

Joseph Brito, Jr.

Birth: Mar. 18, 1922

Death: May 14, 2008

Joseph Brito Jr., 86, of Rantoul died Wednesday, May 14, 2008, at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana.

Joe was born March 18, 1922, in Cumberland, R.I., the son of Joseph Sr. and Gloria Cabral Brito.

Survivors include his wife of Mary T. Brito, whom he married Nov. 10, 1966; a son, Michael Fox and Brenda of Paxton; five daughters, Lynn Lyon and Jim of Acworth Ga., Susan Bridget Fox of Destin, Fla., Janie Mather of Charlotte, N.C., Lori Raymond of Rantoul and Mary Jo Brito-Cooper and husband Rodney of Dallas, Ga.; 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, spouses, nieces and nephews of Cumberland, R.I.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, twin brothers and a daughter, Sandra Brea Brito of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Joe retired from the Air Force in 1973 with 32 years active duty. He served in Italy in World War II, and also during the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

He was in the coast guard artillery in Panama assigned to work with the Brazilian Air Force as an interpreter for the American Embassy in Brazil. Joe was stationed at Lackland AFB Texas, Sheppard AFB, Texas and Chanute AFB, Rantoul as an interpreter and NCOIC of the Foreign Training Office. He was responsible for forming new programs for which he received many commendations in his field. He was co-owner/operator of Mary's Little Lambs Day Care in Rantoul for 15 years.

Joe retired in 1987. He was a member of St. Malachy Church in Rantoul, The Rantoul Moose, American Legion, and the Knights of Columbus. He was a volunteer for the Chanute Hospital in the records department and K of C and St. Malachy Church. He liked gardening, raising canaries, traveling, fishing and the river boat.

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Burial: [Holy Sepulchre Cemetery](#)
Rantoul, Champaign County, Illinois, USA