

In Memoriam

Sheldon Scott Sawyer Sr.

Sheldon Scott Sawyer Sr., 91, Walpole, N.H., passed away peacefully in his sleep on June 13, 2026.

He was born on May 25, 1935, on the family farm in Jaffrey, N.H., the fourth of six sons born to Jason and Elizabeth (Doty) Sawyer. He graduated from Conant High School in 1953.

A December 1957 graduate of the University of New Hampshire and a member of Sigma Beta Fraternity, he began practice teaching in Keene, N.H., and then landed his first job in Horseheads, N.Y. Sheldon moved to Walpole in 1958 to become the agricultural teacher at the local high school, a position he held until 1961. He was an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate to India from 1961 to 1962.

In 1963, he entered a partnership with his father-in-law, G. Allen Holmes, of Crescent Farm. The two expanded Crescent Farm into a modern, Registered Jersey dairy farm. Among the many achievements of which they were proud was selling pedigreed Jerseys to 37 states and nine countries.

In 1997, Sheldon formed a partnership with his son, Sheldon "Tom" Sawyer Jr. The 300-cow herd is enrolled on REAP and has contributed to Project Equity since 1978.

A longtime supporter of youth in agriculture, Sheldon opened his farm to all young people who wanted to learn about dairy cows, believing that any involvement and exposure to agriculture would prepare future voters for better decisions. He served on the 4-H advisory board and the young farmer national advisory board.

Sheldon was also a lifelong advocate for the Jersey cow. He served two terms as Director of District 1 for the American Jersey Cattle Club. He was president of the New Hampshire Jersey Cattle Club and the New England Jersey Breeders Association. He helped select consignments for the New England Jersey Spring Sale and was an active judge at local and regional cattle shows.

He is also a former president of the United Feed Association and both the county and state Farm Bureau chapters. Sheldon was a selectman for the town of Walpole for 12 years and a member of the town planning board for 20 years. He helped to establish the town's conservation committee and sat on the school board. He was a state rep-

resentative from 2004 to 2006. Most recently he was the lead rider of the Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers.

A champion for blood donation, Sheldon donated over 20 gallons in his lifetime. He was an avid supporter of the Conant basketball teams, attending games into his late 80s, and enjoyed traveling through the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Europe. Vacations to Alaska and working ranches in the West were favorites.

In addition to his son, Tom, and his wife, Andrea, Sheldon is survived by his wife of 29 years, Rosella (Burk) Sawyer; three other children, George (Tina) Sawyer, Heidi (Scott) Mason and Crystal (Matt) Phillips; stepchildren Stephanie (Adam) Vose, John (Belinda) Stoughton, Robin Magee (James), Randi (Scott) Fisher, Meghan (Steve) Barton and Heather (Shawn) Tucker; brother Perry Sawyer; seven grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and former spouses, Carol Gage and Wendy Horton.

He was predeceased by brothers Clifton, Donald, Jeremy and Peter Sawyer. Donations may be made to the Thomas P. Fairchild 4-H Endowment, 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire, Taylor Hall, UNH, 59 College Road, Durham, NH 03824, or the New England Jersey Breeders Association for youth activities, c/o Jess Dizak, P.O. Box 466, Hadley, MA 01035.

Margaret Ann Paxton Lindey

Margaret Ann (Black) Paxton Lindey, Findley Township, Pa., 97, passed away on June 20, 2026, peacefully following a brief illness.

She was born on May 9, 1929, to the late Jay and Marilla (McDowell) Black in Jackson Center, Pa. She attended Jackson Center and Mercer Schools and later graduated from Grove City High School in 1946. Margaret graduated from Grove City College in 1950 and taught at West Middlesex High School. She also did substitute teaching at Mercer and Grove City High Schools.

Margaret married John K. Paxton in 1951. They spent 40 years together in Findley Township on a farm they named Irishtown Acres. He passed away in 1991. Today the 150-cow Registered Jersey farm is operated by their son, Steve, and his wife, Laura, and their family.

She moved to Grove City in 1993 and married Charles W. "Bill" Lindey in 1997. The couple moved back to Irishtown Acres in 2009. She and Bill

enjoyed traveling and spending winters in Arizona. She was also passionate about working in her flower garden and spending time with family.

Margaret was an active member of East Main Presbyterian Church, where she served as a deacon, volunteered for many activities and belonged to the women's association and the Tri-Fidelis Sunday School Class. She sat on the board of the Springfield Cemetery Association, serving many years as secretary and treasurer.

In addition to her son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Laura, she is survived by a daughter, Sara J. (Steve) Hollis; two other sons, Joe (Sue) Paxton and Larry (Carol) Paxton; four stepchildren, Cynthia (Richard) Sankey, Charles A. Lindey, LaVerne (Patty) Lindey and Valerie (Scott) Ireland; a step daughter-in-law, Karen Lindey; 13 grandchildren; 13 step grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren and one on the way; five step great-grandchildren; a sister, Mary Lou Kay; a brother, Jim (Cathy) Black; and a sister-in-law, Barbara Black.

She was preceded in death by her second husband, Bill, in 2016; a stepson, Joey Frey; a brother, David Black; and a brother-in-law, Jack Kay.

Memorial contributions may be made to East Main Presbyterian Church or Springfield Cemetery Association.

Jeanine Marie Riggs

Jeanine Marie (Asbell) Riggs, Evansville, Ind., 92, passed away on June 17, 2026, at North River Health Campus.

She was born on January 25, 1934, to the late Kenneth and Marie (Klein) Asbell and married Richard Alan Riggs in 1952.

Alongside her husband, Jeanine was a devoted partner in the family's Riggs Jersey Farm, a Registered Jersey farm they established in 1955. Here she worked tirelessly in every aspect of the operation, from bookkeeping to daily farm responsibilities.

Jeanine also supported Richard's service on the board of National All-Jersey Inc. and his work with All American planning committees and a host of other dairy organizations. He received the American Jersey Cattle Club's Distinguished Service Award in 1992.

The Riggs family showed cattle at the Indiana State Fair and the All American Jersey Show and were exhibitors at the Scott-Vanderburgh County Fair for more than five decades.

Jeanine was a longtime active member of Blue Grass Church and loved a

life centered on faith, family and service. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, cake decorating and baking special treats for her family.

She also dedicated many years to mentoring young people as a 4-H leader, sharing her knowledge, creativity and love of community with future generations.

Jeanine is survived by five daughters, Ann (Dale) White, Jan (Tom) Weiss, Patty (Anthony) Marcum, Jeanne (Sandy) Winter and Nancy (Jeff) Richards; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Richard, in 2014.

Memorial contributions may be made to Blue Grass Church, 14240 Petersburg Rd., Evansville, IN 47725.