



Mildred Fay Tanner

December 30, 1937 - August 6, 2026

Portland, Maine

Mildred Fay Tanner died in Portland on August 6, 2026. She was 88. Born on December 30, 1937, into a Yankee Maine household that treated work as a language. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She ran a line that never forgave a slow morning. A hairnet washed every night was pride; piece rates never erased dignity. Colleagues still mention a hairnet she washed every night.

She married Clarence in 1962. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Clarence died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a rake leaned against a shared fence after a storm. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Portland, among streets she never needed to explain. The extra coffee is still in the thermos.

Services

A memorial gathering in Portland with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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