

Richard J. Devine of Punta Gorda, FL passed away Monday, August 10, 2009 in Delray Beach, FL at the home of his daughter, Patricia Hall. He was 91 years old.

Mr. Devine was born in Buffalo, New York on April 18, 1918 to J. Bruce and Grace M. Devine. During World War he was a sergeant in the Army Air Force, serving with the 397th Bomb Group and 597th Bomb Squadron in England and France. His outfit was awarded a presidential citation during the Battle of the Bulge. Following the war, he studied Industrial Engineering at the University at Buffalo.

During his career he was employed at several corporations and spent 26 years with Whirlpool Corporation in various capacities. He retired in 1981 from the corporate headquarters in Benton Harbor, Michigan, as a Director in the International Division. Mr. Devine was a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Punta Gorda, where he served as a lector and Eucharistic minister. He was active in the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He was a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus and had been a member for 71 years. In the various locations where he lived, if there was no active council, he founded one and often served as the Grand Knight. He established the Ponce de Leon council in Punta Gorda and was a past Grand Knight. He also served as a district deputy for the state of Florida Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed fishing and golf and was a member of Twin Isles Country Club.

He was married for 51 years to Mary Patricia ("Pat") Hartney Devine, who passed away in 1998. They are survived by three daughters, Anne (David D. Jr.) Coe of Williamsville, NY; Patricia Hall of Delray Beach and Sheila Devine of Oak Park, Illinois and four grandchildren, David Coe III (Jessica Doinidis), Sarah Coe, Ronald Hall III, and Leslie Hall. A son and daughter, Bruce and Maureen predeceased them.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday, August 15, 2009 at Sacred Heart Church, Punta Gorda. His ashes were inurned at Charlotte Memorial Gardens next to his wife.