

Francis G. Hinchey

Francis "Frank" G. Hinchey passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on Friday, March 27, 2009. He was 81 years old.

He was born Sept. 17, 1927 in Brooklyn, New York, the son of the late Thomas and Mabel Hinchey.



He is survived by his wife Elizabeth Steinemann Busse, whom he married on Aug. 22, 1991, and by six children: Dr. Steven (Deborah) Hinchey of Glastonbury, Conn., Terrence (Nancy) Hinchey of Hebron, Conn., Kevin Hinchey of Glastonbury, Conn., Patricia (Donald) Brancard of Hebron,

Conn., Thomas (Danette) Hinchey of Phoenix, Ariz., and Sean (Lana) Hinchey of Los Angeles, Calif. He is also survived by three step-children: Kathryn (Frank) Boerger of Fort Loramie, Andrew (Jennifer) Busse of Russia and Lynn (Nicholas) Turner of Fort Loramie, as well as 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild and nine step-grandchildren.

He graduated from St. John's Prep in Brooklyn, New York, in 1943 and attended the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn (now part of New York University) where he earned a Bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering and a Master's degree in mechanical engineering. While pursuing his Master's degree, he co-authored a research paper for the NACA (predecessor of NASA) on helicopter blades. He was inducted into the Sigma Xi, an honorary research fraternity.

He served in the U.S. Army in 1946-47. In June 1950, he started work at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in Connecticut and retired in 1983 as Quality Control Manager for Assembly and Test. After his retirement, he traveled extensively throughout the United States with the Elderhostel program, fulfilling his intellectual curiosity about history, culture and different ways of life. He was a member of the American Legion Post 0387 in Minster and Eagles Aerie 1391 in Minster and was the only male member of Minster's Book Club.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at St. Augustine Church, with Rev. Rick Nieberding officiating. Burial followed at the Church Cemetery. Memorials may be donated to The Covenant House in New York City. Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Minster handled the arrangements.