

OBITUARIES

JOHN PRESTAS

World War II veteran

John Prestas, 78, of Wilkes-Barre, died Friday May 2, 2003 in Kingston Commons, Kingston.

Born Feb. 11, 1925, in Ashley, he was the son of the late Peter and Mary (Slawycz) Prestas. He attended Ashley public schools. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, serving in Normandy, northern France, the Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Europe.

Surviving are his wife of 48 years, the former Helen Christie; son, John D., Dallas; sisters, Rose Thomas, Lee Park section of Wilkes-Barre; Stella Leonardi, Kingston; and several nieces and nephews.

RUTH RICHARDS

Teacher of developmentally disabled children

Ruth L. Richards, 89, of Harveys Lake, died Tuesday May 6, 2003 at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born July 26, 1913, in Verona, N.J., she was the daughter of the late Frank R. and Gertrude (Thomas) Jackson. She was a graduate of Harveys Lake schools and Bloomsburg College. She received a degree in special education from State University of New York at Geneseo.

Surviving are her husband of 63 years, William K.; son, W. Keith, Harveys Lake; daughter, Karen Burne, Gig Harbor, Wash.; and three grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the Dallas Trinity Presbyterian Church or to Hawk Watch International, 1800 SW Temple, Ste. A226, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115.

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EARL KITTLE JR.

U.S. navy veteran of World War II

Earl Kittle Jr., 77, of Sweet Valley, died Wednesday April 23, 2003 at home.

Born Dec. 18, 1925, in the Lyndwood section of Hanover Township, he was the son of the late Earl and Estelle (Smith) Kittle. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, serving aboard the USS Ticonderoga. He was employed as a heavy equipment operator by Kaminski Brothers, Duryea.

He was preceded in death by brother, Ronald; and sisters, Faith Stoffel, Lois O'Keefe and Jean Kittle.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, the former Doloris Cragle; sons, Allan, Sweet Valley; Keith, Shickshinny; daughter, Cheryl Eicke, Sweet Valley; nine grandchildren; brothers, Harry and Theodore, both of Sweet Valley; James, Dallas, Texas; sisters, Joan Cornell, Pikes Creek; Patricia Robertson, Sweet Valley.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice Community Care, Kingston.

EDMUND NOWICKI

Retired Lieutenant who served with the PA National Guard

Edmund H. Nowicki, 65, of Dallas, died Monday April 21, 2003 at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born Sept. 13, 1937, in Nanticoke, he was the son of the late Edmund H. and Charlotte L. (Makowski) Nowicki Sr. He was a graduate of Nanticoke High School and attended Wilkes College. He was employed by C.W. Schultz Plumbing and Heating and by Luzerne Plumbing. He served with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard for many years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

He was a member of Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake and the Wyoming Valley Flyers Club.

Surviving are his wife of 44 years, the former Patricia A. Sobock; daughter, Patricia Shovlin, Basking Ridge, N.J.; sons, Edmund H. III, Denver, Pa.; Thomas J., Norfolk, Va.; four grandchildren; brother, Robert, Elmhurst, N.Y.

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