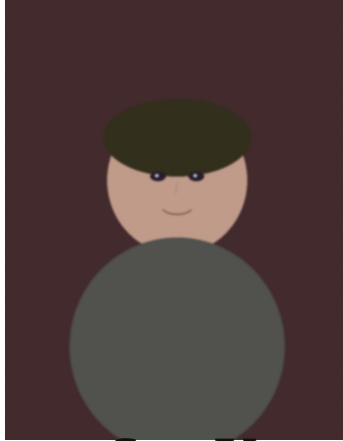




Betty Sue Kovacs

October 21, 1943 - August 14, 2026

Utica, New York

On August 14, 2026, Betty Sue Kovacs died at home in Utica. She was 82. She was born on October 21, 1943 in a Hungarian-American family that measured love in finished chores. Early on, she decided that a paycheck and a handshake should weigh the same.

She stretched wire across weather that did not care about property lines. A fence pliers with a taped grip outlasted three summers. Colleagues still mention a fence pliers with a taped grip.

She and William married in 1967 and raised three sons without needing an audience. After William's death in 2019, she held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember a shovel borrowed and returned sharper. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Utica, among streets she never needed to explain. The calendar still has a circle on payday.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A quiet remembrance in Utica. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

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<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/betty-sue-kovacs-obituary-utica-ny>

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