

Thursday, February 9, 2006;

**Francis Ruthven 'Frank' Ridley Jr.***Government Lawyer*

Francis Ruthven "Frank" Ridley Jr., 79, a retired lawyer for the Labor Department who spent the past 20 years representing clients on employment matters related to their substance-abuse addictions, died Jan. 16 at Holy Cross Hospital after a heart attack. He had pneumonia.

Mr. Ridley, long a recovering alcoholic, once wrote in a letter to The Washington Post that he worked with addicts so they could "keep their jobs and the economic power to secure treatment and rehabilitation."

He was chairman of a group called Legal Advocacy Network for Substance Addiction Recovery.

He was a Philadelphia native and an Army veteran of World War II. He was a 1951 business administration graduate of Temple University and a 1961 graduate of its law school. In 1953, he received a master's degree in business administration from New York University.

In 1986, he received a master's degree in education from the University of Maryland, with a focus on rehabilitation counseling.

Initially in advertising and publicity work, Mr. Ridley settled in the Washington area in 1962 to work for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. He was with the Defense Department from 1964 to 1968, followed by 14 years at Labor.

His marriages to Jane Sprouls King Ridley, Bonnie Glass Ridley and Elinor Shantz Ridley ended in divorce

His wife of 22 years, Dorothy Castree "Dana" Ridley, died in 2004.

Survivors include three stepchildren, Mark Stickels of Silver Spring, Katherine Hare of Arnold and Scott Stickels of Lothian; and eight grandchildren.