

## **Major General Paul R. Day**

December 12, 1922 – December 28, 1997

Maj. Gen. Paul R. Day, 75, formerly of Bendell Street, Portland, died Sunday at the Maine Veterans Home in Scarborough after a long illness. Gen. Day was born in Bangor, a son of Harry and Jennie Day. His family moved to Portland, and he attended Nathan Clifford School and later Deering High School, graduating in 1940. He also attended Colby College, Northwest Business School, Michigan State University, the University of Maine and the National War College.

A lifelong soldier, who rose through the ranks to serve as adjutant general under three governors, Gen. Day was known for his modesty, his humor, his devotion to his family - and his commitment to his soldiers.

Gen. Day began his military career as a private in the Army Air Corps Reserve in November 1942. He was assigned to the Civil Aeronautics Authority War Training Service as a student pilot and was called to active duty with the Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet in July 1943. After earning his wings, he saw service as a B-29 pilot in Africa and the Pacific. At the end of World War II, he returned to civilian life in Portland, but in 1950 joined the Maine Air National Guard as a supply and transportation officer in the 104th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. After his promotion to first lieutenant in 1951, he was recalled to active duty for service in Korea, where he served as an Air Force liaison officer to the Army Command.

After promotions to major and then lieutenant colonel, he was named Air Force aide-de-camp to then-Gov. Kenneth Curtis in 1967, and assistant adjutant general the next year. He went on to serve as adjutant general, as well as commissioner of the State Department of the Military, Department of Civil Emergency Preparedness and Bureau of Veterans Services under Govs. Curtis, Longley and Brennan.

His first wife, the former Mary E. Feeney of South Portland, died previously.

Surviving are his wife, Edna M. Ordway Day of Falmouth; three sons, Paul R. Jr. of Honolulu, J. Kevin of Burlingame, Calif., and Brian E. of Scarborough; his stepson, David R. Ordway of Saco; and five grandchildren.

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