



## Meinsje M. Lambert

January 5, 1932 - August 3, 2024

Portsmouth – Meinsje Maria Lambert, 92, of Portsmouth and formerly of Wells, ME, Plymouth and Meredith, NH and Teaneck, NJ passed away peacefully on August 3, 2024 at 5:45 am. Meinsje was born on January 5, 1932 in Sommelsdyk, Holland, the daughter of the late Servaas and Dirkje (Driesse) Verbiest. She shared over 33 years of marriage with her late husband, Frank H. Lambert.

She was raised in Holland and was witness to the Nazi Occupation of her country when she was 8 years old and the North Sea Flood when she was 21 years old where she and her mother spent many weeks cleaning up flooded homes. Meinsje went on to earn her degree in physical therapy and at the age of 23, came to this country to visit with her uncle and his family in New Jersey. It is during that visit that she fell in love with America. She became a citizen of the United States in 1960 when she was 28 years old. Meinsje worked as a nanny for a short while before taking a job as a physical therapist in Woburn, MA, Exeter, NH and eventually worked for the VNA of Concord, Franklin and Plymouth, NH. She lived in Danville, Plymouth and Meredith, NH before relocating to Wells, ME and retired from physical therapy in 2004. Meinsje moved to Portsmouth from Wells in 2017 to be with her daughter.

Meinsje was a tenacious, strong-willed woman. She came to the United States with one suitcase and was very proud of and grateful for the life she

created here. A gifted physical therapist, her patients loved her caring nature and the extra mile she would always go to help them. She held strong opinions and was not afraid to share them. People loved her spirit and spunk. She was generous and full of life and enthusiasm. Meinsje was a dog lover and had many dogs over the course of her lifetime. She was an avid reader up until the end of her life.

She is survived by her daughter, Angela P. Lambert of Portsmouth and was predeceased by her son, Robert J. Lambert.

Services will be private. She will be laid to rest with her father, Servaas. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Animal Welfare Society in Kennebunk, Maine, founded by her dear friend, Elmina B. Sewell by clicking here (<https://animalwelfaresociety.org/give/>) or by mail to PO Box 43, West Kennebunk, ME 04094.

# Tribute Wall

PO

“ *Angela and family Freddy and I are so sorry for the loss. We send love and prayers. love PJ*

**PJ Oclair** - August 15, 2024 at 05:28 PM

AL

*Thank you, PJ & Freddy. She was special.*

**Angela Lambert** - August 17, 2024 at 11:03 AM

JA

“ *Jan & Elles, AMSTERDAM purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Meinsje M. Lambert.*



**Jan & Elles, AMSTERDAM** - August 07, 2024 at 10:29 PM

JA

“ *Jan & Elles, AMSTERDAM planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Meinsje M. Lambert.*

**Jan & Elles, AMSTERDAM** - August 07, 2024 at 10:29 PM

JR

“ *I was fortunate to know Meinsje since the day I was born! She was a blessing to me and I will cherish the memories of her. May God grant her eternal rest.*

*Jonathan Russo*

**Jonathan Russo** - August 07, 2024 at 05:36 PM

AL

*Thank you, Jonathon. My mother cherished her connection with you and saw you as her unofficial godson. I am so grateful for the kindness you gave her.*

**angela lambert** - August 08, 2024 at 05:33 AM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album *My Niece*



**Barend Verbiest Czn** - August 06, 2024 at 11:34 AM

AN

*Thank you, Barend. What a mooi photo.*

**Angela** - August 06, 2024 at 05:57 PM

RN

“ *Meinsje and I met just over one year ago (she reminded me of that because her mind was one of the best). We went to the super market about every two weeks. She made sure she always had bread in the house because that was very important to her and also to me as a Dutch person. She told me how to get back and forth to the Market and was amazed she had to navigate me to those streets every time again because without Meinsje I would just get lost.*

*She loved this country and when she found out recently that I am not a U.S. citizen she couldn't understand how I could live here without that citizenship.*

*I certainly will love and miss my best friend Meinsje and I will cherish the beautiful memories.*

*Ria.*

**Ria Strous Nagle** - August 05, 2024 at 10:03 AM

AL

*Thank you, Ria, for your kindness this past year and for sitting by her side nearly every day these past 5 weeks in the hospital and rehab. You helped us both GREATLY ☐*

angela lambert - August 06, 2024 at 02:33 AM

RN

“ *Such fond memories of my best Dutch friend Meinsje. We only knew each other for just over a year (that is what Meinsje told me and her mind was better than mine. Never forgot anything). We went together to the super market almost every two weeks. She told me how to get there and back while I had to use a traffic navigator if Meinsje wasn't with me. We had a lot of laughs and good times during our trips. She made sure she had enough bread in the house, that is such a Dutch thing to eat. I too have my daily bread for lunch. Those trips are ingrained in my mind and come with cherished memories. I am so fortunate to have met Meinsje thanks to our mutual friend Jo who introduced us. Thank you Meinsje for having been my best Dutch friend. I will love and miss you forever. ❤️*



Ria Strous Nagle - August 05, 2024 at 09:37 AM

AN

“ 6 files added to the album My Mama



Angela - August 05, 2024 at 06:54 AM

JP

“ I'm so sorry for the loss of your mother Mimi. I wish you a lot of strength. She has peace now. I remember her as a temperamentfull woman who welcomed me with open arms when i was young and visited from Holland. I had an unforgettable time with you and her and your father. Thats what i remember of Mimi.

Love Jos

Jos van Prooijen - August 05, 2024 at 01:39 AM

AN

Thank you, Jos. I look forward to seeing you next month. Perfect timing to see family.

Angela - August 05, 2024 at 07:12 AM

LI

“ We dont know a lot about your Mom but our Mother always talk about Mia when we had a family meeting. We want to wish you strenged for the future to looze your Mom is very sad. But now she can rest in peace.

Leen and Ina - August 04, 2024 at 10:22 PM

AN

*Thank you, Lee & Ina. I look forward to seeing you next month.*

---

**Angela** - August 05, 2024 at 07:12 AM

RV

*Dear Angela,  
I sympathize with you in the loss of your dear mother. I remember Meinsje as a beloved, strong woman, full of energy and humour. Years ago she visited me with my parents Hen and Corrie Verbiest and we made a trip to Volendam and surroundings. We had a wonderful time together.  
It also rememer the stories my father Hen told about his visit to you, your mother and father. He had an unforgettable time and they laughed al lot.  
Angela, I send you love and wish you a lot of strength.  
Love from Ria Verbiest and Frans.*

---

**ria verbiest** - August 06, 2024 at 05:59 AM

AL

*Bedankt, Ria. My mother spoke so fondly of you. We had such a wonderful time when Oom Hen came to visit. We talked about that visit for years and years. I will be in Zeeland 31 August-1 September for a brief visit. I would love to see you for a hello.*

---

**angela lambert** - August 08, 2024 at 05:24 AM