

## **Bruce, Robert T.**

Robert T. "Bob" Bruce left his earthly family behind to be reunited with his family in heaven on Jan. 3, 2009.

Bob was born to Thomas W. and Rose M. (Smith) Bruce on Aug. 9, 1947, in Akron, Ohio. His family moved while he was an infant to his grandfather's farm in Port Hope. He was raised and schooled in Port Hope and in the fall, following his graduation in September 1966, he enlisted in the Air Force, which he served very proudly for 23 years, retiring on Oct. 1, 1989.

He earned numerous medals and citations in those 23 years, too many to name, but he was always very proud of the years he served his country. He did two tours of Vietnam and numerous tours statewide and in Europe. He also worked in the yard as a scaler and loader operator at Solon Manufacturing in Solon until he was forced to retire due to ill health.

Bob was happiest when he was busy building things and working with wood. Numerous people in the area have some of his "Praying Soldier" silhouettes that he was famous for and he made numerous cedar boxes the Wyman family. Bob was also a life member of the Fairfield Memorial Post No. 6924 Veterans of Foreign Wars. He will be missed beyond words.

He is survived by his soulmate and love of his life, his wife Deborah R. Bruce; sons Robert T. Bruce II and his fiancée, Kathy, of Bad Axe, Tech. Sgt. Daniel T. Bruce and his wife, Nicole, of Anchorage, Alaska; a daughter, Jenifer L. Hunt and her husband, Jason, of Skowhegan; stepdaughter, Lisa M. Bruce of Bad Axe; grandchildren Tori J. Bruce of Bad Axe, Hannah and Emma Bruce of Anchorage, Robert, James, and Alexis Ashman of Virginia Beach, Va., and Kayla Bruce of Bad Axe; two sisters, Eileen F. Bruce of Brighton, Colo., and Lenora Moorman of Trinity, Texas; also sisters-in-law, F. Louise Leahy and her husband, Alex, of Embden, Betty Page of Kathleen, Fla., and Nettie Nelson and her husband, Robert, of Clinton; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents and a sister, Geraldine R. Bruce.

Memorial service took place Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009 at Giberson Funeral Home, 40 Maple St., Madison, Maine with the Rev. Tom Longstaff officiating. Interment, with full military honors, will take place at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta, later in the spring.

Memorial contribution may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 3415, Augusta, ME 04330-3415.

Bob's family would like to thank all of their family and friends for all the calls, cards, and well wishes. He will be greatly missed by all.