



Vernon L. Stump

September 17, 1940 - March 14, 2026

Portsmouth – Vernon L. Stump, 85, of Portsmouth, passed away on Saturday, March 14, 2026.

He was born on September 17, 1940, in Charleroi, PA, a son of the late John H. and Evelyn (Everett) Stump. Raised in Belle Vernon, PA, he graduated from Belmar High School with the class of 1958. He attended University of Wisconsin of Eau Clair and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1979.

Vernon was an interior designer with the federal government for more than 30 years. He was in the air force for 4 years. In addition, Vernon was an author.

Vernon was dedicated to his cats and loved them dearly. He was a lover of art and antiques and a collector of both. He volunteered for Common Table at St. John's Episcopal Church. He was also a member of Dull Men's club of Portsmouth. Vernon loved to travel and was happiest in his garden. He thoroughly enjoyed his neighborhood and reveled in visitors. He was also a lifelong artist.

Surviving family members include his child, Robert L Stump; sibling Jeannetta "Tippy" Petras; grandchildren, James Stump, Jennifer Tollerued and Walter Lemasda. He is also survived by his niece Kate Doboze, six great grandchildren and several cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by lifelong partner Joseph Clayton Wilcox and a brother John "Jack" Stump.

Service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, NH on April 15th at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Common Table c/o St. John's Episcopal Church 100 Chapel St., Portsmouth, NH 03801 or online by clicking here (<https://onrealm.org/StJohnsEpiscopalNH/-/form/give/CT>).

Previous Events

Service

APR **15**. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church
100 Chapel Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Tribute Wall

RW

“*Everyday deserved a stop at Verne’s house, to say “Good Morning”, view his flowers, greet his cats. He always had a smile and a comment, but probably never heard a word I said. If I spoke up any louder, I’d be announcing to all his neighbors. He was a fixture on Gates Street and will be missed.*

Rick Wiese

Rick Wiese - April 09 at 04:09 PM

KL

“*We will miss you at the Clipper Tavern on Thursday afternoon. We always enjoyed your company.*

Kristin and Robert Logue - March 28 at 06:01 PM

JL

“*Vern was a member of our men's group at the Portsmouth Senior Center for a number of years. We'll miss his smiling face. Condolences to the family.*

Jim Lee - March 28 at 09:36 AM



“ 4 files added to the album Verne Stump from his book



Denise Brown - March 27 at 06:39 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Travels



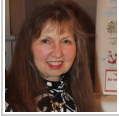
harry powers - March 27 at 01:29 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Verne Stump from his book



Denise Brown - March 27 at 12:38 PM



It was a true pleasure working with Verne on his book, "My Name is Verne, His Name was Clay." A fascinating life story. -- Denise Brown, Ad-cetera

Denise Brown - March 27 at 06:46 PM

PH

“*Rest in peace my friend. Reunite w Clay, that wait is over. I'll miss hanging with you in the back shade garden by the fire, and your big smiles.*

Gate Streets greeter forever at #85.



Peter Harris - March 24 at 06:37 AM