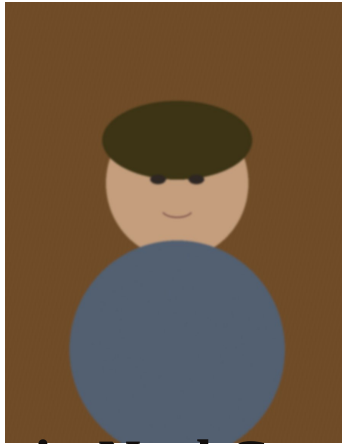




Edwin Neal Cantrell

July 19, 1937 - March 7, 2026

Billings, Montana

Edwin Neal Cantrell, 88, of Billings, died on March 7, 2026. Born in Billings on July 19, 1937; Ukrainian-American cooking and payday thrift set the tone of the house. Early on, he decided that a paycheck and a handshake should weigh the same.

He loaded sacks that smelled of harvest and piecework. A feed scoop with a taped handle opened more than doors; it opened payday. Colleagues still mention a feed scoop with a taped handle.

He and Alice married in 1964 and raised a son and a daughter without needing an audience. After Alice's death in 2019, he held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember snow shoveled past the corner that was not required. Mornings were his favorite shift at home. He died in Billings, on streets that already knew his pace. The chair by the window still holds the shape of a habit.

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

Services

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

NN-OBIT-2026-C867

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