In Memoriam

Donald Paul "Don" Metzger

Donald Paul "Don" Metzger, Lester, Iowa, 89, passed away on August 27, 2026, at home.

He was born on July 17, 1937, on a farm near Hills, Minn., to the late Ernst and Ella Metzger. One of 16 children, he moved with the family to a farm north of Lester in 1938. There, amid cattle, hogs, chickens, ducks, crops and a large garden, Don learned the value of resourcefulness, cooperation and steady work—lessons that guided him throughout his life.

He graduated from Lester Public School in 1955 and then worked on the family farm, studied mechanics through a correspondence course and put his natural ability with engines and machinery to work at garages in Luverne, Minn., and Rock Rapids, Iowa. He entered the U.S. Army in 1961 and trained at Fort Riley, Kan., and Fort Leonard, Mo. He served with the 76th Transit Company in Orleans, France, driving a truck. His travels in service also took him to Spain, Germany and Switzerland before he returned home shortly before Christmas in 1962.

Don joined his father in modernizing the family dairy farm by adding a milking parlor and loafing barn, expanding the herd and helping establish Summit Farm Inc. in 1964. Don took pride in improving the quality and production of the Registered Jersey herd. Today, Summit Farm is operated by Don's brother, Rodney, and his family.

Two other impactful events for Don occurred in 1964. He met his future bride, Mary Jane, in Sioux Falls, S.D., and then married her on October 2 in Lester. Together they built a life full of work, ingenuity, adventure and love. One of their most memorable projects was turning two one-room schoolhouses into a modern four-bedroom farmhouse, with Mary Jane helping design the home and kitchen.

Don and Mary Jane were active in state and national Jersey organizations, with Don serving as a Director of the American Jersey Cattle Club. They both served as 4-H leaders while their three children showed sheep and Jerseys and participated in cooking and other projects. The family attended fairs and national Jersey conventions and shared the everyday joys of country life—garden strawberries, tomatoes, cake tops, ice cream and time together working side by side.

Don had a lifelong gift for building, fixing and improving things. Whether remodeling a house, caring for animals, planting corn or beans, delivering furniture for Mary Jane's decorating business or planning a woodworking shop, he was happiest when his hands and mind were at work. In retirement, he and Mary Jane moved to an acreage west of Lester, where horses, cattle, goats, sheep, garden produce and family visits kept life full. They also traveled together to Nova Scotia, England, Ireland and Scotland while researching Mary Jane's family history.

Don leaves his family a legacy of perseverance, practical wisdom, quiet service and gratitude for a life well lived. His stories, steady presence and example will remain part of the family he loved so dearly. He will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, farmer, veteran and friend whose life was rooted in family, hard work and the land he loved.

In addition to his brothers, Rodney (Polly) Metzger and Harvey (Mary) Metzger, Don is survived by his children, John (Peggy) Metzger, research and genetic development consultant for the AJCA, Lloyd (Mindy) Metzger and Jennifer (Brett) Puetz; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; siblings Shirley Wuthrich, Della Luthi, Ella (John) Martin, Helen Anliker, Alvin Metzger, Arthur (Kristy) Metzger, Virgil (Mary) Metzger, Glen (Joyce) Metzger, Arlene (Rod) Grimm, Ida (Keith) Kellenberger and Harold (Patricia) Metzger; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, Don was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Jane, brothers John and Boyd Metzger, sister-in-law Lois Metzger and brothers-in-law Don Luthi, Joel Wuthrich and Leonard Anliker.

Memorials may be directed to the Lyon County Historical Society.

Ted T. Renner

Ted S. Renner, Dalton, Ohio, 75, passed away unexpectedly on September 1, 2026.

He was born on September 18, 1950, in Massillon, Ohio, to the late Kenneth E. and Miriam E. (Klick) Renner. He graduated from Dalton High School in 1969 and then obtained a dairy science degree from The Ohio State University.

Ted's life was dedicated to his family and his farm, and he was passionate about both cattle and horses. He had a great eye for nearly all species of livestock. While at OSU, he was a member of both the dairy and livestock judging teams, where he helped his teams place well in competition and earned high honors as an individual as well. He continued to judge dairy cattle professionally at county, state and national levels, including the Texas State Fair, and was an associate judge for Guernseys at World Dairy Expo and the All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, Pa.

In the 1970s, Ted became the first dairy program specialist for the Central Ohio Breeding Association (COBA), a service today offered by Select Sires as Select Mating Service.

He then returned to Dalton to purchase the home farm from his parents in 1979. Initially the herd was primarily Guernseys but later transitioned to Holsteins. Renner also owned Registered Jerseys and bred them using the RenWind prefix. Ted and his family showed cattle at local, district, state and national levels and sold cattle at district and state sales and exported them as well. He was also well known for his pedigree knowledge and frequently read pedigrees at consignment sales and dispersals across Ohio.

Ted was active with the district and state Holstein associations. The Ohio Holstein Association presented him with the Senior Buckeye Breed Builder in 2008 and the Distinguished Service Award in 2017. He was a 40-year member of Holstein Association USA and served on the COBA/Select Sires board for 15 years.

In addition to his passion for dairy cattle, Ted had a great appreciation for Registered Paint and Quarter Horses, which led him to meet his future wife, Penny, when they competed at the Wayne County Saddle Club and Wayne County Fair in junior high and then began dating in high school.

Ted was also a member of the former Dalton United Methodist Church.

In addition to his wife of 56 years, Penny, he is survived by children, Tyler (Anna) Renner of Anchorage, Alaska, Rachel (Matthew) Budd of Orrville, Julie (Jake) Aegerter of Hanoverton and Jennifer (David) Reynolds of Dalton; 14 grandchildren; a great-grandson; sisters Bonnie Temple, Sally (Fred) Johnson and Holly (Roger) High; brother Bob (Marge) Renner; and numerous nieces, nephews, family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by a brother, Ron (Linda) Renner, and brother-in-law

Raymond Temple.

Memorials may be made to Dalton-Kidron Big 4 4-H Club, 241 W. Main St., Dalton, OH 44618, or Dalton Equestrians 4-H Club, 2611 Alabama Ave. S.W., Dalton, OH 44618.

Charline L. Smith

Charline L. Smith, Picayune, Miss., 92, passed away on September 9, 2026.

She was born in Rawls Springs, Miss., to the late Charles Lamar Loper and Mary Ann Ross Loper and grew up in the Sunflower Community of Perkinston, Miss. At the age of 15, she married the love of her life, Ezra, and remained true to him for 45 years.

Charline was the mother of Neal Smith, executive secretary and CEO of the American Jersey Cattle Association and National All-Jersey Inc.

For many years, she assisted Ezra with the operation of Triple S Jersey Dairy Farm, while also raising five children, providing three full-course meals, seven days a week. Later in life, she was an employee with Walmart in Picayune, serving in many positions for over 24 years.

Charline was a member of Salem Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, where she dedicated her life as a Sunday school teacher and pianist and was involved in all aspects of church activities. She crocheted Christmas stockings for Sunday school students and made sure they could recite the books of the Bible. She also taught piano to many students over the years.

She served as a local 4-H club volunteer leader, chaired the Farm Bureau women's committee and served on the board for the Pearl River County Farm Bureau.

As a 4-H club leader, Charline trained and transported many young people to competitions. She loved to attend cattle shows with her children and grandchildren at local, regional and national levels. She was always proud to share their accomplishments with friends.

She enjoyed word puzzles, gardening, reading, crocheting and making jelly and candy as gifts.

In addition to her son, Neal, and his wife, Sherry, Charline is survived by her four other children, Glenn David (Annie) Smith, Nina (Gene) Guthrie, Mark G. (Debbie) Smith and Deena (John) Branum; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a brother, Elder Lamar (Doris) Loper; sister-in-law Alice Loper; and numerous nieces, nephews, church family and friends.

Charline was preceded in death by her parents; husband Ezra Andrew Smith; brothers Jefferson Loper, Terrell Loper, Wenson Loper, Herschel Loper and Elder Billy Joe Loper; and sisters Mary Hoover Parker, Maxine Parker and Myrna Rouse.

Memorial may be sent to the Jersey Research Foundation or Jersey Youth Academy, 6486 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068; or Salem Missionary Baptist Church, 26006 Hwy 43 S, Picayune, MS, 39466.

Sally Joanne Corrick

Sally Joanne Corrick, Albany, Ore., 67, passed away on September 13, 2026, with her family by her side.

The daughter of Marvin and Martha (Hutchins) Gourley, she was born in Eugene, Ore., on July 20, 1959. She grew up in Brownsville, Ore., on her family's dairy farm and graduated from Central Linn High School in 1977.

Sally married Thomas Corrick on August 1, 1981, in Albany. They built a life together in Dever-Conner, Ore., where they worked hard to make a beautiful home and hosted an annual pig roast.

She worked many jobs in her lifetime, from farming to production work to her final job with the Mennonite Village (specifically Quail Run), a continuing care retirement community in Albany, a position she held for 18 years.

Sally was a lifelong advocate for agriculture and the dairy industry. She spent many years volunteering with the Linn County 4-H program and loved her time at the fair, where she helped teach a younger generation about agriculture. Sally regularly brought Jersey calves to the Mennonite Village for residents to see and pet, an act they thoroughly enjoyed. Sally also volunteered for Christmas Storybook Land, an indoor walk-through holiday wonderland at the fairgrounds in Albany.

She left a lasting legacy and impact on many lives, something her family hopes will continue.

In addition to her husband, Thomas, she is survived by daughters Constance and Melissa Corrick; four grandchildren; a great-grandchild; siblings Susan (Greg) Cox Fitzgerald, Raymond Gourley, Patrick Gourley and Debra Gourley; and many beloved nieces, nephews, friends and family.

Memorials may be made to Christmas Storybook Land or the Mennonite Village Foundation.

Mary Patrice Knapp

Mary Patrice Knapp, Wellington, Ohio, 60, passed away on September 19, 2026, at the Cleveland Clinic Medina Hospital.

She was born on January 27, 1966, in St. Paul, Minnesota, to the late Russell and Mary (Rodgers) Scott. Mary moved with her family to Medina as a child and spent most of her youth there, except for her graduation year, when she lived in Florida and graduated from West Palm Beach.

Mary and her husband, Rodney, operated a Registered Jersey farm with their family in Wellington.

Mary's love of animals started at a young age when she volunteered at a horse barn cleaning stalls for a chance to ride at the end of the day. As she grew older, she volunteered with Project Hope Equine Assisted Therapy, where she helped children with disabilities ride horses.

County fairs were another large part of Mary's life. She enjoyed exhibiting and taking her family to the fair, but when she couldn't go, she was the one who stayed home to watch the Jersey cows. When her children were young, Mary also started and led the Kids & Kritters 4-H Club.

Most recently, Mary was working in the bakery at Miller Brothers Grocery Inc. in Lodi. She also worked at Guyer's Super Valu Market in Wellington and Forever Friends Pet Care Center and Hospital and for a dog groomer in North Ridgeville.

In addition to her husband, Rodney, she is survived by three sons, Joseph Knapp, Matthew (Sarah) Knapp and Gregory (Lori) Knapp; two granddaughters; and siblings Melinda Radon, Janice Reep, Jeff Scott, Marion Henry, Cathy Kuehner, Mark Scott and Amy Scott.

Betty Hobbs Wrenn Lutz

Betty Hobbs Wrenn Lutz, Chester, S.C., 86, passed away on September 30, 2026.

She was born on September 23, 1940, in Chester, to Ambrose Wylie Wrenn and Alice Elizabeth Thomas Wrenn. Betty graduated from Chester High School and Winthrop College, now Winthrop University, where she earned a bachelor of science degree and teacher certification in 1961.

Betty met the love of her life, Herbert Daniel Lutz Sr., while they were students at Chester High School. They began dating during their senior class trip to Washington, D.C. and married

on August 20, 1961. They shared more than 64 years of marriage before his death on January 6, 2026.

She began her teaching career at Winnsboro High School, where she taught business courses, including business English and shorthand. The 1963 Winnsboro High School, Halcyon, paid special tribute to her tireless work with students and the school yearbook. Betty later returned to Chester, where she taught at Chester High School for several years.

After leaving the classroom, Betty used her business education skills to keep the books for the business owned by her father-in-law, O.P. Lutz. She later worked alongside Herbert as they raised their family and built Sunny Day Farm in Chester.

When their son, Herby, wanted a dairy calf to show through 4-H, that interest grew into a nationally recognized Registered Jersey herd and a lifelong commitment to the dairy industry for Betty and Herbert. Together they traveled throughout the country to attend dairy events and American Jersey Cattle Association conventions. Their travels also took them to the Isle of Guernsey and the Isle of Jersey, historic homes of both breeds.

Betty and Herbert's lifetime of leadership and service to the state's dairy industry was recognized with their induction into the South Carolina Dairy Hall of Fame in 2024. Betty also received the Pearl Clover Award for her many years as a 4-H leader and her dedication to the program's young people. Clemson University honored her tireless work on behalf of the T. Edmond Garrison Livestock Arena, reflecting her longstanding commitment to South Carolina agriculture.

A longtime member of Capers Chapel Church, Betty remained devoted to her family, faith, community and the many friendships she and Herbert formed through the dairy industry. She will be remembered as a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, a dedicated educator and a woman of intelligence and strength whose commitment to others shaped her life.

Betty is in heaven today, excited to be reunited with her beloved Herbert.

In addition to her son, Herby D. Lutz, and his wife, Amanda, she is survived by two other children, Suzanne (Michael) and Deborah (Jim), and seven grandchildren.

Donations may be made to Capers Chapel Church, 1683 Lowery Highway, Chester, SC 29706; Cancer of Many Colors, 100 Old Cherokee Rd., Suite F-339, Lexington, SC 29072; or a cause close to one's heart.