



Henry Francis

AUG 1, 2017



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Henry Francis

AUG 1, 2017

Henry G. Francis, 91, who worked for two major Boston newspapers and the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL), died August 1 at home in Memphis, TN. The cause is unknown, but he had been suffering from Parkinson's disease. Mr. Francis was born in Everett, MA to Henry and Cecilia Francis, and also lived in Nahant, MA before moving to Memphis in 1972. He wrote about college sports for the Boston Globe while a student at Boston College. He worked for the Boston Herald Traveler for 25 years, starting out in the sports department then moving to the news department, where he eventually rose to news editor. He was in the newsroom on November 23, 1963 at 1:30p.m., when bells started ringing in the wire room – the United Press wire had just two words: “KENNEDY SHOT.” Mr. Francis was involved with bridge while working for the newspaper, and after. He started out as a player, then was an ACBL tournament director. When he left the newspaper in 1972, he became the executive editor of the ACBL Bulletin for over 25 years. During that time, he also edited some editions of “The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge” and “The World Championship Book,” and daily bulletins at North American Championships for several years. He co-authored “Bermuda Bowl: The All-Time Best Deals.” He was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2003. Mr. Francis was married for over 25 years to Rose Gaudette of Malden, who preceded him in death, then for just over 40 years to Dorothy Nelson of Memphis, who survives him. He was pre-deceased by one son and a sister. He is survived by a brother, five children, five stepchildren, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation or charities. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, August 8 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. with the service to follow immediately at 2:30 p.m. All services will be held at Memorial Park.



Tribute Wall

Henry Francis

RG

Rex Germany posted:

What a wonderful man. He was one of the first people i go to know when I started out playing bridge. He went out of this way to make others feel comfortable at the club. My heart goes out to you Dorthy. Henry will be missed.

August 8 at 8:23 AM

AN

W posted:

My prayers are with your family during this difficult period. Take comfort in Jesus' words found at John 5:28, 29, "The time is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out."

August 7 at 8:25 AM

FF

Fran Francis posted:

Dearest Dad, I seen you getting tired. I am so glad if you had to go you went quick. Please give Steve a big hug from me and know that I am very happy you are with your sweet son again. Just as Steve you were sent up there to greet ones that need it when their time come. I love you dad and will miss you!! You have been my dad for 13 years and I will never forget you !!! Rest in peace dad. Fran

August 5 at 4:21 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Henry by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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