



Francis Xavier Riley Jr.

October 29, 1926 - February 15, 2014

Francis Xavier Riley, Jr. of Manassas and Fredericksburg, VA and formerly of Glens Falls, NY died peacefully Saturday afternoon, February 15th, at the age of 87 after a 10 year battle with Alzheimer's. He was surrounded in comfort and love by the presence of his children as he left this world to join his beloved Demetra, who passed away in 2001.

A veteran of the Second World War and Korea, Mr. Riley served two combat tours during the Korean War and received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during his first tour. Upon his return to the Korean theater he served with the 10th Engineers at the bloody battle of Outpost Harry. Aside from a brief period as a hotel and restaurant owner and manager, he worked his entire career as a superintendent and project manager in the construction field.

A dedicated and lifelong member of the Operating Engineers Union, Mr. Riley was also very active in politics in both New York and Virginia and was a loyal member of the Democratic Party.

A loving husband and father, he was also an active member of any community where he lived and was noted for initiating a Pop Warner Football Program in Glens Falls, NY and an Ancient Order of Hibernians Chapter in Manassas, VA. He was also a Charter Member of American Legion Post 10, Manassas, and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1503, Woodbridge, VA. A

man of action and spirit, he lived life to the fullest and never looked back.

He is survived by his sister Betsy and his children Michael, Patrick, Timothy, Sheila and Terence and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. A viewing will be held at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, VA on Thursday evening, February 20, 2014 from 5-8 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday at 12 noon at All Saints Catholic Church, 9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas, followed by a traditional Irish wake and celebration of his life at the American Legion Hall. He will be interred on Monday at 1PM at Quantico National Cemetery alongside his wife Demetra.

At Mr. Riley's request In lieu of flowers donations should be made to the Leukemia Society of America.

Cemetery Details

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Road
Triangle, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 20. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall

DR

“ Pat,

We are sorry to hear of your dad's passing. We remember him in the parades over the years. What a great guy ! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Daisy and Rod Reynolds

Daisy Reynolds - February 21, 2014 at 12:34 PM

JD

“ Francis was like a father to me. He will truley be missed! We love you Francis!
Your Falls Run family!!



Jennifer Davis - February 21, 2014 at 07:55 AM

SS

“ May you take comfort in knowing there is one more angel above us. Peace, Prayers and Blessings



Simone Swain - February 21, 2014 at 07:52 AM

KS

“ *The one word that best describes Francis from my perspective is PASSIONATE -- about his family, politics and life.*

Keith Scarborough

Keith Scarborough - February 20, 2014 at 03:59 PM

DB

“ *Francis Riley was a great Irishman and Democrat - in no particular order! He came from a generation which produced men of true substance, and he was one of the best. Our pleasure was in calling him a friend. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to his family.*

David & Lori Brickley

David Brickley - February 20, 2014 at 03:39 PM

AM

“ *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Alison Morrissey - February 20, 2014 at 04:33 AM

AM

“ *Alison Morrissey lit a candle in memory of Francis Xavier Riley Jr.*



Alison Morrissey - February 20, 2014 at 04:32 AM

SB

“ *I lit a candle to honor your Dad...Great man...He will be remembered always....*

Sherri Bolster - February 19, 2014 at 07:07 PM

SB

“ *Sherri Bolster lit a candle in memory of Francis Xavier Riley Jr.*



Sherri Bolster - February 19, 2014 at 07:06 PM

MT

“ *Saddened at the passing of one of the greatest gentleman I have ever known. He was a thoroughly delightful, congenial, entertaining Irishman, an original and founding member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in Virginia. He was a great family man, father of five including three Marine Corps officers.*

He was an original member of our Irish lads lunch crew and his democratic ramblings were a colorful flashpoint with the rest of the right wing Republicans.

Francis X Riley thoroughly enjoyed life. he contributed far more to the entertainment and enjoyment of his fellow Irish-Americans than can ever be measured. It was an absolute blessing to have lived and shared life with Francis. He will be sorely missed and never forgotten. Mike Tivnan

Mike Tivnan - February 19, 2014 at 05:43 PM