubs, the Frederick County Promenaders, Tom Thumb, Friendship Squares and 4 - County Squares.

Lois was a member of the Glen Mar United Methodist Church in Ellicott City, MD.

She is survived by her son, Brian M. Roney of Portsmouth, VA; her sibling, Michael S. Everett (Janet) of Frederick; nieces, Jennifer Hart (Clint) and Jackie Berry; and nephews, Michael Everett and Rodney Everett (Paul). Raymond W. Everett (Linda) of Woodbine, MD; and nieces, Brittney Meyers-Everett (Savannah) of Abingdon, MD. Special People, Dennis R. Roney of Frederick, (former spouse and dear friend), Michael A. Roney (Patty) of Newark, DE; and niece, Erin Roney of Newark, DE, Susan Owens Gerstell (Joey) and Jayden of Charles Town, WV, Brian L. Owens (Carey) and Nora and Hunter of Charles Town, WV, Brittany Owens Potter (Brian) and Genny, George, and Griffin of Brunswick, MD; cousins, Everett family, Matthes family and Roney family; and "families", Frederick County Teachers, Square Dancers, and Gal-Pals.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, paternal, Raymond S. Everett and Viola P. Everett; and maternal, William J. Matthes and Ethel J. Matthes; sibling, Illah May Everett; and Walter L. Roney and Naomi A. Roney.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2026 at Stauffer Funeral Homes, 1621 Opossumtown Pike in Frederick.

A celebration of Lois's life journey will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2026, at the funeral home in Frederick with Reverend Kristofer Roberson, Pastor at Living Grace Lutheran/Episcopal Church in Urbana officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital,



Mike Sikorsky

1955 - June 20, 2026

Mike Sikorsky called his first full square dance for the Roaring 20's young adult club in July 1972 in Van Nuys, CA. He expected one square to attend and 11 squares showed up! Mike was 17 years old at the time.

A few years later Mike would be in college. Between classes he would have conversations with other students. One of the main topics of discussion was what students were doing for money. When he told them he was calling square dances, every single one of them responded "Wow! I bet that beats flipping hamburgers!"

A few years later Mike would discover that his maternal grandfather was a square dance caller when he was younger. They lived out on a farm, and they would take all of the furniture from the house and put it out in the yard every summer Saturday night. Whoever showed up with a banjo or a guitar or an accordion, played square and dance music. Mike's grandfather would call for the square nearest him and somebody from that square would shout the calls to the square in the kitchen, and somebody from the kitchen would yell the calls to the square in the bedroom!

Mike financed his own college education with his square dance calling earnings. He graduated from California State University, Northridge with a Bachelor's Degree, paying his own way with the money he made from square dance calling. About Mike's square dance calling, his college friends said, "Well, it beats flipping hamburgers!"

In November 2010, Mike Sikorsky became an author, publishing Vol. I of his own defined method of Patter Calling, the Activator-Stream method, where one sequencing of calls (an Activator) has a variable allowing for at least 10 different variations. When 3 of these Activators are combined, creating a Stream, the caller has 6,000 possible different variations! The Activator-Stream Vol. II was first published in November 2011, the same year Mike was voted Most Entertaining Caller at the first ever Ozzie Awards held in Las Vegas, NV.

Mike was a regular caller at the WASCA Spring Festival. He first called in the mid '90s and his last time was in 2025. For health reasons he had to cancel his appearance at the 2026 Festival. He would also make regular visits to the WASCA area to call for local clubs beginning in 2007 for Circle-8. Other clubs he would call for included Rivermont Ramblers, Plains Promenaders, Merry Notes, and Fredrick County Promenaders (among others)

Mike was a member of the Callerlab Board of Governors

Mike was diagnosed with ALS in early 2026, but refused to give in to this debilitating illness. He continued to travel, call square dances and make future plans. Following a weekend calling in Washington State, Mike became ill on the flight to his next engagement on the east coast. He was taken by ambulance to Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center where he was placed in ICU. Mike passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of June 20, 2026. He was surrounded by family and friends that helped him transition to his next journey.

Mike devoted his life to the square dance community. He called for 54 years and had a unique ability to connect to his dancers and fellow callers. He was a great caller, teacher, mentor, entertainer, and friend to all whom he came into contact.

The music may end, but the memories of the dance remain



Reba Mae Heffernan

October 14, 1934 - June 19, 2026

Reba Mae Heffernan passed away peacefully on June 19, 2026. Born on October 14, 1934, in Maryville, Missouri, she was the cherished daughter of Reba and Victor Ford. At the age of eight, her family relocated to San Diego, California, where she spent the remainder of her childhood.

After graduating from Hoover High School in 1952, Reba married Charles Heffernan. As a dedicated Navy wife, she embraced a life of travel and adventure, living in diverse locales including Guam, California, Virginia, Florida, Hawaii, Tennessee, Japan, and the Philippines. In 1965, Reba and her family settled just outside the nation's capital in Northern Virginia. It was there that she launched a distinguished career as a Civil Servant, eventually rising to become a highly regarded Business Financial Manager. Prior to her retirement in 1998, Reba specialized in Foreign Military Sales for the U.S. Navy, a field she continued to support part-time as a financial analyst well into her retirement years.

Reba's retirement was anything but quiet. She remained remarkably active, traveling the world, hiking, biking, attending local theater and musical performances, and immersing herself in square and round dancing. An exceptional dancer, she frequently participated in national exhibitions and conventions and served on numerous dance committees. Her faith was the cornerstone of her life; she was a deeply active member of her church, singing in the sanctuary choir, playing in the bell choir, and volunteering countless hours organizing music and managing office administrative work. When she wasn't on the move, Reba loved reading, playing bridge, solving jigsaw puzzles, exploring history, and visiting historical sites. A masterful researcher, she meticulously planned many wonderful trips and adventures for her friends and family.

While Reba lived an extraordinary life full of accomplishments, achievements don't begin to capture the essence of who she was to those who loved her. To her daughters, she was a patient teacher and an unwavering source of strength. She instilled in them a resilient work ethic, life skills, and a deep compassion for others. She transformed holidays and birthdays into magical, joyful celebrations. Above all, she faithfully led her family to church, teaching them to love Jesus and demonstrating, through her own relationship with God, the true meaning of unconditional love and faith. She taught her children how to live fully in the moment, how to find contentment in hardship, and how to laugh at themselves.

Reba is survived by her three daughters: Rozan Jordan (FL), Marcia Sadler (VA), and Robin Neas (GA); as well as 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, all of whom carry forward her incredible legacy.

While her family is heartbroken by this profound loss, they take comfort in knowing she is at peace in heaven. In the meantime, Mother, enjoy those heavenly choirs- and if you want to make the angles laugh, just walk backward on the elliptical machine.



Elizabeth (Beth) Andrea Brackett

June 30, 1964 – May 21, 2026

Elizabeth (Beth) Andrea Brackett, CPA, 61 of Vienna, VA passed away on May 21, 2026 at home, surrounded by family and close friends.

Beth was born to Manfred and Florence Hein (both deceased) on June 30, 1964. She graduated from the University of Delaware Magna Cum Laude in 1986 and married James V. Brackett (deceased) in 1991.

She was an accountant at many companies over her career, including the past 17 years at Chenega Corporation.

She was actively involved in several square dance clubs, a NIST wine club and the Eastern Star (connected with Sharon Masonic Lodge).

Besides her parents and husband, she is preceded in death by more than a dozen aunts and uncles.

She is survived by her brother Matthew Hein (Geri Lynn Kessler) and her companion of 23 years Doren McBroom.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Inova Schar Cancer Center.



Barbara Ann Corcoran

April 28, 1939 – September 1, 2025

Barbara Ann Corcoran passed away on Monday, September 1, 2025. She was born on April 28, 1939, in New York City to Frances and John Corcoran. Barbara graduated from Mary Washington College with a degree in Chemistry in 1961. She served in the Federal Government at the National Institutes of Health and the Consumer Product Safety Commission and retired from the Environmental Protection Agency in 1999. Barbara had a wide range of interests and was a lifelong learner.

She was an avid reader of fiction, archaeology, religion, Egyptology, native American history, US history, psychology, medicine, and health. She loved to travel, visiting historic sites, art galleries, presidential libraries, and US parks. Barbara was also a devoted advanced square dancer (with the Gerrymanders among others) and camper. Barbara was a community builder. She organized a group house to defray housing costs and turned it into a community of friends. At the NIH, she was part of a group of friends, which she dubbed the Women of the Village. That group has survived until today. She served as an EEO representative in several agencies and as a union representative. Wherever she was, she organized volleyball teams, which became another community of friends. Barbara is survived by her brothers Paul and John (Janet), nieces Heather Bartlett (Ross) and Holly Pawlowski (Roger), and six grandnieces and a grandnephew. She was pre-deceased by her mother, father, brother Thomas Aquinas (Brother Gregory), and sister Mary Frances Grey (Tarnes).