



The Alford American Family Association

Serving the Alford community over 25 Years
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James Warren Stapleford

AAFA #0370S

December 3, 1946 - November 5, 2012

Charter Member





Jim Stapleford, a thirty-year resident of Shokan, NY, passed away on the 5th of November, 2012 of carbon monoxide poisoning. While attempting to restore electrical power to his home during hurricane Sandy, he was overcome with fumes and perished.

James Warren Stapleford was born on 3 December 1936 in Goodman, Wisconsin, the first child of Warren Ralph and Harriet Edith (Viner) Stapleford. Jim was a member of the ROTC through high school, was drafted into the army in 1961 during the Cold War era, attained the rank of Sergeant, and received an honorable discharge in Aug of 1962. He immediately went to work for IBM in Illinois, but shortly thereafter moved to Vancouver, Washington. There

he married the late Irene Ruth Sargent in Jun of 1963, the mother of his two children, Karen Anne and John Warren Stapleford, John having died in infancy.

Jim married Suzan Hendrickson in April of 1975 in Portland, Oregon. Both having a love of history and the outdoors, they spent many weekends with the family at frontier reenactment camping rendezvous and black powder shooting events. Jim helped Susan raise her children, and together they adopted another daughter, Gayle Marie Funkley, born in 1961. Jim was a faithful family man and all the children remember his support at church and school functions with camera in hand.

In 1984, Jim and Sue moved to Shokan for better opportunities with IBM in Kingston, but took early retirement after 30 years. He retrained as a veterinarian technician and received an Associate Degree in Veterinary Science. He later worked for the local companies of Medrex, Partstore, and most recently, Shire Reeves, as a security officer.

Proficient in computer use and quite mechanical, he and Sue started their own business, wherein he would do woodwork, tin smithing, black smithing, and fix and craft parts for spinning wheels. He even was invited by President Clinton to contribute a piece of his iron work to the National Christmas Tree in 1999.

In addition to his daughter and adopted daughter, Jim is survived by two brothers, Bill Stapleford of Bradenton, FL, and Mike Stapleford of Beloit, WI, and a Sister, Gretchen Molland, of Caulfield, MO.

Cremation arrangements under the guidance of Joseph V. Leahy Funeral Home, Inc.

By Paula Ann Mitchell, Freeman Staff
Daily Freeman Newspaper, Shokan, NY, 6 November 2012

An elderly couple was found dead in their home in Shokan, possibly the result of carbon monoxide poisoning from a generator and a fall down a flight of stairs, the Ulster County Sheriff's Office said on Tuesday.

The Sheriff's Office said deputies and Olive police officers went to the house on Black Road after a daughter of the couple called from Pennsylvania about 7 p.m. Monday to say she hadn't been able to reach her parents. Inside the house, police found the bodies of James Stapleford, 75, and his wife, Eva C. Stapleford, 73, the Sheriff's Office said.

Undersheriff Frank Faluotico said it looked as though the couple had been dead for at least 48 hours.

The Sheriff's Office said the Stapleford's house had no power, though electrical service had been restored to the rest of the neighborhood in the wake of Superstorm Sandy.

Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. spokesman John Maserjian the utility's records showed power had been restored to the home, along with the rest of the neighborhood, on the afternoon of Oct. 30, the day after the storm hit.

"The main breaker inside the home was apparently turned off by the homeowners in order to use the generator, so that's why when officials arrived, there was no power at the house," Maserjian said.

Central Hudson workers went to the house to evaluate the electrical service and make sure the property was safe, Maserjian said. When they arrived, they switched the house's power back on from the inside, he said.

James Stapleford's body was found in the basement-level garage area of the house, where a portable gasoline-powered generator was located, as well as extension cords running to the home's electrical panel and "other items within the residence," Faluotico said.

A preliminary investigation by the Sheriff's Office concluded James Stapleford's death may have been caused by carbon monoxide poisoning, but the matter remained under investigation. Faluotico said investigators believe Mrs. Stapleford fell down a flight of stairs while looking for her husband.

"I suspect that she probably tripped over one of the cords," the undersheriff said.

“It was really a sad scene,” he said. “These people appeared to be middle-class, hard-working people — a little bit of hoarders, as old people sometimes tend to be, and they had cords running through the house.”

Next-door neighbors Lou and Dorothy Mancuso said the Staplefords generally kept to themselves.

Lou Mancuso said Stapleford worked for IBM in the West and moved to Shokan about 25 years ago.

Dorothy Mancuso said of the deaths: “We were shocked. It’s just a shame.”

A woman identifying herself in an online posting as Gayle Stapleford Noga of Pasco, Wash., a daughter of the Staplefords, said the couple had seven children and many grandchildren.

Maserjian said generators must be kept in well-ventilated areas.

“They should never be used in a garage or basement, where carbon monoxide levels can build up to dangerous levels,” he said.

Information copied from the Amcestry.com web page.
Shared by [GMarie822](#) on 29 Nov 2012 from Open Link.

By Charlie Wells, New York Daily News, New York, Tuesday, Nov 6, 2012, 11:43 PM

Upstate couple found dead from apparent generator carbon monoxide poisoning

A generator used after Superstorm Sandy is believed to have killed an elderly couple. They were discovered Monday in Shokan, the husband in a basement and the wife at the bottom of stairs. It is believed they had been dead for at least two days.



Eva and James Stapleford



James Warren Stapleford

Photo added by [Alicia Houston](#) on 9 Nov 2013



Birth: 3 Dec 1936
Goodman, Marinette County, Wisconsin, USA
Death: 05 Nov 2012 (aged 75)
Shokan, Ulster County, New York, USA
Burial: Rose City Cemetery
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, USA
Plot: Urn placed on the left side of gravesite.
With her mother and husband James Warren Stapleford
Memorial ID: 114047408
Photo added by: [Alicia Houston](#) on 16 Sep 2013

Family Members

- Parents
Warren Ralph Stapleford, 1909-1969
Harriet Edith Viner, 1916-1983
- Spouses
Irene Ruth Sargent, 1941-1973 (m. 1963)
Eva Camille Tribble, 1938-2012 (m. 1975)

- Siblings
Bill Stapleford
Michael Stapleford
Gretchen Stapleford
Jake Stapleford
- Children
John Warren Stapleford, 1970-1970
Karen Anne Stapleford
- Step Children
Alicia Ann Roundy, AAFA #0001
Donald Paul Roundy
Michael John Roundy
David Joe Hendrickson
Alinia Lynn Hendrickson
- Adopted Child
Gayle Marie Funkley

Information copied from the [Find-A-Grave](#) and [Ancestry.com](#) web pages.



1st Lt. James Stapleford
Company C

Beloit Memorial High School
Beloit, Wisconsin
1954

Copied from [Ancestry.com](#) web page.

James W. and Irene Ruth Sargent Stapleford
Wedding Picture, June 1963
Beloit, Rock, Wisconsin
[View Original Image](#)

Public photo originally shared by [GMarie822](#)
on 29 Nov 2012 from Open Link.



The Stapleford Family

Public photo originally shared by [GMarie822](#)
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