



Agnes Louise Whitcomb

February 29, 1936 - February 8, 2026

Concord, New Hampshire

Agnes Louise Whitcomb died in Concord on February 8, 2026. She was eighty-nine, or twenty-two leap years, depending on who was counting. Born in Concord on February 29, 1936, she treated ordinary Februaries as a March-first affair and liked to mention the extra day as if it were a municipal joke. She grew up walking to the State House the way other children walked to a store, and she never lost the sense that a town is a set of papers that have to come out right.

She was town clerk, then deputy, then the woman you found if the clerk was out, for more than thirty years. Marriage licenses, dog licenses, the voter roll, the quiet panic of a person who had lost a birth certificate. She wrote a clear hand. She did not hurry a widow and she did not chat through a notary stamp. People who thought government was an abstraction had not stood in her office in January with wet boots and a form that needed one more signature.

She married George Whitcomb in 1958. He taught history at the high school and died in 1994, which she said was rude of him, and then she put the house in order and kept going. They had no children. They had a garden, a cat dynasty, and a circle of friends who came for boiled dinner and left with extra muffins. Agnes sang in a choir that did not pretend to be professional and therefore lasted.

Townpeople remember a woman who would call you if your absentee ballot looked wrong, who kept a sweater on the chair year-round, and who could tell you which winter the river ice went out early. She read the local paper with a pencil. She voted in every election she administered and considered that the least interesting fact about her. She died in Concord, in the small capital that had been the whole map. The office still has her filing system. Newer software has not improved the part that was her patience.

Services

A service in Concord, then coffee and pie in the church basement. Please do not send flowers that will outlive the conversation. A gift to the town library suits her.

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