

## OBITUARIES

### BONAPARTE

Sandra Louise Cole, 63, died Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2026. Schmitz Funeral Home, Farmington.

### IOWA CITY

Marlene Ann Hesselstine, died Sunday, Feb. 15, 2026. Lensing Funeral & Cremation Service.

### KALONA

Simon A. Weaver, 74, died Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026. Yoder-Powell Funeral Home.

### ROBERT WARNER BOYER Fairfield

Robert Warner Boyer passed away peacefully at his home in Fairfield on February 3, 2026 at the age of 79. In keeping with his wishes, a private service was held at Cranston Family Funeral Home, followed by cremation. Those wishing to honor Bob's memory are invited to support Yosemite Conservancy, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Yosemite National Park, his favorite place to visit. Memorials may be mailed to the family c/o Cranston Family Funeral Home, P.O. Box 189, Fairfield, IA 52556. Friends are welcome to leave condolences online at [www.cranstonfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.cranstonfamilyfuneralhome.com).



Born November 26, 1946, in Oregon City, OR, to Robert H. and Lena Mildred Davis Boyer, Bob spent his early years in southern California. When he reached high school, the family moved to northern California, where he graduated from Gridley High School in 1964. Bob's athletic talent earned him a baseball scholarship to UCLA, where he pitched his way into the record books—his most completed games record remains in the top ten in UCLA history, and one season he held the highest batting average. He graduated from UCLA in 1969 with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology.

The 1970s found Bob in Los Angeles, working for the TM organization. He served as president of the Student International Meditation Society (SIMS) and the World Plan Executive Council, and played a pivotal role in organizing the financing and writing the check for the purchase of Parson's College. In 1971, he became a TM teacher, sharing his passion for meditation and personal growth.

Bob's thirst for knowledge led him back to school, where he earned a Master's in Psychology from CAL State Northridge in 1981, followed by a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Oklahoma in 1984. He moved to Fairfield to teach psychology at MIU, but soon found his calling in counseling. After an internship in Lake Tahoe, he returned to Fairfield as a mental health counselor at Community Mental Health, eventually opening a private practice.

On April 1, 1994, Bob married Connie Harrison in Fairfield. He is survived by his wife Connie, two stepdaughters, Heidi Fulsaas (Randy) and Jennifer Slagel (Matt), five grandchildren, Brody, Kenzie, and Bentley Fulsaas and Gavin and Corinne Slagel, a sister, Lana Boyer, nephews Randy Meyer and Brian Tierney, a niece, Jessica Meyer (Stacey), and many friends.

Bob's intellectual curiosity never waned. Before and after retirement, he authored seven books and published numerous papers on therapy, the mind/body connection, physics, consciousness, and communication skills. He was known for his highly developed mind and his skill in communication and relationships.

In 2007 and 2008, Bob taught psychology at Girne American University in Cyprus, expanding his influence internationally. Alongside Connie, he opened the Seven Roses Inn bed and breakfast in 2007, welcoming guests from around the world for 18 years. Bob cherished meeting people from all walks of life and enjoyed being an ambassador for Fairfield.

Above all, Bob wanted his friends, clients, and acquaintances to know how honored he felt to have them in his life. His story is one of curiosity, service, and heartfelt connection—a legacy that will continue to inspire those who knew him.

### SHARON K. JOHNSON Mt. Pleasant

Sharon K. Johnson, formerly of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and most recently residing in Ames, Iowa, passed away on February 18, 2026, following a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was born on April 12, 1944, in Burlington, Iowa to Jack Clayton and Leora Janet Oetken Brown.

Sharon was a 1962 graduate of New London High School. Following graduation, she worked at the Armory in Burlington, Iowa. In 1965, she married the love of her life, Dale Johnson. Together they made their home in New London and later in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Sharon and Dale shared 59 years of marriage, celebrating their 59th anniversary shortly before Dale's passing on September 19, 2024.

Sharon devoted many years as a stay-at-home mother before returning to the workforce as an office manager with Mark Hamilton Insurance in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where she worked until her retirement.

She greatly enjoyed the outdoors, especially walking with friends and family. Sharon found her greatest joy in spending time with her grandchildren and was active in her faith communities, including New London Presbyterian Church, Calvary Baptist Church, and Wellspring Churches in New London and Mt. Pleasant.

In addition to her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Dale Johnson. She is survived by her brother Ron Brown and his wife Rayma; her sons Joel Johnson and his wife Tracy, and Jamie Johnson and his wife Courtney; and her six grandchildren, Brandon, Ryan, Emma, Reese, Eliza, and Seth.

A Service of Remembrance and Celebration of Life will be held at a future date as a joint celebration honoring both Sharon and Dale, with inurnment at Burge cemetery, rural New London.

Those wishing to remember Sharon may send condolences to Elliott Chapel in New London, Iowa. Online condolences may be left at [www.elliottfuneralchapel.com](http://www.elliottfuneralchapel.com).



### MARY LOUISE RAMSEYER Phoenix, AZ

Mary Louise Ramseyer of Phoenix, Arizona passed away peacefully on February 13, 2026 at home surrounded by family. She was 93 years old.

Mary Ramseyer was born June 5, 1932 in Washington, Iowa to Earl and Juanita (Pieper) Redlinger. She grew up in Washington, Iowa and moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1957. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Harry W. Ramseyer M.D., her sisters Marge (Marshall), Barb (Williams), and brothers Duane and William Redlinger. Mary Ramseyer is survived by her children, Janet (husband Scott Houser), Linda, Peggy and Ken (wife Leslie). She is also survived by 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Mary worked as a registered nurse and certified nurse anesthetist in Iowa and Arizona. She was an avid crafter and also enjoyed outdoor activities. Most of all she loved her family and supported all their interests. She will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

A rosary will be held at 10:30 am with the funeral Mass starting at 11:00 am on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at Saint Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 2312 E. Campbell Ave., Phoenix. Interment to follow at Saint Francis Catholic Cemetery, 2033 N. 48th St., Phoenix.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Alzheimer's Association (<https://www.alz.org>) or Arizona Nurse Honor Guard (<https://arizonanursehonorguard.org>). Condolences may be expressed at [www.whitneymurphyfuneralhome.com](http://www.whitneymurphyfuneralhome.com).



## Onika Parrish Upper Iowa University graduate

FAYETTE - Upper Iowa University is pleased to announce Onika Parrish of Mount Pleasant, IA, graduated with a Associate of Arts degree in Psychology in the fall of 2025.

*About Upper Iowa University*

Founded in 1857, Upper Iowa University is a private, nonprofit institution dedicated to offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs to approximately 5,700 students both nationally and internationally.

## Carnegie Museum Board to meet Feb. 24

The Carnegie Museum Board of Directors will meet at 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24.

**The agenda is as follows:**

Call to Order:  
Members in attendance:  
Excused Members:  
Guests:  
Public Address:  
Approval of Minutes:  
Reports:  
Director  
Treasurer  
President  
Foundation (Private):  
Approval of Bills:  
Unfinished Business:  
Carnegie Manufac-

turers Series — Jan. — March 2026 Not Scheduled

Sen. Wilson Bookcases | Update/Discussion Appraisals needed on Foundation and City Artifacts

Computer Purchase needed for Records lookup

March Trivia Night Now and Then Magazine Advertising inquiry

Future president position discussion

New Business: L.O.S.T. Grant Application  
Adjournment:

## Community rallies behind Rugg Family

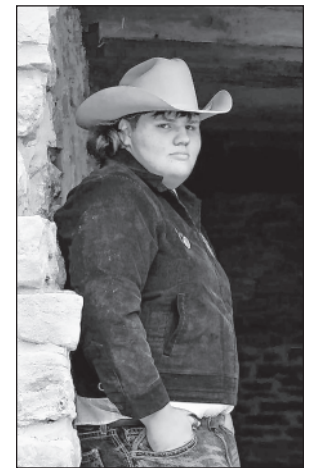
Over \$4k raised for family of recently-deceased Wayland teen

By Marilyn Higgins

WAYLAND - A GoFundMe page has raised over \$4,000 to assist the Rugg Family with funeral costs.

On Friday, Feb. 13, the family lost a son, 17 year old Kyler Rugg, in a car accident south of Trenton. The page, created by Caylon DeVaul for their benefit, seeks to lessen the financial burden of the funeral and its costs.

Rugg's surviving family, including his girlfriend and soon-to-be-born son, totals 12 people. Funerals can be financially ruinous, and this page seeks to



The late Kyler Rugg, who, on Feb. 13, died in an automobile accident at age 17. (Photo courtesy of WACO CSD)

remedy this. In the five days since it has been posted, it's raised over \$4,000, toward a goal of \$5,000.

Call Marilyn Higgins at 319-368-8895 or email her at [marilyn.higgins@southeastiowaunion.com](mailto:marilyn.higgins@southeastiowaunion.com)

## Nursing home worker faces drug, abuse charges, claims of sexual exploitation

Some of the alleged incidents were at a facility in Marion

By Clark Kauffman,  
Iowa Capital Dispatch

A state-licensed nurse who has been criminally charged with sexually exploiting and stealing from a nursing home resident has voluntarily agreed to refrain from practicing while regulators investigate the matter.

In April 2025, Rachel Ann Flowers, 43, a registered nurse from North Liberty, was criminally charged with theft in connection with an incident at the Parkview Manor nursing home in Wellman where she worked.

According to police, the administrator of the home, Kaylee Martin, reported that Flowers, who was employed as the assistant director of



(Photo courtesy of the Iowa Board of Nursing)

nursing for the facility, owned a backpack that contained multiple items belonging to Parkview Manor. When Flowers was confronted, she allegedly explained to the home's administrator that because the items were "expired," she was taking them from the facility for her own use.

Martin allegedly showed officers Flowers' backpack, which contained a Lidocaine patch, suture kits, a syringe and various medications worth a total of \$654. According to police, the

items were not expired.

Flowers later pleaded guilty to a charge of theft and in September 2025 was granted a deferred judgment and placed on unsupervised probation for one year.

Four weeks after her sentencing, Flowers was arrested again and charged with dependent adult abuse by sexual exploitation, unlawful possession of a prescription drug and prohibited acts involving prescription drugs.

In that case, police allege that Flowers,

while working for Silver Oak Nursing and Rehabilitation in Marion in 2024, was serving as a caretaker for a dependent, 52-year-old man who alleged he and Flowers had kissed multiple times and that she allowed him to touch her breasts.

Other staff at the facility reported that it appeared the man was in love with Flowers and that he believed he was in a relationship with her. According to police, Flowers reportedly signed out 12 Viagra pills for the man, although he reported receiving only three of the pills.

Police allege Flowers ultimately left Silver Oak and, in March 2025, subsequently came under investigation at a different, unspecified care facility for missing narcotics. According to the police, it was later determined that Flowers had in her possession medications

and other supplies she took from a care facility, as well as Viagra pills belonging to the man at Silver Oak. The police reports indicate Silver Oak performed a drug audit that indicated 33 of the man's Viagra pills were missing.

Flowers has pleaded not guilty to the criminal charges in the case. A trial is scheduled for March 20. Flowers' attorney declined to comment on the matter.

The Iowa Board of Nursing is now investigating the two criminal cases. According to the board, the April 2025 case involved "the theft of a backpack that belonged to a patient" — as opposed to what police alleged, which was the theft of supplies from Parkview Manor that were stored in Flowers' own backpack.

The board has agreed that it will not pursue any disciplinary charges

against Flowers until the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing can complete its investigation of the two cases. In return, Flowers has agreed to refrain from practicing as a nurse until further order by the board.

Flowers' license status has now been changed to "suspended."

The Silver Oak case is not the first time Flowers has been accused of an improper relationship with a nursing home resident. In 2022, the Board of Nursing alleged that Flowers, between August 2019 and August 2021, was working at an unspecified care facility where a resident said he had been involved in a "personal relationship" with Flowers. Flowers confessed to the relationship when the home's management asked her about it, the board alleged.