

Foster, Anthony C.

Anthony C. Foster, 79, of Caseville, passed away Monday, April 18, 2005, at home after a long illness while under hospice care. Born in Ilford, England on April 30, 1925 to the late Alfred and Emma (Davis) Foster, he grew up in Greenwich/Maze Hill (London), England, enjoying the freedom of a lad on a bike. He was a six-time London champion swimmer and preparing to represent England in the 1940 summer Olympics, but World War II put an end to his Olympic dreams. Being a big kid for his age, his signing up for the Royal Marines was never questioned. However, his parents objected, then relented and gave him permission as an under-age recruit, because he was safer in the service than at home during the London blitz. Tony was involved in the rescue of soldiers from Dunkirk, aiding President Tito of Yugoslavia in crossing the German lines to Malta for the Malta Conference and back again, and the preparation of the beaches Sword and Juno at Normandy for the invasion on June 6, 1944. He was involved in many more commando missions throughout Europe while serving under Prince Phillip of Greece. After serving from 1939 to 1972, Tony went on to serve as Master of Arms on the Queen Mary and the Frankonia. He was First Officer of luxurious private yachts in the Mediterranean. Tony was heavily involved in the Sea Cadets, preparing boys that were interested in joining the Royal Navy in the future. During this time he met Lord Louis Mountbatten, supreme commander of the Pacific commonwealth forces in the far east. He was married to Janice M. Hyzer on December 9, 1972 at Hayes United Methodist Church north of Pigeon. She survives him. He was active with his daughters in school and the Girl Scouts. In addition to his wife, Janice, he is survived by twin daughters, Moira Foster, of Caseville, and Aline Buzzard and her husband, Kevin, of Bay City; a son, Adrian Foster and his wife, Sue, of Cowes, Isle of Wight, England; three grandchildren, Toni Foster, Christopher Buzzard, and Christina Buzzard; his in-laws, Robert and Frieda Hyzer, of Caseville; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a sister, Pamela. The funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 22, 2005, at the Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home in Pigeon with the Rev. Douglas E. Mater, pastor of Hayes United Methodist Church, officiating. Cremation will follow. Visitation will be from 2:30 to 9 p.m. on Thursday and from 10 a.m. until the time of service on Friday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to United Hospice, Girl Scouts of Mitten Bay, Wheatland Music Organization, Hayes United Methodist Church, or Scheurer Hospital.