



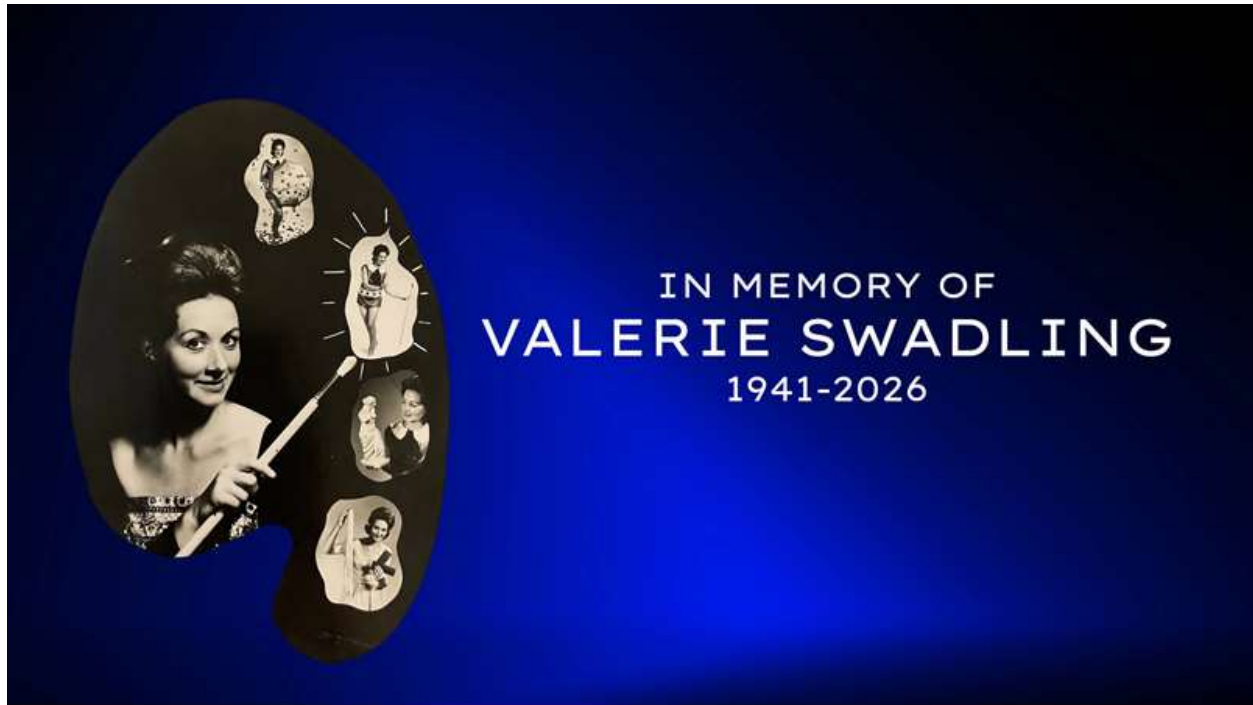
Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170,

Assembly #99

“The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring”

The Magic Studio honored Valerie Swadling with a memorial scholarship in her name for Mystify, a convention celebrating women in magic. Bob and their daughter were incredibly touched.

Knowing that her name will continue to inspire, encourage, and support others is a gift beyond words to Bob and all of us. Thank you Nathan Coe Marsh and Kelly.



<https://mystifymagicfestival.com/valerie-swadling>

Breaking News: Sadly, Dan Sylvester (Daniel Sylvester Battagline) died at too young an age from early onset Alzheimer's Disease.

On June 25, 2026, it was announced that Battagline had passed away in April of 2026

His visual comedy was highly respected.



It was a get together party for 2 well-known names in the magic business. The older woman, Mary Kodel, is celebrating her 100th birthday. She is the

widow of Jack Kodel who you probably saw on The Ed Sullivan show. He did magic with parakeets. I am standing between Michael and Hannah Ammar who celebrates his 70th. Mike is a prolific creator and performer and one of Johnny Carson's favorite guests. You remember Carson started out as a magician. He is working at *The Hand and Eye* in Chicago. The gathering was hosted by John Schutte from Ireland at his home in Windermere.

L to R: Dan Stapleton, Jeff Eaton, Mary Kodel, Mark Fitzgerald, Terry Ward, John Schutte, Jaffo Fields, Michael Ammar, Dennis Phillips, Hannah Ammar.



Dan Stapleton and I were invited up to Orange Park to see John Calvert's yacht. It was a private gathering for their local IBM Ring, and we hope to do a Linking Ring Article for Sammy Smith.

Tammy Calvert was there from Kentucky. John's distant Relative, Hank Bonar is the owner of a construction firm, and he was trying to keep the 60-foot yacht in the family, but it is in poor shape and he wanted people who knew Calvert to see it before the scrap yard gets it. The experience was haunting. It was like the ghost of John Calvert was there. The boat is filled with teak carvings and furniture he made. Hank will preserve all those.

A MAGICAL EVENING ABOARD THE MAGIC CASTLE

A Historic Private Gathering for Members of the IBM and Ring 130

*History does not always announce itself.
Sometimes it simply opens the door and invites us aboard.*

Members of the IBM and Ring 130 are invited to gather for a very special one night event aboard The Magic Castle, the legendary yacht once owned and traveled by world famous magician, actor, adventurer, and showman John Calvert.

This private gathering offers a rare opportunity to step aboard a vessel that holds a unique place in magical history, with light refreshments, hors d'oeuvres, fellowship, stories, and a shared experience that can happen only once.

Making the evening even more meaningful, we will be honored by the presence of Mrs. Tammy Calvert.

For many years, Tammy stood beside John Calvert on stages around the world. But those who understand magic know the person beside the magician is never merely standing there.

She carries the timing.
She protects the illusion.
She shares the risk.
She gives grace to the impossible.

Tammy Calvert was the magic behind the magic.

She was part of the elegance behind the illusion, the strength behind the adventure, and the quiet brilliance behind so many unforgettable moments. Her place in the Calvert story is not as a witness to history, but as one of the people who helped make that history live.

This evening is an opportunity to welcome her warmly, honor her fully, and celebrate the remarkable life in magic she helped bring to the world.

A chapter filled with mystery, travel, wonder, and still carrying her fingerprints.

The magician may create the wonder, but it is often the person beside him who helps the wonder endure.



**Honored Guest:
Mrs. Tammy Calvert**

Hosted by Mr. Hank Bonar & John Palumbo

**Sunday, June 7, 2026
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
4240 Yacht Club Rd, Jacksonville, FL**

**Space is limited. Please RSVP
promptly to confirm your attendance.**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsZnmG1dn40>

Pop Haydn is hilarious. Enjoy his Magic Castle set. I like his “force” on the last frame of the Mental Epic.

It is a clever use of David Hoy’s Tossed Out Deck!



Magic Castle Cabaret Standup

Harry Kellar does not get the fame he deserves.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bG_4IMZkLqQ



Before Houdini, One Man Ruled the Stage | Harry Kellar



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The Pendragons - Illusionists - The Royal Variety Performance - 1995



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**The method is “multiple outs on steroids”
I got the biggest kick seeing how clever this was!**

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You mentalists will know what I mean! Bob Cassity was great at “billet work”.

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UPDATES. NO WI-FI NEEDED...**

Cardini



Cardini stood under the hot stage lights at London's Palace Theatre in the 1930s, pretending to fumble a cigarette with white-gloved hands — not because he was clumsy, but because every “mistake” was rehearsed down to the second. To audiences, Cardini looked like an elegant gentleman slightly out of his depth—top hat, monocle, tuxedo, quietly confused as cards, billiard balls, and lit cigarettes appeared and vanished against his will. But behind that illusion of accident was one of the most disciplined sleight-of-hand artists magic had ever seen.

Before the tuxedo, there was war.

During World War I, Cardini served in the British Army, reportedly practicing card manipulation in freezing trenches, hands numb, fingers stiff. He later said the cold forced him to develop control most magicians never needed—because dropping a card wasn't an option when your hands wouldn't cooperate.

That limitation became his advantage.

By the time he reached major stages in the 1920s and 30s, he had built a character no

one else was doing: a magician who looked surprised by his own tricks. While others presented power and control, Cardini leaned into confusion—lighting a cigarette that kept disappearing, producing cards he seemed annoyed to find in his hands, catching objects mid-air as if by accident.

There's a detail that magicians still talk about: his gloves. He performed intricate sleight-of-hand while wearing white gloves, something most performers avoided because it made concealment harder. Cardini didn't remove the challenge—he showcased it. Every move had to be cleaner, sharper, invisible even under brighter scrutiny.

The precision paid off. By the late 1930s, he was earning top billing in major theaters across Europe and the United States, with contracts that placed him among the highest-paid magicians of his time. Fellow magician Dai Vernon, known as "The Professor," admired his technique, noting how Cardini could execute moves others struggled to replicate even without gloves.

But the audience never saw the effort.

They saw a man slightly inconvenienced by magic happening around him. Cardini once said, "Everything must look accidental." It wasn't just a performance note—it was the entire philosophy. Hide the work. Show the wonder. Cardini didn't impress people by proving how skilled he was.

He convinced them he wasn't trying—and made perfection look like a mistake. Note that one of his descendants now owns The Magic Castle!"
