

William Henry Thomas

Posted: Friday, March 6, 2009 12:00 am

CAMBRIDGE William Henry Thomas, 88, died Tuesday morning, March 3, 2009 at Chesapeake Woods Center, Cambridge. He was born Sept. 19, 1920 at Hudson, a son of the late Carroll Wesley Thomas and Estelle Marshall Thomas.

He attended school at Hudson and graduated from Cambridge High School. Mr. Thomas and his father and brother, Mace, formed Carroll W. Thomas & Sons Inc.

June 15, 1942 he enlisted in the cadet program of the U.S. Army Air Corps. In March 1943 he was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant. A flying fortress pilot, he flew more than 47 missions over Europe in World War II and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, several air medals and numerous other awards. Oct. 3, 1945 he was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

Sept. 10, 1945 he married the former Estella Adler. Mrs. Thomas died July 31, 1994. Also in 1945 he created a new subsidiary of the family business on Trenton Street, having dealings in farm supplies, grain marketing and farm equipment sales.

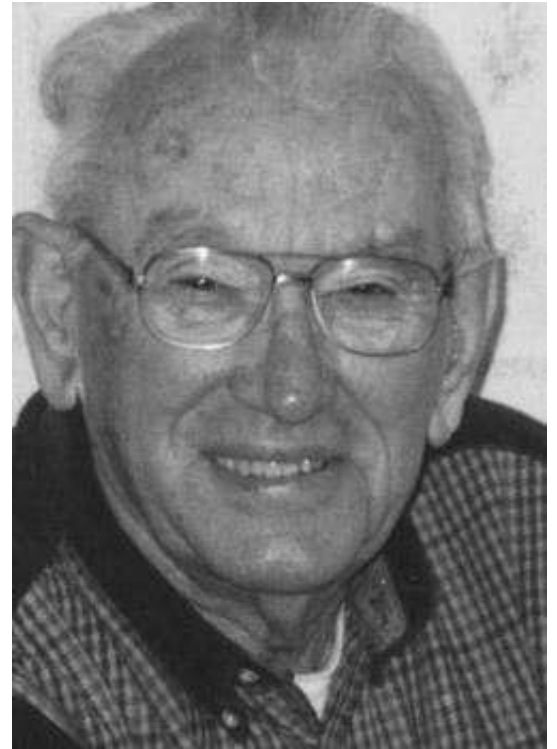
In the late 1960s he became engaged in farming and purchased farms on Egypt Road and Linkwood.

In 1970 he was elected as a Dorchester County Commissioner and in 1974 he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates. He served in the General Assembly until 1982.

Mr. Thomas was a member of Grace United Methodist Church, Cambridge and had served as vice president of the Baraca Class.

Mr. Thomas served as a director of the Dorchester General Hospital, Past Commodore and member of the Cambridge Yacht Club, Past President and member of the Cambridge Rotary Club and a member of the Rescue Fire Co. of Cambridge.

He is survived by his wife, Frances L. Mills Thomas, to whom he married June 3, 1995; son Edward C. Thomas and his wife, Freda, of Cambridge; three grandchildren Lisa Marie Keene, Kimberly Keene, Edward Cody Thomas; three great-grandchildren Edward Corey Keene, Stella Jane Thomas, Madeline Reed Thomas; three stepsons Larry L. Mills, John C. Mills, both of Cambridge and James F. Mills of Kennesaw, GA; brother C. Mace Thomas of Cambridge and nieces and nephews.



William Henry Thomas

WILLIAM H. THOMAS

The family will receive friends 7 to 9 p.m. Friday at the Curran-Bromwell Funeral Home, P.A., High Street, Cambridge. Funeral services will be held 1 p.m. Saturday at Grace UM Church, Cambridge, with Rev. Jay Hurley officiating. Burial will follow at the Veterans Cemetery of the Eastern Shore with military honors 10 a.m. Monday, March 9.

Pallbearers for the funeral service will be members of Rescue Fire Co. Pallbearers for the committal service Monday will be family members.

Memorial offerings in Mr. Thomas' memory can be made to Grace United Methodist Church, 501 Race St., Cambridge, MD, 21613.