

Jerome and Frances Francis



Patrick Jerome Francis and his twin sister Dorothy Francis Knight were born on March 21, 1917. The doctor told Jerome's parents that their twins were one of two sets born in the Wood River area that day. Jerome spent his childhood in Wood River, graduating from Wood River High School in 1935. Because his maternal great grandparents Michael and Catherine

Crean Francis laid claim to land on the bank of the Wood River in 1858, Jerome's roots in the area ran deep. He had many fond memories of his childhood in Wood River, especially spending time with his extended family on both the Francis and Neville sides. He maintained a close relationship with his aunts, uncles and cousins for as long as they lived.

Jerome left Wood River as a young adult. He moved to Bitter Creek, Wyoming, to work at the Federal Airways flight service station. While he was working in Wyoming, he met Frances Kuseck who later became his wife. Jerome was very proud of his service in the United States Navy during World War II. He spent some time in Europe and participated in the 0-Day invasion in June, 1944.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Jerome and Frances lived, worked and raised their family in Grand Island. The family was regular visitors to Wood River during that time. In later years Jerome and Frances lived in Lincoln and still made their way to Wood River frequently.

Befitting someone who maintained close ties to his familial home, Jerome is buried in the family plot in St Mary's Cemetery in Wood River alongside his wife of 62 years, Frances.