

# Laurabelle Zack Oatis



Photo added by Chantel

**BIRTH** 26 Feb 1924  
Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota, USA

**DEATH** 19 Jun 2012 (aged 88)  
New York, USA

**BURIAL** Calverton National Cemetery  
Calverton, Suffolk County, New York, USA

**PLOT** Section 9 Site 916

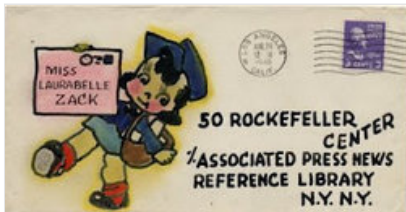
**MEMORIAL ID** 92453844



Added by Bernadette

Laurabelle Zack Oatis, whose pleading letter to the former Czechoslovakian government helped free her imprisoned husband, Associated Press correspondent William N. Oatis, during the early days of the cold war, has died. She was 88.

She died Tuesday at a nursing home from complications of a stroke, according to her son, former AP editor Jonathan Oatis. A graveside service is scheduled for Monday.



Added by No Guts, No Glory

Laurabelle Zack was born in Duluth, Minn., in 1924, the daughter of Ethel and Maurice Zack. After graduating from the University of Minnesota with a journalism degree, she started work in 1945 as a librarian in the AP's news library at Rockefeller Center. She became enamored with William Oatis, then an AP foreign desk editor, the first time she saw him, her son, Jonathan said.

William Oatis & Laurabelle Zack were married in 1950 in London, UK.

## Family Members

### Parents



Maurice R Zack  
1890–1943



Ethel *Levy* Zack  
1897–1994

### Spouse



William Nathan Oatis  
1914–1997 (m. 1950)

### Siblings



Baby Boy Zack  
1928–1928

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**Created by:** No Guts, No Glory

Added: 23 Jun 2012

Find a Grave Memorial ID: **92453844**

*Find a Grave*, database and images

(<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/92453844/laurabelle-oatis>: accessed 22 October 2023), memorial page for Laurabelle Zack Oatis (26 Feb 1924–19 Jun 2012), Find a Grave Memorial ID 92453844, citing Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton, Suffolk County, New York, USA; Maintained by No Guts, No Glory (contributor 46889469).