



Franklin Greene Arnold

March 24, 2021

On Wednesday, March 24, Major Franklin Greene Arnold, USAF (ret), passed away of complications related to Alzheimer's, having completed a full life's journey.

This remarkable journey began in 1929 when he was born to Preston F. and Louise Tracy Arnold of Barrington, RI. He left college to join the US Air Force in 1952, marrying the love of his life, Natalie Prétat the following year. A twenty-year career as fighter pilot, instructor, and operations planner took him and his growing family around the world, including France, Germany, Vietnam, and Panama. Retirement, as a major in 1973, brought him back to RI, where he built a home on family property in Foster and settled in as a gentleman farmer, completing his master's degree in History and obtaining his teaching certificate. He returned to his high school alma mater, Providence Country Day, as business manager, before devoting his full time to the pursuits of retirement.

Frank also became one of Foster's busiest residents. He served on the Town Council for eight years, including two as Vice President and two as President. He was a long-time member of the library board, also serving as its president. He also spent twenty-four years as the Town Moderator and served as a deacon of Central Congregational Church in Providence. Frank indulged his life-long passion for sailing, acquiring 29 feet of wind-driven freedom and becoming a charter member of the Quonset-Davisville Yacht Club, serving many years as Commodore. He and Natalie spent countless blissful hours

exploring the beauty of Narragansett Bay. Friends and family will miss his stories and insight, his razor wit and jokes, his intelligence and precision, and his deep-seated, unswerving integrity.

Franklin's legacy lives on through his four children and their spouses, Patricia (Robert) Mills, Elizabeth (Roger) Hawes, Tracy (Scott) Parker, and Preston (LaDelle) Arnold, along with his eleven grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Elizabeth Arnold Reynolds.

Visitation will be Thursday, April 22 from 4-7:00 p.m. at the Winfield and Sons Funeral Home at 571 West Greenville Road, Scituate. Funeral services will be private. A Celebration of Life service will be held outside at the Moosup Valley Congregational Church at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 24, seating may be limited so you may bring a seat and masks are requested.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Alzheimer's Disease Research.

In his memory, learn to sail, study history, pet a dog, or horseback ride through the woods.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **22**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Winfield & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory
571 West Greenville Road (Route 116)
Scituate, RI 02857
(401) 647-5421

Tribute Wall



“ I had the honor of serving with Frank as a deacon at Central Congregational Church and I learned so much from him! What a gem of humor, integrity and intelligence as you have noted. Not to mention, giver of mighty Christmas trees! God must have smiled when he came home with Natalie by his side. Gratefully, Rev. Caroline Patterson Inlow

Caroline Patterson Inlow - April 12, 2021 at 07:58 AM

“ I so enjoyed working with Frank during his tenure at Providence Country Day School...all the best to you, Judy Speyer

Judy Speyer - April 11, 2021 at 12:54 PM

“ Dear Patricia, Elizabeth, Tracy and Preston- I didn't know your precious parents and wish I had. Their life stories tugged at my heart by their love for one another. 68 years married and together again for eternity. My deepest sympathies.
Lynn Ross

Lynn Ross - April 11, 2021 at 08:55 AM

MP

“ *The muffled drum’s sad roll has beat
The soldier’s last tattoo,
No more on Life’s parade shall meet
The brave and fallen few.
On Fame’s eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn round
the bivouac of the dead.*
Theodore O’Hara, American poet



Sincere condolences to immediate and extended family. Michael & Daniela

Michael J Printer - April 10, 2021 at 02:15 PM

DW

My sincerest condolences. Prayers for the family during this time.

Denise Washburn - April 10, 2021 at 03:48 PM

MF

*Working with Franklin on the Board of Canvassers and other Town committees provided me with the opportunity to know a gentleman of wit and intelligence in Franklin Arnold. He was patient while I learned and supportive when I succeeded. A man who possessed a high moral character, Franklin Arnold will be missed.
Maggie Fennessey*

Maggie Fennessey - April 11, 2021 at 08:33 AM

PR

Thank-you, Uncle Frank for teaching me the value of hard work. It was the summer of 1973 when I stayed with the Arnold family in Foster for several weeks and I helped you build your new house...

Paul A. Reynolds - April 11, 2021 at 09:31 AM

LT

My heart is breaking. Frank was a dear person. Maggie Fennessey said it all. A strong supporter of the library, and a man who loved his town. My prayers and sympathies for the family.

Lori Tellier - April 11, 2021 at 09:33 AM

LR

Frank and Natalie were a class act. They judged people by their character, not labels or titles. Their sense of service was obvious from all the volunteer positions each of them held. Foster will be the worse for their loss.

Lynne Rider - April 11, 2021 at 07:29 PM

KB

To ALL of the Arnold family. Please know that all of us here at BMW Manufacturing in logistics group TX-16 have all of you in our thoughts and prayers. All of us worked with Beth for 25 or more years until she recently retired and left all of us still wishing she was here for things are just not the same since she left. Every time she would travel home I would ask her to tell my adopted Dad and Mom that their southern boy sends his love and prayers. I pray to our heavenly father that he will bless and comfort ALL of you during this time. Everyone here sends their thoughts and prayers to each of you along with much love. God Bless. Kevin B.

Kevin Bowman - April 20, 2021 at 10:31 AM