

The CUB

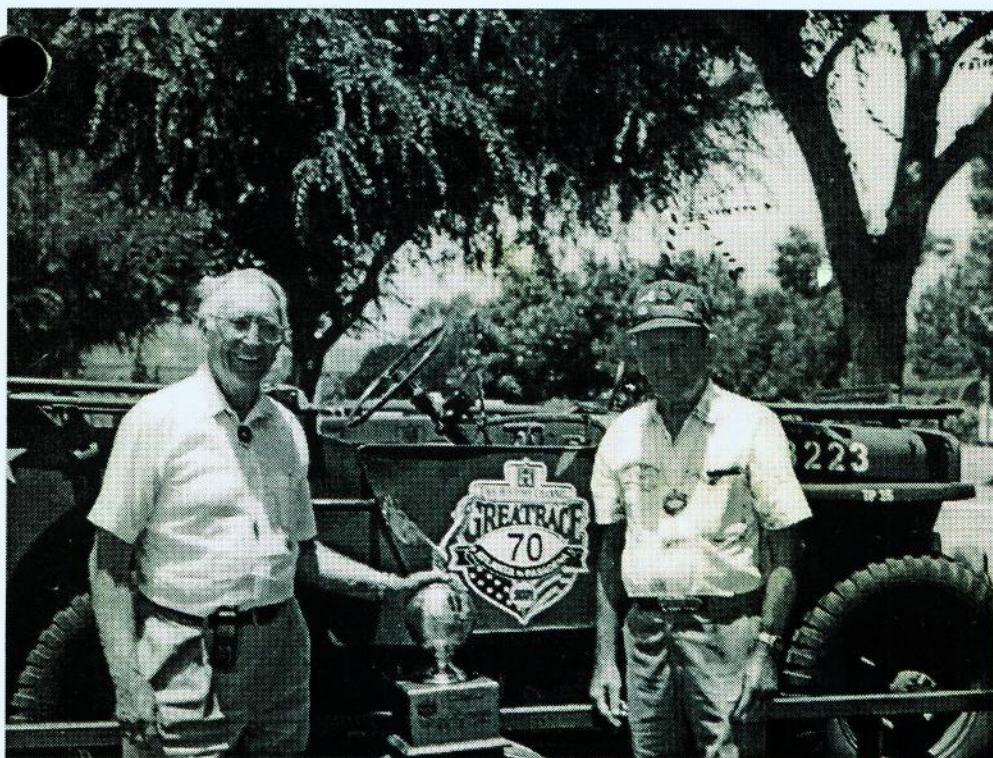
of the
GOLDEN LION

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the
106th INFANTRY
DIVISION*

Vol 57 - No. 4

JUL - AUG - SEP 2001



The History Channel Great Race 2001

John Swett - Ken Smith, 423/H, their trophy and WWII Jeep
See story in this CUB

The CUB

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St Paul, MN - Agent: John P. Kline, Editor
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Send Check and Application to

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In Honor of our deceased comrade see Memoriam ...

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President's View . . .

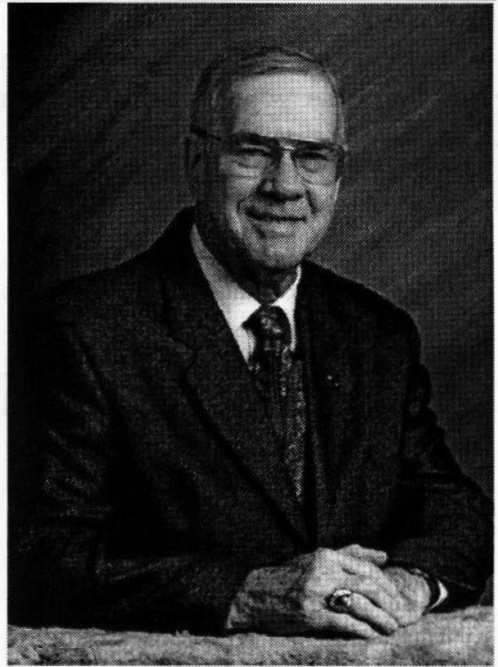
A short time ago I received a message from our man in Washington, DC, Jack Sulser informing me of an important happening that will be of interest to those members attending our 55th reunion. I feel this information should be passed along to you.

Effective July 5, 2001, the rotunda of the National Archives building on Constitution Avenue, where the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights are normally displayed to the public, is closing for renovations and is expected to reopen two years from now. The historic documents will be taken to an undisclosed site where they will also undergo restoration during that time.

Thus, regretfully, our members will not be able to view the documents during the reunion. Having lived in the vicinity of our Nation's Capitol for a long period of time I had put a visit to the National Archives building as a must during one of our bus trips during our reunion.

Those of you who have a great interest in United States history were like myself, looking forward to seeing and reading these wonderful documents that our forefathers provided to us. I just hope that those of you who were looking forward to reading them will have a future opportunity to see them.

As my year in office as your president draws to a close, I must admit that I have had a wonderful time. It has been great to hear from many of you with suggestions and advice. Because of these contacts, I have been able to get to know many of you much better. You are the strength and determination of our wonderful association.



Marion Ray, President 2000-2001
106th Infantry Division Association
"D" Company, 424th Infantry Regiment
704 Briarwood Dr., Bethalto, IL, 62010-1168

Shortly after the beginning of this year, I approached John Kline regarding our putting our reunion notice in the publications of the large national veteran's organizations. Being a member of four of them, I prepared the necessary information. John in turn prepared information on a trade basis with The AX-POW organization. As a result of those notices the response was encouraging. One of the most recent came from a former Golden Lion who was one of the original company commanders in one of our regiments. What a thrill it was to talk with him about Ft. Jackson and maneuvers. He is joining us!

A number of the inquiries were from family members who when seeing 106th would like to get more informa-

tion about who, where, when and how of their family members buddies. If you have not yet sat down and talked with your family about your service activities. Please take the time and do so.

Do it before it's too late!

As I write the material for this column, I would like to remind you of the efforts put out by a number of men in our association. The men who make up our **Board of Directors** are representing you and their efforts often go un-recognized. When you see them, please thank them for their efforts, I do.

A big "thank you" to those who have given of their time. For a job well done to John Schaffner who took on the job as Mini-Reunions Chairman and to John M. "Jack" Roberts for taking on the task as Nominating Chairman and came up with a fine system and wonderful cooperation.

To John Gilliland, a Past-President, while serving as *Order of the Golden Lion*, Chairman, agreed to become Quartermaster and find some nice Golden Lion momentous. Each year he comes up with a beautiful pen for each reunion.

A big "thank you" to Jack Sulser for his untiring efforts to help make each reunion a success and enjoyable, and for his guidance and advice.

When saying "thank you" it's impossible to do so without bringing the names Sherod Collins and John Kline, to your attention again. Their efforts and their labors are untouchable. They are the backbone of our organization. Always ready to assume another task, always ready to advise, always available.

To Dr. Duncan Trueman, Dr. John

Robb and to Paul Merz, thank you follows for all you have given.

And eventually getting around to fellows with whom I have served while on the Executive Committee. John Swett while he was President, who now serves as Adjutant, John Gregory who became a good friend and advisor, Joe Maloney to whom I pass the torch and to Frank Lapato who will get his opportunity.

Recently, I received an e-mail message from Jack Roberts. We've had a few good ones back and forth and I was so impressed with this particular one that I printed it out to save. I would like to use part of it as a parting message to all of you. Thanks Jack!

"I Wish You Enough"

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright.

I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more.

I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive.

I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.

I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.

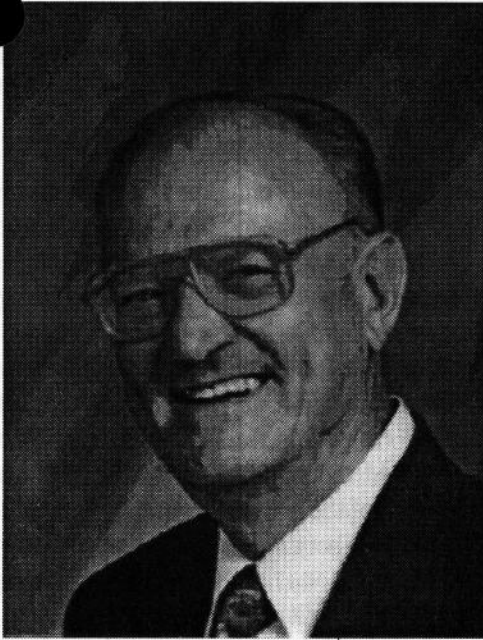
I wish you enough "Hello's" to get you through the final "Good-byes."

I wish you enough

Thank You all.

*Marion Ray, President
2000-2001*

Chaplain's Message . . .



Chaplain

Dr. Duncan Trueman, 424/AT
29 Overhill Lane, Warwick NY 10990
TEL: 845-986-6376 FAX: 845-986-4121

WINGS AS EAGLES

"He gives power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint."
(Isaiah 40:29-31)

I tuned in on the history channel a few nights ago and found myself back in Belgium and Germany. Not quite accidental; I often turn to this channel when there seems to be nothing else worth watching.

I marveled at what I saw...hundreds of guys (any one of them could have been Duncan) running, charging the enemy, leaping over walls, doing things this seventy-seven year old body can't possibly do any longer. Nowadays, to save steps. I compile a mental list of objectives to be accomplished in conjunction with each trip up or down the stairs. If God still

gives power to the faint and strength to the weak, we are all in need of a goodly supply. But when you think back to those days in 1944-45, you remember that there were so many times of utter exhaustion, times when you wondered if you could go on, wondered if you could stay awake through the night, wondered if you drag your weary body up one more hill, wondered even about small things - could your frozen fingers pull the trigger again? Yet always. God's promise, delivered by the prophet, was affirmed. From somewhere came the strength. From somewhere came the wings. From some unseen origin weariness was overcome and though faint, we walked on and fought on.

In times of trouble, stress, life-threatening danger, etc. we tend to become more spiritually sensitive or aware. Whenever faced with situations which are beyond our control, we seek dependence upon someone who is in control. And so we took confidence in God's promises.

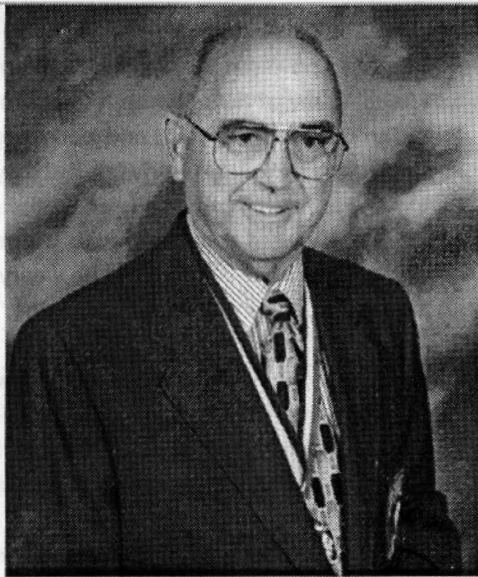
That twenty-ninth verse has long been a promise which I have held dear: **"To them that have no might, He increaseth strength."**

Well, the days of running, charging, climbing, are long behind us but there are still many times we need strength for the battle even if the battle is nothing more than climbing that set of stairs. And in life's larger, more stressful battles that come with advancing age, we need to have faith in the One who is in control.

So, make room in your life for Him ... priority space ... first-place space!

The, even if youths should faint and young men fall, you who wait on the Lord will find your strength renewed, and will discover your own eagle-wings.

"And God will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn make you shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of God's hand."



Editor's Report

John Kline, 423/M

See inside front cover for mail address.

Web site: <http://www.mmm.com/user/jpk>

Email: jpk@mmm.com

Looking forward to seeing you at the 55th Annual Reunion, Washington, D.C.

Photographs:

Be sure to save some of your favorite photos for me.

Want your photos back? Send a return envelope with your name and address on

Thanks for all your input for The CUB.

John Kline, CUB editor

Feedback from 106th Inf Div web site:

This applies to all 106th Veterans!

To John Kline

Dear Sir,

You don't know me.

However, I owe you a great debt that I fear I cannot repay.

I just finished reading your war diary in your web site dedicated to the 106th Infantry Division, and it's given me a great deal of insight with regards to what my next-door-neighbor went through.

Like you, he was captured during the *Battle of the Bulge*. I don't know exactly where he was held, he doesn't talk about it

much. What I have learned, I have learned from his wife. He was held in a work camp, loading furniture into barrels. This camp was near Dresden.

Like you and so many others, he was marched all over creation by the Germans.

Like you, he also survived, but left behind friends and fellow-soldiers. I thank you for the glimpse of what you, as well as he, went through.

But that is not the debt I cannot repay.

I'm a veteran as well. I served in the USAF from 1984 to 1994, and am proud to have had the opportunity to serve in the military of the greatest nation in the world. If it hadn't been for the sacrifices made by men like you and families like yours, I would likely have never had that opportunity.

But the debt runs deeper than that.

Late last night I stood over my eight year old daughter's bed. She lay there, sleeping peacefully, in a free nation. Had it not been for men like you, and my neighbor, and the men you served with, I would not have had that opportunity. I owe you, not only for my freedom, but for hers as well.

I don't know that there is any way I could ever repay you or the rest of the men for what you did for us. I will do my best though, to make sure that what was done is never forgotten. I am already teaching my daughter about what happened, and will do the best I can to make sure that she has a true knowledge of what occurred, rather than the revised history that is going around now.

Again, sir, I thank you and the rest of the men of the 106th, as well as all those involved in World War II. Your sacrifices made the lives we lead today possible, and I will do the best I can to make sure that, at least on the part of my daughter and myself, that you did not sacrifice in vain.

Sincerely,
Bob Hearn

Washington Report . . .

Jack Sulser, 423/F

Washington Liaison Officer

World War II Memorial . . .

After President Bush signed the bill on Memorial Day, which had previously been passed unanimously by both houses of Congress, ordering the *Battle Monuments Commission* to proceed with construction of the World War II Memorial on the approved Mall site, using the approved design, opponents filed yet another motion in the federal district court requesting an injunction against awarding a contract on the grounds that Congress had exceeded its authority in overruling the *National Capital Planning Commission's* desire to re-review the matter and in declaring previous court cases null and void.

In the June 6 *Washington Post*, J. Carter Brown, former Director of the National Gallery of Art and for 30 years Chairman of the US Commission of Fine Arts (the other commission that had approved the site and design), by far the most authoritative figure to finally speak out in the dispute, published a major op-ed piece entitled "Why This Design Is a Winner."

He wrote that the Fine Arts Commission unanimously selected St. Florian's design over more than 400 entries because they recognized that he "understood the essential challenge: to embrace, reinforce, celebrate and not compete with the great central vista" of the Mall between the Washington and Lincoln monuments.

In fact, the basic DC memorial development plan (*the McMillan Plan of 1921*) called for a "cross axis" at the base of the Reflecting Pool, terminating in "two great curves," which this design provides.

Opponents have claimed that the *WWII Memorial* would interfere with the sightline between the existing monuments.



In fact, the original fountain in the Rainbow Pool was shut down years ago because it did disrupt the sightline, and the concrete pool is crumbling and leaking.

The new design will not only repair the Rainbow Pool but, by sinking it six feet, will allow fountain activity again. Brown's prediction is that "when the World War II Memorial is completed, and future generations have absorbed it as part of their Washington experience, it will be greatly loved."

Today (June 8) the federal district court denied the request for injunction to prevent the *Battle Monuments Commission* from issuing a contract to begin work on the Memorial.

The way should finally be clear for work to begin.

The National Archives . . .

The rotunda of the National Archives building on Constitution Avenue, where the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights are normally displayed to the public, is closing July 5 for renovations and is expected to reopen only two years from now.

The historic documents will be taken to an undisclosed site where they will also undergo restoration during that time.

Thus, regretfully, our members will not be able to view the documents during the tour of the city offered during the reunion.

Jack Sulser

**From John O. Gilliland
Chairman, Order of the Golden Lion
and furnisher of all those delightful
trinkets at our Annual Reunions.**

John said to inform the "troops" that he has a lot of trinkets, memorabilia and goodies which will be displayed and sold during the 55th Annual Reunion.

SNOW BIRDS TAKE NOTE:



Southwest FLORIDA

Talk about an Early-Bird

Lester A. Helmich writes:

John I would like a blurb in the CUB early so that those **SNOW BIRDS** who migrate to Florida can see where a **MINI-REUNION** is going to be held.

S.W. Florida Mini-Reunion

1:00 PM

Forest Lakes Country Club

2401 Beneva Road

Sarasota, (same as yr 2000)

Contact Les Helmich

2600 Belvoir Blvd

Sarasota, FL 34237

941-955-3571

Please contact me if you have an interest. I know some of you move down here temporarily and it is hard to keep track of you, unless you let me know your address.

Let me know so that I can send you an invitation as a reminder.

Les Helmich

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April-May-June 2001

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Campbell, Patrick J. 423/H	5
Carver, Dale E., 423/HQ 3Bn	25
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Cunningham, Michael F, 424/M	100
Deffenbaugh, David 423/D	15
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Smallwood, Thomas F. 423/HQ 1Bn	15
Wasylyon, Paul L. 422/HQ 1Bn	25
Westbrook, Scott 424/C	10
Xanthos, James 424/ Co. Unknown	20

Thanks to you all.

**Donations are placed in the operating fund
to help offset Association expenses.**

Your generosity is appreciated.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
ARE PAYABLE BY
APRIL 30 EACH YEAR**

**Haven't PAID!, Please PAY Now!
Check the mailing LABEL on the
envelope this CUB came in.**

The Order of the Golden Lion

Showing the recipients of this prestigious award, since the 1st Reunion, 1947

Commander Class	Officer Class	Companion Class
1947 * Cedric Foster * Duward Frampton * Annette Frampton * William Simpson * Florence Simpson	* Fran Henly Herbert Livesey, Jr.	* Joe E. Brown *Marjorie Rathbone *George Denny *Ralph F. Gates *Howard Maxwell *Robert Tyndall *Ben Watt *BG Elmer Sherwood
1948 David Price		
The Asterik before names denote "Non-106th Veteran"		
1962 Douglas Coffey	Dr. Maurice DeLaval	
1964 Richard DeHeer		Majorie DeHeer
1966 John Loveless Jr.		Kay Loveless
1972 Leo McMahon		Wilda McMahon
1973 Sherod Collins		
1974 John Gallagher		
1975 James Wells		Maydeen Wells
1978	Robert Scranton	
1986 Walter Bandurak Robert Pierce, Jr.		
1987 Russell Villwock Robert A. Gilder		Jackie Villwock Jean Gilder
1990	Sam Cariano	
1991	John Kline	
1993	Boyd Rutledge Gill Helwig	
1994 Roger Rutland John Gilliland		Mattie Rutland Lee Gilliland
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1998 Pete House Joseph A. Massey		Joanne House Hazel M. Massey
1999 Ben Britton	Herbert Meagher Jr.	Avis Britton Luella Meagher
2000 Joseph Matthews Robert Walker		June Walker

Stress and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder . . .

Second in a series about **Stress and Combat Soldiers** to be published

in the CUB Magazine

by Dr. Richard Peterson, Ph.D., MBA

Many veterans say to me, "Who says I got Posttraumatic Stress Disorder?? I ain't nuts." I worked every day of my life, took care of my family, and all of my obligations. What's wrong with that?

We all live with some sort of mental aberration. People may think if they have some sort of mental disorder they are either on the way to insanity, or are weak minded. Some of us have fears of heights, of closed in places, of flying, of snakes, or other phobias. No one seems very concerned about these minor day to day living problems. But when we say mental disorder, many refuse to discuss the possibility that they are living with one.

If you served in a combat outfit during wartime, the odds are very high that you live with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder today. Don't run to a psychotherapist or psychiatrist to see if you have PTSD. Ask your wife, your kids, or the guys you play golf with. If you have recurring nightmares, or if unpleasant memories of wartime come back with frequency, or if you have difficulty sleeping, you may have PTSD. If you would rather be alone, or if you have problems with memory, it could be PTSD. Memory problems are not the "I can't remember what you had for breakfast" kind, but blackouts of chunks of time when you were in combat, in hospital, or in the camps. We call this selective amnesia, caused by the unconscious mind refusing to allow us to remember particularly onerous times in our lives. I could not remember that we arrived at the first prison camp on Christmas Day. My mind refused to connect that frightful arrival with my childhood memories of happy Christmas Days of the past.

So it just did not happen in my memory until some others who were with me convinced me of the date. But the unconscious held the date and time. Christmas Day is still a difficult one for me, even though I now know it is connected to a bad time in my past. Until I consciously remembered why, Christmas Day was a time of too much booze and Bah, Humbug all day, making my family almost as miserable as I was.

If you mistrust large institutions, it could be part of PTSD. No one seems to know why, other than the mistaken conclusion that the military establishment and even our county itself, in some way deserted us. We only have to look back to the frustrations of dealing with recalcitrant commanders, or after our military service, problems with the VA, to see how well entrenched those feelings are in our minds. Our unconscious mind has no concept of time. Everything in our unconscious is now, it is today, not yesterday. When we are frustrated by a store clerk, we relive unconsciously, the rage of an unresolved fire fight, of prison camp guards, or of unfeeling ward clerks. The feelings are just as intense, even though we do not know why we react as we do.

PTSD sufferers refuse to discuss their experiences with others who have not gone through the same experience. Combat veterans find they can only discuss their feelings with others who have lived through the same situations. Men who were badly wounded talk about their recovery best with others who have looked death in the eye. We have all read about men who refused for years to discuss their military experience with anyone. They were able to open up when they found others who had "been there, did that" but not with anyone else. Those reactions indicate PTSD.

There are other symptoms that we will discuss later in this series. Suffice to say,

You are a loner, if you have problems discussing your wartime experiences with other than veterans, if you have suffered with repetitive nightmares, or have disturbing intrusive memories, or flashbacks, you should discuss it with a trained professional. You can get your representative to get you to a VA psychiatrist. In my experience, a good place to begin is one of the Vet Centers. There are more than 200 of them in the country. Just walk in with a copy of your discharge and they will help you. The Vet Center concept was created to help the Viet Nam veterans, many of whom were having a difficult time readjusting to civilian life. Put away any preconceived ideas you may have about Viet Nam veterans. I had them too, until I worked with those men for about five years. Some of them are less tough than our generation. But they lived with the horrors of Viet Nam, the Gulf War, Somalia, Panama and other places just as bad as Europe or the South Pacific in our

The Vet Center system will help you faster than the VA can. It is a good alternative, and a heck of a lot faster than the VA Medical Centers. Talk with the counselors about your problems, and ask them to get you to the VA psychiatric department. There are special departments that only work with veterans with PTSD. Eventually you will work with a VA psychiatrist.

If you are uncomfortable in your own skin, don't delay. Get help. Help from the VA is free. You paid your dues long ago. Most all of the folks there are caring and capable, and will get you started in the right direction in the labyrinths of the Veterans Hospital system. <><>

If you want to read more, order the book, *How to Live With PTSD*, By Beverly Peterson, Ph.D. and R.W. Peterson, Ph.D. \$25 Postpaid; Overseas add \$5

from **Consultors, Incorporated, 1285 Rubenstein Avenue, Cardiff by the Sea, CA 92007 Phone 760-632-1213**
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BEFORE THE
VETERANS DIE
by
Dale R. Carver



61 pages - \$8 ppd

Poet Laureate of the 106th Inf Division
Association

Silver Star recipient 1945 - 424th Headquarters
A&P Platoon Leader
742 Druid Circle
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
225-767-3111

THE CHILDREN OF LUXEMBOURG

*The children of Luxembourg
talked to me.
They alone could understand.
Only the little ones walked with
me in their tiny, story-book land.
The adults treated me kindly
though I came from a far-off
land;*

*but the little ones followed me
blindly and I walked with hands
in each hand.
Chattering children, curious
friends,
though my days with you were
few,
the love of an alien soldier,
I loose on the winds for you.*



Battery B, 589th FAB, on the firing line - Fort Jackson November 1943
submitted by Raymond C. Keller, 589/B, Life Member

Back Row L/R: Schmidt; Moore, NJ; Kilman, IND; Crankwicz, PENN
Front Row L/R: R.C. Keller, PENN; Clark, FL; Cenka, NJ; Trinka, NJ; Gilbreath, AL

To MEMBERS WITH ANNUAL DUES
Your Annual membership Fees
were due and payable by
June 30, 2001

Expiration dates are on the envelope label of every
CUB mailed to you.

This will be the last CUB you
receive if you do not pay your
annual membership fee NOW!

Tom John Schaffner. National Mini-Reunion Chairman.

Host a MINI-REUNION in your area.

"You can't roller skate in a buffalo herd," That's what folk singer Roger Miller wrote a song about. But then, Roger also said, "You can, if you've a mind to." And you can too, host a mini-reunion, that is if "you've a mind to." No, it isn't hard.

I had a boss once who gave me difficult tasks to do. When I told him I thought that something would be particularly hard to do, he would tell me that, if it were easy, he would do it himself. I kind of feel that way too. If it is easy enough for me to do, I feel that anybody can do it. Say to yourself, "I want to get some of the guys together, have a bite, and catch up on what's been happening." This doesn't have to be something elaborate. And, if the weather is rough in your part of the country in December there's no rule that says you have to do it then. Do it in the spring, summer, or fall if that works better.

The main thing is that we get together now and then.

If you think that you don't know those fellows well enough who are living near you, I have news for you. You never will if you don't get on the phone and call one of them.

Start with one other person and "go dutch" and the next thing you know you will fill a table. C'mon now, time's a'wastin.' Do it today.

Feel free to contact me. Write, e-mail, or phone. See below for my address/phone.

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania WWII Re-enactment

The 106th Infantry Division will be represented by the U.S. Army Re-enactors at an upcoming encampment to take place at the Eisenhower Farm at Gettysburg, Pa. I have been in touch with a member of the WW II Re-enactors group on the details. Any of our Association members that are in reach of Gettysburg may be interested in attending this affair.

It is a weekend event with Saturday being an all-day affair. Anyone attending should drive in to Gettysburg to the visitor center, park, and purchase a ticket for the shuttle bus ride to & from the site and admission to the event \$5.25 per person OR \$3.25 with Golden Age Passport (incl 1 guest.)

There will be food & drink available from the local VFD on site at nominal charge. There will also be an evening "USO Nite," with entertainment, including an orchestra playing music of the 40's at the Army Re-

serve Center (another location.) I have been told that it is possible to drive on in to the farm without having to park in Gettysburg, and buy admission tickets there. Be advised that this route involves much walking. Your ticket also includes a tour of the Eisenhower farm and Home.

Following is the event listing from the website for the Eisenhower Farm: September 15/16 WW II Weekend

A living history encampment featuring Allied soldiers, a German camp, and World War II jeeps, trucks, and tanks. Saturday, 9-4:30; Sunday, 9-4. Included in site admission. < <http://www.nps.gov/eise> >

If a group of 10 or more would like to reserve space on a shuttle bus, so they can stay together, call toll-free. **1-877-438-8929.**

**John R. Schaffner 1811 Miller Road, Cockeysville, Md. 21030-1013,
e-mail jschaffn@bcpl.net --- phone: 410-584-2754**



The Great Race by John Swett

We hope you kept track of the Race by viewing the HISTORY CHANNEL:

We finished the race, which was a First for us. We didn't win any money, but our's was the last trophy given at the awards banquet. We won what Tom McRae said, "*Was the top trophy of the race for 'The Spirit of the Race.'*" It was the largest of the trophies and weighs in at least 50 pounds.

The Race Officials played us up as "*Representing all of America's Veterans who have made Peace and Freedom possible for our Country.*" There wasn't a dry eye in the whole auditorium.

We did encounter some unusual experiences. Going through a tunnel on the Blue Ridge Parkway, we lost both ignition and headlights. Another day we lost an oil line twice, getting two, two minute penalties, but still finishing the Day's Race.

We did not have any DFN' (did not finish) but our times were not good. Since we won the trophy it doesn't seem like we have much to gain by running again. We'll See.

We wish to thank the 106th Infantry Division Association for the generous support given us for this year's race.

Above Ken Smith, left, and John Swett both of 423/H. In what town nobody knows.

Below L/R: Me, Vernon Bloomer 28th Infantry Div, a veteran of the Bulge, who acted as a "backup driver" during the second week, and Ken Smith on the right, with our trophy (also see front cover).

Ken and I thank you all. . . .



True Story.

Kenneth Lloyd Larson, 423/K
200 North Commonwealth Avenue
Los Angeles California 90004

INCIDENT AT ANDERNACH

On the evening of December 15, 1944, I sat in my bunk in the small stone house in the tiny village just west of the front lines of the Schnee Eifel range of western Germany. I was reading an American magazine and fell asleep. I was abruptly awakened around 5:30 AM by the loud roar of what sounded like a tractor engine passing over the house. The loud roar came from a German V-rocket headed for the Allied lines west of the small village.

The date was December 16, 1944, and the *Battle of the Bulge* had started. On December 15, noted American band leader Glenn Miller's light military plane had either hit the English Channel or had been shot down while on a flight from England to Paris, France. The plane was never found.

When we reached the front lines, I was assigned to the midnight to 4:00 AM guard duty. Our outfit was the American 106th "Golden Lion" Infantry Division. We had just arrived from England and we were green and inexperienced combat troops.

Tired and grouchy due to lack of needed sleep, I started to walk towards my slit trench. My steel helmet hit a tree branch. I yelled out---and at the same moment I saw a brilliant white flash and a bullet hit my right side. In shock, I fell down. I was carried into the command post. A soldier stroked my head and said he was sorry for having fired at me in the dark. In the barn, a German military doctor operated on me and took out bullet fragments.

I heard whispers that stacks of dead American soldiers were laid out in the courtyard. At night, an American ambulance loaded with wounded soldiers drove

to a building while sounds of battle erupted around the truck. The two men left the wounded and said they would be taken care of properly under the Geneva Convention, they roared away in the ambulance.

Our German truck was strafed by fighter planes and we jumped out and hit the ditch. The truck scrapped by German tanks.

On a German hospital train, a young German soldier had been bayoneted and he begged us for water. The doctor had said no---but somebody gave him water anyway. At the train stop, I was very constipated from laying on a stretcher. I got out, saw a German doctor, and pointed to my rear end. He smiled and handed me a box of laxatives and boy did I feel good!

We walked up the snowy hill with an American ammunition truck exploding and fire and ammunition flying around. I entered an empty hut and found a brand-new box of American bayonets on a wood table. American boxes of K-rations were scattered around. Jeeps and trailers were scattered about the yard

We ended up at the small German town of Andernach. Huge holes were in the train depot roof and bomb craters straddled the train tracks. Andernach was near Remagen where Allied troops captured the famous bridge and entered into Germany during the spring of 1945.

We stood around and talked. I noticed a tall American officer with a huge white bandage around his head and eyes except for his nose and mouth. We started a conversation. The Major said that a German tank shell had hit his building and a shell fragment had blinded him. When he mentioned being stationed in Hawaii before World War II, I asked him if he had ever met the American movie actor and singer Bing Crosby. He said yes--that in 1937 Crosby had made a movie in Hawaii called *Waikiki Wedding*. The Major said that Bing was a marvelous person. Years later, I read the just-published biography called

Bing Crosby: A Pocketful of Dreams (2001). Giddens said that the multitalented Crosby had his faults but that Bing had greatly helped America get through the dark days of the Great Depression and World War II.

While in Stalag XI-B, Bad Orb, Germany, around March 1945, I had the strongest feeling that I should walk up to the camp's main gate-something I hadn't done. I was weak from lack of food and very dispirited. Just as I arrived at the gate, a loudspeaker on top burst out into sound and I heard a recording of the marvelous voice of Bing Crosby singing the song Blue Skies "smiling at me." I started to feel better.

I recalled the time when I was at the German hospital in the small town and the doctor had asked for a volunteer with type O blood to give a transfusion. There was no anesthesia, and the conscious American soldier lay on the operating table. I laid down next to him, and the German doctors

stuck a tube into my right arm and the blood started pumping directly in the screaming American soldier as the doctors operated on his leg. When I got up, I passed out, and the German soldier named Eric put his arm around me and helped me out the door.

As I stood by the front gate and listened to the marvelous voice of Bing Crosby singing Blue Skies, my low spirits rose.

I recalled my days back home near Seattle, Washington. I remembered the talk with the American Major as we stood by the bomb craters surrounding the train tracks. In spite of the deplorable conditions and lack of needed food and fist fights between Americans and dreaming about blue berry pies with ice cream,

I decided then and there that no matter what I was going to make it through and once again get back to the United States of America.

Kenneth Lloyd Larson 423/K



John W. Morse

THE SITTING DUCK DIVISION



Attacked From The Rear

By John W. Morse, 422/C

I think you will enjoy his book combined with Humor and History. I couldn't put it down. You will see yourself here.

John Kline, CUB editor

Military intelligence, as applied to the lude to the *Battle of the Bulge*, is the ultimate oxymoron. Every available sign was disregarded; leaving the onset of the greatest (or at least largest) battle the U.S. Army ever fought to be reported by self-interested managers as a total surprise. Why? Either the Allied command was stupid, or they considered their strategy a calculated risk worth taking.

This is the story of one soldier and his fellow GI from draft to disaster and back.

This is not your ordinary tome, it's a short 100 page story about a swift and angry experience. It's about a funny kid growing up in a more innocent age.

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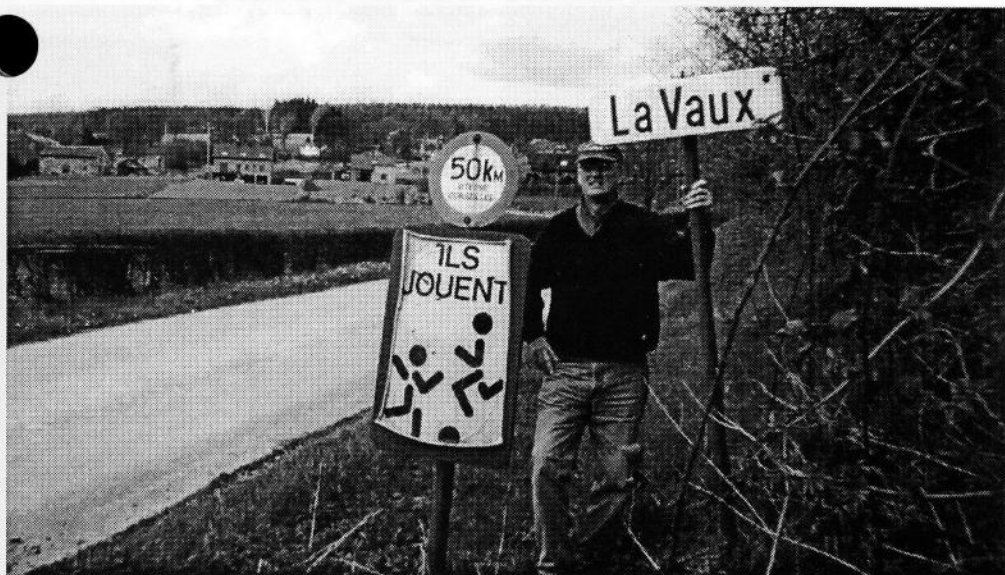
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Also: Barnes & Noble

Morse says, Any book store can order.



Dave Ford, 106th Infantry Division Association, Associate member

WHAT A SURPRISE!!

by: David Ford, Associate Member
25 Skywood Court
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e-mail: dafordl4@aol.com

On a recent trip to the Bulge area of Belgium, I had an incredible experience that related to, the 106th Infantry Division.

Two winters ago I met a gentleman in Florida, Art Kauffman, who was a member of the 106th Division, 424th Regiment Anti-Tank Company. It turns out that Art was heavily involved in the *Battle of the Bulge*. He was amazed that I knew of the 106th and the 424th regiments actions during that frightful winter campaign. Art was quite reticent about sharing his memories of that battle, but did tell me that he remembered vividly the very small village of La Vaux, Belgium. In fact, he remembered being photographed there. His picture subsequently appeared in the newspaper back home in the states. His family, who had not heard from him in weeks due to the hectic events of the Bulge action, rejoiced when they saw the photo. It was the first indication they had that he was still alive and unhurt.

While visiting battle sites in this rural area of Belgium, I made it a point to locate La Vaux, which was not an easy task. I decided to drive to the village and snap some photos to share with Art when I next saw him in Florida. I found the town and took the pictures.

On the way out of town I spotted an American 6X6 military truck in the backyard of a farm house. It was in good shape and obviously a collector's vehicle. My travelling companion, Associate member Dave Graham from Ohio, shouted, "That truck has 106th 424 stenciled on it's bumper!" I pulled into the farm driveway and parked, eager to make inquiries about the truck and the unit designations.

The wife of the owner allowed me to photograph the truck. Due to our inability to converse in French, we were unable to find out why the collector chose to use the 106th designation. Possibly it was the original lettering, but I'm not sure. As we admired the excellent condition of the truck, the lady opened an adjacent farm-type shed. Sitting inside was a 1943 Ford jeep. It also was beautifully restored and had the 106th 424 nomenclature on it.



The farm house where they spotted the U.S. Army Truck

A machine gun mount was evident in the center of the jeep. On a table next to the jeep was the entire 50 caliber machine gun itself! Throughout the dimly lit building I could make out other military relics: dozens of U.S. and German gas cans, clothing, helmets, canteens, mess kits, web belts, etc. Much of it appeared to have been there since World War II.

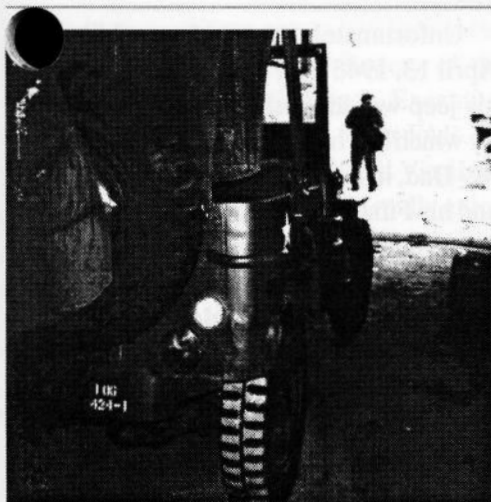
At about this time the husband arrived home. Alas, his English was as limited or worse than our French. More photos were snapped and I gave him a 106th shoulder

patch. John Schaffner, 589th, had given me about 20 division patches to distribute to acquaintances on my trip. They are eagerly and gratefully received and easy to transport. A great gift idea! I also showed him my 106th division membership card to impress upon him why I was so interested in his 106th vehicles. He appeared to understand my enthusiasm.

After receiving the "Golden Lion" shoulder patch, the Belgian gentleman went back into the farm building and returned with a tattered and musty WWII



Dave Ford and the U.S. Army Truck. Note the markings



The Jeep in the barn, note the markings

issue fatigue shirt which he presented to me. It has metal buttons with 13 small stars on each. Do you remember that type of button? Possibly I have the shirt you lost back then. The fellow dashed away again and returned with a canteen and canteen cup from the Bulge time, which he also gave to me. The precious thing about the canteen cup is that it still has the burn marks and soot residue on the bottom from its last use - 56 years ago! I will never clean that canteen cup! It was possibly used by a 106th G. I. Did you lose yours?



50 Caliber MG laying on the old truck frame

Incredibly, the Belgian then gave Dave Graham and me a monstrous magnum bottle of premium Belgian beer. It turned out that he was employed by the Vielsalm Brewery nearby. It was too huge to transport home, so I gave mine to one of my Belgian CRIBA friends at Baraque de Fraiture, Albert Fosty.

What an afternoon! A casual drive to an undistinguished small village in rural Belgium, became an occasion not soon to be forgotten. A Bulge Buff touches history again!

By the way, did anyone lose a jeep? I just might know where it is!

Dave Ford, Associate Member



Another view of the U.S. Army Truck

155mm Long Tom's of the 561st Field Artillery Battalion

Editor's Note: In the APR-MAY-JUN 2001 CUB magazine, page 17 you will see the name of a new Associate member. Robert M. Holliday. Bob's father Captain Karl O. Holliday was the Battery Commander, Headquarters Batter, 561th FAB. Read the story I printed about Bob and the 561st FAB which consisted of the 155mm Gun. Commonly know as a "Long Tom." They were stationed at Schlierbach, just outside Saint Vith, when we pulled into the front line. When the Bulge broke they lost their guns, but reformed and went on. (Please note, "guns" is a proper description on the "Long Tom" which used a powder bag charge to propel the shells.)

This CUB article inspired Joseph Remetta, 106th Signal Company to write Bob Holliday and describe what happened to him during the Bulge. Bob Holliday responded to Joseph. By reading Holliday's letter you will sense what our Joseph Rematta described to him, and the questions he had for Holliday.

To me it's an interesting story and was happy to see the interaction between Rematta and Holliday, described in the following letter. J Kline, editor)

Letter from Holliday to Rematta....

Dear Joseph,

I received your welcome letter of June 10, 2001 regarding your experiences in and around Schlierbach, the 106th Infantry Division, and your contacts with the 561st Field Artillery Battalion.

First and foremost, I need to set the record straight. Your letter mentioned that you had read in the Cub magazine about my "artillery unit was in support of the 106th." Furthermore, your letter said: "You say you were at the village of Schlierbach." Joe, it was my Father that was in the 561st FAB, rather than me. At the time, I was only about 15 months old. The 561st FAB had been dug in around Schlierbach for about 3 months when the Bulge started on Dec. 16, 1944. The 561st FAB had come ashore at Utah Beach shortly after D-Day, fought through five major campaigns, and many smaller ones, and finally ended up at the Elbe River on May 8, 1945 when the War ended.

The 561st FAB did, indeed, use the 155mm Gun (Long Toms).

Unfortunately my Dad was killed April 13, 1945 near Klotz, Germany when his jeep was ambushed by German Infantry which had hidden on both sides of a road. My Dad, his jeep driver, his Battery Clerk, and his First Sergeant all died as a result of being hit by German Submachine Gun fire. My Dad was a Captain, and was the Commanding Officer of Headquarters Battery of the 561st FAB.

Over the intervening years I have become very good friends with many of the surviving members of the 561st FAB Commencing in 1948 the 561st FAB began having bi-annual reunions. When I was in college (early 1960's) some of them contacted me.

I've gone to all of their reunions since. A couple of years ago they appointed me as the person to organize future reunions.

The first thing I did was to begin having annual, rather than bi-annual, reunions. We just had a reunion last month. It was held at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. As you know, Ft. Sill is the home of the Field Artillery. The modern day Artillery people took terrific care of these great warriors from WWII. The reunion was a tremendous success.

Now as two of three items mentioned in your letter. You said that on the 2nd day of the *Bulge* an American Major came into a house you were occupying in Schonberg and said German tanks were entering the town.

My guess is that the Major was Major Chestnut from the 561st FAB. This man was the Executive Officer of the 561st FAB. However, there are a couple of guys still around that might be able to answer that question better than I can.

You also mentioned in your letter that on the 2nd day of the *Bulge* that you and a couple of Buddies talked with an Artillery Officer who had 3 men in a Jeep. That these Artillery men had told you that they couldn't move their guns, so they had to put charges in the breech of each gun. Well, I can guarantee you than the officer you

ed to was either Captain Bill McKinzie, Battery Commander of C Battery of the 561st FAB, or Lt. Virgil Donze, Executive Officer of Battery C of the 561st FAB. So you are aware of it, both Bill and Virgil are still very much alive and would really enjoy talking with you sometime. Bill lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Virgil lives in El Paso, Illinois. Both of these men are great friends of mine. I have told both Bill and Virgil about your letter. If you are interested I would be happy to pass on their address' and phone numbers to you.

Now, concerning the fact that you and two other men had to wade the *Our River* and were met by an artillery officer, let me tell you the following. The artillery officer you met up with was Lt. Chuck Stegner. Chuck Stegner was a Forward Observer in the 561st.

Here is the interesting part. Chuck was the first from the 561st FAB that contacted me while I was in college. Chuck and my had been real good Buddies. Coming in the 1960's Chuck and I began developing a real close friendship. It was through Chuck that I really began studying the *Battle of the Bulge*.

In 1985 a book entitled "A Time For Trumpets" was published. This book is a very detailed study of the *Bulge*. I bought an extra copy and sent it to Chuck.

Chuck read it, and later in 1985, Chuck recorded for me his memories of the *Bulge*. In that recording, he relates the story of coming across three men that had become separated from their unit, having to wade creeks, streams, and the *Our River*, and the fact that it was in the winter time. In the recording he says that you guys sure were glad to run into other Americans.

I guess we really live in a small world don't we! Unfortunately Chuck passed away a few years ago.

However, I am very much in touch with his family. His widow, June, and their old-

est (David) of their four sons were at the 561st FAB reunion this past month.

As with the case of Bill McKinzie and Virgil Donze, I can assure you that Chuck's family would truly enjoy hearing from you. The Stegner family live in Clarkston, Washington, and if you are interested I will pass along their address, phone number, and etc.

Well, Joe, I am sorry to have made this letter so long. However, you should know that I consider myself a pretty good student of the *Battle Of The Bulge*, and particularly the battle which took place around Schonberg, St. Vith, and Schlierbach. I might mention that I have the map which the Forward Observers used around Schlierbach, Bleialf, Pruem etc., and have had the opportunity to mark it with several members of the 561st FAB.

This September, my son (age 31), myself, and the Grandson (also age 31) of my Dad's First Sergeant are going to Europe together, and you can rest assured that we will be tramping over the same ground that you *Great Warriors* gave so much of yourselves to.

In closing let me, one American who is enjoying a pretty good life, sincerely thank you for what you did for the rest of us in the United States.

I don't think that too many people here have a clue what we all owe people like yourself.

Bob Holliday, Associate Member, 106th Inf Div Association.

Excuse my "editor's note" but I would like to add this. Bob Holliday's brother lives less than 3 miles from me, I was acquainted with John Holliday, several years before I met Bob, a couple months ago. I am having a breakfast meeting with Bob, and his brother, John, two days from the time I am writing this. I have furnished Bob with some "Position Maps" of the 106th and we will discuss them for his trip to Europe. J Kline

New Members . . .

BERZONSKY, NORMAN J. 591/HQ

388 THEATRE ROAD
CARROLLTOWN, PA 15722
814-344-8212

Arrived 106th in May 1944 from Fort Bragg. Put into 591st FAB HQs as a Heavy Machine Gunner. Went overseas on the *USS Wakefield*, fought with the 106th until War's end when the 106th was disarming the German Army. Was taken out of the 106th and put in a unit that was going to the South Pacific. The Atom Bomb was dropped before we shipped out. Returned home and raised a family of three. I was a charter member of VFW 8897, held all offices including "Commander." Still belong to the VFW and the American Legion.

BROOKS, DR. DOUGLAS 424/MED

105 RUE DE GRANDE
BRENTWOOD, TN 37202
dbrooks1@home.com.

BROWING, EARLE E. DIV/HQ

18765 PENN SHOP RD
MT. AIRY, MD 21771-3933

While in training at Camp Atterbury I was assigned to the 422nd Infantry Regiment. However before going overseas, I was transferred to Division Headquarters, Adjutant General's office. Some of my Army buddies that I worked with were, Wayman Jones, John Beach, Richard Jochems, Horace Hatch, Ray Burlingame, Frank Pajak, Al Lanzanio, Vincent McKee, Vollie McCollum and Max Salmon.

I am a retired Federal employee after working 38 years with the Department of defense and national Institutes of health. I have been happily married for 54 years to my lovely wife, Mary Helen. We have two children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Since retirement I have been involved in Federal and State income tax preparation, and Mary Helen and I run a small "Choose and Cut" Christmas tree farm. We are very active with church and Lion's Club.

CAMPBELL, SR., PATRICK 423/H

51 HOSFORD AVE
LENARDO, NJ 07737-1734
732-291-4311

I was a member of the 106th when they were activated at Fort Jackson. I took Basic there on the 81mm Mortar and later spent time as Assistant Company Clerk with a guy named "DiSalvo." I left the division in September and was sent to Fort Meade, then to Camp Patrick Henry, near Norfolk, and left the States October 13, 1943, winding up in Africa. I was shipped to Italy and assigned to the 45th Infantry Division in the mountains. The division was relieved and made a landing in Anzio in January 1944. We were there until the breakout at the end of May and the liberation of Rome June 4th. We were then relieved. We, the 36th and the 3rd Infantry Divisions spent the leisure time in the vicinity of Salerno. In August we became part of the 7th Army that made landings in the Southern France August 15, 1944. We came through the Vosges Mountains in France then into Germany.

When you guys got hit at the Bulge and they pulled the 3rd Army to help out up there, we caught Hell trying to fill the gap left by the 3rd Army. We finished up in Dachau and Munich a few days before VE Day. I was back in the States at the same place two years to the day I left. I was discharged at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin October 25, 1945

I am originally from Gillespie, Illinois, not too far from where Marion Ray came from.

CORCORAN, FRANCIS P. 423/?

25 ELSTON STREET
SOMEVILLE, MA 02144-3111
617-776-0160

I was assigned to the 106 after *The Battle of the Bulge* when they were brought up to full strength again. The only things I can remember is a Camp Coetquilan (?), which was near Rennes, France.

New Members . . .

I remember a Division Review on the airfield. Later we were at St. Nazaire and St. Lorient until the war ended. Those of us who did not have enough points were transferred out of the division and the division was filled with other soldiers who had sufficient points to return home.

Again, my memory is fading about what happened 55 years ago but I think I was in the 423rd Infantry Regiment.

If anybody out there recognizes my name, please contact me. I would like to know which unit I was with.

(Editor's Note: Francis, Your name is not on any records that I have. The limited records I do have are mostly related to December/January 1944-45 and the Combat Infantry Badge Orders for the 422nd, 423rd and 424th. Hopefully someone may recognize your name and let you know which unit you were in.

Please inform me if they do so. Thanks for joining the Association. J. Kline, editor)

DEDIAN, ARA 590/HQ

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DIETERICH, TOM 422/HQ

16389 SW 130TH TERRACE # 91
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DUNN, WAYNE G. LIFE ASSOCIATE

620 COACHMANS WAY
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410-343-2625
Email: trevilians@aol.com

My father, Thomas M. Dunn, Sr. was in the 424th Regiment, 3rd Battalion Headquarters Company. I believe he was a 1st Lieutenant during the *Battle of the Bulge*. My father passed away April 25, 2000 at the age of 86. If anyone is interested, I have lots of notes from our conversations about his war experiences that I am willing to share.

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LINDEN, JOHN PAUL ASSOCIATE

47 RUE EYSDEN-MINES
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BELGIUM

MATTHEWS SR., WILLIAM 422/HQ

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MORATZ, ALLEN J. 423/I

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WINTER HAVEN, FL 33884-2505
863-324-7921
Email: alnorene@aol.com

I joined "T" Company, 423rd Infantry Regiment on April 7, 1945, as a replacement. Had been trained as an "Armorer" in Basic Training at Camp Blanding, Florida. Was in Lorient France the day the war ended.

New Members . . .

MORRISON, JR., JOHN L. 422/M

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DALLAS, TX 75238
214-553-9397

Email: ruthcoco@aol.com

PACE, NORMAN W. 422/H

9952 N. Valley Pike
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-1629
540-896-5346

Sherod, I enjoyed talking to you and look forward to any information you can send regarding the group.

POELLOT, JOHN A. 422/HQ

1517 SMYSOR DRIVE
BARTLESVILLE, OK 74006
918-333-4761
Email: Gewhiz@aol.com

I was a Bugler in Headquarters Company, 422nd Infantry Regiment. I was shipped out and sent to a Replacement Depot in Casablanca, then took a two day train ride to another Repo Depot at Mers al Cabier, North Africa. Stayed there two weeks and got a call to report to transportation to go to the 6706 Combat Conditioning Battalion. I thought having just come out of training, "What have they in store for me now?" Well I found out after a half hour truck ride to Oran to Mers al Cabiers, we stopped across the street from an Army hospital and our orders were to set up a camp site that could handle GI's that were released from the hospital. The idea was to evaluate them to see if they were "combat ready" or should be shipped home. We were given 50 Italian POWs to do all the camp construction, KP etc. I was there about one year. I made friends with one of the POWs as he could speak a little English. He would pass along the orders to his comrades.

Twenty-nine years later my wife and I visited him and his family, unannounced. What a surprise that was for him. When he took us back to the train to Rome the Times reporter and photographer were there waiting. They took photos of us which made the front page of the EL TEMPO, which is

the TIMES.

Continuing with my service. We left Africa for Naples and set up a camp at Lake Averni, Italy, stayed there for several months and pulled out to get Advanced Infantry Training in Verona, Italy. Had six weeks of that, then was transferred to Quartermaster Trucking, running gasoline and ammunition up to the front lines. The war ended and I was assigned to run trips for soldiers to Switzerland. Four weeks later I was called to report to Pisa for a flight to the USA for a 30 day furlough. While we were in the air we got the message that the bomb had been dropped in Japan and that the war was over.

I worked for the American Cyanide for 38 years, retired in 1989.

REINERS, Jr., JOHN ASSOCIATE

240 DOCK DR
LANSDALE, PA 19446-6234

My Brother-in-law, Rev. Dr. Duncan Trueman served in the 106th. He is currently the Association Chaplain. I am a veteran of WWII, having served in the American Theater from 1943 to 1946

SCHMICK Jr., WALTER C. ASSOCIATE

1305 MILITARY LANE

ARLINGTON, TX 76012-5545
817-275-2948

Enclosed is my completed Associate Member application for the 106th' Infantry Division Association. During World War II, my father (Waiter C. Schmick) was a soldier assigned to Company G, 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry Division. I'm applying for membership in the Association in honor of my Dad.

During the *Battle of the Bulge*, my Dad was awarded the Bronze Star. My Dad passed away on the 28th of May 1990, and never really talked about his war experiences-as many have. Recently I was going through my files and came across his file that I had put together. It had his enlist-

New Members . . .

and discharge papers, along with a copy of his Bronze Star Certificate. Suddenly, I had an avid interest in trying to find out more about my father's war years. I was reading through a book on the *Battle of the Bulge* and discovered the 424 Infantry Regiment was assigned to the 106th Infantry Division. In reading my monthly American Legion magazine I saw an advertisement on your upcoming reunion and wrote an e-mail to Mr. Marion Ray that really "got the ball rolling."

I'm really interested in seeing if I can track down members of Company G that might remember my Dad. Mr. Ray provided me a list with two local points of contact. It will be really interesting to talk to the individuals and see if in fact they can remember my Dad. I'm really looking forward to embarking on this adventure.

Let me tell you a little about myself. My Dad grew up in Baltimore, MD and that is where he settled after the War. As such, we lived in Baltimore and I graduated from the University of Maryland in 1972. Upon graduation I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Following my commissioning and attending The Basic School at Quantico, VA, I was assigned to the US Army Field Artillery Center at Fort Sill, OK for artillery training. Following my training was assigned to the 10th Marine Regiment (artillery) with the 21d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Following Camp Lejeune, I was assigned to the 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa, Japan as the CO, Battery H, 3rd battalion 12th Marines, then I commanded two companies at MCRD San Diego, back to Fort Sill for the Artillery Officer Advance Course, back to the 2nd Marine Division as the Operations Officer for the 1st Battalion, 10th Marines, then sent off to the Armed Forces Staff College (Norfolk, VA). Following graduation, I was assigned to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, US Atlan-

tic Fleet, then assigned to Headquarters, Marine Corps Washington, DC as a planner for Southwest Asia. Following my Washington tour it was back to the 2nd Marine Division as the Executive Officer of the 10th Marine Regiment. My last assigned was as the Executive Officer of 14th Marine Regiment (USMCR) in Dallas, Texas. I retired in 1998 with twenty-five years of service.

I have remained active in a variety of Marine groups in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and recently orchestrated the dedication ceremony of Marine Corps Memorials at our new National Cemetery in Dallas.

I appreciate Mr. Ray's assistance in providing me a listing of local Company G members and hopefully, I'll be successful in my search for some of my Dad's war-time buddies.

SEITZ, JOAN ASSOCIATE

439 WEST FIR STREET
PIEDMONT, MO 63957
573-223-4801

Email: muggins@semo.net

It was my privilege to attend the 106th Infantry Division Reunion held in St. Louis, Missouri this past September. I have been long interested in the study of the *Battle of the Bulge*, and having the opportunity to meet the men of the 106th was a rewarding and memorable experience.

I wish to thank all of you who gave your time, at the reunion, to explain and enlighten me as to the role of the 106th Infantry Division in the *Battle of the Bulge*. Hopefully I shall be able to attend another reunion of the 106th in the near future.

SHEA, PAUL 424/A

1014 ASHBURY
GREENVILLE, IL 62246
618-664-2758

I spent May through August at Camp Atterbury, Indiana in 1944. I was sent overseas as a replacement in September 1944, where I joined the 84th Infantry Division. I was in "A" Company, 334th Infantry regi-

New Members . . .

ment from November 1944 until I was discharged at Camp Grant January 28, 1946. I was a Buck Sergeant, in a mortar and light weapons platoon.

I spent two years at Milliken Univ. in Decatur, Ill. Graduated in 1948 with a degree in Education. Taught school in Greenville, Illinois from 1948 to 1983. I married in June 1947. I have three sons, my wife, Lorraine died last August.

SPENCE, GEORGE E. 424/C

1547 IRIS LAKE ROAD
NCDONOUGH, GA 30252
770-954-0053

VASQUEZ, GEORGE M ASSOCIATE

149 E ASH ST
SOUTH ST PAUL, MN 55075
651-455-1829

I began tracing my Dad's war experiences following reading "A Time for Trumpets" in 1985. This included one fact finding trip to St. Vith in Belgium. For Father's Day 2001 I presented him with a custom military award display case of his individual medals, ribbons and 106th Infantry Division patch. I hope to finalize my research and document it in the coming months.

VASQUEZ, GEORGE S. 424/K

2790 87TH ST E
INVER GROVE HGHTS, MN 55076
651-451-0803

S/Sergeant George S. Vasquez, 424/K, *Silver Star* and French and Belgium *Croix De Guerre*, "I transferred to the 106th during the Summer of 1944, following Basic Training with the 80th Infantry Division. Retired and residing in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota. Married with three grown children. Hobbies include cooking and growing orchids. I have always been extremely proud to be a member of the Division and now of the Association."

Editor's Note: From "*The Story of the 106th Infantry Division*" published in 1945 by the US Army Information and Education Services

Quote - the Preface

When the history of the Ardennes fighting has been written, it will be recorded as one of the great strategic Allied successes of the war in Europe. Tactically for the 106th and the other American Divisions involved it was a bitter and costly fight. But it becomes increasingly clear that the Germans expended in the last futile effort those last reserves of men and material which they so badly needed a few months later. The losses and sacrifices of the 106th Infantry Division paid great dividends in eventual victory. These pages are dedicated to those gallant men who refused to quit in the darkest hour of the Allied invasion and whose fortitude and heroism turned the tide toward overwhelming victory.

Donald A. Stroh

Major General, Commanding

Note: This is when S/Sgt Vasquez earned the Silver Star. Quote from the booklet: "When his platoon of Co. K, 424th was pinned down by fire from an emplaced machine gun. S/Sgt (then George S. Vasquez, St. Paul, Minn.,) cated the gun, went forward with his M-1 and wiped out the Nazi position single handed."

Editor's Note: George S. Vasquez, you and your son honor us by joining our ranks. Thank you for the honor you brought our division with your heroic deed. We salute you. John Kline, editor

VAUGHN, RONALD E. 422/C

75 SO BROADWAY AVE #115
SOMERS POINT, NJ 08244

WARE, RUSSELL A. 422/K

1135 GEORGETOWN RD 101
NORFOLK, VA 23502
757-461-5210

New Members . . .

LKS, EDWARD J. 424/L

8792 STATE HWY 43
BLOOMINGDALE, OK 43910
740-543-3725

YOUNG, CYRIL A. 81st ENG/C

25 YOUNG ROAD
WEAVERVILLE, NC 28787
828-658-2418
Email: jenkiin67@hotmail.com

XANTHOS, JAMES 424/UNIT Unknown

PO BOX 147
SHIRLEY, NY 11967
631-447-5812

**YOURKAVITCH, JOSEPH W
ASSOCIATE**

PO BOX 436
TEMPLE, PA 19560

Editor's Note: If anyone recognizes James Xanthos and can identify his unit, please contact the editor, John Kline.

PATCH PROJECT

by The Tulsa Chapter of American EX-POW's

Clint McClure, 423/HQs writes:

Our chapter, in which there are nine (9) 106th Infantry Division members, hung the "Patch Display" in the VA Outpatient Clinic, Tulsa, Oklahoma. There are 34 military patches and 100 names. All these were arranged by my wife, Peggy.

Many of the patches were taken from Chapter member's caps and jackets and others were ordered from supply stores.

The framing was done by Carolyn, wife of David Deffenbaugh, 423/D.

Carolyn passed away recently.

The nine 106th members were: Jackson Behling 423/A (Died 6/15/2001), David Deffenbaugh 423/D, Elmer Hall, Mrs. Harry Harwell (Associate). Irvin Musgrove, Clint McClure 423/HQ, Heairl McClure deceased, Lyle Russell 422/I and Leland Turley 423/H.



BABICH, John J. 424/M

219 N 70th St. Milwaukee, WI 53213

Died 20 April 2001: John was 82 years of age and a Life Member of the Association. He is survived by two sisters Margaret Babich Zanon and Ann Babich Sanders. He was preceded in death by brother Joseph, and three sisters Mary Babich, Catherine Babich Radmer, Fran Babich Anderson, and many nieces and nephews.

BEHLING, Jackson D. 423/A

5519 E 114th Street, Tulsa, OK 74137

Died 15 July 2001. Clint McLure 423/HQ reported the death with a notation that Jackson was a Life Member the 106th Association, and a Life Member of AX-POW.

He served as Commander of the Tulsa Oklahoma Chapter AX-POW. Was captured in the Bulge, and was recognized as a soldier's friend by his subordinates.

He is survived by his wife Marianne, three daughters, one brother, one stepson, one step daughter and numerous grandchildren.

BLODGETT, John 423/I

5789 Winston Ct, Apt 61 Alexandria, VA 22311

Died 22 January 2001: Jack Sulser, 423/F reports: "A retired Foreign Service friend told me that John Blodgett was buried June 8 at Arlington National Cemetery. He died January 22 and was cremated. It took this long to work through the queue at this busy cemetery. John was a Platoon Leader. He retired from Foreign Service and spent the last several years in a nursing home. I believe the last reunion he attended was in Rapid City."

BUTTER, Leroy 424/D

PO Box 367 Strong City, KS 66869

Died 10 August, 2000: L. Martin Jones, 423/G reported that an obituary in the Topeka, Kansas newspaper reported Leroy died of leukemia.

Preceded by his wife Lavoda April 1984. Survived by two sons, two daughters, two brothers, two sisters, grandchildren and great grandchildren

BOZMAN, V. C. 422/C

307 Oliver Street, Crewe, VA 23930

Died 1 July 2001. Association records show a wife named Rose.

CHRISTMAN, Archie W. 589/C

3436 Schmidt Drive, Harshaw, WI 54529

Died 8 September 2000: Born July 17, 1923 to Rosemary who survives him. Archie owned and operated B&E Electric in Darien until he retired in 1984. A member of several service organizations he is survived by his wife, sons Robert, Richard and Russell. Grandchildren Brian, Daniel, Melissa, Jeffrey and Cody, 5 great grandchildren, a brother Arthur and sister Evelyn, Betty and Dorothy.

HAMPTON, Benic C. 422/H

138 West Revere Circle, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Died 20 December 2000: His wife Betty Jane wrote, "Benic was buried with full military honors. He had enjoyed the reunions both the 106th and the Ex-POW. He always looked forward to reading *The CUB* and the AX-POW Bulletin. A true patriot, Christian and husband, He will be missed by the community in which he lived. We had been married 55 years."

In Memoriam . . .

LBABA, Norman J. 423/G

33 Arboretum Center, Wheaton, IL 60187

Died Fall of 2000: George Spiegel, 423/G wrote. "Sergeant Norman Kolbaba passed away last Fall. He was part of the original 106th Cadre at Ft Jackson. He was captured 19 December 1944. His wife preceded him in 1999. Norman leaves one son and seven grandchildren.

KRAMER, Joseph 423/HQ 3Bn

14720 Lincoln Drive, Oak Park, MI 48237

Died 15 December 1999: Newton Weiss, 423/HQ 3Bn recently reported his death.

LANKFORD, William M. 422/HQ

300 Pinehill Drive, Aberdeen, MS 39730

Died 5 May 2001: Survived by his wife, Joan, two daughters and a son, nine grandchildren and a host of loving relatives.

LEGERSKI, Edward (Eddie) 589/HQ

1515 Pine, Casper, WY 82604

Died 13 March 2001: Eddie died with bladder cancer. He was buried in the Oregon Trail Veteran's Cemetery at Evansville, Wyoming with full military honors. Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Kathleen, a daughter Diane, two grandchildren, three step grandchildren and two step great grandchildren, five brothers and three sisters.

MARTIN, William T. 423/G

628 Woodland Drive, Canton, MS 39046

Died 12 January 2001 (81 years of age): Survived by wife, Marlene R.; a son William Thomas (Tommy) Martin, Jr and wife Linda of Canton, MS; three daughters: Nelda Grimsley and husband Glenn of Canton MS; Carolyn Smith and husband Rufus of Biloxi, MS; Martha O'Cain and husband Danny Joe of Canton, MS. Twelve grandchildren: Jeff Grimsley and wife Shannon of Clinton, MS, John Grimsley, Jo Alice Grimsley, Will Martin, Lee Martin, Trey O'Cain, Danielle O'Cain of Canton, MS and Martin Smith and wife Jena and James Smith of Biloxi, MS. One great-grandson, Martin Joseph Smith of Biloxi, MS. Also survived by five sisters: Mary Patterson, Leona Davis and Bessie B. Wilkins (his twin) all of Jackson, MS. Elsie Sanford of Warner Robbins, Georgia and Jewell Heindl of Canton, MS.

Martin was a retired grocery manager. Throughout his life he was active in his community and a dedicated member of the First Methodist Church in Canton. God and his family were #1 in his life. (by Martha O'Cain, daughter)

MELICHAR, William J. 423/SV

336 Amherst Road, Linden, NJ 07036

Died 20 June 2001: John Starmack, 423/SV reported Bill's death. Bill is survived by his wife of 55 years, Florence. No other family details were given.

MARTIN, Thomas C. 423/A

767 East Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127

Died 14 March 2001: Daughter, Mary Beth Martin-Donald, North Weymouth, MA reported his death.

He served as S/Sgt in the 106th Inf Div and was captured in the *Battle of the Bulge*. Survived by his wife Clare, two sons, a daughter and six grandsons

Rest In Peace

MCKINLEY, Harold A. 423/HQ 1Bn

6622 Millbrae Road, Columbus, OH 43235

Died 20 December 2000: No other details given.

OUMET, Marcel R. 422/D

18 Old Birch Lane, Portland, ME 04103

Died 05 September 2001: Marcel died at the Southern Maine Medical Center in Biddeford after a long illness.

Born in Grandmere, Quebec, a son of Raoul and Yvonne Caron Quimet. Marcel worked for the city of Portland for 29 years, retiring as superintendent of Forest City Cemetery in 1987. He enjoyed hockey. His wife Glenna, died in 1989. Surviving are a son, Leon of Portland; and two grandchildren, Leanne and Marc Ouimet of Portland.

PETERSEN, Walter A. 423/H

N1503 Powers Lake Road, Genoa City, WI 53128

Died 14 March 2001 (age 76 years, 8 months, 26 days): Walter died at the Aurora medical Center in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Born in Maple Grove, Wisconsin, the son of Walter F and Bertha (Stern) Petersen.

Married to his surviving wife, Frances (Johnson) in November 4, 1945. He worked as a maintenance supervisor in the trucking industry. A member of the Automotive Transportation Supervisors Association; Kenosha Stamp Club and the NRA. He attended the 106th Infantry Division Association reunions, the Illinois Collectors of Stoneware and pottery and the Twin Lakes Sportsman Club. He was a member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Twin Lakes.

Survivors include his wife, Frances; daughters Mary (Robert) Olson, Batavia, IL; Linda (George) Peterson-Smith, St. Joseph, MN and Susan Petersen, Aurora, IL; a son, Walter a. Peterson, Jr, Nerwyn, IL; 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren, a brother Frank A. (Delores), Frankfort, IL and many nieces and nephews.

When John Swett, Past-President of our 106th Inf Div Association notified us of Walter's death, he wrote: "Bud was a close comrade. He was waiting for me when I arrived for basic Training at Ft Benning, GA. We went to Camp Atterbury together and were assigned to the 3rd Platoon, Co. H, 423rd Infantry Regiment. Both captured on 19 December, 1944 (in different places), marched together from Bleialf to Gerolstein, ended up together in Stalag IX B, liberated together on 2 April 1945, went home separately but got together soon afterwards, Have kept in constant touch since. It was our discussion of our war experiences that helped give perspective to these experiences, brought them in the open, preventing years of festering if kept covered.

"Bud was a man of many interests. Photography was an early love, he even thought of turning PRO. He hunted with bow and arrow as well as rifle and shot gun. An outdoor guy who grew up in the woods of Northern Wisconsin and completely enjoyed his hunting experiences. With his passing my loss has been great. A hole has been made that will not be filled. Peace! (signed John Swett)"

PLYMAN, Herman R. 81st ENG/A

13222 Goff Road, Wilmer, AL 36587

CUB magazine returned, June 15, 2001 "Died." No other details available.

SS, Professor Frank E. 424/CN

33136 Hampshire Road, Livonia, MI 48154

Died 14 May 2001, age 76: Professor Emeritus of English, Eastern Michigan University 1964-1983, earlier a teacher and supervisor in Detroit Public Schools. The death notice contained a host of names of friends in support of Members, Volunteers and the Staff of Alzheimer Association Support groups and the staff at the Livonia Adult Day Care Center. Mass was said at St. Aidan Catholic Church, with burial in Chicago.

VILLWOCK, Russell H. 106 SIGNAL

8560 W Foster Ave #510, Norridge, IL 60706-2772

Died 15 June 2001: Russell joined the Association 1 July 1947, served several terms on the Association Board. Was Chaplain for the year 1978-1979; President for the fiscal year 1981-1982 and was on the current board, with his term to expire in 2001. He was hosted and/or participated in four annual reunions in the Chicago area. In 1959 at Chicago with Larry Walden and Charles Robasse; in 1979, at Chicago, with Bill Lucsay and Jim Henning; in 1989, at Schaumburg, with Bill Lucsay and in 1999 again at Schaumburg. Note that the year for the four reunions end in "9." Russell was also the recipient of the *Order of the Golden Lion*, Commander's Class during the 1987 Reunion at Mobile, Alabama. Jackie, his wife received the Order of the Golden Lion, Companion Class for her support during those four reunions held on the years ending in "9."

Russell's obituary reads, "Russell Villwock, age 82, WWII vet, beloved husband of Jackie A., nee Gintalas; loving father of Terry (Karen); loving grandfather of [redacted] (Peter) Landesman and Wayne (Sandy); Great-grandfather of Sarah and Mark; dear brother of George (Evelyn); fond uncle of many.

Past-President, 106th Infantry Division Association, Past Commander of Park Ridge, IL V.F.W. Post #3579, Past 4th District Commander, Past Department of Illinois Community Activities Director, Volunteer Boy Scout Leader for over 40 years. Boy Scout District Commissioner of Lakeview for 14 years, Past Commander of Post #473 American legion, Life Member of N.A.C.C.C.A. Chapter #77 and member of the "Cooties."

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