Robert Edward Farley, 80



Major Robert Edward Farley, USAF (Ret), 80, passed away at his Naples, Idaho area home on June 25, 2003. Graveside Services and internment to be held at Tahoma Cemetery July 8, 2003 at noon in Yakima, Wash.

Bob was born on Nov. 21, 1922 in Selah, Wash.to Edward and Dorothy (Clark) Farley. After his education he enlisted in the Army Air Corps in December of 1941. He served in Europe in the spring of 1944 where he flew 50 combat missions as a B-26 Tail Gunner.

On the 50th mission his aircraft was damaged by enemy ground fire. The six-man crew was ordered to bail out over northern France. Farley was one of only two crew members to survive.

In 1949 he was the first pilot in the Air Force to use an ejection seat in an emergency situation when his plane malfunctioned. He retired from the Air Force after 22 years in Glasgow, Mont.

He then put in 20 years of service in the U.S. Treasury Dept., retiring from San Francisco, Calif. in 1985. He then moved to Naples, Idaho to enjoy the peaceful quiet life with his family and dogs.

Survivors include: daughter Montana Gantt and husband Chuck with grandsons Robby and Ryan of Petaluma, Calif.; daughter Donna Street and husband Rick with granddaughter Miranda Pierce, grandson Kevin Miller and great-grand daughter Victoria Gomez-Ramirez of Rockford Wash.; son Joseph Miller and Jennifer Hansen, brother Enoch "Scottie" Scott of Selah Wash.; sisters Rodgers of Orem, Utah; Rose Rust of Richland, Wash., Alice Carroll of Yakima, Wash., Patricia Ball of Selah, Wash.; stepson George Bach and grandson Scott Bach. Bob was preceded in death by Renetta Farley.

The family suggests memorials be made to the your local Humane Society or Frances Lederhos Volunteers, C/O Bonner Community Hospice P.O. Box 1801 Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805.