



## Frank J. Robak

February 27, 1925 - July 18, 2012

CHICOPEE--Frank J. Robak, 87, a lifelong Chicopee resident, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 18, 2012. Born on February 27, 1925, son of the late Jan and Julia (Rusin) Robak, he was a communicant of the Basilica of St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr. Frank was a US Navy veteran of World War II, serving as a buglemaster aboard the USS Houston. He was awarded the WWII Victory Medal, American and Asiatic Theatre Ribbons, Philippine Liberation Theatre Ribbon, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, China War Memorial Medal, and the Commendation Medal from Admiral W.F. Halsey. Frank began his musical career as a trumpeter in the Robak and Fronc Orchestra, a popular band begun by his father. The orchestra recorded numerous records for Columbia and RCA Victor, including the first Polish recording to be pressed as a 45rpm record for juke boxes. Frank retired as a general foreman from Pratt & Whitney Aircraft after thirty-eight years of service. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend, and looked forward to his monthly trip to the casino with the Beautiful Years Club. He took pride in the athletic accomplishments of his grandson, as well as his academic achievements at Xavier High School. Frank's family is grateful for the loving care given at Holyoke Medical Center. Frank named his biggest accomplishment in life as his marriage to his beloved wife of sixty-five years on July 12, Mildred M. (Jasminski) Robak, whom he met while playing in the orchestra. Along with his wife, Frank is survived by his loving daughter, Regina Robak-Creeron, and his cherished grandson, Zackery Creeron, both of Higganum, CT; brother-in-law, Joseph Miazga and nephew Skipper Miazga; niece, Billie Ann Lawlor; special friend, Carol Kozik; and several other dear nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother, Fred Robak. Funeral services for Frank will be held Wednesday morning from the Kozikowski Funeral Home, 565 Front St., Chicopee, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 11 AM in St. Stanislaus Basilica. Burial with military honors will follow in St. Stanislaus Cemetery. Calling hours are Wednesday morning from 9-10:30 AM.