



George M. Belcher

January 19, 1935 - December 26, 2025

George Belcher, 90, of Vernon Township, NJ, passed away on Friday, December 26, 2025, at Newton Memorial Hospital, just a few weeks before his 91st birthday. Born in January 1935 in Vernon Township, he was the son of the late Robert Belcher, Sr. and Ruth E. DeWitt Belcher.

One of ten children, George grew up in Sussex County, where he learned the value of hard work early in life. As a young man, he spent his summers selling vegetables from his family's roadside stand. He later mastered the use of an ax and worked alongside his father for Asplundh Tree Service for five years, a skill that would shape much of his life.

In 1957, George began what would become a 39-year career with Jersey Central Power & Light, where he was known for his dedication and strong work ethic. Alongside his full-time work, he owned and operated Belcher's Tree Service for three decades. His reputation for precision and expertise in tree cutting was well known throughout the area.

George's talent with an ax extended beyond his profession. He competed at the Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, winning first place in the wood chopping contest from 1959 through 1963 and again in 1965—accomplishments he took great pride in.

In 1960, George built his first home on farmland purchased from his grandmother in the Sussex Hills section of Vernon Township. It was there that he and his wife, Janice, made a life together until retirement. The two shared a love of travel, often exploring the country in their RV campers and making

frequent trips to Florida and other destinations. George was a loyal and devoted husband, and their partnership was a constant source of joy in his life.

He enjoyed the outdoors in every season—deer hunting, trapping, and coon hunting with his daughter Bonnie, often accompanied by one of his favorite coon dogs, Blue. He also took great pleasure in vegetable gardening and took pride in the harvests he grew. George was deeply proud of his children and grandchildren, and his family remained at the center of his life.

George later built his retirement home in Lake Wallenpaupack Lake Estates, where he enjoyed boating, fishing, and golfing with friends and neighbors in the lake community. During the last year of his life, he lived with his son, Jerry and daughter-in-law, Marisol, surrounded by their care and companionship. George was a good man with strong family values, a steady presence, and a generous spirit. He will be deeply missed by all who know him.

George was a Volunteer for the U.S. Army National Guard at Fort Drum, NY and Volunteer Fireman for Pochuck Valley Fire Department.

He is survived by his wife, Janice Belcher; his children, Bonnie (Chester) Cooper of Vernon, NJ, and Jerel (Marisol) Belcher of Wantage, NJ; and four grandchildren, Angie Sosa of Odessa, TX, Georgeann Belcher of Hamburg, NJ, Dale Godfrey of Sandy, UT, and Mason Godfrey of Highbridge, NJ. He is also survived by his sister, Dorothy Kline of Massachusetts, and brothers, Gene Belcher of Florida, Gerald (Shelley) Belcher of Florida, and Ruth McCarthy (Bill) of Texas.

He was predeceased by his sons, Daniel and Darrell Belcher; his sisters, Marjorie Belcher and Doris (Wayne) Richards; and his brothers, Robert Belcher, Jr., Melvin Belcher, and Harold Belcher.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hounds in Pounds, Inc. at <https://houndsinpounds.org>.

Friends may pay their respects to the family on Friday, January 2, 2026, from

4–7 p.m. at Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ 07461. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Monica R.C. Church, 33 Unionville Ave, Sussex. Interment will immediately follow at Clove Cemetery in Wantage, NJ. Online condolences may be offered to the family on www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Clove Cemetery

Route 23
Sussex, NJ 07461

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Monica R.C. Church
33 Unionville Avenue
Sussex, NJ 07461
stmonica@ptd.net
<http://www.stmonicasussex.org>

Tribute Wall

CG

“ *Sending condolences to the family from Carol & George Greig, friends from Wallenpaupack Lake Estates. He was a good friend along with his wife Janice . May he Rest In Peace.*

carol greig - January 05 at 08:26 PM

CG

Our condolences to the family from Mike and Carolyn Guy from Wallenpaupack Lake Estates george and janice were good friends. We had great times together. He will definitely be missed. May he rest in peace love, and prayers

Carolyn Guy - January 05 at 10:18 PM

WC

“ *As a fellow lineman working with George over the years, during the good weather in the bad was really a blessing. For over 30 years, he was a pleasure to work with, very humble and caring. We ate together , slept on the pavement and in the truck together all over New Jersey in parts of Pennsylvania. He was the Paul Bunyan of tree work and a great lineman. He taught me so much.*

Wayne R Card - January 02 at 08:07 PM

RF

“ *Ruth, Bill, McCarthy & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of George M. Belcher.*



Ruth, Bill, McCarthy & family - January 02 at 11:19 AM

GW

“ Gail W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George M. Belcher.

Gail W. - December 31, 2025 at 03:59 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of George M. Belcher.



December 30, 2025 at 08:21 PM

JH

“ Jerilyn and George Hall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George M. Belcher.

Jerilyn and George Hall - December 30, 2025 at 08:21 PM

AC

“ Aldo C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George M. Belcher.

Aldo C. - December 30, 2025 at 07:19 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of George M. Belcher.*



December 29, 2025 at 06:03 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of George M. Belcher.*



December 29, 2025 at 02:43 PM



“ *Bob Mills Furniture planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George M. Belcher.*

Bob Mills Furniture - December 29, 2025 at 02:43 PM