

PARKER: Francis J., 67

PARKER: Francis J., 67, of Uncasville, Conn., died Thursday, April 24, 2003 at W.W. Backus Hospital, after a long, courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Parker was born in Lyndonville, Nov. 23, 1935, the son of the late Francis F. and Prudence (Gilman) Parker. He moved from Vermont to Eastern Connecticut to work at Electric Boat after being honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy, having served on the U.S.S. Wren. Mr. Parker was retired from the Ironworkers Local 15. Among his many achievements was the construction of the New River Gorge Bridge in West Virginia, the world's largest single span bridge; he was also involved in the construction of the Gold Star Bridges. Parker was a trustee of V.F.W. Post 10060 in Uncasville. He was an avid sportsman and member of the Norwich Golf Course Senior League. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Lorraine (Rowley) Parker; four daughters and their spouses, Karen and Ed Nunes of Oakdale, Conn., Valerie Foley and fiancée Gerald Bernier of Niantic, Conn., Deborah and John Lenhart of Oakdale, and Lisa and William Dawley of Norwichtown, Conn.; his brother and sister-in-law, Stillman and Lyse Parker of Lyndonville; and three granddaughters, Cara Campbell, Mayline Nunes and Jackie Lenhart. He was predeceased by his son, Francis J. Parker Jr. The family will greet relatives and friends, Sunday, April 27 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Montville Funeral Home of Church and Allen Funeral Home, Route 32 in Montville, Conn. Funeral services will be held Monday, April 28 at 11 a.m. at the funeral home, followed by burial in St. Patricks Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the American Cancer Society, 238 West Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360.