



Francis L. "Link" Holmes

April 13, 1925 - January 26, 2020

Francis L. "Link" Holmes, 94, of Bluffton passed away on Sunday evening, January 26, 2020, at Signature Health Care in Bluffton.

Francis was born on April 13, 1925 in Lancaster Township, Wells County to Robert Holmes, Jr. and Edna H. (Johnson) Holmes. A 1943 graduate of Bluffton High School, he served his country in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1950 during World War II. He was honorably discharged as a Seaman 1st Class and returned home and graduated from Indiana Vocational College in Fort Wayne in 1958. Francis worked as a pattern maker at Sterling Casting for 35 years and retired in 1989.

He was a member of the American Legion Post #111 of Bluffton, Bluffton Moose Lodge, Bluffton Lodge #145 F.&A.M. since 1959 and the Fort Wayne Scottish Rite.

On March 5, 1948 in Bluffton, Francis "Link" married Wilda I. (Brickley) Holmes were married and she preceded him in death on June 5, 2015. Survivors include his children; Terry D. (Joyce) Holmes of Churubusco, IN, Carey L. (Susan) Holmes of Fort Wayne, Jeffrey L. (Bobbi Dent) Holmes of Fort Wayne, Pamela S. (Dennis) Bober of Tampa, FL, Kevin L. (Janis) Holmes of Bluffton, Robin K. (Denette) Holmes of Bluffton along with 16 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Francis is preceded in death by a son Timothy D. Holmes, two granddaughters: Sara Elaine Holmes and Gabrielle Diane Holmes, a brother Dewayne "Pete" Holmes and a sister Patricia "Pat" Borrer.

Funeral Services will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Friday (January 31,2020) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Barry Crosbie officiating. Calling hours will be held from 2 to 8 on Thursday and for one hour prior to the service. A Masonic Memorial service will take place at 8 P.M. on Thursday, at the conclusion of calling hours. Burial will take place at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton. Military honors will be performed by the United States Navy Honor Guard and the American Legion Post #111 Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to Friends Who Care Cancer Relief Foundation.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

MASONIC MEMORIAL SERVICE

JAN 30. 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

JAN 31. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Service

JAN 31. 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - January 30, 2020 at 03:58 PM



“ *Francis L. "Link" Holmes*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Thanks for bringing us up right, mr. holmes. So many childhood memories from Wabash St. And in later years when i zoomed home from wherever i was living at the time, you would meet me in the Wiley Ave. alley and befriend me as an adult. I knew you most of my life. Thanks for adding so much to it. Susan Stuart*

susan stuart - January 31, 2020 at 12:03 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - January 29, 2020 at 06:43 PM



“ 152 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - January 29, 2020 at 04:06 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis L. "Link" Holmes.



January 28, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ Peggy Paxson lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes



Peggy Paxson - January 28, 2020 at 04:37 PM

SR

“ So very sorry for your loss. My memories of Francis go years back. He always had a smile on his face and welcomed me as one of his own as did Wilda. Hugs for all of you. You were blessed to have had him for 94 years.
Sandy Robbins



sandy robbins - January 28, 2020 at 08:27 AM

SM

“ To all of the Holmes family, this old Wabash Street lady is sending condolences to you at the loss of your father. I loved both of your parents and always enjoyed talking to them when our paths would cross. Lots of good memories of the Wabash Street neighbors.



Suzanne McFarren Markley - January 28, 2020 at 08:25 AM

LL

“ I met Francis, "Link", while visiting my grandma at Signature Health. He always greeted me with a smile, and I enjoyed seeing him outside tending the flowers in the summertime . I brought my 14 year old daughter to visit and Link started to tell us a little about himself. Well, his life story is so inspiring and interesting that we spent the rest of the visit with him. God Bless your family during this time, and please know he touched so many lives. He shared his faith with us and in return we had a friend..



Lori Lafevers - January 28, 2020 at 08:12 AM

TF

“ *The Hausherr Family lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes*



The Hausherr Family - January 27, 2020 at 08:50 PM

BH

“ *Bruce Hirschy lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes*



Bruce Hirschy - January 27, 2020 at 08:27 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Francis L. "Link" Holmes.*



January 27, 2020 at 08:27 PM

EH

“ To the Holmes family, my prayers and loving thoughts go out to you all. I'm so sorry for your loss. Francis always had a smile every time that I saw him. I loved talking with him. And Courtney my heart really goes out to you because I know you loved your grandpa. Trust in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for He brings peace and comfort. With love,
Ellen (Vaughn) Hobbs



Ellen Hobbs - January 27, 2020 at 08:13 PM

LH

“ Larry And Laurae Henkle lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes



Larry and Laurae Henkle - January 27, 2020 at 07:59 PM

RM

“ Rose (hultz) Marshall lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes



Rose (hultz) marshall - January 27, 2020 at 07:35 PM

MF

“ I worked at Signature Nursing Home in the dietary. I would always say hi to Francis. He always had a smile on his face when i seen him. It was such a joy to see him.

Marna Frantz - January 27, 2020 at 07:19 PM

JE

“ Love, thoughts and prayers to the family. I will never forget that last big smile Friday evening in the dining room when he came back from the hospital. Link was a good man. RIP my friend.

Jane Eisenhut - January 27, 2020 at 06:00 PM

KF

“ Ken & Jeannie Flowers lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes



Ken & Jeannie Flowers - January 27, 2020 at 04:28 PM

BC

“ Barry Crosbie lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes



Barry Crosbie - January 27, 2020 at 04:21 PM

BC

“ Dear Holmes Family, Terry, Carey, Jeff, Pam, Kevin, Robin, and Family we are so very Sorry for the loss of your Father! Francis was truly a very Nice, Kind, and Wonderful Human being! My Family has always loved the Holmes Family! Truly a Awesome Family! Our Prayers are with all of you at this time in your Lives! 🙏 May our God Comfort and give u Peace in the days to come! God Bless your Family! Love, Barry and JoEllen and all the Crosbie Family! ❤️

Barry Crosbie - January 27, 2020 at 04:20 PM

MG

“ *Marcia Gregg lit a candle in memory of Francis L. "Link" Holmes*



Marcia Gregg - January 27, 2020 at 09:48 AM