



Thelma Faye Fontaine

July 1, 1955 - September 10, 2026

Rutland, Vermont

In Rutland, on September 10, 2026, Thelma Faye Fontaine died at 71. She was born on July 1, 1955 in a French-American family that measured love in finished chores. Young, she understood that quiet competence outlasts loud plans.

She edged boards until waste stopped being an option. An edger crayon stub decided what the mill could sell. Colleagues still mention an edger crayon stub.

In 1978 she married Thomas. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and three daughters walked to school in weather that did not care. When Thomas died in 2019, she kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember a porch light left on for anyone walking home late. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Rutland, among streets she never needed to explain. The work gloves still keep the shape of a grip.

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

Services in Rutland will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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