

**Kyle Patrick Barsness**, 53, of Land O'Lakes, Fla. passed away on July 8, 2016. Kyle was raised in the Panama Canal Zone and graduated from Balboa High School in 1981. In 1990 he obtained his engineering degree from USF. For over 15 years, Kyle was a plant manager of Publix Bakery Plant. After leaving Publix, he held various positions utilizing his management and engineering degree. Kyle was a member of Victorious Life Church and a member of EAA. His passion was aviation. Kyle loved spending time at Sun and Fun Airport with his sons.

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**Thomas Michael "Mike" Behre**, 61, died unexpectedly on July 13, 2016. Mike was a gentle man who loved the Lord, his family, his job and living the RV lifestyle. He grew up in the Panama Canal Zone.

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**Sofia Burgoon**, 93, passed away peacefully on August 4, 2016. She worked for the U.S. Army Postal Service, the Selective Service Branch and the Equal Opportunity Office of the former Panama Canal organizations. Her passions were her family, fishing, entertaining and traveling to the interior areas of Panama.

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**Ray Lee Caldwell**, 73, died on June 12, 2016, of complications related to Alzheimer's disease. Ray was born and raised in the former Canal Zone, Panama.

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**Robert Ciepiela**, 83, died in Annapolis, Md. on Monday, May 18, 2015. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy after high school and received his Naval Officer's Commission in 1962. Robert retired in 1975 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Following years of sea duty and stateside shore assignments, he received orders to Rodman Naval Support Activity in the Panama Canal Zone in 1971.

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Dr. **Nathan Gale**, 92, passed away on May 7, 2016, in California, a victim of Alzheimer's disease. If you had a pet in the Canal Zone, then you most likely crossed paths with Dr. Gale. Nate began his career with the Panama Canal Zone in 1959 using his talents and intellect to safeguard Zonian residents from rabies by testing brain tissue from suspect wild animals. He subsequently worked at the Corozal Veterinary Clinic and knew most of the Canal Zone residents through our pets. He was a very popular, respected and caring veterinarian and friend to all in the community.

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**Dorothy Lorraine Gilmore**, 86, of Dunedin, Fla. passed away on June 12, 2016. She worked in the Transportation Department, Finance Department, International Geodetic Survey, and Federal Aviation Administration while in the Canal Zone. She developed a wonderful group of friends in Panama and remained close with them throughout her life.

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**Annie Laurie Lowery Halvosa**, 90, past away on July 10, 2016. She was a beloved teacher in the former Panama Canal Zone in 1954 where she taught 6th grade until she retired in 1979. who knew and loved her.

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**Joseph Christopher Hannigan**, 77, of Seminole, Fla., died May 27, 2016. Joe's kindness, gentleness, and sense of humor will be missed by all who knew him. He enjoyed time with his family and friends, bicycling with the Silver Riders, golfing with his buddies, coaching softball, sailing in the Gulf, and the British Virgin Islands, and exploring the world. He was born and raised in the Panama Canal Zone and graduated from the University of Massachusetts.

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**Doris Marie (Svedahl) Hunt** died on July 2, 2016, in Eagan, Minnesota. She moved to the Canal Zone in 1963 with her three oldest children. Doris retired from DODDS in 1994 and moved to Tallahassee, Fla.

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**Douglas Brent Litton, Sr.**, 83, passed away August 12, 2016. Stationed in Panama in the US Army 1955-56, he later returned and became Athletic Director at Cristobal High School in the Panama Canal Zone from 1962-1978.

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**Mary Jane (Sutherland) McClellan**, 98, of Punta Gorda, Fla., passed away in Port Charlotte on June 10, 2016. She worked in security for the Canal Zone during the war years and was active as a Sunday school teacher and Brownie leader.

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**Letty Lou (Youngblood) Millar**, 72, passed away on June 26, 2016, in the Republic of Panama. She was a member of the BHS Class of 1963. While a young child, Letty acquired a love for horses, which would grow into a passion that lasted her entire life. Letty was the first woman jockey in the Republic of Panama; she rode in many races at Ramon Race Track. She competed in many horse shows throughout the Canal Zone acquiring a vast collection of ribbons and trophies. She passed her love of horses and riding to many generations. Letty continued to ride throughout her life enjoying her daily rides on her horse "Mr. Big" at Curundu Stables.

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**Gates "Gator" Miskovsky**, passed away on April 15, 2016. Gates lost his eyesight as a toddler but overcame this to lead a remarkable life. He attended elementary school in the Panama Canal Zone. Many remember Gates in the Canal Zone as an amazing young man that overcame his blindness. He worked as a dispatcher for the Panama Canal Commission northern district during the summers. A self-taught musician who picked up the bass guitar in his twenty's, he became an accomplished performer.

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**James Joseph O'Donnell, Jr.**, 64, of St. Petersburg, Fla., died on May 3, 2016. Jim grew up in the Panama Canal Zone where he attended and graduated from the Canal Zone College. In the United States, Jim was a letter carrier for some years with the United States Postal Service in Madeira Beach. Then, Jim found the love of his life as a trainer for Southeastern Guide Dogs.

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**Gloria M. Parker**, age 91, went to her heavenly reward August 3, 2016, surrounded by family who referred to her as Dolly. She lived most of her life in the Panama Canal Zone and was a Roosevelt Medal Descendant. She had worked as a private secretary for Terminals Division. Dolly volunteered

for Helping Hands, donated her time and efforts to helping the blind, and belonged to the Elks Club.

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**Raul Revello MD**, 78, of Tampa, Florida passed away on July 21st, 2016. He received his Medical Degree from the University of Brussels in Belgium. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Gorgas Hospital, in the former Canal Zone, Republic of Panama. Afterward, he practiced and worked for the Panama Canal Company and the Department of Defense as a primary care physician for over 20 years with outstanding service. He moved to Tampa, Fla. in 1986 where he was in private practice for more than 20 years until retiring from actively seeing patients.

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**Albert Smith**, 72, passed away on July 27, 2016, with his family by his side at TRMC in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Albert moved to Canal Zone, Panama in 1968 as a machinist on the Gatun Locks. Later he worked at the Admeasure Office on the Atlantic side until 1976.

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Captain **Irving Spector**, 99, passed away peacefully ten days shy of his 100th birthday on June 1, 2016, surrounded by his family members in Largo, Fla. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in what would be the first of two tours from 1936-1940 and 1941-1945. Irv went to work for the Dredging Division on the Panama Canal after again being honorably discharged with the rank of Master Boatswain Mate First Class. Irv became a Towboat Captain after obtaining the necessary licensure and transferred to Margarita on the Atlantic Side where he worked until his retirement in June of 1972 with 36 years of Federal Government service.

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**Blanche Thelma Stabler**, 98, passed away on June 11, 2016, at Highlands Regional Hospital, Sebring, Fla., surrounded by family.

Blanche was raised in the Canal Zone on the Atlantic side, living in Camp Gatun, Colon, New Cristobal, and Gatun. While working as a receptionist in Fort Davis during WWII, she met the incoming Fire Chief, Staff Sergeant Joe Stabler, whom she later married. They, in time, made their home in Curundu, Canal Zone. Blanche was a stay-at-home mom to their four children and her life centered on them. Like many moms, she was a Cub Scout Den Mother and a full-time chauffeur to her children's activities. During her spare time, she enjoyed several hobbies; her most favorite was sewing. The family was active in the community and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. Blanche often commented that some of her best years were those spent in Curundu sharing the close camaraderie of that wonderful community.

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**Milton Sheppard Thompson**, 82, husband of Jane Holgerson Thompson, died Thursday, July 28, 2016, at Charles George VA Medical Center, Asheville, N.C. He retired in 1977 from the Marine Corps after 23 years of service, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and earning many military decorations. Following his retirement, from the Marine Corps, he was employed as Vice President of Maintenance with Hawaiian Airlines in Honolulu, Hawaii; as the Manager of Aircraft Spares for the DC-9/MD80 Aircraft at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Company in Long Beach, Calif.; and Thorlo Sock Company in Statesville, N.C.

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**Judith Vega Tinkler** passed away on April 8, 2016, at Kindred Hospital in La Miranda, Calif. Judith was a wife, a mother and a homemaker.

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**Virginia “Ginny” Ann (Ryter) Wennik**, 85, died June 2, 2016. She was a West Hartford teacher for over 30 years and taught at Beach Park, Norfeldt, Whiting Lane and Sedgwick, Conn. Ginny had a lifelong interest in justice and completed paralegal coursework while working. After retiring she volunteered with the Hartford Superior Court, the Hartford Area Mediation Program, and was very active in her church, the Second Church of Christ Scientist in Hartford. She loved spending time with family and friends, playing the piano.

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**Jeanne Marie Wheeler**, 90, of Hudson, passed away on July 15, 2016. Jeanne moved to New Port Richey, Fla. in 1974 when she retired from the Canal Zone. She was Catholic by faith and very active with Alanon and Alateen. She also worked at H&R Block. Jeanne is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Panama Canal Society and a lifetime member of the Panama Canal Society.