Obituaries

Rita Lucia Kimball, 92, of Bristol Glen Newton, New Jersey, passed away Monday morning June 7, 2021, following a brief illness. Born in Montreal Canada, Rita came to the United States as a young child and grew up in Barton. She also lived in Dover and Hopatcong, New Jersey, before retiring to Nettles Island in Jensen Beach, Florida. In 2017, Rita returned to Newton, New Jersey, to be closer to family.

Daughter of the late Severin and Rosemarie (Vandal) Cloutier, Rita was a graduate of the Barton Academy and Graded School. She had a long career as the town clerk and building department secretary for Hopatcong borough until her retirement.

A loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and sister, she was very devoted and involved in all her children’s activities throughout their lives and supported them with unconditional, selfless, love. Rita loved Nettles Island and had numerous close friends there. She was an active member of the Nettles Island senior citizens clubs participating in many of their activities, including the Theatre Guild where she participated in multiple plays and shows. She was also a competitive tennis player with the US Senior Tennis Association, playing throughout Florida. A former parishioner of the Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church, Hopatcong and St. Martin De Porres Roman Catholic Church, Jensen Beach. Rita will truly be missed by her loving family and friends.

Mrs. Kimball was predeceased by her beloved husband, Edward C. Kimball Jr., in 2005; her brothers Gaston, Raymond, Gaetan, and Regent Cloutier, as well as her sister Bertha Sedta.

She is survived by her sons Edward and his wife Deborah, Robert and his wife Daria, Guy, and his wife Janet, and Douglas and his wife Carol Kimball; her daughters Vicki and her husband Pasquale Romano, and Barbara and her husband Robert Nowatnick; her brothers James and Robert Cloutier, her sister Martha Brown, her seventeen grandchildren, fifteen great grandchildren, and her many nieces and nephews.

The Family will be having a private life celebration for Rita, and burial will take place at the Randolph Veterans Memorial Cemetery beside her beloved husband, Ed.

Arrangements and online condolences at www.iliff-ruggierofuneralhome.com In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research in memory of Edward C. Kimball, Jr. at www.michaeljfox.org

Old Stone House Museum to unveil Twilight exhibit

The Old Stone House Museum is opening its doors for the first time since the onset of the COVID pandemic, and is doing so with the unveiling of its new exhibit celebrating African American Alexander Lucius Twilight on Saturday, June 19, at 11 a.m. Light refreshments will be provided for the exhibit dedication with museum tours until 3 p.m., with no admittance fee.

This ceremony will take place on Juneteenth, the holiday celebrating the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States. The museum celebrates the day in 1865 when enslaved people were set free in Texas by executive decree two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. This day is now seen as the official end to slavery in the United States and also falls eight years after Mr. Twilight died here in Brownington.

The exhibit will return Mr. Twilight’s artifacts to the home he built, the Alexander Twilight House, where they will be on prominent display in the parker. The items include Mr. Twilight’s desk, trunk, Bible, sermons, iron bar, ox yoke, and books. The coffee set and silver spoons belonging to his wife, Mercy Ladd Merrill Twilight, will also be available for viewing along with framed photographs of the couple.

“The exhibit will offer a renewed look at this amazing man with some new, fresh interpretation,” said Molly Veysey, Old Stone House Museum and Historic Village executive director.

The new exhibit will also include the proclamation U.S. Representative Peter Welch read into the Congressional Record in 2020, recognizing Mr. Twilight’s two-hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary. In addition, the concurrent resolution passed last year by the Vermont State Legislature, recognizing Mr. Twilight’s birthday, September 23, as Alexander Twilight Day, will also be included. In addition to recognizing this holiday, the museum has adopted a diversity, equity and inclusion statement.

The Old Stone House Museum and Historic Village Board of Trustees adopted this statement at its February 11 meeting. Part of the statement reads: “The Old Stone House Museum and Historic Village aspires to be the space for open dialog around the interconnected issues of inequality in our shared society.”— from the Old Stone Museum and Historic Village.

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Ruth Carter will be held on June 27, 2021 at 1 p.m.
The service and luncheon will be held at 395 Clyde Street, Newport, VT. Burial at Pine Grove Cemetery.

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