Obituaries *from page 43*

as the librarian of the Grafton Public Library, where she devoted her energies to increasing readership among young and adult readers.

She was president and treasurer of the New Hampshire chapter of the Stuckley Wescott Society and for many years served as a floral superintendent at the Canaan Fair. She was an accomplished quilter and was also skilled in a variety of other crafts as well as an avid gardener. She served as a practical nurse and caregiver to many individuals in Grafton and the surrounding areas, as well as being a domestic worker, providing catering services and being employed by Sprague Electric Corp.

She is survived by one sister, five sons, two stepdaughters, two stepsons, nine grandchildren, numerous stepgrandchildren and great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held at Millbrook Christian Fellowship Church on Route 4, Grafton. Burial was at Pine Grove Cemetery, also in Grafton.

Memorial donations may be made to the Grafton Public Library, PO Box 310, Grafton 03240.

Gerald C. Englishmen, 64, of Wilmot, died October 13, 2010, at home after a three-year brave battle with brain cancer.

He was born November 30, 1945, in Paterson, New Jersey, the son of Elmer R. and Lydia (Archer) Englishmen. He graduated from Midland Park, New Jersey, High School in 1963 and worked for Citizens Bank in New Jersey.

He entered the US Navy in 1966, and after he was discharged he moved to Wilmot in 1969.

In his 40-year postal career, Jerry was postmaster in New London, Andover, and Franklin, retiring in 2009.

He attended the Wilmot Baptist Church and sang in the choir. Jerry was a member of King Solomon's Lodge 14 F&AM of Elkins.

He was predeceased by a son, Allen, in 1988; a daughter, Melanie, in 2007; his parents; and two brothers, Kenneth and James.

Members of his surviving family include his wife of 42 years, Ina (Bolton) Englishmen of Wilmot; a daughter and son-in-law, Corinne and Neal Stetson of Winchester; two granddaughters, Angeleine and Jenna; and nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at the Wilmot Baptist Church with the Reverend Dr. Allen Koop, pastor, officiating. Burial was held at Pine Hill Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to Norris Cotton Cancer Center, Brain Cancer Research, One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon 03756.

Teodor "Ted" S. Soczewinski, 86, of Franklin, died in Franklin on Thursday, October 14, 2010. He was born in Gory Mokre, Poland, in 1924, the son of Joachim and Marianna Soczewinski. Ted served both in the Polish and British armies during World War II. He emigrated to the United States in 1950 and resided in Franklin since 1951.

Ted was an active member of the Andover Lions Club and the Congregational Christian Church in Franklin.

He owned several businesses in the area, including the Tilton Theater in the 1960s, Wayside Grocery in Franklin in the 1970s, and Downtowner Restaurant in Tilton in the 1980s. Ted also hosted a Sunday morning radio show on WFTN in the '70s, The Polish Polka Party.

Ted was predeceased by his wife, Marjorie (Huntress) Soczewinski in 1984.

Survivors include his daughter, Karen Gray of Alton, and her children, Kristy McDaniels, Samantha Hillis, and Madison Gray; his son, Richard Soczewinski of Franklin; and several relatives in Poland.

Visiting hours were held at Thibault-Neun Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at the Congregational Christian Church, with burial following in Franklin Cemetery.

Donations in memory of Ted may be made to the Andover Lions Club, PO Box 204, Andover 03216, or the Congregational Christian Church, 26 South Main Street, Franklin 03235.

For an online guestbook, please visit NeunFuneralHomes.com.

Ione M. (Lawrence) Laro, 99, of Franklin died October 17, 2010, at her home following a short illness.

Daughter of Robert H. and Carrie M. (Sargent) Lawrence, she was born in Danbury on July 7, 1911, the youngest of four children. She attended the North Road School and Center School and later attended Canaan High School, Canaan.

She married Guy F. Laro of Grafton on January 15, 1929. They lived in Grafton and Danbury until 1934, when they moved to Armonk, New York for six years before returning to New Hampshire and settling in Franklin, where they spent the next 70 years.

In those 70 years they raised eight of their own children and five of their grandchildren. Ione was a very active member of the PTA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Little League while their children were young. In the later years, she continued to be active and worked for Meals on Wheels for 10 years and also was a member of the Share Program.

She and her husband were members of the Central Baptist Church in Franklin for 40 years. Ione shared her love of Christ and dedication to the church by giving her time to the church. She was a church secretary for many years, and she also helped with the Vacation Bible School in the summers.

Ione was an avid crotchetier, having made baby sets for all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved to sew as well, having made several quilts and doll clothes. She would mend pants, fix shirts, and replace lost buttons, all with a smile. No sewing job was too tough for her.

She was a collector of wind chimes. She loved to feed and watch birds. Her favorite bird was the red cardinal. She collected anything with a red cardinal on it. She was known to many as Gram.

She is survived by seven children: Virginia White, Franklin; Roger G. Laro and his wife Norma, Andover; Stanley G. Laro and his wife Nancy, Broadway, Virginia; Frank W. Laro and his wife Jackie, Boscawen; Lester R. Laro and his wife Ellie, Franklin; James R. Laro and his companion Ann Thibeault, Tilton; Nancy E. Gove and her husband Tim, Newbury; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and great-great-great-grandchildren: a family of six generations.

Friends and relatives called at the Congregational Christian Church, South Main Street, Franklin on October 21, followed by a funeral service at the church. Burial and committal services were at Riverside Cemetery, Danbury following the funeral. Family friend, Reverend G. Alden Taylor officiated.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2 Commerce Way, Bedford 03110-6803 or the Franklin Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, 75 Chestnut Street, Franklin 03235.

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