FRANCIS MENDES PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Francis "Bucky" Mendes, 54, of 14 Benefit St., a retired construction worker, died Saturday morning at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Davis Park, after a lengthy illness. He was the husband of Rose (D'Afile) Mendes.

Born in Taunton, son of the late Joseph and Gabriela (Melin) Mendes, he had been a Taunton resident all his life. He retired as a construction worker at Lusalon Construction Company, Inc., in 1977.

A communicant of St. Anthony's Church, he was a member of The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Taunton Lodge 150, and the Portuguese American Civic Club.

He was a veteran of World War Two, having served in war Iwo, naving served in the Navy as a Seaman First Class aboard the USS Alshain. He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Medal, American Theatre Medal and the Victory Medal. In addition to his wife, of

Taunton, he is survived by two sons, Francis J. Mendes, of Taunton, and Private First Class Richard D. Mendes, stationed with the Army in Germany, and two daughters, Victoria Marie Mendes, of Brookline, and Mrs. Robert (Shirley Ann) Short, of Maryknoll. N.Y.

He also leaves a brother, Joseph Mendes, of West Yarmouth, a granddaughter and several nieces and nephews.