



Phyllis Joy Goodpastor

April 27, 1930 - August 26, 2007

Springfield, Massachusetts

In Springfield, on August 26, 2007, Phyllis Joy Goodpastor died at 77. Born April 27, 1930 in Springfield, carrying Czech-American stories that arrived without footnotes. Early on, she decided that a paycheck and a handshake should weigh the same.

She picked cold rooms that carried other people's mornings. A cold storage picker checklist yellowed but legible outlasted three managers. Colleagues still mention a cold storage picker checklist yellowed.

She and Frank married in 1957 and raised a daughter and two sons without needing an audience. After Frank's death in 2000, she held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

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

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