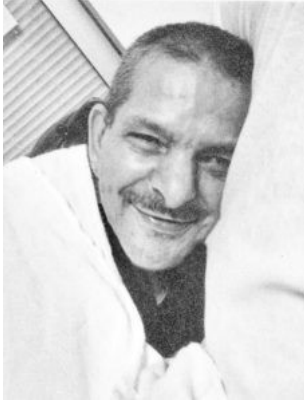


# October 3, 2018 Obituaries

Tracy Davis Pierce - 4y ago ■ 80

## Alan L. Patenaude



[<https://bartonchronicle.com/obit-alan-patenaude/>]

Alan L. "Al" Patenaude, beloved son, brother, uncle and friend, was called home to his heavenly Father on September 25, 2018.

Alan was born on June 6, 1962, to Joseph and Lucille (Fontaine) Patenaude from Holland. He came into this world with a mentally challenging disability. He was an amazing blessing to all who met and loved him.

As a youth, Alan attended Brandon Training School. After several years, he was able to transition to a St. Johnsbury group home and later to a Newport group home. In 1987, Bob Clapper and his partner, Rachel Pelletier, welcomed him into their home for almost 16 years in Holland. He then moved to Rutland to live with Kathleen Pelletier (Rachel's daughter) for 13 years. His last home was with Ruth (Ruthie) and Clermont McPhee in North Clarendon for two and a half years. In all of these homes, he was part of the family, was loved, and had fun and many adventures. We give special thanks to all his caregivers, who loved and cared for Alan through the years.

Throughout his life, he shared many special times with his family, while visiting with Mom and Dad, siblings and nieces and nephews. He enjoyed many Patenaude family gatherings and holiday times, including visiting the family farm. He always loved to laugh and have a coffee and cookies. Alan's famous sayings of "I like you," "What's up a you?" and "Where's your tie?" will be forever etched in our hearts and minds. Alan leaves behind many broken hearts.

He is survived by his loving mom, Lucille Patenaude, of Westford; his brothers: George (Gale) Patenaude of Richmond, Marcel (Gaetane) Patenaude of Holland; his sisters: Diane (John) Forcier of Essex, Susan (Bert) Letourneau of Holland, Joanne (Mike) Aulis of Franklin, New Hampshire, Christine (Gary) Sykes of Norton, and Anna (Jeff) Hutchins of Westford; and by many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Alan was predeceased by his father, Joseph Patenaude; a brother, Adrien Patenaude; twin sisters Faith and Hope, who died at birth; and by his godfather, Larry Patenaude.

Our deepest thanks and appreciation go out to the Newport and Rutland Mental Health agencies and the Rutland Regional Medical Center for all the love and care for Al. Alan warmed the hearts of many doctors, nurses and caregivers during his extended hospital stay of May 2015 through April 2016 and many other times, while in the hospital.

We thank you for many prayers for Alan throughout his long illnesses. He is at peace in heaven. We picture him with his tie in place and his coffee in hand. God bless Alan for all the blessings he gave us.

In lieu of flowers, please send any donations in memory of Alan to the Fifth Floor Dayroom of the Rutland Regional Medical Center, 160 Allen Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

A Christian Mass will take place at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Newport on Saturday, October 6, at 11 a.m., with burial to follow at the St. Edward's Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Clifford Funeral Home in Rutland.

Steven Jay Friedman

1943-2018



[<https://bartonchronicle.com/obit-friedman/>]

Steve Friedman died peacefully in his sleep on September 20, 2018, following a long illness.

He was born in Duluth, Minnesota, during the final days of the Battle of Stalingrad, as the tide of war turned. When Steve was eight, he won a prize in a local talent show and recorded in a note to himself: “secured ambition to be an artist.” He studied at the University of Michigan, where he won a Hopwood Fiction Award, and he earned a bachelor of arts degree in English from the University of Minnesota. Steve’s professional theater work began with the Firehouse Theater in Minneapolis, where he acted in world premieres of plays by Megan Terry and Sam Shepherd.

In 1968, he joined the San Francisco Mime Troupe as playwright, actor, and collective member. Known for his Gutter Puppet plays, his comic villains, and his adaptations of Brecht, Steve’s sharp wit helped define a new era of radical popular comedy. He gained instant fame in a protest meeting at the San Francisco board of supervisors when he identified himself as toilet paper tycoon Harold Smellybucks, there to speak “on behalf of the mighty rich.” A cream pie aimed at his face missed him, and landed instead on supervisor Dianne Feinstein. She was not pleased.

Steve worked as a cabbie; he torched spiders for the Minneapolis Water Works; he folded sweaters at Macy’s; he drove a jitney; he delivered mail on foot, including to the house of the Grateful Dead; he worked the overnight shift at the post office. And during all those jobs he was a writer. He wrote every day, and leaves behind a trove of poetry, short stories, plays, and letters.

Steve delighted audiences as President Nixon in solo street shows, on *KSAN* radio in his own “Watergate Follies,” and in the feature film *White House Madness*. In 1977 he co-founded New York’s Modern Times Theater, an Equity company that produced original work on timely political subjects. He toured widely as an actor in his own plays, including *The Bread and Roses Play*, *Freedom Days*, and *Hibakusha, A Love Story from Hiroshima*, for which he won an NEA Playwriting Fellowship. His work was produced in France, India, and England; on stage and on the radio in Sweden; and at the Edinburgh Festival, where his *Lear Lesson* won a Fringe First nomination.

With Denny Partridge, Steve raised their daughter, Rose; he was at home every day when she returned from school. He taught playwriting and acting at Antioch College, and with a grant from the Asian Cultural Council went with his family to Dhaka, Bangladesh, to create a play about the 1971 War of Liberation. As a senior lecturer at Barnard College/Columbia University, he taught commedia, playwriting, and solo performance, and mentored a generation of students. He prized the teaching he did during those years in New York state maximum-security prisons.

In 2007, with Ms. Partridge, he founded Mud Time Theater. Their *Mildred Taken Crazy* and *The Nine Questions* toured throughout Vermont and elsewhere in the U.S. and Europe. His last project, in 2012, was an adaptation of Voltaire’s *Candide* for the State Theater of Hannover, Germany. He then turned his attention to life in rural Vermont, an existence that included his wife and collaborator of 45 years, Denny Partridge, his daughter Rose Friedman, son-in-law Justin Lander, and grandchildren Eva Josephine and Charlie Garnet Lander, all of East Hardwick. Until and through the last day of his life, he completed the *New York Times* crossword puzzle; recited plays and poetry from memory; shared the best of film history with his family; and gave generously as a writer and theater-maker, advising former students and colleagues from afar.

Donations in his memory can be made to Vermont Vaudeville or to the Bard Prison Initiative.

Carroll S. (Buzzy) Billado Jr.