



Evelyn Lou Quakenbush

April 12, 1940 - April 11, 2025

Asheville, North Carolina

On April 11, 2025, Evelyn Lou Quakenbush died at home in Asheville. She was 84. Born in Asheville on April 12, 1940, into a Polish-American household that treated work as a language. She learned that neighborhoods remember who helps without being asked.

She stitched boxes until gauges agreed and pride could return. A box stitcher gauge taped to the bench meant the next hand could trust the last. Colleagues still mention a box stitcher gauge taped to the bench.

She and William married in 1964 and raised two sons without needing an audience. After William's death in 2018, 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. Mornings were her favorite shift at home. She died in Asheville, on streets that already knew her 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. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

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

NN-OBIT-2026-C1054

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