



## Linda L. Hikel

October 16, 1950 - August 3, 2025

CANAAN - Linda Lee (LaMere) Hikel, 74, of Canaan, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 3rd, 2025, after a decades long battle with dementia.

Linda was born in Jeffersonville, Vt., on October 16, 1950, to Nelson and Geraldine Belle (Horner) LaMere. She was the youngest of 4 children. Linda was raised in Canaan and devoted her life to the town, its residents, and most importantly, her family.

Linda graduated from Canaan Memorial High School, and then from Johnson State College, where she was the first of three generations to play basketball, and the first of six family members to attend Johnson.

She met her soulmate, Cecil Hikel, in her early teens; the two were married in 1970 and soon started their family. They were two parts of one whole and were never far apart from one another; a perfect example of true love and best friends. Many people fondly remember watching them walk around town, always hand in hand.

Linda was incredibly active in our little community wearing many hats and contributing in multiple ways. Strong in her faith, she was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church and she was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for almost 60 years. She was employed by the Town of

Canaan for almost 40 years as the Town Clerk, the Town Treasurer, and the School Treasurer. She was an avid sports fan and a knowledgeable coach to many before she hung up the whistle to sit next to Cecil while he ran the clock and she did the books for hundreds of basketball games. If you were lucky enough to be on a sports team that she was involved with, you probably remember getting one of her personalized poems talking about how proud the community was of you.

Linda will be remembered for her beautiful smile and her sparkling blue eyes, but mostly for her ability to be kind, be genuine and be loving.

Linda was predeceased by her mother and father, an infant sister Betty, and a very special brother-in-law, Patrick Riendeau.

She is survived by her loving husband Cecil, sister Bonnie Riendeau, brother Gary (Carmen) LaMere; her children Denette (Shawn) Locke, Brian Hikel, and Kristi (Christopher) Benjamin; her grandchildren, whom she loved more than life, Morgan (Schuyler) Biasini, Dylan (Ciera) Locke, Faith Benjamin, Nelson Hikel, James Benjamin, Marissa Hikel, and Cole Hikel; her sweet great-granddaughters, whom she would have doted on with everything she had, Maeve and Lainey Biasini; and numerous special brothers and sisters-in law and incredible nieces and nephews.

There are no public calling hours. The family will be holding a Celebration of Life on Friday, September 12th at 3:00 pm at the American Legion in Canaan.

The family greatly appreciates the love and care the Coös County Nursing Hospital and staff gave to Linda.

As expressions of sympathy, donations may be made in Linda's name to the Coos County Nursing Hospital, the Grace Community Church, American

Legion Auxiliary, or the Canaan Alumni Association for their Scholarship Program.

Condolences may be offered to the family online by going to [www.jenkinsnewman.com](http://www.jenkinsnewman.com).

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook.

# Cemetery Details

## Colebrook Village Cemetery

North Main Street, U.S. Route 3  
Colebrook, NH

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **12**. 3:00 PM (ET)

American Legion Hall, Post 47  
79 Kingsley Road  
Canaan, VT 05903

# Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Linda L. Hikel.*



---

September 11, 2025 at 06:43 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Linda L. Hikel.*



---

September 08, 2025 at 01:53 PM



“ *Town of Canaan, VT purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Linda L. Hikel.*



---

**Town of Canaan, VT** - September 06, 2025 at 04:48 PM



“ *So very sorry for your loss!*

---

**Priscilla Lambert** - August 26, 2025 at 12:01 PM

DA

“ *My condolences to Cecil and family*



---

**Donna Allen** - August 21, 2025 at 08:42 PM

FS

“ *My heartfelt prayer and love to you and your family. From the Sawicki family and The Grace Community Church. We will miss her and we love your family.*

---

**Frank Sawicki** - August 19, 2025 at 05:16 PM

JC

“ *There just are no words to fill the void Cecile. May all of your wonderful memories give you the strength to move forward. Keeping you and your family on our thoughts and prayers. Jan and Phil*



---

**Jan Phil Corliss** - August 18, 2025 at 12:17 PM

RB

“ *Our sincerest condolences to Cecil and family. Will never forget her being the prime motivator of bringing COS back to life. Full of life and light! Rest in peace Linda. Randy & Michelle Brungot*

---

**RB** - August 15, 2025 at 07:34 AM

CH

“ *Our sincere condolences to all of Linda's family. As neighbors on Gale Street for many years, she was an asset to our neighborhood, & our town hall. Rest in peace Linda. Claude & Terry Charest*

Charest - August 14, 2025 at 06:04 PM

JG

“ *We are saddened and so sorry for your loss. We remember the great cook- outs at your home. Jim & Sandy Guay*

james a guau - August 12, 2025 at 07:53 PM

CR

“ *Condolences to your family*

Cindy Roy - August 11, 2025 at 10:07 AM

RA

“ *I have such fond memories of Linda. She was a wonderful babysitter and even made us clothes! She was full of smiles and love and I feel lucky to have had her as part of my childhood. It was obvious how much she loved all of her family as well as the community. Sending love and hugs to you all as you navigate life without her* ❤️

Rachelle - August 10, 2025 at 09:39 AM



“ *Tami Young lit a candle in memory of Linda L. Hikel*



Tami Young - August 09, 2025 at 07:03 PM

SA

“ Our condolences to her whole family. She was such a lovely lady.

Sally - August 09, 2025 at 02:41 PM

PK

“ We were sorry to hear about Linda's passing. Her smile and welcoming nature had a positive impact on everyone around her. Her many years of service to the town of Canaan made a difference and greatly improved life here.

patty and Les Klinefelter - August 09, 2025 at 02:14 PM

TC

“ A beautiful woman. A second mom to us all. The heartbeat of the Town of Canaan for so many years. Sending love and condolences, Tam ❤️

Tammy Crawford - August 09, 2025 at 01:22 PM

JG

“ I am saddened to hear of Linda's passing. Linda was a nice woman and wore a smile all of the time. We lived next to her and her family in the early 80's. I have thought about the Hikel family a lot over the years. Canaan lost a wonderful lady and friend. Cecil, Denette, Brian and Kristi, I am so sorry for your loss. May the Lord bring you comfort and peace during this sad time. From across the miles, I send you my sincere condolences, prayers and love.

Jill Gadwah - August 09, 2025 at 12:57 PM

AC

“ So sad to lose someone we love. Our sympathy to all the family and friends.



Andre and Francine Champagne - August 09, 2025 at 10:52 AM

SK

“ Dear Hikel Family,  
I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. I remember spending time in your home and Linda always having a puzzle or game going on the kitchen table. Sitting at the scorer's table, she would always give an encouraging smile as nervous players entered the game. Wishing you peace and comfort.

Shelley (Cross) Koehler - August 09, 2025 at 09:56 AM

AM

“ Annette Mailhot lit a candle in memory of Linda L. Hikel



Annette Mailhot - August 08, 2025 at 08:16 PM

GC

“ My heartfelt sympathy to you all. She will remain a light in you lives forever.

Georgiana Carr

Georgiana Carr - August 08, 2025 at 07:51 PM

MO

“ *My deepest sympathies to the family for the loss of your loved one. Will always remember her beautiful smile and all those basketball games. Love Monique Ouimette*

-----  
**Monique L. Ouimette** - August 08, 2025 at 04:04 PM

CM

“ *My sincere condolences to Cecil and family. RIP Linda.*

-----  
**Claire Martineau** - August 08, 2025 at 01:07 PM

PE

“ *I will always remember her smile, the love she and Cecil shared was truly remarkable. She was always full of light. Even in her sickness she glowed when dancing with Cecil. Strength and love to all of you. Rest assured Linda will never be forgotten. Fly High Linda you were an amazing lady.*

-----  
**Penny** - August 08, 2025 at 12:19 PM

CC

“ *Our deepest condolences. I can still vision Cecil and Linda sitting in the gym doing the clock and the books*

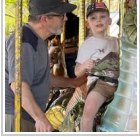
-----  
**Carey and Jane Cross** - August 08, 2025 at 11:37 AM

BG

“ *I knew her,I went to school with her we were in gymnastics together. We were both very competitive. I liked her. Thoughts and prayers to the family.*



-----  
**Brenda Gadwah** - August 07, 2025 at 09:38 PM



“ Linda “Mom” Hikel was, is, and will forever remain one of the kindest, most loving influences to my younger self. As the unofficially-adopted son, many fond memories from my youth center around the Hikel family. When first having received this notice, childhood memories of snacks (care of Linda/Mom), followed by shared bicycle repair with Brian, then back for games and more snacks immediately came flooding this much older man’s mind.

*You “Mom” were then, are now, and will forever be loved.*

---

**Scott Mosher** - August 07, 2025 at 08:21 PM

DM

“ Our condolences to Cecil and family. We are sorry to learn of Linda health struggles and her passing. We remember fun times playing volleyball together many moons ago.

---

**Debbie and Bob McGuire** - August 07, 2025 at 08:18 PM

JA

“ Soo sorry for your loss ktistieand family. She was a beautiful soul and beautiful smile will always remember

---

**jeanne. asson** - August 07, 2025 at 07:59 PM

BM

“ Becky Masters lit a candle in memory of Linda L. Hikel



---

**Becky Masters** - August 07, 2025 at 03:51 PM

HH

“ Our deepest condolences go out to the family on your loss.

Haven L Haynes - August 07, 2025 at 01:29 PM

LW

“ The way Linda responded to Cecil when he walked into her room showed the love they had. Their marriage was an excellent example of what true love and commitment is all about. Condolences and peace to Cecil and family. RIP my sweet Linda. 🙏

Louise Washburn - August 07, 2025 at 11:06 AM

JM

“ Our sincerest condolences Cecil and family.  
RIP Linda, you've more than "paid your dues"

John and Sue Morrissey - August 07, 2025 at 11:04 AM

KB

“ 1 file added to the album Linda



Kristi Benjamin - August 07, 2025 at 10:08 AM

LM

Beautiful! 🙏🙏

Lori MacDonald - August 07, 2025 at 10:37 AM

JM



John and Sue Morrissey - August 07, 2025 at 11:05 AM

DR

*So sorry for the loss of your beautiful Mom Kristi. ❤️*

**Debrah Ricciardi** - August 07, 2025 at 08:06 PM



*Kristie- Please accept our deepest condolences on your, your siblings & your Dad's loss of your beautiful Mom, Linda. I am a friend & fellow member of her Auxiliary, with your Aunt Bonnie. She is missed by all. Dance nights were extra special if your parents attended. Jerry & Carol Bond.*

**Carol Bond** - August 28, 2025 at 08:57 AM

CC

“ *Cecile, Denny, Kristie and Brian, I'm so sorry for the loss. Thinking of you all. Sending love and peace. ❤️*

**Chantal Carney** - August 07, 2025 at 10:07 AM

LM

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Uncle Cecil and the whole family. Our prayers are for you all! 🙏❤️  
Love, Lori and Jim MacDonald*

**Lori MacDonald** - August 07, 2025 at 09:40 AM