



Francine Hines

January 29, 2006

Francine M. Hines, 81, Topeka, died Sunday, January 29, 2006.

Born and raised in French speaking Brussels, Belgium, Francine is the daughter of the late Julia (Bidoul) and Georges Baudoux. She spent her teenage years under Nazi control while Belgium was invaded during WWII. Francine came to Kansas in Dec. 1946 to marry Barton Neubauer, Brookville, (deceased) an American soldier she met in Belgium. They farmed at Silver Lake, KS for many years. They had one daughter, Colette. Francine loved America and was forever grateful to the U.S. for restoring freedom to Europe. She became an American citizen in 1951. In 1981 she married Commander Halsey Hines, retired U.S. Navy. She was an active member of Christ the King Parish.

A 1976 graduate of Washburn University, Mrs. Hines served as a consultant for professional and business seminars, was a free-lance writer and author of "BOGO" a book about her daughter, Colette's experiences growing up on a farm. A professional speaker, well known for her motivational speeches, Francine served tirelessly in a number of positions. She was receptionist-secretary to Gov. George Docking and then the transition agent for Gov. Anderson and Gov. Robert Docking during their respective administrations. She was Hospital Section Secretary at the Menninger Foundation. She served as Administrative Assistant and was then appointed by Gov. Carlin as

Executive Director to the Kansas Water Resources Board. Mrs. Hines was a member of the adjunct faculty at Washburn University, teaching Communication Science, Public Speaking and Effective Listening. Gov. Finney appointed Francine to the Washburn University Board of Regents and Gov. Graves appointed her to the Kansas Military Advisory Board.

Mrs. Hines has served in many organizations and offices including, Kansas Assoc. of the U.S. Army-Fifth Region, the American Pen Women, Woman's Kansas Day Club, Washburn Women's Alliance, Downtown Rotary, Topeka Knife and Fork Club, the American Business Women's Assoc., Topeka Toastmistress Club, the Shawnee County Civil Service Board, the Kansas Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Kansas Paraguay Commission.

Mrs. Hines was the recipient of numerous awards including, the Americanism Medal awarded by the DAR to outstanding immigrants, the Monroe Award by Washburn University, the Paul Harris Fellow Award by Downtown Rotary, and Outstanding Military Spouse Award, by the Assoc. of the U.S. Army. Her speech on citizenship was presented to the U.S. Congress by Sen. Bob Dole and was incorporated in the Congressional Record.

From 1968 to 1982 Mrs. Hines was appointed to several positions designed to establish ties with Paraguay. In 1974, representing Gov. Robert Docking, she successfully established support and financial aid for the schools and hospitals in Asuncion during her visit there. In 1976, she returned to Asuncion to present then Pres. Stroessnor with the Gov. and State of Kansas Proclamation and discussed future plans between Kansas and Paraguay. Pres. Stroessnor requested Mrs. Hines' appointment as Ambassador to Paraguay.

Francine's survivors include her husband, Halsey Hines, Topeka; her daughter

Colette Bernica and her husband, Ed, Great Falls, MT; grandchildren, Marc Bernica, and his wife, Leah, and their son, Owen, Parker, CO, Andrea Bernica, Overland Park, KS, Michael Bernica, and David Bernica, both of Great Falls, MT; her brother Christian Baudoux, Vence, France; and three nieces and one nephew in Belgium. She was preceded in death by a brother, Marcel Baudoux.

Family will greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Tues. at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka KS 66614, where a parish rosary will be prayed at 7:30. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wed. at Christ the King Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Midland Hospice Care and the Topeka Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) for Army emergency relief to benefit active duty soldiers and their families, sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Francine Hines*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *My condolences to the family of Francine. I moved from Topeka 2 years ago and have often called to check up on Francine but hadn't since about last November. I was an RN at Kansas Dialysis when Francine started receiving dialysis there. We hit it off and were great friends. I was amazed by her intelligence and courage. I feel so honored to have known her. When I moved from Topeka to Missouri, she invited me to her beautiful home and bestowed upon me a beautiful crystal lamp exactly like one she had in her own home. I was very worried about her being there with Halsey in his worsening condition and tried to get her help through the social workers but she kept telling me she was fine and she could handle it. She had so much pride and so much strength of character. I wish I could have done more for her, I am so sad I just found out about her passing. She, as you all know, was a wonderful, remarkable lady that I truly miss. God Bless you all,
Lori Anderson*

Lori Anderson - August 23, 2006 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ *Colette, Ed, and Family*
Please accept our condolences for the loss of your Mother and Grandmother Francine. Many warm memories, long forgotten, will keep her close in your daily lives. David spoke of his love for his Grandmother, showing us how wonderful she was through his eyes. After reading her story BOGO, we know of her special love for Colette. God Blessed you with her, and will continue to Bless you with each other.

The Mc Gregor/Geschwill Family - January 31, 2006 at 09:26 AM

JW

“ *To the family of Francine: I am a nurse at Kansas Dialysis Services and had the privilege of taking care of Francine. She was a wonderful woman and she will be missed by all of us. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Jackie Wilt - January 30, 2006 at 07:55 PM

TF

“ *Colette, Ed, Halsey and Family, Peg and I are two of the countless individuals whose lives were enriched by knowing and working with Francine. Her love of God, family and country inspired young and old alike. God bless you and your family during this difficult time.*

The Nicholl Family - January 30, 2006 at 10:52 AM

TW

“ Dearest Colette, Ed, Halsey and Family,

It is with deep sorrow that I read of Francine's passing. Our friendship started during the days when we both worked in the Office of Governor George Docking. My children Margo, Garth (Francine was his God Mother), and Thad also extend their heartfelt sympathy.

Francine's character was molded by her beautiful mind and the caring philosophy she applied in her daily life. She was the most gracious woman I have ever known. Please let me know if my family can assist you during your stay in Topeka.

Toni Wellshear

Toni Wellshear - January 30, 2006 at 09:44 AM