



## Lynn Roy Goodspeed

April 6, 1924 - October 26, 2023

After a full life that spanned 99 years and 203 days, our dear father, grandfather, and great-grandfather passed from this life surrounded by family on October 26, 2023, to join his wife Sophie in heaven.

Born on April 6, 1924, in rural Vermont, he was the eldest son of Roy and Janet Goodspeed's eleven children. Growing up always on a farm, mostly near Wells, VT, he discovered that he loved hard work, dairy farming, gardening, and machines.

After his high school graduation in Granville, NY, he sought a trade as a machinist in Rochester, NY. A few years later, realizing he would soon need to serve his country during WW II, he returned to the family farm, now in Charlton, NY, to enlist in the Navy. Awaiting his orders, he began a job at General Electric in Schenectady where he met Sophie Bartman on his first day of work, when she made sure he had something to eat for lunch. Until her death, she never stopped doing that. They corresponded throughout his service in the Navy and were married on October 12, 1946. While away, he had planned to build a home for them on the land his parents owned. He followed through with that plan, building a small home on Sweetman Road with his own hands.

He always said that the Navy was very good to him and used the opportunities it provided to get an education in radio communications. He also used his time away in the service to consider his deeper self and embraced the Catholic Church and its teachings. This faith kept him grounded and was a

constant guiding light throughout the remainder of his life.

As time passed, their young family outgrew the little house, and so they moved to Fort Johnson where they established the family farm. It was where he would reside for the remainder of his days. In that farmhouse they raised 9 children, and welcomed their children's spouses, their 19 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren. He loved the presence of kids. All kids. Every kid. And sought to reach out to each in his own way with humor, playfulness, nicknames, candy, and cash (AKA "breathing money").

The dairy farm industry was a passion and a business he longed to have succeed. Though his initial effort could not be sustained in the market economy of the 1960's, his commitment to it never wavered. He was, however, able to live that dream vicariously through the hard work and determination of his son, Peter, and nephew, Bill Zukas, who still operate the farm to this day. One could say that watching the farm 'operate' out the windows of his house everyday sustained him for years.

For 43 years, he dedicated his professional life working as a switchman in the local telephone company. He was much respected for his mechanical skill, responsiveness to his employer and thoroughness in solving problems. The friendships that began in that workplace were maintained for many years after his retirement in 1987.

On July 9, 1991, life as he knew it suddenly and radically changed when his wife of 44 years passed away. In the years that followed, he eventually found and developed new ways of being in the world that always honored his one marriage, but also allowed him company, companionship, and personal love in his life. Besides all the continued family events, he enjoyed many years of an active lifestyle, quite different from the family and farm responsibilities.

Pastimes included square dancing, dinner cruises, church dinners, boating and swimming at Pine Lake, hiking adventures, Perth Seniors programs, Pioneers Luncheons and more. Perhaps his favorite trips were the pilgrimages he took to Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre'in Quebec, Canada. The vegetable garden was, of course, never far from his mind.

Lynn had an array of interests in his lifetime. Those close to him also became quite familiar with the ins-and-outs of making maple syrup, zoning laws, beekeeping, hunting racoons, egg hatching, raising goslings, ducklings, and chicks, fly fishing, unusual (but sometimes actually helpful) nutritional supplements, fluoride in the water supply, horseradish, cider making, and many other topics of his interest. He pursued endeavors in raising and selling Christmas trees as well as strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries, and seriously considered opening an ice cream shop at one point. And, along with Peter and Bill, he started a mobile home park.

He loved sweet corn, butter pecan ice cream, home-harvested honey, turnips, and company. He was principled, dedicated, humorous, hardworking, determined, fiercely independent, and always, ALWAYS family focused. He was less good at following recipes, housekeeping, building fruit fly traps, keeping weeds out of the garden, or doing it someone else's way. He had his own, wonderful, quirky way of being in this world, and the world is less without him.

Lynn is predeceased by his parents, Roy and Janet, his wife, Sophie, four brothers (Seth, Ken, Wilbur, and George), five sisters (Elizabeth, Alice, Mary, Muriel, and Sarah Jane), and his daughter-in-law, Dawn. He is survived by his sister, Kathryn Harvell, along with his nine children and their spouses, (Judi & Chuck Collier, Joe Goodspeed, Theresa Rohling, Tom & Dode Goodspeed, Peter Goodspeed, Pat Goodspeed, Ed & Cheryl Goodspeed, Elaine & Dave Philipson, and Kevin Goodspeed). In addition, he is survived by his nineteen grandchildren (Jessica, Shannan, Dan, Christopher, Allison, Amy, Neil, Steve, Leslie, Laura, Megan, Cory, Kim, Joseph, Tammy, Miki, Andrew, Julie and Tori), and twenty-one great grandchildren (Alex, Ryan, Carly, Grady, Christopher, Julia, Ethan, Maya, Emily, Kalista, Kaliana, Sofiya, Dylan, Ava, Emeliana, Elijah, Levi, Sophia, Raegan, Riley, and Owen). Also, very close to Lynn and mourning his loss, are his nephew & niece-in-law, Bill & Diane and his dear friends Diane Rozdolski and Nancy Hauenstein. Beyond those

mentioned above are numerous nieces and nephews.

He would occasionally say that we live until our work here on Earth is done. Dad, your work here is done. Don't worry, though. You left some for us. Your legacy will continue through the family you built. And you showed us every single day how very, very important family is to loving this life.

Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, from 4pm-7pm at the Robert M. Halgas Funeral Home, Inc., 111 County Highway 106, Johnstown, NY 12095. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, November 2 at 9:30am at the Sacred Heart Church in Tribes Hill, NY. Burial with military honors will follow at St. John's Cemetery at 244 Widow Susan Rd, Amsterdam, NY.

The family would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Kathy Avery, Community Hospice nurses Jennifer and Julie, and to Father Juanito Aspreco for the excellent care and support they provided him in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to Sacred Heart Church, 111 Third Ave., Tribes Hill, NY 12177. He loved it there.

# Cemetery Details

## St. John's Cemetery

Amsterdam, NY 12010

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

NOV 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Halgas Funeral Home  
111 County Highway 106  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
(518) 883-5323  
debbie@halgasfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.halgasfuneralhome.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 2. 9:30 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church  
111 Third Avenue  
Tribes Hill, NY 12177

## Military Graveside Service

NOV 2. 10:45 AM (ET)

St. John's Cemetery  
Amsterdam, NY 12010



# Tribute Wall

MA

“ Dear Elaine,  
My deepest sympathy to you and your entire family. May loving memories of your dad bring you comfort.  
Sincerely,  
Mary Pat (Hildebrandt) Agresta

---

**Mary Pat Agresta** - November 03, 2023 at 02:16 AM

CT

“ so. Wry sorry for the loss of your Dad and Grandpa. He was a wonderful man. He took good care of my kids when we lived in the park. He taught them a lot about living off the land. A true inspiration. He will be missed I'm sure. Sending hugs and prayers to the family. ❤️🙏

---

**Christine Tambasco** - November 02, 2023 at 11:53 AM

KE

“ To the Goodspeed family,  
So sorry for the passing of your dad, grandfather, great grandfather and friend. It sounds like he had a great life. I have known a few of you through work or school and I am blessed to know you all. May God comfort you.  
Kathy Engel

---

**Kathleen A Engel** - November 01, 2023 at 04:57 PM

LC

“ So sorry to hear of his passing.

---

**Lance J Chase** - November 01, 2023 at 09:45 AM

WR

“ Wayne R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lynn Roy Goodspeed.

Wayne R. - October 30, 2023 at 08:59 PM

DL

“ Donna L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lynn Roy Goodspeed.

Donna L. - October 30, 2023 at 07:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Lynn Roy Goodspeed.

October 30, 2023 at 01:26 PM

MB

“ A fine conservative and a long time family friend.

mark bablin - October 30, 2023 at 11:53 AM

BM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I am a member of Sacred Heart Church and would see Lynn at mass with his daughter. They would also come to the St. Kateri Shrine in Fonda, where I worked as the Gift Shop Manager. Lynn would bring me sweet corn often, which was very much appreciated. I did not know him personally but could tell that he was a very caring and giving person. May his soul rest in peace.

Barb Minch

Barbara Mi - October 30, 2023 at 10:21 AM

RP

*Most Especially For Jessica, Emily, & Jessica's Mom: Vince & I never knew this fine gentleman, but would certainly respect him. How wonderful that he lived so long a fine, upstanding life, and was able to know and love several family generations, including lovely Jessica, our ever-loved daughter-in-law, & her beautiful & smart, sweet child Emily Claire Treanor, our youngest Treanor granddaughter.*

*My husband Vince, who passed away at age 77 on Jan.21 this year, and who served as a highly respected Infantry Platoon Leader in Vietnam, 1968, would have loved his company. I would venture here that there would have been mutual respect between both men, as well as rich & at times humorous storytelling.*

*May God Bless his soul & keep him, and may all his beloved family members continue his legacy & enjoy a full life rich in love & joy.*

---

**Rosemarie D Amendolia PhD** - October 31, 2023 at 11:03 AM

DR

“ Elaine -

*So sorry to hear of the loss of your father. My thoughts are with you and your entire family.*

*Darlene*

---

**Darlene Rogers** - October 30, 2023 at 10:09 AM

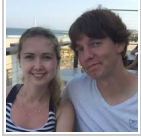
DC

“ Theresa and family I am sooo sorry for your loss, RIP Mr Goodspeed



---

**Donna Cramer** - October 30, 2023 at 08:58 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Lynn and Sophie Goodspeed*



---

**Dan Goodspeed** - October 29, 2023 at 06:44 PM



“ *Eleanore Hadley lit a candle in memory of Lynn Roy Goodspeed*



---

**Eleanore Hadley** - October 29, 2023 at 04:49 PM



“ *I'm sorry to hear of the passing of your father. May the good memories help you during this difficult time.*



---

**Sharon James-Bilger** - October 29, 2023 at 01:01 PM