



# Todd Jay Armstrong

Jan. 22, 1936 – March 8, 2024

Todd Jay Armstrong was born in Buffalo to Philip and Charlotte Armstrong. He graduated from Lewiston-Porter in 1955. After high school, Todd left Lewiston to join the Navy, where he served aboard the USS Boston, America's first guided missile cruiser. He was a wandering man who saw much of the world while serving aboard ship. Later, he would

live in almost every warm state in U.S. – the last 20 years in Seaguin, Texas.

In 1960, Todd married high school sweetheart, Margaret Crenon, of Youngstown. They had four children, seven grandchildren and, at last count, four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his second wife, Dixie Hoffland.

Todd had a fantastic memory

for names of people he met and places he had been. He loved Lewiston and often said how lucky he was to have grown up in the sleepy little village it was in the '40s and '50s. He told hilarious stories about his causing neighborhood havoc with his Red Brick School friends: Jim Miller, Rodney Kaumeyer, Fred Guard, John Collins, Burt Williams and Bob Northcott.

Todd was predeceased by his sister, Judith Sadowski. He is survived by his brother, Jon (Debby) Armstrong, of Largo, Florida; by many Texas friends and associates; by special friends Jackie Lewis Portik, Eleanor Phipps Lindsay; and by his loving partner, Cynthia Whitworth Cowdrick, and her children and grandchildren.

# Ethel Grace Blackwell

Ethel Grace Blackwell, age 95, of Lewiston, died Sunday, March 24, 2024, at Niagara Hospice House in Lockport.

She was born July 29, 1928, in Mildmay, Ontario, the daughter of the late Charles and Olive (Schmidt) Jasper, and they moved to Lewiston shortly thereafter. Ethel attended Stella Niagara where she became an accomplished pianist in her teenage years. She memorized the Mozart Concerto, which was 54 pages, and played it at a recital with one of her teachers.

After high school, she received a music scholarship to Rosary College in Buffalo. She was a church organist and pianist at the Forestview Church of God for many years. She subsequently



was the organist at many area churches, including Calgary Lutheran. She learned to master the

pipe organ and there were many memorable moments in which her daughters would watch her practice in awe. She also played at many weddings and funerals and taught piano in her home.

Ethel's biggest enjoyment was when she transformed her music career in the 1960s by playing piano at many area entertainment venues such as Schrafts, Lotitos, The Park Hotel, as well as many places in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and Niagara on the Lake. She was in her heyday at this time and developed a faithful and enthusiastic following.

Ethel was known for her glamour, beautiful smile, and sensational piano music. She developed a strong sense of independence and was bursting with pride when

she bought her first new car with her earnings. She raised her four children and continued to reside in Lewiston. In the 1970s, she frequented The Coat of Arms in Lewiston where she listened to her friend, Jerry D'Amico, and his jazz band. Ethel always enjoyed listening to other musicians perform, often noting what key a piece was in, and would critique the music as only a fellow musician could.

Ethel loved country music, jazz, classical and gospel, to name a few. In her later years, one of her most enjoyable activities was being driven by her caretakers along the river and marveling at its beauty.

She was a devoted and hard-working mother and will be re-

membered fondly by all who knew and appreciated her.

Ethel is survived by her children: Jeff (Patti) Blackwell, Sandy Blackwell Yates and Sharon Blackwell; by her six grandchildren; and by nine great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by a loving son, Robert Blackwell; and by a brother, Charles Douglas Jasper.

Friends may call at Hardison Funeral Home, N. Fourth and Ridge streets, Lewiston, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 3. Funeral services will follow at 11:30 a.m. in the funeral home, with the Rev. Ronald Maines officiating.

Interment will be in Riverdale Cemetery, Lewiston.

## LEWISTON POLICE BLOTTER

The following activity occurred Monday, March 18, to Sunday, March 24, as reported by the Lewiston Police Department. LPD responded to 297 calls during this period. For more information on arrests and other activity, visit the Lewiston Police Department's mobile app or its page on Facebook.

- Monday, March 18**
- **5800 block of Ward Road, motor vehicle theft** – Caller reported a vehicle theft from a lot over the weekend. Officers responded and checked cameras in the area; investigation to continue. Report taken.
  - **2600 block of Ridge Road, suspicious activity** – Phone complaint; patrols responded.
  - **700 block of Center Street, accident hit-run** – Officer initiated call. Patrols on location.
  - **Green/Upper Mountain roads, lost/found property** – Caller to 911 reported locating a possible stolen vehicle. Responding patrols reported said vehicle was from earlier motor vehicle theft on Ward Road.
  - **2000 block of Mount Hope Road, traffic complaint/investigation** – Officer initiated call. Patrol assisted with a complaint of an ATV operating on school property.
  - **1600 block of Saunders Settlement Road, (two calls) reports of domestic disturbance and fire** – Caller reported a fire in a bedroom at the residence; fire believed extinguished. Patrols responded; call handled, report taken.
  - **1000 block of Lake Road, alarm burglary** – Provider reported interior alarm going off at address. Patrol responded; all secure.
  - **Locations at Lewiston/Upper Mountain roads; the 800 block of Ridge Road; the 100 block of Portage Road; at Ransomville/Ridge roads; Creek/Pletcher roads; and the 4000 block of Creek Road, vehicle/traffic stops** – Calls officer initiated. Violations were driver cited for speed in zone and aggravated unlicensed operation, second; driver, unlicensed operator, failure to keep right and cell phone violation; driver, cell phone violation; driver, speed over the state limit – 55 mph; and last two drivers, speed in zone. Uniform

traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court. Patrols issued warnings to two drivers for violations.

- Tuesday, March 19**
- **Niagara Scenic Parkway/Pletcher Road, MVA-property damage** – 911 call from State Police and private caller, a one-vehicle accident, car in a ditch. Patrol responded; no injuries found. Vehicle towed. Accident report completed.
  - **Locations on Upper Mountain/Lewiston roads; the 2900 block of Ridge Road; 2000 block of Ridge Road; Walmore/Saunders Settlement roads, reports of one- and two-vehicle property damage accidents** – Patrols responded.
  - **2200 block of Saunders Settlement Road, ATL/BOLO** – Caller reported individual with no license was travelling to pick up a child at school. Driver located by patrol and found to have a valid license.
  - **500 block of Pletcher Road, MVA-property damage** – Caller reported a white pickup crashed into their mailbox. Driver left vehicle on side of roadway and left in another vehicle. Patrol responded; accident report completed. Vehicle towed.
  - **900 block of Upper Mountain Road, accident hit-run** – Officer initiated call. Caller reported a vehicle struck a mailbox; driver left scene. Patrol responded.

- Wednesday, March 20**
- **2200 block of Printup Road, domestic disturbance** – 911 complaint; officers responded.
  - **Garlow/Upper mountain roads, domestic disturbance** – 911 complaint; officers responded.

- Thursday, March 21**
- **Heritage Way, assist** – 911 caller reported a smoke activation at the address. Call attributed to a burnt brownie in a microwave.
  - **5900 block of Ward Road, domestic disturbance** – 911 complaint; patrols responded.
  - **Locations on Center Street/Portage Road; and Lewiston Road/Irving Drive, vehicle/traffic stops** – Calls officer initiated. Violations: driver cited for speed in zone and passed red light; and driver, aggravated unlicensed opera-

tion, third. Driver provided proof of being allowed to drive to and from work. Uniform traffic tickets issued to other drivers. Patrols issued warnings to nine drivers for violations.

- Friday, March 22**
- **3100 block of Park Avenue, domestic disturbance** – 911 complaint; patrol responded.
  - **Addresses on the 1700 block and the 1900 block of Mount Hope Road, reports of MVA, property damage accidents** – 911 and phone reports. First call, vehicle left the roadway; airbag deployment, vehicle towed. Second call, two-vehicle PDO. No tows.
  - **Locations at Creek Road/Northridge Drive, vehicle/traffic stop** – Call officer initiated. Registered owner cited for speed in zone. Uniform traffic ticket issued for Lewiston Town Court. Patrols issued warnings to three drivers for violations.

- Saturday, March 23**
- **2500 block of Saunders Settlement Road, MVA-property damage** – Caller to 911 reported a one-vehicle accident, car in a ditch. Patrols responded; driver arrested for driving while intoxicated.
  - **300 block of Center Street, domestic disturbance** – 911 complaint; patrol responded.
  - **1600 block of Ridge Road, MVA-injuries** – Caller to 911 re-

ported a head-on accident; airbag deployment. Officers responded; both vehicles towed.

- **900 block of Mohawk Street, assist public** – Caller reported a neighbor cut her trees. Patrol responded, report taken.
- **Lewiston/Creek roads and the**

**5300 block of Townline Road, vehicle/traffic stops** – Calls officer initiated. Driver cited for speed in zone and uninspected motor vehicle; and driver, unspecified violation. Uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court. Patrols issued warnings to three drivers for violations.

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*hosted by Lori Caso*

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