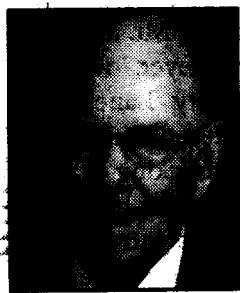


Thomas V. Francis

Thomas V. Francis, 90, of 214 W. Main St., Russia, passed away at 3:07 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, 2013, at Wilson Memorial Hospital in Sidney.

He was born on Aug. 29, 1922, in Russia, the son of Felix and Anna (Voisard) Francis.



He was a lifelong resident of Russia and a 1940 graduate of Russia High School.

On Feb. 28, 1946, he married Corrine R. Puthoff in St. Patrick, and she preceded him in death on May 11, 1995.

He is survived by four sons and three daughters and their spouses, William and Mary Louise (Sherman) Francis of Russia, Kathy and Dale Nichols of Russia, Shirley and James Sherk of Minster, David and Clarice (Novicki) Francis of Troy, Patrick and Susan (Diller) Francis of Troy, Renee and Jay Purpus of Minster, Bradley and Melissa (Raterman) Francis of Russia. He is also survived by 29 grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; five stepgreat-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Robert (Jeanette) Scofield of Van Wert; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Leo (Mary) Francis of Russia. He was preceded in death by five brothers, Wilmer (Cora), Delbert (Ruth), Glenn (Melva), Earl (Marie) and Leo; two sisters, Mrs. Ora (Gertrude) Armstrong and Mrs. James (Freda) Daugherty. He was a member of St. Remy Catholic Church in Russia. He was also a United States Navy Veteran of World War II, having served from 1942 to 1946 with two years in the Southwest Pacific Islands. He was a lifetime charter member of the World War II Memorial-Washington, D.C., a charter member of the National World War II Museum-New Orleans, a member of the United States Navy Memorial Foundation-Washington, D.C. He was co-founder of Francis Manufacturing Company in Russia, established in 1946 and served as president of the company until his retirement in 1991. He was co-owner of Superior Aluminum Products in Russia and served as president from 1966 to 1993. He was a member of the Catholic War Veterans Post 661, a life member of Sidney American Legion Post 217, a life member and past Grand Knight of St. Remy Council of the Knights of Columbus, a past president of the Russia Civic Association, a member of Russia Volunteer Fire Department for 30 years. He served on Board of Directors of Bank One in Sidney for 21 years, served on Board of Directors of Community Lanes in Minster, served on Board of Trustees for Wilson Memorial Hospital in Sidney, served on board of Trustees for Wilson Hospital Foundation and established the Thomas V. and Corrine R. Francis Family Foundation in 1995.

He was selected as the 2003 recipient of the Sidney-Shelby County Chamber of Commerce "Zenith Award" for his accomplishments and contributions to the community.

A Mass of Christian burial was held March 2 at St. Remy Catholic Church, with the Rev. Fr. Frank Ambergier officiating. Burial followed at St. Remy Cemetery with full military rites.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Wilson Memorial Hospice Care or to a charity of the donor's choice.