



Vernon Paul Clinkenbeard

July 3, 1934 - July 11, 2026

Bridgeport, Connecticut

Vernon Paul Clinkenbeard, 92, of Bridgeport, died on July 11, 2026. Born in Bridgeport on July 3, 1934; Swedish-American cooking and payday thrift set the tone of the house. Young, he understood that quiet competence outlasts loud plans.

He fixed buses that carried other people's mornings. A torque wrench tag never erased taught apprentices that shortcuts show. Colleagues still mention a torque wrench tag never erased.

He married Irene in 1959. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two children through public schools and ordinary weather. After Irene died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a wave from the driveway that meant you were seen. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Bridgeport, among streets he never needed to explain. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. His life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

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

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