

MAY ROUNDUP



May, a time of craziness when students are graduating, vacations are beginning, family is going and coming and coming and going. It's a temperature segue between too hot and too cold, and here at Decatur House, it is trying to experience it all at once!

Some of the fun experiences we had this month included an outing to Heritage Theaters to see *'The Devil Wears Prada 2'*, and a lunch outing to The Pilot House, which was well attended and made especially delightful when we ran into some Decatur House friends. *See photos of our dashing group on the top left and of Ed and Bernadette at lunch.* Some residents replaced track walking at the Sandwich Center for Active Living with walking on the Cape Cod Canal - *Top middle photo.* Other walking enthusiasts gathered to enjoy the lovely gardens that have started to bloom at Decatur House. *See photos of Judy and Marilyn top right and Ginny top right.* Another outing, this one to Scenic Roots, gave residents the opportunity to select plants for a small herb garden as well as tomatoes and other "testers." If all goes well, some of those herbs will soon find their way into Cynthia's delicious recipes. *See photos of Pat and Nancy T. with beautiful flowers bottom left.*

Scrabble, card games, *(see photos bottom middle of Francine and Judy playing Yahtzee with volunteer, Ally and Betty, Ben, Joe and Eugenie playing Scrabble)* and a good movie is a tried-and-true recipe for a relaxing time, but maybe not quite as relaxing as makeovers with nurse Melissa and Christine! *(see photos middle)* Live music by Julie Charland and Rick Walsh was enjoyed. Lourana invited a friend and piano instructor, Melissa Harris *(see photo bottom left)* over to play. It was refreshing, uplifting and fun. We are so grateful for our entertainers and volunteers that make our days happy and our hearts light.

Devotions with Ruth Blais, was added to the spiritual self-care roster along with communion with Mike Hayes and Reiki with Susan. Demand for the painting classes continues to increase. *See photo of Nancy D. and Ginny bottom right.* Cards with US Veteran Owen Earl, and Michelle Cox- Notary and founder of the Daily Money Manager, are new activities and people we are grateful for.



Spotlight: Nancy & Chuck Syverson continued

Over the years, he faithfully served congregations in Vermont, Rhode Island, California and Carver, Massachusetts, spending roughly a decade at each church while also earning his PhD from Drew University.

Nancy's nursing career became the steady thread that supported the family through every move and new chapter. No matter where life and faith led them, she was always able to find meaningful work caring for others. She later earned a Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration.

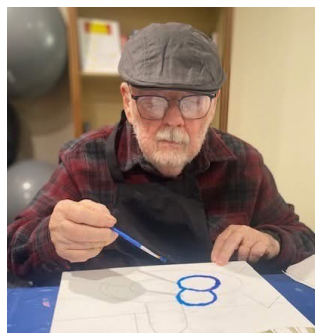
Along the way, the couple built a lifetime of memories through travel and family adventures. During a sabbatical while serving in California, they traveled through Norway, Paris, England and Sweden. One of their favorite family trips was traveling to Australia with their sons, where they visited members of Chuck's extended Italian family.

Their deep faith and strong partnership also carried them through life's greatest heartbreak: the illness and loss of their son, Brent. Through it all, they leaned on one another, their family and their faith.

Today, Chuck and Nancy are officially retired, but their lives remain rooted in caring for others and supporting one another in quiet, meaningful ways. This year, they celebrate 63 happy years of marriage.

Looking back on their life together, Nancy reflected simply and beautifully: "It has been a good life, and we don't regret any of it."

Their son Corey now lives in California with his wife, and what Nancy and Chuck lovingly describe as 24 goats. If you see the couple at Decatur House social hour, ask them about their many "goat grandkids." You will almost certainly be rewarded with laughter, especially from their proud "Grand-daa-aa-ad," Chuck.



Chuck and Nancy enjoying "Drum Fit", Corey and his wife, Nancy on "Nail Day" and Chuck during painting class.

JUNE 2026



DECATUR HOUSE

Assisted Living in Sandwich Village

Around the House

Community SPOTlight

Spotlight: Nancy & Chuck Syverson



Some lives are built around careers, some around places and some around purpose. For Chuck and Nancy, life has been built around faith, family, service and one another.

Their journey together began when Nancy was a nursing student at Northeast Baptist School of Nursing.

One weekend, her good friend Marie invited Nancy home for a visit. Nancy still laughs remembering that she had to ask her family's permission before going. "Things were different back then," she said with a smile. Marie's cousin, Chuck, picked the two young women up from school and a lifelong love story quietly began. Nancy was born in Everett, Massachusetts, where she was raised by her protective mother, Doris, and her father, Felix, a beloved milkman known for going above and beyond for the families on his route. He was dependable, compassionate and always willing to lend a helping hand. Nancy credits much of her caring spirit to her father's example.

Chuck spent most of his childhood as an only child, raised by his parents, Madalyn, a devoted homemaker, and George, the head janitor for the Westwood, Massachusetts school system. When Chuck was 14, the family joyfully welcomed his baby sister, Cyndi. Education was important in the household, and although George encouraged Chuck to attend a respected truck driving school, Chuck instead chose Northeastern University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Relations. He attended Bethel Seminary through the American Baptist Conference.

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