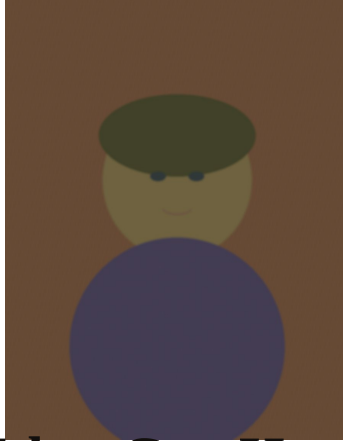




Edna Gay Horst

April 6, 1936 - December 15, 2024

Woonsocket, Rhode Island

Edna Gay Horst of Woonsocket died on December 15, 2024 at the age of 88. Born in Woonsocket on April 6, 1936, into a Welsh-American household that treated work as a language. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She loaded retorts that smelled of piecework and care. A retort basket loader glove clip labeled twice rebuilt more trust than memos. Colleagues still mention a retort basket loader glove clip.

She and Gerald married in 1960 and raised three children without needing an audience. After Gerald's death in 2017, she held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember covered dishes that arrived without a speech. She preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Woonsocket was home enough that she never rehearsed an introduction. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

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 Woonsocket. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

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