



## Francis C. Rice

November 26, 1914 - May 2, 2005

Another of the "Greatest Generation" has gone. Francis Clement Rice of Glendive, Montana; born November 26, 1914 in Forsyth, Montana, son of Frank and Lillian Rice, passed away quietly at 1645 hours in the Eastern Montana Veteran's Home in Glendive on April 26, 2005. A Vigil will be held at 7:00 P.M., Sunday, May 1, 2005 in the Chapel of the Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 A.M., Monday, May 2, 2005 in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Glendive with Father Denis Fournier officiating. Rite of Committal with military honors will be in the Dawson Memorial Cemetery in Glendive. Silvernale-Silha Funeral Home of Glendive is entrusted with arrangements. Surviving family members include his sister, Pat Hathaway, his daughter, Joan M. Elpel his sons, Robert F. Rice, Michael P. Rice, William J. Rice, Dennis G. Rice and Jack B. Rice. Francis married E. Marie Evans on February 10, 1941 and they were separated by WW II when his enlistment was extended for the duration of the war. Their Daughter was born in 1943 and never saw her Father until the cessation of hostilities in 1945. Francis and Marie made their home in Glendive for the balance of their lives. Marie died in 2002 after a prolonged battle with cancer. Francis worked for the Northern Pacific for 28 years, quit to teach Electrical Theory at Wahpeton State School of Science and then worked for Matt Brown of Brown's Refrigeration and Electric until he retired in 1980. He and Marie traveled throughout the United States as "RVers" for the next 25 years, eventually settling as "Snowbirds" between Glendive, Montana and

Florence, Arizona. Francis embraced the leading edge technology of his day. He had a lifelong love of things mechanical and made electricity his means of livelihood. He was an avid flyer and drove a stock car with the Glendive Stock Car Racing Association. His abilities and skills touched this community in ways unknown to most of the residents. He was able to fix anything - from the bells at the Sacred Heart Church to the broken resuscitator in the birthing room at the Glendive Hospital. Francis' friends and neighbors would rely on him to repair their washers and dryers, stoves and refrigerators, automobiles and motorcycles and recalcitrant wiring. He was an expert at repairing bicycle tires, fenders, pedals and often their wounded riders. Francis, Father and friend, we already miss you and we'll always love you.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Francis C. Rice*

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