

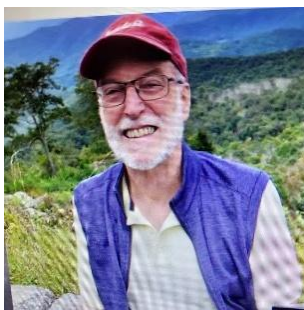
The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

Remembering Those We Lost in 2025

Along with the joy of being with family and friends, the holiday season is a time to recall the loved ones we miss. The UUFW lost three treasured members this year.

Remembering Steve Lay by Joe Good



The death of Steve Lay was a painful loss to me, as I am sure it was to many others. He was a good friend. He was a kind, generous and gentle soul. He loved his family deeply. He loved

our Fellowship, and he loved life. He was outgoing, unpretentious and multi-talented. His life was a work of art presented gratuitously for all to treasure.

I remember Steve mainly through my work with him on UUFW maintenance tasks and as a participant in the weekly old-time music jams. As soon as Steve arrived here with us, he was a willing participant and volunteer. I remember my first conversation with him of any length and how impressed I was to hear that after completing college with a B. S. in chemistry he decided to make his career continuing his family's plumbing business, an occupation he maintained all his working days. I later learned that he did other interesting jobs, including operating a maple sugar house.

I joined him once in the Chalice House basement where, to my amazement, he was able

to solder a 2 and ½ inch wet copper pipe to another just below (Try that, weekend warriors.)

He worked part-time in Staunton setting up and repairing RVs, managing to squeeze his large, gnarled hands into those oh-so-tiny RV spaces. I'd owned an RV once myself and we shared a number of RV horror stories.

I sat beside Steve for several years at our weekly old-time music jams. He played banjo and harmonica with enthusiasm and skill. I can still hear his rich baritone voice singing Barlow Knife and Golden Slippers.

Steve was sharp. Steve was pure gold. I will always hold him in my heart, as will so many others.

Remembering Tamera Kincaid by Linda Shallash



Tammy was my best friend. At the UUFW on Sundays, I still look over and expect her to be sitting by the window.

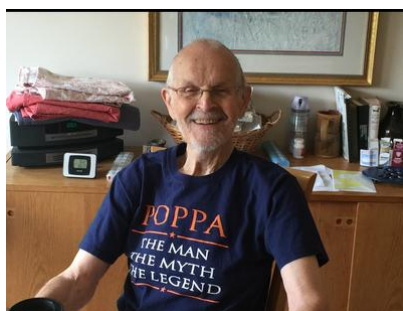
Tammy was a fierce nurse. Nursing was her special calling, her vocation and her identity. She was a natural

caretaker and would always come if you needed her, no matter what. Tammy was a fierce mother. When her daughter Beth died two years ago, I think it left a hole in her heart the size of the universe. And Tammy was a fierce crusader for justice. She was a union organizer who fought

right-to-work laws, and she was a lifelong Democrat. Tammy envisioned a governmental Department of Peace. She must be rolling over in her grave now!

Tammy loved to travel and was able to go on a cruise to Alaska last year. She also loved AC/DC but never made it to one of their concerts. I loved Tammy for her strength of convictions and the character to stand by them. She knew what was right and what was wrong, and she wouldn't back down. She was truly a light shining in the darkness (Lux in tenebris lucet).

Remembering Ted Ashby by Lorain and Bill Harouff



Our first opportunity to appreciate Ted and Margo was when they were on my Caring Network list and we visited them and made a post-surgery meal delivery. Ted met us at the door with his signature smile and warm welcome. From then on, we enjoyed his kind, good-humored ways whenever we saw him.

Years later, when the four of us had the pleasure of riding together to Sunday services, there was a lot of laughter and fun involved. There were also good discussions in which Ted, being an excellent listener, would show genuine interest in whatever the topic and follow up with insightful information or questions.

He was a lover of all people in a non-judgmental way. His chosen professions such as social work, pastoring and running a bike shop, seem very Ted-like! He has left a lasting mark on many lives, including ours.

Upcoming FUNdraisers

By Nancy Trimble, Stewardship Chair

As we look forward to the new year, the Stewardship Committee has several new fund raisers planned for 2026. The first, scheduled for January 17 (snow date Jan. 31), is a return of last year's successful Winterfest. Several delicious home cooked chilis and stews will be served alongside bread, salad, and, of course, dessert and coffee! A new twist for this Winterfest: Open Mike Night, with attendees encouraged to tell stories, recite poetry, or sing a song, all on the theme of winter.

February into March will feature our annual Pledge Drive, and in April there will be revival of the English Teas that Laura Hiatt and friends offered in the past. Tentative plans also include a rummage/bake sale in May and a concert by blue stone sky at Harrisonburg UU in June.

Because we are a small committee (of four members) tasked with all of the Fellowship's fundraising responsibilities, we will be asking for your help! Look for coming "Help Wanted" signup sheets at the back of Fellowship Hall or contact me in person or send an email to stewardship@uufw.org.



UUFW singers treated residents at Summit Square to Christmas carols last Sunday, December 21.

