

FROM TIME TO TIME

A Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society

JULY-DEC 2025

Volume 16, Issue 2

Honoring Our Past – Celebrating Our Future



Happy New Year 2026

As we step into 2026, we hope this newsletter finds you feeling excited for the possibilities a new year brings. We are truly grateful for the trust, support, donations, and engagement from the community and our members over the last year. You made it possible for us to do what we love – Preserve History!

This year we are thrilled to continue documenting the Commerce City history, along with doing more to preserve the oldest house in Commerce City, (the Dottie Bakke House). Thank you for allowing us to continue our passions of preserving and displaying the Commerce City history.

As we move into 2026, we would like to accomplish Historic Preservation plans with the city of Commerce City, adding a council representative to the CCHS board of directors, Organizing and archiving documents, Updating our website, History Path Completion, Lawn and Horseshoe Pit installation and pool redesign at the Dottie Bakke House.

BOARD MEMBERS

Debra Bullock



Barb McMillan



Sheila Harris



Candy Machuga



MUSEUM INFORMATION

Phone: 303-288-2590 Website: www.cchistoric.com

Email: cchistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

Address: 6505 East 60th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022

FOR THE NEWSLETTER

All submissions are welcome, including obituaries. Send submissions to Debra Bullock
(photos or stories).

SEND TO: cchistoricalsociety@yahoo.com, or call 303-288-2590

WELCOME VISITORS

We are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday

from 10 am – 2 pm

Tuesday and Thursday by appointment!

CCHS CHARTER MEMBERS...

Joy Bishop	Gary Drotar	Dustin McIntyre
Hester Bonnell	Reba Drotar	Loretta Petty
Debra Bullock	Samantha Ford	Don Sater
Rene' Bullock	Sean Ford	JoAnn Stevenson
Thelma Cole	Esther Hall	Dick Stevenson
Cindy Comstock	Bob Hutchings	Janet Union
Gary Comstock	Dorothy Hutchings	Norm Union
Kristi Douglas	Gene Leffel	June Younger
Steve Douglas	David Lutter	Troy Younger

History has no boundaries-Come celebrate yours!

Commerce City Historical Society

OUR VISION...

“To Preserve the Commerce City Area History”

Because History Matters!

OUR MISSION...

- To accurately collect, memorialize, preserve and maintain the rich physical history of the peoples and times of the Great City of Commerce City.
- We will encourage all generations of the area to discover and embrace their great history and roots.
- The Society will work to collect history for the past, present and future boundaries of the City of Commerce City.
- The Society will establish and illustrate the history of the area.
- The Society will preserve such materials and make them accessible to all who wish to examine or study them.
- Collaborate with officials and other organizations to insure the preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of the City of Commerce City.
- The Society will maintain a museum for the protection, preservation and exhibition of all such materials.
- The Society will encourage the preservation of historic buildings by marking those buildings, sites and trails.
- The Society will be involved in various fundraising activities through grant writing and special events.

CCHS MEMBERSHIP-127 MEMBERS

FOUNDING MEMBERS

INDIVIDUAL

FAMILY

BUSINESS

MEMORIAL

SENIOR LIFETIME

LIFETIME

If you would like to become a member, see the application on the last page



Meet our new museum volunteer:

Kathy Teter Waterman is a lifelong resident of Commerce City.

Kathy attended Kemp Elementary, Kearney Jr. High School and graduated from Adams City High School in 1970 and attended Northeastern Junior College. She married Rocky Teter 1972, and they had 3 children (Tracey, Tonia and Troy). She was elected to city council in 2003 and served for 8 years. While on city council Kathy was on several boards including The Restoration Advisory Board for the Rocky Mountain Arsenal clean up, Commerce City Liquor Authority, DIA Business Partnership and more. Kathy is a currently member of The Landing Place Church and is active in their programs.

CCHS annual museum celebration September 26, 2025



A visit from the Northglenn Historical Society September 24, 2025



2026 CCHS CALENDAR



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

(Meetings held at Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center)
6505 East 60th Avenue
June 6, 2026 (Saturday at noon)

BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm

ANNUAL EVENTS:

City Council Reception-Saturday January 31, 2026
Legendary Locals Reception-Saturday February 7, 2026
Rummage Sale-May 2, 2026
Heritage Family Celebration-Saturday September 19, 2026
Christmas Party-Saturday December 5, 2026

PROGRAMS:

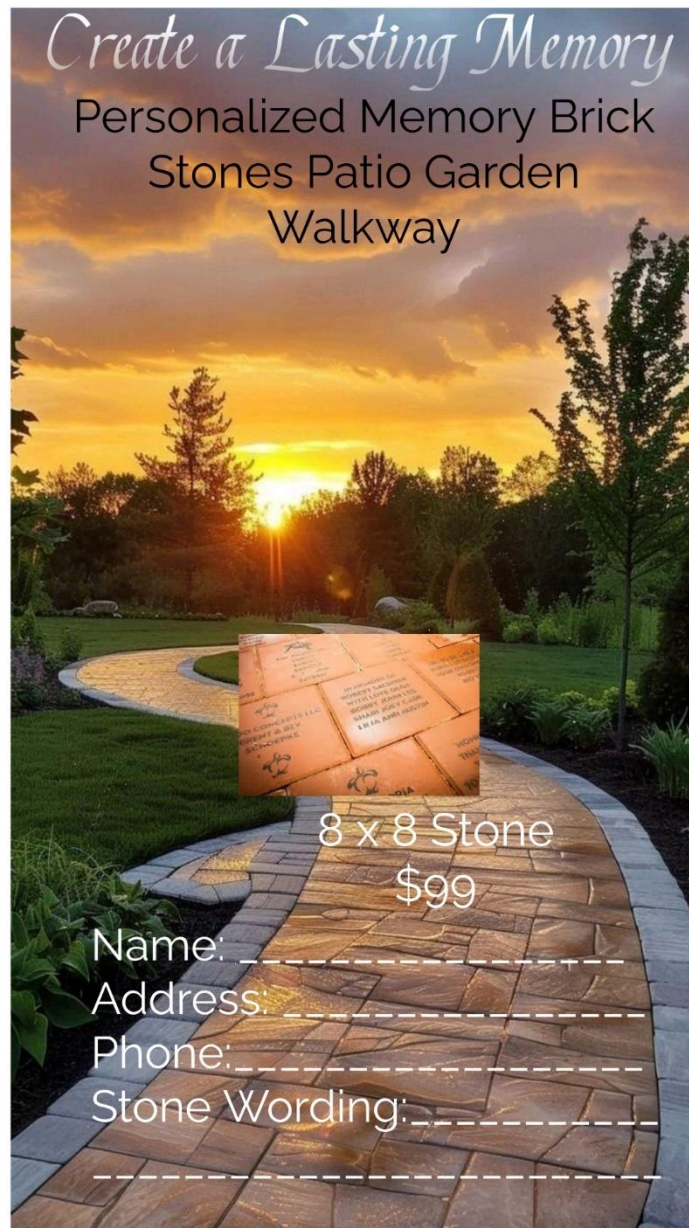
History Lectures as scheduled
Museum group tours as requested
History Coloring Book distribution at museum
Children (3rd grade) Reading Books distribution at museum
Legendary Locals program
Quarterly Newsletter

COMMERCE CITY HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER:

Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10 am to 2 pm
Tuesday & Thursday by Appointment

THE CCHS IS Selling bricks for the History Memory Path at
the Dottie Bakke House. If you are interested call
Debra Bullock 303-946-3426.

Create a Lasting Memory
Personalized Memory Brick
Stones Patio Garden
Walkway



8 x 8 Stone
\$99

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Stone Wording: _____

History thrives through our collective participation and
community involvement.

History connects us to the larger human story and our
place in it.

History doesn't just happen; we make it together.

History never stops, nor do we.

History Matters!

Please consider becoming a member or giving a donation
to the Commerce City Historical Society.

(www.cchistoric.com)



Historic Preservation is more than bricks and mortar – it is about cultural heritage, sustainability, economic development, heritage tourism, and more. The history of any city is an important window into the lives, values, and priorities of the people who live there. The preservation of our history plays a vital role in maintaining the established character of a place and sustaining that character. We the Commerce City Historical Society believe that preserving this piece of our history is a start to local preservation. In 2015, the city council adopted a Historic Preservation Plan. To move forward with this plan the steps that must be taken first are the following.

- ❖ Create and adopt a historic preservation ordinance
 - ❖ Establish a historic preservation board
- ❖ Establish criteria for what is considered historic in Commerce City
 - ❖ Initiate a plan to survey and identify historic places in the city
- ❖ Establish procedures for nominating and recognizing historic places
 - ❖ Research the culturally diverse history in Commerce City

One of our goals for 2026 is to encourage city council to act on this plan and get things moving forward for historic preservation in Commerce City.

Back in Time



This new art piece was installed at the corner of 60th and Monaco, in December 2025, selected by the Commerce City Cultural Council. A reception will be held Feb 22, 2026 at the Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center.

Conter Farm & Cocklebur

The Conter Property History:



The Conter farm owned by Bill and Catherine Conter was a wheat and barley farm located in Commerce City as far back as 1870. They also had a hog ranch located at approximately 56th and Holly Street (north side of 56th and east of Holly) and part of their farm was also leased by the Lungdren Family who ran it as a Dairy Farm located at (60th and Monaco Street). The Conter land boundaries were approximately East to Niagara Street, West of Holly Street, South to 56th Avenue and North to 61st or 62nd Avenue. The streets as we know them today did not exist when this land was farmland. There were dogs, ducks, chickens, and an *Arabian welch* horse named Cocklebur. Mr. and Mrs. Conter and their daughter Louise lived in the house on 56th and Holly until their divorce (early forties). After they were divorced Mr. Conter moved or rebuilt the house at 60th and Glencoe Street, (5960 Glencoe). Mrs. Conter and Louise moved to Denver and later moved back to Commerce City to the farmhouse at 60th and Monaco, when the Lungdren family moved out.

Louise attended catholic schools and became a Nun. Her nickname was Billie. She transitioned from being a Nun to being an operating nurse at Mercy Hospital in Denver. She often wore a wool coat and a silk scarf along with rubber galoshes, even during the summer. Catherine, the mother, was a Homemaker and very reclusive and rarely seen. She had one favorite time of the year when she made *fudge* for the children in the area on Halloween.

The farmhouse at 60th and Monaco was an old red brick 2 story house facing south. Behind the house sat an old brick barn and a separate ramshackle wooden shed. An old blue Buick sat under a lean-to. The City had grown up around the old farm property. On the west, north and east, modest homes had been built since the early 50's. A small store and a lumber yard (Monaco Lumber) were the neighbors to the south. South of the lumber yard was land that the city acquired from the Conter property to build Monaco Park. The park property was needed for drainage detention purposes when storm sewers, curb, gutter and sidewalks were constructed in the early 70's. There were indications, however, that the Conters' were not happy with the city and the land acquisition process.

In 1975, the City Council had adopted a zoning ordinance. The ordinance provided that within two years of the adoption of the ordinance, uses on residential zoned property must comply with the new ordinance. The Conter property was zoned residential and keeping the animals was not allowed and no longer allowed farm activity. In 1977 Catherine and Louise Conter were in big disagreements with the city over code violations. Brighton District Court Judge Dorothy E. Binder decided that 56-year-old Louise Conter must spend a month in jail and pay a fine for at least \$100.00 for refusal to remove the horse (cocklebur). Horses aren't allowed in areas designated for residential use. Henry Barriner, a fiery

opponent of many city policies helped the Conter women get Cocklebur back on the farm to his home pasture. There was a “Welcome home Cocklebur” party. However, the drama continued for many years with the ladies and the city over Cocklebur. The women said they were just trying to maintain a family lifestyle that has been the norm since the Conter farm was established in 1870. Catherine Conter said that Cocklebur was her whole life and her whole soul. Her love for the aging mare was planted as a small child growing up on the same farm. “I’ve spent the best part of my life on the back of a horse,” she said.

The City Officials were not moved by the Conter’s lifelong attachment to horses and considered their decision to challenge the court order an obstruction to progress which Republican Senator William Armstrong and Bob Gehler, the city attorney, became involved with. An unsuccessful attempt for a variance from the Board of Adjustment just made matters worse.

The Conter women and Mr. Conter eventually passed away and they willed their land to the Catholic Charities (Little Sisters of the Poor), which Melody Homes purchased in early 2000. This land is what we know today as Monaco Park, Pioneer Park, and The Conter Estates.

In approximately 2003, the city of Commerce City purchased the land from Melody Homes after a failed attempt to build houses on this land. In 2004 the Pioneer Park was opened with various phases of additions and was finished in July of 2015 with the addition of the water park (Paradise Island Pool). The Commerce City Housing Authority and Mr. McDermid purchased the land at 60th and Monaco to build The Conter Estates. The old buildings were demolished, and the current Community Center was built in October 2004, where the house was located. The building was designed, and materials were selected to resemble the farmhouse and some original wood doors, and built in dressers were kept and built into the new building. This building has served as a Community Center, City Offices and now the First Museum in Commerce City. If you look closely in the landscaping near the northeast corner of Pioneer Park (Monaco & 60th), you can find a statue of a little horse (cocklebur). This bronze horse statue has been stolen 2 times and now the 3rd art piece was installed in December 2025, selected by the Cultural Council. A reception will be held Feb 22, 2026, at the Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center.



Out & About

Hispanic Heritage Days in Derby September 20, 2025



Fall Fest October 4, 2024



Fire Department Oct 11, 2025



CCHS Victorian Tea Oct 18, 2025



Groundbreaking Ceremony for Summit Heights Jr. High School-Thursday October 23rd, 2025

Adams 14 broke ground on the new Summit Heights Junior High School on **Thursday, October 23, 2025**, at 4451 E. 72nd Ave in Commerce City, marking a major milestone in consolidating junior high programs and building a modern facility with community spaces, athletic fields, and health clinics. The new school, a \$77 million project expected to finish Summer 2027, replaces older facilities to offer a unified learning environment for Adams 14 students, featuring design elements from student and community input



2025 Election Results-City Council



November 2025



Jose Guardiola



Joanna Sandoval



Stefani Trujillo



Lori Young-Hayes



School Board Election November 2025. Maria Zubia and Dr. Janet Estrada were reelected

CCHS BOARD MEMBERS CHRISTMAS AT THE BROWN PALACE



Did you know...

It costs more than a penny to make a penny.

The humble penny might not seem like much, but producing one actually costs more than it's worth. According to the U.S. Mint, making a single penny cost 3.69 cents in 2025. This helps explain why the U.S. ended production of the penny on November 12, 2025. While the billions of 1-cent coins still in circulation will remain legal tender, no new ones will be minted, marking the end of the penny's 232-year run.

The decision to discontinue the penny was debated for decades. People against the change argued that the low-denomination coin still supported lower-income families and charities, while those who wanted the penny gone saw it as a financial and environmental burden on the country. As of 2025, there were estimated to be 300 billion 1-cent coins in existence in the U.S. — or more than 800 pennies per person.



MEMBER & SPECIAL FRIENDS OBITUARIES...

Carla Benallo

July 17, 2025

A memorial graphic for Carla Rae Benallo. It features a central circular portrait of a smiling woman with short, light-colored hair. The portrait is framed by a wreath of pink and white flowers and green leaves. Above the portrait, the text "Celebrating memory of" is written in a cursive font, flanked by two white doves in flight. The background is a soft, pinkish-purple watercolor wash. Decorative leaf motifs are in the corners. Below the portrait, the name "Carla Rae Benallo" is written in a large, elegant cursive font and underlined. At the bottom, a paragraph of text provides details of her life and passing.

*Celebrating
memory
of*

Carla Rae Benallo

Carla Rae Benallo, age 74, passed away on July 17th, 2025 in Mesa, AZ. Carla is survived by her husband of 55 years, Mike Benallo, and two sons Michael (DeeDee) Benallo Jr., Jonathan (Michelle) Benallo, six grandchildren Natalia, Joseph, Jake and Blake, Alexa and Logan. And one great-grandchild, Ryder. Carla is preceded in death by her parents Morgan and Ruth Courtright. Brother Conrad Robert Courtright. Surviving sisters are Claudia Barnes and Charlene (Jeff) Busk. A celebration of life for Carla will be announced in the coming weeks.

Cindy Johnson

August 1, 1954 – July 24, 2025



A native Coloradoan, Cindy's life was filled with adventure, love, and an unshakable devotion to her family and friends. Though she called Colorado home and dearly loved the mountains, she also had the opportunity to live in Paris, France; Kano, Nigeria; and Istanbul, Turkey. Her stories of her many travels to exotic places were cherished memories she loved to share.

Cindy was born in Denver, Colorado on August 1st, 1954. Growing up with two sisters and one brother, she spent her childhood in Commerce City and graduated in 1972 from Adams City High School. While in high school, she was actively involved in band, (playing flute), accordion, theater, academics, Job's Daughters, 4-H, and high school Pep Club. Upon graduation, Cindy made the decision to attend the University of Northern Colorado, majoring in Elementary Education. After graduating from UNC, Cindy learned quickly through substitute teaching that elementary education was not for her. She returned to the university scene, this time at Colorado State University. It was in Fort Collins that she met her beloved husband, Mohammed Hindi. She is survived by Mohammed "Mo" of 45 years, her sister, Marilyn Nelson, her brother, Darrell Johnson, and brother-in-law, Jason Hernandez, along with several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her sister, Janice, and her parents, Frank and Doris Roe.

Cindy's love for travel led her to work for Grand Circle Travel while living in Istanbul. Upon her return to the United States, she and her high school friend, Bob Morise, opened Odessey Adventure Travel, which specialized in customized trips to Turkey. Cindy also worked in the catering business with Michael's of Denver, and most recently worked as a medical transcriptionist. Cindy was creative with her methods of employment, seeing work as an avenue to pursue her greatest passions, which were her husband Mohammed, her family, travel, and her many, many friends. While in college, she pledged Alpha Xi Delta sorority and remained in close touch with many sisters throughout her life. Additionally, she was very involved with Adams City High School class reunions. Cindy served continuously on the reunion committee and was a Master of Research and keeping track of everyone. Cindy loved art, music, travel, ballet, opera, cats, traditions, friends, food, and chocolate, (Nancy's Damn Good Chocolate Cake), but mostly her friends and family. Cindy was devoted to everything she did! Her life was celebrated on Saturday, August 30th at Olinger Highland; 10201 Grant St, Thornton, CO 80229.

Austin Lucio Gonzales

July 18, 1982 – August 14, 2025



Austin Lucio Gonzales died unexpectedly in a tragic motorcycle accident August 14, 2025.

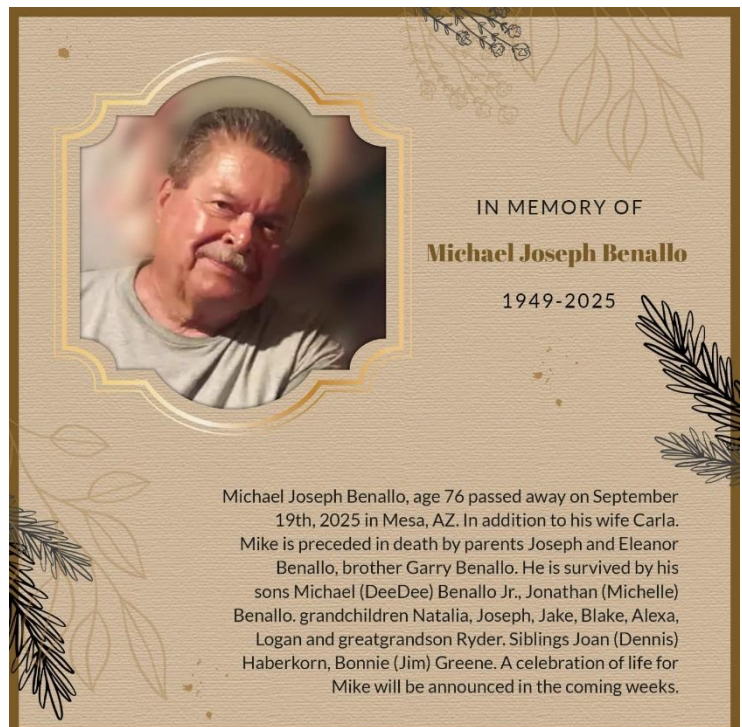
Austin was born on January 18, 1982. He married his best friend and the love of his life, Melanie Kleber in 2007. They welcomed 2 amazing sons into their lives in 2013 and then 2024. "Our Superman" will be missed more than words can say.

He was a tow truck operator and a heavy haul semi driver. He found joy in riding motorcycles, working with hot rods, and spending time with his loved ones. His bigger than life personality, his infectious laugh, smile, and his love for his family and friends will be remembered always. We love you

The funeral service was held September 2, at 10:00 a.m. at The Servants Heart Church, 6405 Monaco St. Commerce City, CO. Burial followed at Olinger's Highland Cemetery 10201 Grant St. Thornton, CO

Michael Joseph Benallo

1949-September 19, 2025





Mario Elevi Medina

June 7, 1951 - October 3, 2025

Mario E. Medina, 74, of Commerce City, Colorado, passed away peacefully on October 3, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Denver, Colorado, to Ciria and Elevi Medina, Mario was a proud graduate of Adams City High School, Class of 1969. He continued his education at Metro State College and later attended trade school for HVAC and plumbing, building a strong foundation for a life defined by hard work and dedication.

Mario retired from King Soopers after an incredible 34 years of service and continued working with E-470 and the South Adams Water District until his full retirement in 2016. Throughout his career, he was known for his reliability, warmth, and the friendships he built across the community. On February 14, 1970, Mario married his high school sweetheart, Debbie Medina. Together, they raised three children—Michelle, Amy, and Mario, instilling in them the values of love, perseverance, and family.

Mario was a passionate Denver Broncos fan who rarely missed a game—unless he was out camping or fishing, two of his favorite pastimes. He found joy in the outdoors, in family gatherings, and in sharing laughter with those around him. He is survived by his beloved wife Debbie; his children Michelle, Amy, and Mario & wife Miah; his grandchildren Alexis, Alonso, Amia, Kyra, Nicholas, Marsden, and Mason; and his great-grandson Benjamin. He is also survived by his brothers Mike, George, Jerome, James, Tom, and Joseph.

Mario was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Anthony, his sister Ciria Teresa, and his granddaughter Marlowe. Mario will be remembered for his generous spirit, his love of family, and the countless lives he touched with his kindness and humor. His legacy lives on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, October 28th, 2025, at 11.30 am at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. Located at 6770 Monaco St, Commerce City, CO 80022.

Douglas Jeray Raitz

September 17, 1954 – October 19, 2025

Douglas Raitz, 70, of Commerce City, CO, passed away peacefully surrounded by family. Doug was a beloved father, grandfather, brother, and friend, and an outstanding member of his community. Doug was a man of strong faith and a devoted member of Our Saviour Lutheran Church, where he attended services every Sunday. His life was guided by love, kindness, and the values he found in his faith.

Born and raised in Commerce City, CO, Doug spent his childhood summers in Minnesota, working alongside his brother on his grandparents' and uncle's farm — memories he cherished throughout his life.

Doug dedicated over thirty years to King Soopers, where he built lasting friendships and earned the admiration of his coworkers before retiring. His hard work, humor, and generous spirit made him a joy to be around.

Doug married his high school sweetheart, Dianna Gooden, and together they shared many happy years. He was a proud father to his daughter, Colleen Albright, and a loving grandfather to Kevin Jones, Kaela Albright, Alaina Knapp, and Nevaeh Raitz. He also adored his great-grandchildren: Samantha Jones, Josiah Jones, and Zayden Anderson.

He is survived by his five siblings — Randy Raitz, Kevin Raitz, Lori Knapp, Beverly Raitz, and Barbara Zink — who will remember him for his warmth, humor, and unwavering dedication to family. Throughout his life, Doug exemplified compassion and selflessness. He lived at home with his parents for many years, caring for his father through Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, and later tenderly caring for his mother until her passing. In his later years, Doug enjoyed his independence, spending time with family, and doing the things he loved most





Alvin Leroy Franzen

November 6, 2024

Alvin LeRoy Franzen passed away peacefully early in the morning of November 6th, 2024, in Des Moines, Washington (just outside Seattle). He was surrounded by family after a 20+ year battle with cancer and participating in 15+ clinical trials and treatments at Fred Hutch Cancer Center. We will remember Al as the life of the party, caring family man, and someone who was always up for adventure. He conquered many careers throughout his life from working in the family plumbing business, to running his own underground utility construction company, to becoming a successful Realtor. Al was never afraid of a challenge and was

strong enough to take calculated risks.

Al also had a passion for supporting his community. It began in his younger years in the Jaycees & his work on the Adams City School Board. He continued on in his later years being active in Rotary International, the Wesley Homes community and coordinating, in conjunction with his siblings, a Franzen Family Endowment Scholarship at Kansas Wesleyan University, where he met his wife, Kathy. Al passed down a legacy of adventure from sky diving with his daughter Tanya, to traveling to Russia to visit his daughter Darcie, to the many river trips with friends and family over the years.

His immediate family will miss his spirit and caring nature, including his wife, Kathleen; daughters Tanya and Darcie; grandchildren Kendra, Jordyn, Kyle, Gavin and Fiona; great grandchildren Emmett, Scarlett and Bridger. Al is also survived by his siblings, LaVern Franzen, Ellene Austin, Karen Johnson & Lois Clegg.

Hester Irene Bonnell

May 27, 1947 - Nov 6, 2025

Hester was born May 27th, 1947, in McPherson Kansas to Lester and Esther Converse and was one of eight children. The family moved to Commerce City in 1953 where she called home until the time of her passing. Hester married Cecil Bonnell on Nov 12th, 1965. They have 5 children Lester, Rodger, Sheila, Shelly and Elaine.



She was preceded in death by both of her parents, an older brother Allen, and sister's Wyvonna and Darlene, as well as the love of her life Cecil.

She is survived by her four children Lester (Tina) Bonnell, Rodger Bonnell, Sheila (Sidney) Harris and Shelly Bonnell as well as one stepdaughter Elaine Bonnell, 13 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren and Brother Donnie and sister's Esther (twin sister), Lela and Lila.

She was first and foremost a caretaker and mentor to her children. She was a devoted Lutheran attending Our Saviour Lutheran church in Commerce City. She spent many years as a butcher for Hi-Lo market before life took her in a different direction taking care of special needs children and adults. She was a charter member of Commerce City Historical Society.



Guillermo Serna

**June 25, 1945 – November 16,
2025**

Guillermo Serna, age 80, of Commerce City, Colorado, passed away on Sunday, November 16th, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born on June 25th, 1945, Guillermo was the son of the late Crespín and Carmen Serna. He lived a life marked by deep devotion to his family, strong faith, and enduring kindness. Guillermo is survived by his son, Javier M. Serna; his daughter, Melinda R. Serna (Flores); his grandson, Javier G.

Serna; and his granddaughters, Amanda M. Serna (Paul M. Lopez) and Trinidad R. Serna. His great-grandchildren Evon Serna, Guillermina D. Serna, Baylie M. Strimple, Rafael C. Lopez, and Xavier F. Serna. He is also survived by his brothers Fernando Serna (Connie Serna) and Juan A. Serna; and his sisters Guadalupe Robles, Rosario Serna, and Irasema Macias-Gonzalez.

Guillermo was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Raquel Serna; his son, Ernest W. Serna; and his daughter-in-law, Debbie A. Serna. Though deeply missed, they are reunited once again.

A funeral service honoring Guillermo's life was held on December 3rd, 2025, at Our Lady Mother of the Church, located at 6690 E. 72nd Ave, Commerce City, CO 80022. Burial: Immediately followed at Olinger Highland Cemetery 10201 Grant St. Thornton, CO 80229.

Dan Clark

1941- Dec 4, 2025

Dan was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1941, and the family moved to Denver when he was two. His mother, Berthalee Williams, was from near Atlanta, Georgia, and his father, Lyell Ellwood Clark, was from Kansas. Dan's first job was as a warehouse boy and salesman at a shoe shop on 17th Street in downtown Denver. After earning his Eagle Scout badge and graduating from North High School in 1958, he married and started work for General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC), the financing operation that provided car loans to GM customers. His eldest surviving son, J. Scott Clark, was born during this phase, in 1963. By the late 1960s, Dan had become the "Senior Special Collections Agent" in Colorado, based on the Western Slope in Craig.



Dan married again in 1969 to Sandra Lea Clark, while he was still repossessing cars for GMAC. By the time his youngest son Brian Clark was born in 1972, he'd become a loan officer at Colorado National Bank (CNB). Several promotions later, he became president of the CNB branch in Commerce City, and he reveled in working with small businesses in that area. He also became active in the Commerce City Rotary club.

Dan stayed on a few years after the Colorado National Bank holding company had been purchased, but he eventually left the finance world for manufacturing in the late 1980s. One of his SBDC contacts needed managerial help running Ross Reels, makers of an industry-leading fly-fishing reel. It was an excellent match for a lifelong angling and hunting enthusiast who enjoyed long drives through Colorado's mountains; Dan spent two decades at the helm of Ross Reels, commuting regularly between Denver and the company's manufacturing shop in Montrose.

Before and after his formal retirement, Dan gave his time and talents in many different roles: District Governor for Rotary in 1998-99, president at Faith Lutheran Church, board member at Denver Lutheran High School, board positions with the Federal Reserve, the SBA and SBDCs, chairman of the American Fly-Fishing Trade Association, and countless committees. He often sang solos during church services (usually accompanied by Sandy on organ), and for a few years in the 80s he sang tenor in a barbershop quartet.

Dan Clark is survived by his wife, two sons, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

WHY JOIN THE COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY...

- To learn and understand the history of the community in which you live.
- To help preserve the history in the community in which you live for future generations.
- Meet new people.
- Be involved with the community.
- Attend events sponsored by the historical society.
- Get involved in helping the historical society educate people about the history.
- Volunteer opportunities to help preserve your history.
- Gain appreciation for where you live.

To join please complete the form on the back page....

Membership Application

Commerce City Historical Society

Application for Membership

	NAME: _____
	Address: _____ _____
	Phone Number: _____ home _____ cell _____
	E-Mail _____
	Business Name _____

Annual Dues

***Please make checks payable to: Commerce City Historical Society,
6505 E. 60th Avenue, Commerce City, Colorado 80022***

Individual	\$20.00	_____ (per year)
Family	\$30.00	_____ (per year)
Memorial	\$50.00	_____ (per year)
Business/Corporation	\$100.00	_____ (per year)
Life Membership	\$500.00	_____ (one time)
Senior Lifetime Membership (Age 65 Plus)	\$250.00	_____ (one time)

Are you a Veteran? Yes ___ No ___ What Branch? _____

DATE PAID _____

How would you like to be notified of meetings and the Newsletter?

Email Phone Mail

For questions, please call the museum office 303-288-2590

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Phone Calls _____
Work at the Museum _____

Working at Events _____
Moving Items _____