

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

## Thomas J. Burbine...of Littleton, decorated World War II veteran; 88

LITTLETON — Thomas J. Burbine, 88, a Littleton resident who was active in the community and was a decorated World War II veteran, died Monday, Aug. 7, at Emerson Hospital in Concord.

He was the husband of Silvana (Fratini) Burbine, to whom he was married for 58 years.

He was born in Wakefield, July 3, 1918, son of the late Louis and Mary Burbine. He grew up in Wakefield and attended Wakefield schools.

Early in life, Mr. Burbine worked with his father on the family farm. He also had a swing band in the 1930s called Tommy King and Men of Swing.

Mr. Burbine joined the National Guard of which his division "The Americal Division" was mobilized during World War II. He served in the South Pacific including, Guadalcanal and Bouganville, with General Douglas MacArthur during the Liberation of the Philippines. Mr. Burbine was awarded



numerous medals including, a Bronze Star with V for valor and a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Following the war, Mr. Burbine re-enlisted in the Army, and retired in 1960. He then moved to the Panama Canal Zone, where he worked in international security, inspecting the contents of communist ships. He made his home in Littleton in 1975, and worked for several real estate companies in the area.

He enjoyed his two dogs.

He was a member of the Littleton Rotary Club and Littleton Historical Society. He was also a past president of the Littleton Lyceum. He was locally recognized for his community service.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, Mark Burbine of Bedford, and Anthony Burbine of Littleton; two brothers, Richard Burbine of Idaho and Henry Burbine of Wakefield; two sisters, Lorraine Muise of Reading, and Shirley Cameron of New Boston, N.H.; and two grandchildren.

**BURBINE** — Of Littleton, Thomas J. Burbine, Aug. 7. Funeral from the Badger Funeral Home, 347 King St., Littleton on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. with a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Anne's Church, 75 King St., Littleton at 10:30 a.m. Visiting Hours Friday from 4-7 p.m.