

Chief Master Sergeant Charles A. Joyce III, USAF (Retired), of North Bennington, Vt., passed away on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the age of 79.

Charles was born on Nov. 22, 1932, in Danville, Vt. He was in the USAF for 27 years and served at various USAF bases around the globe before retiring in April 1978. After retiring, he graduated from Lyndon State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1982. He taught at St. Johnsbury Academy full time for one year and then served as a substitute teacher for several more years.

He married Priscilla F. Cormier on Nov. 7, 1953, and remained a devoted husband for 50 years. Priscilla preceded him in death on Dec. 25, 2003.

He is survived by his five children: Leah M. Parish and her husband Roger of Bossier City, La., Gregory A. Joyce and his wife Frieda of Conroe, Texas, Patrick C. Joyce and his wife Giseli of St. Louis, Mo.; Nancy Noel and her husband Denis of North Bennington, Vt., Joanne Lepine and husband David of Fonda, N.Y.

He is also survived by 13 of his 14 grandchildren: A. Austin Parish and his wife Stacey, Amanda Read and her husband James, Sabrina Parish preceded her grandfather in death in 1992, Natalie Joyce and her fiancé Dustin Nations, Jessica Joyce, Sara Shoulders and her husband Chad, Steven Joyce, Joshua Joyce, Erica Cummings and her husband Curt, Keri Noel, Renee Noel, Joseph Lepine, Jennifer Lepine, and Kimberly Lepine; nine great-grandchildren; Elizabeth and Jon Michael Cockerham, Dylan Jones, Annysa and Justin Parish, Cameron and Cate Cummings and Kaia and Lexi Shoulders.

Charles was a lifetime member of the VFW Post 793, the Air Force Association, the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Armed Forces Top Enlisted Association, and The Disabled American Veterans.

Visiting hours will be held in St. Johnsbury this Sunday afternoon from 3-5 p.m. at the Sayles Funeral Home.

Funeral services will also be held in St. Johnsbury on Monday, Apr. 30, at 11 a.m. at the Sayles Funeral Home.

Burial with military honors will follow the funeral service at the McIndoe Falls Cemetery.

Contributions in memory of CA Joyce III could be directed to either:

Southwestern Vermont Regional Cancer Center (for the benefit "Bennington Clinic and Home Base Care"), 140 Hospital Drive, Bennington, VT 05201; or VA Medical Center, 215 N Main St., White River Jct., VT 05009.

Memories and condolences may be shared privately at www.saylesfh.com. Sayles Funeral Home is located at 525 Summer St. in St. Johnsbury.