

## Hackettstown's 'bluebird man,' Junius Birchard, dies at age 73

Services were held on Monday at Trinity United Methodist Church for Junius W. Birchard, 73, of Hackettstown. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Walkill Valley Hospital in Sussex on Friday, after being stricken at a nearby ski slope.

Mr. Birchard was born in Warren, Pa.

He had taught history and French in West Morris, Somerville, Dover and Morristown high schools, retiring in 1971.

He was a graduate of the University of Maine and Tufts University, and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

Mr. Birchard was a charter member of the North American Bluebird Society in Beltsville, Md. He was known to many people in the Hackettstown area for his work in bringing the native bluebird back to New Jersey, building and distributing hundreds of bluebird houses. In 1983, he received the John and Norah Lane Award for Outstanding Contribution to Bluebird Conservation by an Individual, from the North American Bluebird Society.

He was also well known as a peace activist and a proponent of nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Birchard is survived by his wife, Beatrice; two sons, Bruce of Riverton and Robert of Seattle, Wash.; two sisters, Margaret Sussman of Cambria, Calif., and Beatrice Stevenson of North Warren, Pa.; and two grandchildren.



**JUNIUS BIRCHARD**

The Cochran Funeral Home of Hackettstown was in charge of arrangements.

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OBITUARY  
Junius Birchard  
Date of Death  
February 28, 1988