



Thaddeus Ames Drinkwater

January 26, 1939 - August 28, 2026

Portland, Maine

Thaddeus Ames Drinkwater died in Portland on August 28, 2026. He was eighty-seven. Born there on January 26, 1939, he grew up knowing a cannery as a clock that did not sleep, and he learned a last before he learned a highway. A tin, he said, is a kind of sentence: it has to arrive complete.

He spent thirty-one years on a packing line that fed cases before daylight, first as a helper, later as the man who trained new hands that a rejected lot is not a verdict on a life. He kept a drawer of extra laces and a privately updated list of which lots actually satisfied which inspector, because the published list was always a week behind the truth. When the office put in a machine that was supposed to replace a person, he learned the machine and then taught it manners. Later he ran a supply boat that treated a lighthouse as a weekday neighbor.

He married Hester Drinkwater in 1961. They raised a son and a daughter in a triple-decker that needed storm windows. After Hester died in 2011 he still sat with neighbors who had to renew something and did not know where to start.

Friends remember a man who would stay seven minutes past closing for a person who had taken two buses, who hated a messy stamp pad, and who said you're fine in a way that actually meant the work would get done. He died in Portland, in the brick city he refused to apologize for. The line is someone else's now.

Services

A funeral in Portland, then a hall with coffee. A gift to a cannery-workers' fund or a literacy program is welcome.

NN-OBIT-2026-C260

<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/thaddeus-ames-drinkwater-obituary-portland-me>

On-chain proof: <https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/thaddeus-ames-drinkwater-obituary-portland-me/proof>

View on blockchain: <https://basescan.org/tx/0x10e760c4ed086c3c97ec9b453fa31a506f0e499fedb8abd207cbdd2c5c303418>

Base stores the content hash, publication number, memorial id, and timestamp - not the full obituary text. The complete memorial remains on Notice Nearby. This is not a legal affidavit.

This page is a memorial, not a legal affidavit.