

Francis / William Francis

William E. Francis Sr.

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William Francis Obituary

William E. Francis, Sr., 73, of Somers and Nokomis, FL died Friday (Sept. 13, 2002) at Bay State Medical Center, Springfield, MA. He was the husband of Frances (Azzara) Francis. They would have celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary on October 14th. He was born on Jan. 28, 1929 in Hartford, son of the late Donald and Esther (Fanning) Francis. He resided in E. Hartford, Rockville and Ellington, moving to Somers 37 years ago. Mr. Francis was employed by the former CBT in Hartford, retiring 18 years ago. He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, Vernon and St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Venice, FL. Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, William E. and Marsha Francis, Jr. of Rockville and Scott T. and Laura Francis of Salem, OR; a brother, Earl S. Francis of St. Petersburg, FL; a sister,

Jane Wilke of Florida; four grandchildren, Christopher, Sarah, Devon and Cory; and several close friends. He was predeceased by a brother and two sisters, Donald S. Francis, Leila Rothhammer and Mary Newman. William will be keenly remembered by those closest to him as a caring and gentle soul with not a single enemy in the world, and a way to see the positive in everything. His quiet demeanor was complimented by his ability to listen, guide and mentor those around him. His love for and by his wife, family and friends was deep, and his faith in God everlasting. His ability to overcome all odds, especially through the final months of his life, surprised only those who did not know him. His funeral will be on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, Vernon with the Rev. Thomas Beck, officiating. Family and friends may call on Monday, Sept. 16, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at White-Gibson-Small Funeral Home, 65 Elm St., Rockville. Interment will be in Somers Center Cemetery, Somers. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. John's Episcopal Church, 523 Hartford Turnpike, P.O. Box 2237, Vernon, CT 06066.

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