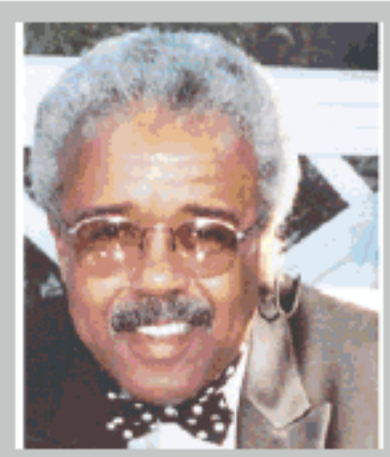


OBITUARIES

Louis Barnett

1937 -2020



Louis Barnett, age 82, of Oakland, California, formerly of Athens, GA passed on February 6, 2020.
Survivors include: his wife, Nell Barnett; one son, Michael Barnett, both of Oakland, CA; and one sister, Cordelia Allen, Athens, GA.
A memorial service service will be held at a later date in Oakland, CA. Announcement, courtesy of Jack-

son-McWhorter Funeral Home.

Please sign the guestbook at onlineathens.com

Jackson-McWhorter
FUNERAL HOME, LLC
EST. 1972
www.jacksonmcwhorterfuneralhome.com

James Calvin Foster

1950 -2020

Mr. James C. Foster, age 69, of Athens, Georgia passed on February 13, 2020.
Survivors include his sons, Marioe Foster, Demarkeo Johnson; and a host of other relatives and friends.
Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 18, 2020 from the Salem AME Church - Watkinsville, with interment in the Salem AME Church Cemetery.
Viewing will be held 12:00 to 7:00, with a family visitation from 5:00 to 7:00 February 17, 2020 at the funeral home.
Please sign the guestbook at onlineathens.com

Graveside Funeral Chapel, LLC
6015 Cloncy Drive • Athens, Georgia 30601 • (706) 340-1123
"When memories are all you have, place them in the Garden."

OBITUARY POLICIES

Death notices and obituaries must be submitted by the funeral home in charge. Submissions must be submitted through memoriams.com and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication (2 p.m. on weekends). The Athens Banner-Herald reserves the right to edit or omit any obituary. However, some obituaries may run without editing or proofreading per the funeral home's request.



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Dorothy “Dot” Sachs Sparer

1932 -2019



Dorothy “Dot” Sachs Sparer was born in Konigsberg, East Prussia on June 18, 1932, to Kate Sophie Sachs and Henry Benjamin Sachs. She died Nov. 8, 2019, in Athens, GA. Her parents, her husband, Burton Sparer, and her son, David Henry Sparer, preceded her in death. She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Sparer, of Clarkston, GA; cousin Anita Freudenthal and family, of Dunedin, FL; niece Ellen Sparer and family, of Paris, France; nephew Michael Sparer and family, of Shokan, NY; and niece Carol Sparer-Zieve and family, of Seattle, WA. In lieu of flowers, please consider a cause that benefits her beloved Athens.

Death kicked in Dot Sparer's front door on Nov. 8, 1938, but she escaped. She died in her own good time last Friday, attended by her daughter and loving friends, lucid to the last, a quip as usual on her lips.

Those who knew Dot are familiar with the story of how at the age of six she survived the period of Kristallnacht in Germany, when Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues were attacked, and the glass of smashed windows lay like crystal in the streets.

The night before Kristallnacht, the Gestapo came for Dot's father at their home in Koenigsberg. He was a prominent physician and teacher, a German veteran who served with distinction as a medic in World War I. They arrested him for the crime of being a Jew.

Only then did her father realize that Hitler, whom he considered a buffoon, a clown, was deadly serious about scapegoating Germans who were Jewish. According to the account written for Atlanta Jewish Times by Dot's friend Rebecca McCarthy, the Sachs family petitioned for asylum in America. But Congress had established a quota to accept only 95 people out of 40,428 applications for asylum at a time when 83 percent of Americans opposed immigration and there were Nazi rallies all over the country.

England accepted the Sachs family in 1939, but only for a year. Two months later, WWII began, and the German border was sealed. A medical-school friend of Dr. Sachs was practicing in Kansas City, and he prevailed on his friend, Sen. Harry S. Truman, to arrange for a waiver that allowed the Sachs family to immigrate here.

They settled in New York City, where Dot grew up, went to college, met Burt Sparer and married him. They had twins, Lisa and David, and soon moved to Athens, where Burt put his masters in regional planning to work and Dot used her degree in magazine journalism to teach in the J-school.

They all became quintessential Athenians, deeply involved in our community, working through civic organizations, the schools and the Temple to help make Athens a good place to live.
Burt died in 2011, David in 2016, and Lisa lives in DeKalb County, so Dot was largely on her own here, but within the extensive web of close friendships built up through the decades with her loving and outgoing personality. It seems that everybody knew her, and she went everywhere, tooling around town in the sports car she drove because she had finally decided she was too old to compete with student traffic on the motorcycle she loved riding.

There's probably a psychological name for Dot's personality type. She was certainly outgoing, with an extroversion driven by love. She sought you out and engaged you with a teasing regard, so that you were intrigued and could not help but respond. How could you not like Dot, and love her?

A cancer came back. An experimental drug failed, and soon Dot lay in intensive care, hooked up to monitors and morphine, rousing to visit with her friends and to accept the kidding about various crushes she had around town and at the gym, where she worked assiduously to keep her body going, while visiting with all the friends she had there.

As the end became inevitable, Dot fretted over leaving Lisa alone. Of course, Lisa has her own web of friendships, and she told Dot she had been taking notes on how to emulate her mom's ability to navigate life and death.

Shakespeare had Edgar say at the passing of King Lear, “Men must endure their going hence even as their coming hither. Ripeness is all.”

Women, too, and Dot made for herself the ripe old age we all desire. Until the very last moment of her life, her love beamed out and focused on her daughter and her friends, and so did her wit.

She was trying to let go, but that was extremely difficult for someone so fiercely attached to life. She held on, even as her life waned. “You need to get some sleep,” Lisa told her. Dot replied, “Not this kind.”

Finally, 81 years to the day after death first came for Dot Sparer, she left life on her own terms. She not only endured: She prevailed

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Piedmont offers heart screening for women

Staff Report

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. That’s why Piedmont Heart Institute in Athens now offers a women’s heart screening program to help improve early detection and, in some cases, stop heart disease before it’s too late.

“Heart disease is oftentimes thought of as a man’s disease, but that’s actually not the case at all,” said Catherine Marti,

M.D., cardiologist and heart failure specialist at Piedmont Heart in Athens. “Almost as many women as men die of heart disease each year. Thankfully, this new screening can help prevent that, giving women in our community a better chance to start taking action against heart disease and the risk factors associated with it.”

According to Dr. Marti, Piedmont Heart’s women’s heart screening is specifically designed for women because the signs of heart disease can be different for women and

are often misunderstood.

“The most common heart attack symptom in women is the same as in men and includes chest pain, pressure or discomfort that’s ongoing or comes and goes,” Dr. Marti said. “But chest pain is not always severe and may not even be that noticeable or bothersome for women. It’s even possible that some women may experience a heart attack without chest pain.”

Heart disease includes more than just a heart attack and may remain unnoticed until you experience severe symptoms or even an emergency.

“This screening could eliminate that problem for women,” said Dr. Marti.

Piedmont Heart’s women’s heart screening is \$99 regardless of insurance and is designed for all women. It does not require a referral from a physician. Even women who do not have a pre-existing heart issue are eligible for the screening, which includes a physical exam, lab work and complete health history. Participants also receive a comprehensive heart health report they can take home with detailed recommendations and next steps.



Marti

Dalton Carpet One steps up for veteran



Dalton Carpet One of Athens helped create a smart home for Staff Sgt. Johnny Joey Jones of Sharpsburg, Ga., who was injured by an explosive device in Afghanistan in August 2010. The company installed over 1,400 square feet of tile in Jones' home, which was renovated to make it more accessible as part of the Tunnel to Towers Foundation's Smart Home Build program. The foundation builds mortgage-free smart homes for catastrophically injured service members across the country.

[CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS]



Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center's neonatal intensive care unit team. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

Piedmont neonatal unit honored

Staff Report

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center's neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) has been named a Center of Excellence in Education and Training for Antibiotic Stewardship in Newborn Care from the Vermont Oxford Network (VON) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The award recognizes Piedmont Athens Regional's efforts in its improvement in managing antibiotic misuse and overuse, which is one of the healthcare community's top concerns.

“We’re very proud to receive this recognition. Antibiotic misuse in the perinatal period can alter an infant’s microbiome for their entire life and decrease the effectiveness of antibiotics for the whole population,” said Julie Martin, M.D., a pediatric infectious disease specialist at Piedmont Athens Regional. “Our team has worked extremely hard to ensure we’re promoting the appropriate use of antimicrobials, including antibiotics for our patients, and these efforts improve our patient’s outcomes, reduces microbial

resistance and decreases the spread of infections caused by multidrug-resistant organisms.”

Piedmont Athens Regional's Level III NICU provides comprehensive care for infants ranging from extremely low birth weight to full-term requiring specialized interventions. This Center of Excellence recognition comes from the hospital's enrollment in Choosing Antibiotics Wisely, an international quality improvement collaborative developed by VON in partnership with the CDC to address the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in newborn care.