

# Orion "In Memoriam"

Special Edition

December 2021

## 1917 - 1919

*Dickebush Sector*

*Mount Kemmel*

*Vierstraat Ridge*

*East Poperinghe Line*

*Hindenburg Line*

*LaSelle River St. Souplet*

*Meuse-Argonne St. Mihiel*



## 1940- 1945

*Makin*

*Majuro*

*Eniwetok*

*Saipan*

*Okinawa*

## 2001- Present

*Enduring Freedom,*

*Afghanistan*

*Iraqi Freedom*

*Noble Eagle*

## Honors to our Departed

One of my duties as Editor is to manage the "Taps" column listing obituaries of our departed comrades. As I was updating the master Taps log that the Association keeps, it struck me that many of our comrades may have slipped through the cracks and not been recognized. The past 20 years has been a turbulent time for the 27th and the Association. That time has also seen the aging out of the WWII veterans who formed the core of the Association for so many decades. It was gut wrenching to look up everyone and find that most had obituaries online. I ended up adding over 100 names to the Taps master log in the space of two days. I did check the Gallivanter's I had on hand and some had already appeared in our printed Taps, so that was nice to see. In the end though I decided to come up with a way to honor all who had passed and I could confirm it in some manner. It soon came to me that a special edition publication completed to come out just after the winter holidays and at the same time as the Winter Gallivanter was going to be the method. I am striving to do honor to each

person based on their deeds, their service, and their units (as best as I am able to determine). I found that in many cases the family didn't really understand the military jargon too well when they submitted the obituary, so I hope that I don't have any errors. If I do, I take the responsibility for publishing this with small flaws. I feel the overall intent is well meant and I hope that anyone who finds a flaw will accept my apology. Another area where I am lacking data is the names of Association members who passed before the 27th Staff took over the running of the Association in the early 2000's. So what you will see in the following pages are those people on our roster from roughly 2001 to present.

A few brief administrative notes on the format of this document.

Where I saw that several Soldiers had served in the same battalion, I grouped them that way. I tried my best to state the nickname or motto of each battalion, but wasn't always successful.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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If anyone knows the missing information please send to me for my records.

I was able to look up the Soldiers who were inducted from NYS on the NYS Military Museum and Research Center database for WWII. That sometimes gave me their rank and/or unit joined at induction. That whole website is a huge resource and I highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in the history of NYS military forces.

<https://museum.dmna.ny.gov/soldiers-and-sailors>

In placing rank graphics, I generally used the highest rank achieved during service.

In placing award graphics, I had to rely on what was stated in the obituary or what we had in our mailing list.

In placing affiliation to a veterans' organization, I did that solely on the obituary (Except CPT Walsh, who was wearing a VFW cap in his photo).

There are so many members from the past that we don't have ranks, unit designations, or time served with the 27th. In the future I will try to rectify that in some manner, but I am uncertain how.

Finally, as I put this document together I was struck by the nature of the stories of these Soldiers. Most growing up through the Depression and going off to serve their country. Whether in the Pacific, North Africa, or Europe, thousands of miles from wherever they called home. Then coming home and building a life for themselves. Often they are stated as being leaders, whether in business, administration, in various organizations, or all of the above. They knew the value of hard work and teamwork. They saw what people committed to a worthy cause could achieve. I can't help but admire each and every one of these

people.

Yours in service, Editor

## **HONORARY COMMANDERS**

Sgt. Arthur J. Coakley

## **Officers**

Commander - Roberta Comerford

1st Vice - Robert Romano

2nd Vice - Vince Memole

3rd Vice - Vacant

Treasurer - Paul Hernandez

Secretary - Paul Hujer

Sgt-at-Arms - Vacant

Editor - Paul Hujer

Surgeon - Vacant

Chaplain - Vacant

Historian - Geoffrey Milligan

Webmaster - Paul Hernandez

Past National CDR's

Sr. Past Paul Hernandez

Jr. Past Gary Yaple

### **THE ORION**

### **GALLIVANTER**

#### **OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 27TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.**

The Orion Gallivanter is published quarterly by the 27th Div. Assoc., P.O. Box 2522, Syracuse, NY 13220-2522.



All communications pertaining to the Gallivanter, membership dues, and contributions should be sent to the 27th Division Association ATTN: Secretary/Editor at the P.O. Box above or

[27thDivisionAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:27thDivisionAssociation@gmail.com)

# SOLDIER'S PRAYER

by Col. Lewis L. Millett

*I've fought when others feared to serve.  
I've gone where many failed to go.  
I've lost friends in war and strife,  
who valued duty over the love of life.  
I've shared the comradeship of pain  
I've searched these lands for men that we've lost.*

*I've sons who've served our land of liberty,  
who'd fight to see that other lands are free.  
I've seen the weak forsake humanity.  
I've heard fakers praise our enemy.  
I've seen challenged men stand ever bolder.  
I've seen the duty, the honor, the sacrifice of the soldier.*

*Now, I understand the meaning of all lives,  
The lives of comrades of not so long ago.  
So to you who answered duties siren call,  
may God bless you my son,  
may God bless you all.*

# Call the Roll

Acquilla, Thomas

Babykin, Anatole

Bagby, Robert S.

Balcer, Henry J.

Balentine, Cecil W.

Balsler, Ralph O.

Banks, Robert Irvin

Behil, Steve

Beres, Albert A.

Bertuzzi, Louis

Blake, Raymond J.

Boog, William

Boyle, James L.

Britton, Ralph

Bubas, Edward F.

Busone, Vincent V.

Caputo, Rocco P.

Carrier, Leland

Cavallaro, Nicholas J.

Collar, James

Cosler, Clifford G.

Cotton, John K.

Dabb, Alan

Daddato, Anthony P.

Dari, Leponty "Lee"

D'Eredita, Richard A.

Dernberger, Ralph Ardell

Diamond, Joseph Eugene

Ditter, Wilrose

Donnelly, John Edward "Jack"

Ellsworth, William W.

Eman, Carl Franklin

Famiano, James H.

Fidurski, Richard S.

Forney, Wilmore F.

Frieser, Frank W.

Gadreault, Roland H. "Gabby"

Gardner, Esther

Gardner, Stanley W.

Garrison, Howard G.

Giuffre, Felix Martin

Glogowski, Walter J.

Gregg, Morton A.

Grinaldo, Nicholas H.

Hammond, Willis Carlyle

Harp, Robert E.

Hartz Jr., Warren F.

Hazard, Benjamin H.

Hirsch, Philip F.

Howey, Jack B.

Hughes, Arvell

Kilts, Murray O.

Kingsland Sr., Henry "Hank"

Klapat Jr., Anthony J.

Kloosterman, Harry

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

**Knapik, Richard Walter**

**Knapp Sr., John P. "Jack"**

**Korba, Peter**

**Kovalaski, Julius**

**LaMarco, Peter**

**Larsen, Harold M.**

**Larson, Palmer Leo**

**Lazio, Roy S.**

**LoBalbo, Charles M.**

**Lynch, Thomas R.**

**Mariano, Joseph F.**

**Markiewicz, Eugene M.**

**Marotta, Ralph R.**

**Mason, Clifton E.**

**Mays, Edwin J.**

**Meighan, Joseph J.**

**Montagnino, Thomas**

**Munka, John**

**Nader, Joseph T.**

**Neubauer, Fritz**

**Petraske, James C.**

**Petrucci, Nicholas**

**Pincher, Philip T.**

**Planavsky, Milan**

**Polly, Jim**

**Poyfair, Leroy**

**Prusha, Robert J.**

**Pusatere, Frank R.**

**Rapp, Donald W.**

**Regillo, Nick R.**

**Riberdy, Joseph F.**

**Robinson, Harold**

**Roe, Walter E.**

**Rossi, Angelo P.**

**Ruiz, Alejandro**

**Sawicki, Peter A**

**Sawyer, Gerald T.**

**Schell, Dewitt**

**Seager, Walter A.**

**Sharp, Leo A.**

**Sorg, Carl J.**

**Sourbeck, Edward R.**

**Spiering, Donald P.**

**Steffen, Harvey D.**

**Stefferson, Robert J.**

**Stike, Paul Conley**

**Sullivan, Frank**

**Sweeney, Peter**

**Terino, Clement**

**Tessitore, Joseph**

**Thiele, Vernon M.**

**Thorp, Elwood**

**Tiribasso, Angelo P.**

**Torok, Steven P.**

**Trowbridge, Leigh M.**

**Tuggle, Paul**

**Urban, Robert**

**Varvitsotis, Constantine**

**Verbeck, K.C.**

**Walsh, Vincent W.**

**Wathen, Bernard L.**

**Williams, Robert J.**

**Wolf, Duane F.**

**Wynn, Glen A.**

**Yohe, George B.**



# 105th Infantry Regiment

## “The Appleknockers”



Mr. Banks was a 32nd Degree Mason, Charter Member of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Loyal Order of Jesters #117, a 50 plus year member of Equality Lodge #44, A.M. and F.M. and the Alighan Shrine Temple.

*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Band, Past National Commander, 27<sup>th</sup> Division Association 1990-1991*

**Thomas A. Acquilla**, 92, of Mechanicsburg, passed away Wednesday, June 4, 2014, at Graysonview Assisted Living, Harrisburg, PA. He was the widower of Mary M. Acquilla. Mr. Acquilla was a U.S. Army veteran. Thomas was a member of the National Assoc. of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE). He is survived by daughter, Susan A. and husband David K. Peters; and grandson, Jonathan S. Peters of New Castle IN. Burial will be at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.



**Vincent Edward Busone**, age 93, of North Port, Florida, passed away on June 20, 2011. He was born on November 22, 1917 in Brooklyn, New York.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Headquarters & Headquarters Company (Anti-Tank Platoon)*

**Robert Irvin "Rocky" Banks**, 89, of Martinsburg, died Wednesday, February 10, 2010, at the VA Medical Center. Born March 10, 1920 in Martinsburg, he was the son of the late Robert Tanner Banks and Ethel May Irvin Banks.

He was a veteran of the U. S. Army and the 167th Tactical Airlift Group with 28 years of service as a 1st Sergeant. He served four years in the Pacific (27th Infantry Division) and was a life member of the 27th Infantry Division and the 167th Retirees Association. Mr. Banks was also a member of the Disabled American Veterans, life member of the Purple Heart Organization and a life member of both the American Legion and BPOE Elks Lodge #778.

He served with the 27th Infantry Division, NY National Guard in March 22, 1938 - induction into Federal Service on October 15, 1940 with Company A.105th Inf. Served 10 months in Pacific Theater of Operations (Hawaii) attaining rank of Master (1st Sgt.); Graduated OCS 1943 and served 20 months European Theater w/439th TCG, 9th AF attaining rank of Capt. (Group Adjutant) Group ferried paratroopers & gliders in Normandy, Rhineland, Rome, Arno, Holland, and southern France Invasions.

He retired from the Air Force Reserves as a Lt. Col. (Personnel Officer) in 1964. Vincent retired in 1973 as a Personnel Director with the VA Hospital Administration and moved to North Port in 1974 from Willsboro, New York. Vincent was a Life Member of VFW Mass, BPOE # 2153 in Port Charlotte, Holiday Park Men's Club; Charter Member NARFE Chapter 1713 in North Port; American Legion in Albany, NY; AARP in Washington, DC; AMVETS # 312 in North Port; Company 'G' 105th Inf. 27th Division in New York.

Vincent is survived by his wife of 68 years, Laurretta; two sons, Vincent E. Busone, Jr. of Watervliet, New York, Michael (Charlotte) Busone of Ballston Lake, New York and two daughters, Patricia (Laurence) Trzaskos of Willsboro, New York and Kathleen (Kevin) Miller of West Sand Lake, New York.

He also leaves behind thirteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Company D*

**Leland D. Carrier**, 84, of Van Rensselaer Manor and former Sixth Avenue, Lansingburgh resident, died Friday, December 26, 2003 at his residence, after a long illness. Born in Troy, he was the son of the late Harold D. Carrier and Viola E. Rogers Carrier. Raised and educated in Lansingburgh, he was a graduate of Lansingburgh High School in 1939. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving from 1940 to 1945. He was a staff sergeant, in a heavy mortar company, in the Asiatic and Pacific Theaters. Mr. Carrier was a clerk with the N.Y. State Department of Taxation and Finance in Albany for more than 20 years, retiring in 1985. He was also an associate of the former Carrier Brothers Store, a confectionery and soda fountain in Lansingburgh, for many years until it closed in 1972. He was member of the CSEA Retirees of Albany, a former member of the Outcast Club in Lansingburgh, the VFW Post, the Frear Park Golf Association and a former bowler at Uncle Sam Lanes all in Troy. Survivors include a son, Michael D. Carrier (Heide) of Wynantskill; two grandchildren, Brier and Evan Carrier, both of Wynantskill; a brother, Earl R. Bud Carrier of Lansingburgh; and several nieces and nephews.

*“The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him.”*

*G.K. Chesterton*



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company E*

**James H. Famiano**, 88, passed away Sunday September 12, 2010 at Ellis Hospital surrounded by his loving family. James was born in Rotterdam, NY the son of the late Mariella and Stephen Famiano and was a lifelong area resident. He was raised by his father and step-mother Luigella Famiano and attended Draper School. James proudly served in the US Army from 1940 to 1945 in the Pacific Theatre and was a mail carrier for the US Postal Service for thirty years. He enjoyed family gatherings, playing cards, bocce ball, gardening and was an avid NY Yankee fan. James is survived by his wife Anna, whom he married June 12, 1949, their daughters: Barbara Colon of CA, Judith (Nick) Messere, Linda (Richard) DiCaprio and Donna (Gary) Lessard, grandchildren: Jessica and Joleen Coons, Nicholas Messere, Stacia Devine, Joseph and Michael DiCaprio, Amy Reynolds, Anthony and Kimberly Lessard and Kathryn Piechnik, 9 great-grandchildren, sister Gertrude Coulson and several nieces and nephews.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company A*

**Felix Martin Giuffre** of Williamsburg, VA was born on November 11, 1917 and passed away on April 10, 2011. He served during World War II in the US Army at the rank of Sergeant in Company A, 1st Battalion, 105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (New York).

His combat action on Saipan was described in the book entitled "Battling for Saipan" by Francis A. O'Brien. On the History Channel this program revisits July 7, 1944, when 4,000 Japanese soldiers launched the largest suicide charge of World War II against the New York National Guard's 105th Infantry Regiment during the fight for the Island of Saipan. The program is part of National Geographic Channel's "Day Under Fire: WWII" series. Sgt. Felix Giuffre from Brooklyn is shot four times. Sgt. Giuffre began trying to move himself to the aid station.

Captain Love's book states that Private Joseph Gomes came running by at the time and saw Giuffre moving an inch or two at a time, literally tearing huge chunks of ground out with his hands as he tried to pull himself along. Sgt. Giuffre found himself in the middle of the minefield. Gomes, saying "to hell with it," jumped into the minefield, and carried Giuffre out of it and back into the perimeter.

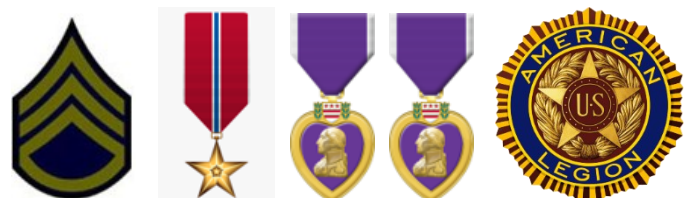


105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Company L [?], 1943-1946

**Morton A. Gregg**, 87, of Pinecrest, passed away on September 27, 2011. Born in Detroit, Michigan on July 14, 1924, Mort attended Hillsdale College in Michigan but his education was interrupted by World War II. Having hernia surgery in order to enlist, Mort joined the Army, 105th Infantry Regiment, 27<sup>th</sup> Division. Rising from the rank of private to first sergeant, Mort fought in two of the bloodiest battles of the war in Saipan and Okinawa. Recipient of two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts and nominated for a Silver Star for valor.

Mort moved his family to Miami from Detroit after being discharged from the service. Rising from a humble upbringing, Mort was a true businessman at heart as he founded and co-owned Acme Gas Corporation for 44 years. He was also involved with Artex Aluminum, New Mark Glen Mobile Home Park, Oriole Homes, Nayton's Restaurant and Syfo Water, among others. Mort loved to hang out, smoke a big cigar and shoot the breeze with friends.

Survived by his son Richard and daughter-in-law and caregiver Mindi, his son Bruce, daughter-in-law Wanda and three grandchildren, his brother Mickey and sister-in-law Mindy, his wife Sue and aunt Elizabeth.



**Nicholas H. Grinaldo**, 92, passed away Friday evening, November 9th at the Eddy Village Green in Cohoes. Born on November 1, 1920 to the late Samuel and Grace (DiStefano) Grinaldo, Nick enlisted in the NY National Guard, Company C, 105th Infantry on February 27, 1940 and served with the 27th Infantry Division. In 1944, during the Battle of Saipan, Nick sustained injuries to his shoulder from machine gun fire, as well as shrapnel in his hip, earning him 2 Purple Hearts. Among the other medals awarded for Nick's service and bravery were the Bronze Star, NYS Conspicuous Service Star, Asian-Pacific Campaign Medal and several others. Nick was honorably discharged in 1945 at the rank of Staff-Sergeant.

After proudly serving his country, Nick returned to Troy where for 35 years (1953-1988) he operated Nick's Shoe Store, on the corner of Douw & River Streets. The store was opened in 1917 by his uncle and was originally named, Trojan Quick Shoe Repair.



During his lifetime Nick was an active member of several organizations including the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Tibbits Cadets, Emerald A.C., the Italian Community Center, the Troy Central Rod and Gun Club and the American Legion.

Nick was predeceased by his loving wife of 63 years, Virginia (Pettignelli) Grinaldo and his sister, Josephine Grinaldo. Nick is survived by his siblings: Mary (the late Andy) O'Donnell, Angelo Grinaldo, Angela (the late Donald) Bouchard and Marguerite (Jim) Scorscone. He is survived by his children: Virginia (Dennis) Ryan, Nicholas (Margo) Grinaldo as well as his grandchildren: Eric Ryan, Daryl (Kristi) Ryan and his great grandchildren: Maxwell and Samuel Ryan. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews: Grace (the late Paul) Flagg, William (Donna) Bouchard, Gary (Debbie) Favro, Karen (Andy Hathaway) Hanna, AnnMarie (Patrick) Strack, Angela Grinaldo, Richard O'Donnell and Andrea (James) Dedrick. Nick is also survived by his great nieces and nephews: Kimberly Favro-Crooks, Don (Amy) Favro, Matthew Bouchard and Sarah and Olivia Flagg. He is the great-great uncle to Kole Favro.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion, Company M*

**Richard Walter Knapik**, age 79, of Florence, died Monday, Dec. 11, 2006, at his residence after an extended illness. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church, VFW, American Legion and a proud World War II Army veteran.

Mr. Knapik was born in Chicago, Ill., and worked at United Airlines at Midway Airport for 19 years. In 1962, he moved his family to Florence, AL, to become the founder and owner of the first McDonald's Restaurant in the tri-cities area.

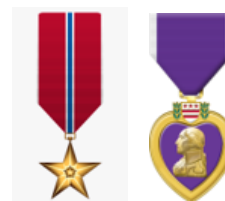
He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Lorraine Korink Knapik; daughters, Bonnie Bernauer (Jay), of Florence, Nancy Monk (Greg), of Houston; sister, Carol Walsh, of Naples, Fla.; grandchildren, Kim McCary (Hamp), of Dallas, Texas,

Gwen Zuendel (Andy), of Phoenix, Jacob Bernauer, of Nashville, Tenn., Jeff Bernauer (Sabrina), of Auburn, Ala., Matthew, Bradley and Cilla Monk, all of Houston, Texas; great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn Zuendel, of Phoenix, Ariz., and Hayden McCary, of Dallas, Texas.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Headquarters Company  
1939-1943*

**John P. "Jack" Knapp Sr.** Born June 18, 1919, passed away March 23, 2005. He was a retired school teacher and coach for the Aurora Public School System after 28 years, military veteran, pillar of the Aurora community and family man.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment*

**Julius F. Kovalaski**, 83, died Nov. 17 at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital. "He was a wonderful man," Gina Kovalaski, his wife of 26 years, said Saturday. "I'll miss him terribly." Julius, or "Jules," as he was known to family and friends, was born in Brookfield on June 20, 1922.

At the age of 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Army on Oct. 27, 1939, and saw action in the Pacific theater during World War II. Kovalaski took a bullet while protecting a general in Okinawa, Japan, on April 28, 1945, and eventually received a Purple Heart. He also received a Bronze Star among several other military honors during his service.

After the war, Kovalaski worked as an advocate for veterans until his death, his family said. "The military was his thing," Gina Kovalaski said.

Kovalaski was honored as the grand marshal of the Memorial Day parade last May and was a sergeant with the Connecticut State Guard Reserve Military Final Honors Squad of Northwestern Connecticut, providing final honors at the gravesides of more than 1,000 veterans. "Now someone will do it for him," said his stepdaughter, Valerie Royals.

In addition to working tirelessly for area veterans, Kovalaski will be remembered as a devoted man who always supported his family. "We were always together," Gina Kovalaski said. Royals shared a special moment with her stepfather, she said, driving him along the street in the Memorial Day Parade in a 1957 Thunderbird. "I said to him, 'You're the celebrity of the day,'" Royals said. "We led the parade."

Kovalaski never earned a high school diploma because of his military service, but was given an honorary diploma from Torrington High School in June 2004, Royals said. Kovalaski served as commander for the New Milford chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. His assistant in that organization, Ed Farrell, 80, of Warren, said Kovalaski was always on the go and working for veterans. "He loved veterans," Farrell said. "For a man his age to do (all) that, you have to take your hat off to him." Farrell, a U.S. Marine who also saw action in World War II, said Kovalaski shared a kinship with his branch of the service, fighting side by side with the Marines at Saipan. "I told him he was a frustrated Marine," Farrell said. "He just grinned."

Aside from his work with the military, Kovalaski worked for the Torrington Company, was a fireman with the Torrington Fire Department for 25 years, and also worked as a security guard for Timex in Torrington, according to the family. Recently, Kovalaski and his wife went to see the new World War II Memorial in Washington D.C., Royals said. "He was waiting to see it," Royals said. "It was all he talked about (when he returned home)." Kovalaski shared stories from his service with school children at Torrington Middle School, where his 14-year-old granddaughter, Natalie Royals, attends.

*"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear— not absence of fear."*

*Mark Twain*



*105th Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion,  
Headquarters Company*

**Palmer Leo Larson**, the son of Palmer M. and Mabel (Erickson) Larson, was born on July 2, 1925, on the family farm in rural Humboldt County, Iowa, Norway Township, east of Thor. Palmer passed away on Friday, January 13, 2012, at the Rotary Ann Nursing Home in Eagle Grove, at the age of 86 years, due to a brain tumor.

Palmer lived his entire life on and farmed the Larson family farm, which was purchased in 1879. Palmer served in the United States Army, entering on January 6, 1945. He received his basic training at Camp Hood, Texas and served in the PTO with the 27th Division. They spent 35 days on a Troop Carrier from Portland, Oregon to Okinawa, Japan and spent one month preparing for the invasion of Japan. He was the first troop to fly into Japan after the surrender. He also served in northern Japan for a short time before transferring to Tokyo and joining the 720th Military Police Battalion. He was honorably discharged on November 17, 1946 and returned to farming.

Palmer is survived by his brother, Roger H. Larson of Eagle Grove and many cousins.



**Charles M. Chuck LoBalbo**, 65, of Knollwood Avenue, Amsterdam, passed away Sunday morning at his home with his loving wife Mary at his side.

He was born in Amsterdam, NY on February 16, 1945, the son of the late Alfred A. LoBalbo, Sr. and Jenni Burdow LoBalbo. He was a lifelong Amsterdam resident and a 1963 graduate of Amsterdam High School and the Fulton Montgomery Community College.

Mr. LoBalbo was on active duty with the New York Army National Guard, retiring as Sergeant Major in 2005, with 39 years of service. He served with the 105th Infantry and 19th Special Forces Group Airborne. He was stationed in Amsterdam, Gloversville and Schenectady. He was a member of the American Legion National Post #1 and the B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge #2157 in Rotterdam, NY. Charles was also a member of the John J. Wyzomirski Post #701, American Legion Post 741 and the 27th Division Association, Inc.

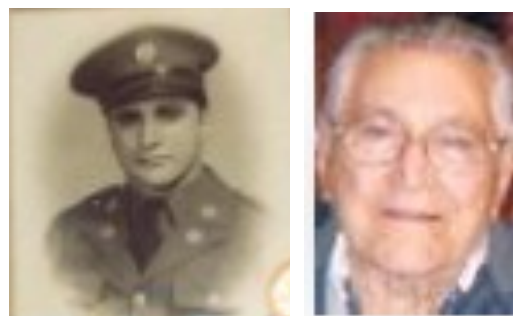
He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Mary Weiss LoBalbo, whom he married on June 11, 1966. Also surviving are one daughter Regina Gina Holloway and her husband Brian of Amsterdam, NY and one son, Greg A. LoBalbo and his wife Jennifer of Delanson, NY; two brothers, Edward Susan LoBalbo of Wilmington, NC and Alfred Carol LoBalbo of Glenville, NY; brother-in-law Patrick Luci. Four grandchildren, Keenan and Trey Holloway and Kaelyn and Luciano LoBalbo; several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.



*105 Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company D*

**Joseph F. Mariano, Sr.**, 87, of Manning Ave., Troy, passed into eternal life on Monday, April 9, 2007 at the Hospice Inn at St. Peter's Hospital after a short illness. Born and educated in Troy, he was the son of the late Nicholas A. and Mary (Carnevale) Mariano. He was a World War II veteran, in which he served five years in the Pacific Theater with the 105th Infantry. He earned five Battle Stars, a Victory Medal, a Good Conduct Medal and two Valor Medals. He was a member of The Tibbits Cadets and a member of the Teamsters and Laborers Local #190. He was employed by U.W. Marx General Contractors for

over 35 years, until he retired in 1983. He was a member of the Troy Boy's Club Hall of Fame and a communicant of St. Anthony's Church in Troy. He is survived by his beloved wife, Theresa (Therien) Mariano of 58 years and his four children, Nicholas A. Mariano, Sr. (Luann) of Troy, Debrah Grillo (Vincent) of Boise, Idaho; Natalie Gullo (Vincent) of Boca Raton, Fla. and Joseph F. Mariano, Jr. (Susan) of Latham. He is also survived by two brothers, John Mariano of Cohoes and James (Marlene) Mariano of Troy and a sister, Joan Ruf of Guilderland. Also survived by ten grandchildren, Nicole Case (Robert), Joseph, Alicia and Nicholas Mariano, Leah Grillo; Alexa and Peter Gullo; Tori, Trey and his newest grandchild, baby Tye Mariano; and several nieces and nephews.



*105th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G*

*Past National Commander, 27<sup>th</sup> Division Association*

**Ralph R. Marotta**, 92, of Waite Rd., passed away suddenly Thursday evening (03 October, 2013) at St. Mary's Hospital in the company of his loving family. Born in Amsterdam on March 14, 1921, the son of the late Anthony and Maria Angela St. John Marotta, he lived here his entire life. Ralph proudly served with the US Army in World War II in the Asiatic and Pacific Theater of Operations.

He was awarded the Purple Heart as well as the Defense Service and Good Conduct Medals and was discharged with the rank of Medical Technician. He returned and continued his service for another 30 years at the Naval Supply Depot in Scotia. He was an active member of the community with the DAV Chapter 100, Southside Veterans Association, 27th Division Association, and Knights of Columbus Council 209. An avid golfer, he was a member of the Municipal Golf Course and looked forward each winter to spending time with his wife in Florida. Ralph was married to the former Dolores Dora DeFeo on May 8, 1949 who passed away on July 3, 1995. On April 4, 2001, he was united in marriage to the former Phyllis Rinaldi. In addition to his beloved wife, he leaves his stepdaughters, Doreen A. (Wayne) Wnuk and Linda A. (Greg) Snell, all of Amsterdam, and Lucinda A. Padrick of Jupiter, FL; grandchildren, Brandy Taylor and Justin and Christopher Padrick; sister, Helen Perry of Texas.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Medical Detachment [?]*  
*[As told to Past National Commander Gary Yaple. Joe was one of, if not the first, Soldier to find CPT Salomon's remains on Saipan. He was the first person to submit CPT Salomon for the Congressional Medal of Honor. A separate award application was finally approved years after the fact. The Salomon Dental Clinic at Fort Benning, GA is named in his honor.]*

**Joseph J. Meighan**, 82, of Columbia St., died on Sunday, May 22, 2005 at Ellis Hospital after a long illness. Born in Troy, he was the son of the late Clyde A. and Jane Laech Meighan. He graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1940. Joe was a veteran of World War II, serving in the 27th Division. In 1942. He was commissioned an infantry 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant

and participated in the invasion and capture of Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa. In 1946, he was separated from active duty and joined the N.Y.N.G. in Troy and was promoted to Captain in 1947. In 1955, he received his 32nd degree P.R.S. Albany Sovereign Consistory A.A.S.R. and was also inducted into Oriental Temple A.A.O.N.M. Shrine. Joe was a very active member in the Masonic Temple organization through the years and in 1972 he was elected district deputy grand high priest, Grand Chapter State of N.Y.R.A.M., in 1981 he was G.M. 1st veil of Grand Chapter State of N.Y.R.A.M., in 1981 and 1982 elected district deputy G.M. of Grand Council R. & S.M. and 1994 and 1995 elected prior of Trinity Priory No. 5 K.Y.C.H. Mr. Meighan owned and operated Meighan Van Lines in Troy and Cohoes for over 35 years and retired 20 years ago. Joe was a member of O'Brien/Baker Post (No. 2) 27 Division Association and the Tibbits Cadets of Troy. In 1998, he was elected to the board of directors of the Tibbits Cadets and in 2000 he was elected President. A life member and commander V.F.W. Post #469. He was a life member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Post #117, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion S.S. Barrett Post #1881 of Lansingburgh and the Veterans of Lansingburgh Inc. of Troy. Joe is survived by his wife Dorothy Corrine Coffin Meighan and a daughter Susan L. Meighan R.N., Ellis Hospital of Schenectady.



105th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G

**Thomas J. Montagnino**, 81, of Vrooman Avenue, Amsterdam, passed away Thursday morning (04 December, 2003) at St. Mary's Hospital. Born in Amsterdam on October 22, 1922, he was a son of Vincenzo "James" and Concetta Lombardo Montagnino. Mr. Montagnino received his education in the Amsterdam school system and was a 1939 graduate of Wilbur H. Lynch High School.

He was employed by the United States Postal Service as Supervisor of Clerks at the Amsterdam Post Office until his retirement on April 16, 1980.

Mr. Montagnino was an Army veteran of WWII, serving in the Western Pacific and was the recipient of the Asiatic Pacific Service Medal with the Bronze Arrowhead and the Purple Heart Award, for being wounded in action. Mr. Montagnino was a parishioner of St. Michael the Archangel Church,

Past President of the Letter Carriers Union for 20 years and Past President of the Columbian Social Club all of Amsterdam, NY. Mr. Montagnino is survived by his wife, Joan "Ginger" Montagnino, to whom he was married on July 26, 1975; two daughters, Sharon Montagnino of the state of Wyoming and Karen Nass of Schenectady, NY; one stepdaughter, Sondra Stephens and her husband Brent of Schenectady, NY; and one stepson. Paul Pikul and his fiancé, Patches Piasecki of Amsterdam, NY; two brothers, Joseph Montagnino and his wife Jeanette and Vincent Montagnino and his wife Lorraine all of Amsterdam, NY; two sisters, Sara Rouse and Sue LeCornu and her husband Charles, all of California; three step grandchildren, Anthony Kaczmarek, Paul Pikul and Christopher Piasecki; nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.



**James C. Petraske**, 99, peacefully went home to his Lord and beloved wife, on August 27, 2018. Born on January 2, 1919, in Rensselaer NY; he was the son of the late Charles and Eliza (Brothers) Petraske. A Mont Pleasant HS graduate, he went to work for General Electric as a toolmaker and worked his way up to Unit Manager in Gas Turbine Department. He retired from GE after 43 years of dedicated service.

He proudly served his country in the Army overseas in Germany and Belgium during World War II, as a combat engineer in the US 292nd infantry. His military career continued in the New York National Guard's 105th Infantry.

James married the former Madeline Valentino on June 14, 1942. The Petraske's raised their family in Rotterdam. James was a skilled electrician; he was employed by Paul Shaffer. In his later years, he worked for Nick Falvo gas station as well as plowed snow. An affluent member of society, James was involved in many groups and organizations, including Masonic Lodge 32nd degree; Christopher Yates; St. George's Chapter #157 as High Priest, St. George's Council #74, St. George's Commandry #37 as Commander; Scottish and York Rite; Galway Lake Association; Galway Lions Club where he received Lion of the Year Award; GE Quarter Century Club and Management Association; President of the Mohonasen PTA; and participant of DAV Chapter 88.

He also volunteered as a coach for Rotterdam Girls Softball and Blind Golfers League. James participated in the American Red Cross' Meals on Wheels program; he delivered until 90 years old.

Survivors include his loving children Charles (Terri) Petraske, Kathy (Richard) DiCaprio, and Lauren (Rayette Johnson) Petraske; five grandchildren: Charles and Madeline Petraske, Richard DiCaprio Jr., Cory (Kerri), and Jason DiCaprio. Great Grandchildren: Weston Sartin, Kaila DiCaprio, Ashtyn, Brody, Carah, Makenna and Karina DiCaprio; Jake, Luke, Evan, Leonardo and Franco Petraske. Great Great Grandsons, Braydon and Cayden Sartin. James also leaves behind numerous nieces, and nephews.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company D*

**Frank R. Pusatere**, 83, of Troy, passed away after a brief illness on Sunday, February 12, 2006 at St. Mary's Hospital in Troy surrounded by his loving family.

Born and educated in Troy, he was the son of the late Rosario V. and Antonina (Dinovo) Pusatere.

He was a decorated veteran of World War II and a survivor of the Battle of Saipan. He was employed by Watervliet Arsenal for over 30 years, retiring in 1976.

Mr. Pusatere was a former past president of Wynantskill Kiwanis Club, active member of Tibbits Cadets and Baker/O'Brien Post. He was a communicant of Saint Anthony's Shrine Church in Troy.

Mr. Pusatere is survived by two sons, Anthony (JoEllen) Pusatere of Fla. and Frank (Jennifer) Pusatere of Wynantskill; two sisters, Anna Canistrerri and Ellen Deeb; a brother, Leo S. Pusatere; and two sisters-in-law, Angilena Pusatere and Betty Pusatere; five grandchildren, Adam, Benjamin and Sean Pusatere of Wynantskill, Rebecca and Christie Pusatere of Schenectady and Jennifer Vincent of MA.



*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company B*

**Nick Regillo**, 87, of Mannington, passed away on Wednesday (May 16, 2007) at his residence. He was born Feb. 13, 1920, in Mannington, a son of the late Vittorio "Veto" Regillo and Conetta Cagliostro Regillo. He was a forklift operator at Westinghouse for 35 years. After early retirement, Nick painted houses all over the area for around 25 years.

Nick is a World War II veteran, having served in the Army as a light machine gunner and mail clerk in the Pacific Theater, 105th Infantry.

Nick was a devout Christian and faithful member of the Mannington Church of the Nazarene where he had perfect Sunday school attendance for 72 years, the last 62 years being consecutive.

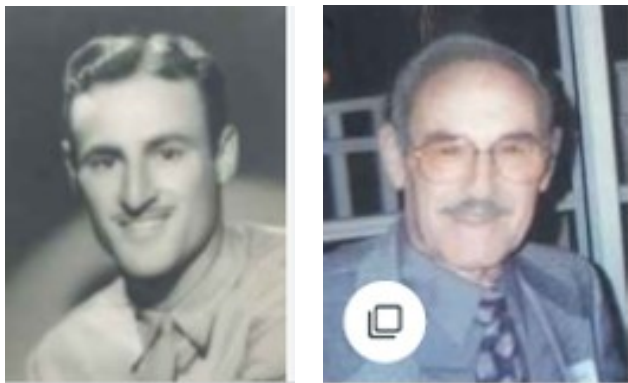
*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion, Company M*

**LeRoy Poyfair**, age 84 of Gloversville, entered into rest at his home on Sunday evening, November 26, 2005, with his devoted wife and family at his side. LeRoy had battled Parkinson's disease for many years. He was born July 24, 1921 in Gloversville, the son of the late Chester and Mary Schrum Poyfair. He served in the 27th Division of the Army National Guard from 1939 until entering the US Army in 1940. He served during World War II in the Central Pacific Campaign including Saipan and Makin until he was discharged in 1945. He then worked as a meat cutter for several years. For 40 years he worked for Cordone's Inc. of Gloversville, mainly as a soda maker. He later worked at TJ's Beverage for 5 years until he finally retired at the age of 70. Mr. Poyfair was a member of American Legion Post #137 and V.F.W. Post #2077 of Gloversville. On March 28, 1948 LeRoy was married to Betty I. Travis, his wife of 57 years, who survives. Also surviving are two sons, Larry Poyfair and Randy Poyfair and his companion Helen Lawyer; a daughter, Sherry Sartin and her husband Raymond Sartin, all of Gloversville, two grandchildren, Eric Sartin and his companion Kati Hohler and Amy Sartin and her companion Jason Christman; two great-great granddaughters, Mikalla Sartin and Brooke Sartin, all of Gloversville. LeRoy's faithful dog Shelby also survives. He was preceded in death by his sister, Mary Ortell; his brother, Wilbur Poyfair; and his nephew, Robert Ortell.

He enjoyed participating in the local senior center activities as well as the historic society of which he was a member.

Besides his love for sports, he thoroughly enjoyed reading books, as many as 180 in one year's time, and he was a supporter of the Mannington Public Library. He also faithfully rode his stationary bikes, up to a month or so before his death, putting over 100,000 miles on them.

Surviving are his brothers, Leck, Phillip and Joe, all of Mannington; his daughter, Pamela Bush and minister husband Jerry and grandson Nathan of Oak Hill; his son Nick and wife Amie and children Wesley and Desiree of Mannington; and several nieces, nephews, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.



*105th Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company A 1942-1945*

**Angelo Rossi** passed away peacefully on Sept. 7, 2013 at the age of 93. He leaves his wife of 68 years, Gloria Rossi, son James Rossi, daughter-in-law Nancy Rossi, granddaughter Jocelyn, grandson Justin Rossi and granddaughter-in-law Tasha Rossi. Angelo was born in a small farmhouse just two blocks from where he passed in Reliez Valley of Lafayette, CA. As of his passing, Angelo was the oldest "born in Lafayette" resident at the age of 93. Angelo, along with his two brothers Frank and Serafine, worked the Rossi ranch which covered 158 acres. Angelo was in the first Acalanes graduating class in 1941.

He served with the 27th Infantry Division in the Army during WW II, participated in the invasion of Saipan and Okinawa where he was awarded two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star.

Upon his return from the service, Angelo married Gloria Bertero of San Leandro in 1945. Son James was born in 1949.

Angelo and Gloria built the house on Angelo Street in 1951 and still live there today. Angelo along with his two brothers had Rossi Brothers Furniture Shop on Mt. Diablo Blvd. for 31 years. They all retired in 1977. Angelo coached Little League in the Lafayette Youth Association for 5 years, and was involved in the Boy Scouts with son Jim.



*105th Infantry Regiment, Headquarters Company*

**Gerald T. Sawyer**, 82, of George Street, Green Island, died peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on Wednesday, April 16, 2003. Born in Green Island, son of the late Erlic and Elizabeth Bison Sawyer, he was a lifelong resident of the village. Jerry had served in the U.S. Army, 27th Division, during World War II. He had been employed as an engineer by the D & H Railroad for 43 years, retiring in 1981. He was a communicant of St. Joseph's Church in Green Island, a member and past grand knight of the Green Island K of C, a member of the Father VanRensselaer 4<sup>th</sup> Degree K of C, the Watervliet Lodge of Elks, the Legnard-Curtin Post American Legion, the Green Island Vagabond Club and had been a member of the former Rev. Austin J. Corbett Post Catholic War Veterans in Green Island. Survivors include his beloved wife of 54 years, Rosemary McAvoy Sawyer; three sons, Gerry Sawyer of Boston, Mass., Daniel Sawyer of Green Island and Thomas (Mary Ann Soucy) Sawyer of Pleasantdale; also survived by six grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

*105th Infantry Regiment, Medical Detachment*

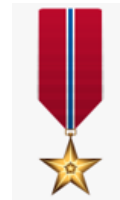
**Walter A. Seager**, 84, former longtime resident of Lynbrook, NY, on August 9, 2003. The former owner of National Fuel Service Inc., had been retired for a number of years.

Mr. Seager served as a medic in the Pacific with the 105th Infantry during WWII.

He and his wife, Jean Bonanno Seager moved to Lynbrook in 1951. Mr. Seager was very active in the community and social activities in the village. A member and former Captain of Hose Co. #1, a member and past Exalted Ruler of the Lynbrook Elks Lodge #1515, and a member of the Lynbrook Masonic Temple. In 1979, Walter Seager retired and moved to Tucson, AZ. Most recently, he had been living with his daughter in Ogdensburg, NJ.

Walter Seager is survived by his four children, Lois Boehl of New Jersey, Janet Norton of Arizona, Walter R. Seager of New York and Tracy Huber of Illinois. He leaves behind five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and his brothers James Seager and Raymond Seager.

in the rubble. He later wandered around behind enemy lines until 23 April, when he was rescued by our troops.”



*Executive Officer*

*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G*

**Donald Peter Spiering** was born on 10 December 1917, in Greenville Oregon. He married Jean Marie Ackerson on 23 July 1949. He registered for military service in 1942. He died on 7 January 2007.

[The following excerpt is from *The 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in World War II* by Edmund Love, describing how the Headquarters element of Company G was cut off by an enemy counterattack which engulfed Companies F and G in the vicinity of Nakama.]

“As they moved off the road, Lt. Donald P. Spiering, Cudlin’s executive officer, was hit in the knees. After the group reached the buildings of the town, he dropped out and hid

*105th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company F  
1943-1946*

**Angelo “Chuck” Tirabasso**, age 95, a lifelong resident of Wickliffe, OH and U.S. Army veteran, passed away Sunday November 22, 2020, surrounded by his loving family. Born to Carmen and Antoinette Marie (nee Garzia) Tirabasso, Chuck is survived by his children:

Kim, Karen, Rick (Holli), Kathi (Rich); grandchildren Michele (James), Jamie (Matt), Joshua, Genie, Carly, and Nick; six great grandchildren; nieces Patti, Denyse, Anita, Jeanie, and Nancy, and nephew William.

During high school, he joined the military and served in the South Pacific in World War II, where he fought bravely for our country and for the lives of others. He was awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious service and received a Purple Heart from injuries sustained during the Battle of Okinawa.

Upon returning home, he was employed at Chase Brass and Copper Company (BP America), and retired in 1990.





*105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment*

**Paul H. Tuggle**, 83, a retired Quality Control Inspector for NASA, died Sunday, June 23, 2002. Mr. Tuggle was born in Wallins, KY. He came to Brevard County in 1960 from Louisville, KY.

He was a veteran of the U. S. Army having served in the 27<sup>th</sup> Division during World War II in the Pacific participating in nine landings and was awarded the Combat Infantryman's badge and two Purple Hearts. Mr. Tuggle was a lifetime member of the DAV and the 27th Division Association.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Frances Tuggle of Melbourne; son, Gary of Melbourne; daughter, Donna Caudill of Malabar; nine grandchildren; and two sisters, Dorothy Burdine of Daytona and Maxine Bentley of Seco, KY.

*“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”*

*George Washington*

*105th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company E  
1945-1946*

**Duane W. Wolf**, 80, of Dover, died Monday, April 9, 2007 in Aultman Hospital at Canton. A son of the late William and Bertha (Lozer) Wolf, Duane was born April 24, 1926 at Wauseon, Ohio.

He was a veteran of the United States Army in which he served overseas during World War II. Following his service to his country, he married the love of his life, the former Beatrice Bankey, on June 25, 1949 at Napoleon, Ohio. Together, Duane and Beatrice raised four children, Marjorie, Joseph, Penny and Patti. Duane went to work for GTE in 1947 as a lineman and after 40 years of service he retired as a senior field engineer. He was a life member of the New Philadelphia American Legion. Duane, who was an avid hunter, enjoyed trap shooting, especially at the Zoar Gun Club where he was a member. He also enjoyed woodworking and his family holds dear to their hearts the many different items he created over the years.

He is survived by his loving wife, Beatrice Wolf of the home, three daughters, Marjorie Fox of Hilliard, Ohio, Penny Wolf of Dover and Patti (William) Karl of New Philadelphia; grandchildren, Tricia Hostetler, Tiffanie Kearns, Jennifer Conner, Becky Zurcher, Amy Wolf, Harold Thompson, Corey Wolf, Melissa Davidson and Ashley Davidson and many great-grandchildren.



# 106th Infantry Regiment



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company E, 1938-1945.*

**Henry J. Balcer**, 93, of Syracuse, passed away Thursday (26 July, 2012). Henry was born in Binghamton, NY. He was a member of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Westside Seniors and life member of K of C #6282.

Henry was an Army veteran of WWII, serving in the Pacific Theater. Henry was retired from Lipe Rollway.

Henry was predeceased by his wife, Alyce Balcer. Henry is survived by his son, David (Karen) Balcer; grandson, Spc. Craig (Alyssa) Balcer, stationed in Alaska; granddaughter Kelsey Balcer; and two great-grandchildren, Kylie and Koby.

*“We sleep peaceably in our beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on our behalf.”*

*George Orwell*



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion  
Company L, 1943-1945.*

**Cecil Warren Balentine**, age 96 of Big Flat, Arkansas passed from this life on Saturday, April 11th, 2020 at White River Healthcare in Calico Rock, Arkansas. He was born in Big Flat, Arkansas on October 9th, 1923 to Frank Balentine and Ada Clark Balentine. Warren was a hard worker all of his life. Growing up, he worked on the family farm in Big Flat. As a teenager, he worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1941. He then went to work for his uncle in the Illinois oil fields until he enlisted in the Army on June 1, 1943.

Warren was one of the few remaining WWII Veterans. He served in the 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division and fought in the Pacific Theater on Eniwetok, Saipan, and Okinawa. He was injured while on Okinawa during the Battle of Kakazu Ridge and received a Purple Heart.

After he recovered from his injuries in an Army hospital in Bushnell, Utah, he returned to Big Flat and married Ernestine Wynn on July 7, 1945. He attended Arkansas State Teachers college in Conway, Arkansas, and went on to teach in Big Flat, Marshall and Fifty-Six, Arkansas. Warren was a lifelong cattle farmer, winning Farm Family of the Year in 1969.

He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Ernestine Wynn Balentine; sons Donald (Myra) and Terry (Robbie) Balentine; sister, Betty Balentine Treat; six grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren;

four great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment 1945*

**Ralph O. Balsler**, 95 and 1/2 years old, of Southgate, Ky passed away on September 12, 2020. He was born March 8, 1925 near Bethel, Ohio to Otis and Merdie Balsler. He was married to his wife Jane Lee (nee Scott) Balsler for 72 years. Other surviving family members include daughters, LeeAnne Balsler and Donna Jane (Rick) Hoffman, a granddaughter, Elizabeth Jane (Shaun) Goldston, a grandson, Brian A (Staci) Hoffman, two great grandsons, Andrew and Rylan Hoffman and great granddaughter Abigail Goldston. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. His parents, one brother and two sisters preceded him in death.

He was a proud Veteran of World War II serving overseas in the United States Army in the 27th Infantry Division, the 441 Engineer Depot Company in Yokohama, Japan and the Headquarters of the 8<sup>th</sup> Army Special Services where he was assigned as an office manager of the U. S. Army Hotel Rest Center in Nikko, Japan.

After an honorable discharge from the U. S. Army, Ralph worked for the USA Veterans Administration Regional Office, Cincinnati for 5 years as a Manager of the mail section and distribution of the mail. Ralph worked for 33 and half years at the General Electric Company Aircraft Engine Operation in Evandale, Ohio. At General Electric he served in managerial

positions within the manufacturing operations as a Production Control Manager. He also served as a Manager of Special Services Operations in the Military Product Support Department.

As an employee of GE, he served in leadership roles for the Greater Cincinnati United Appeal and the Cincinnati Arts in campaign drives for funds.

He retired from the General Electric Company in April, 1985 and had been a member of the GE Elfun Society since 1958.

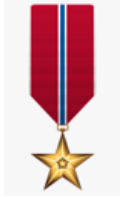


*Association records indicate he served with Company G, 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 1940-1945. It is possible he didn't serve with the 27<sup>th</sup> until after WWII and the 1940-1945 period was spent with the 31<sup>st</sup> as stated in the obituary.*

**Louis Bertuzzi** died Saturday, May 10, 2008, at the age of 96. He was born in New York City on April 29, 1912, the son of John and Fortunato (Mazzacchi) Bertuzzi. The family moved to Oneonta when he was very young. He attended the Oneonta School System and graduated high school with the class of 1932.

A veteran of World War II, he served with the United States Army in the Pacific Theatre of operations. Louis was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for Valor as a member of the 124th Regiment 31st Infantry "Dixie" Division.

After the war, he was employed by the Division of Military and Naval Affairs at the Oneonta State Armory, retiring after 31 years of service.



*106th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company E*

**Ralph Britton Sr.**, 86 years, of Rensselaerville, passed away at St. Peter's Hospital on August 25, 2005. He was born in the town of Westerlo on April 1, 1919, son of the late William and Cora (Peck) Britton.

Ralph served in the U.S. Army from January 1941 through May 1945, and was a corporal in Company E 106th Infantry, 27th Div. He served three years in the Pacific, Majuro in the Marshall Islands, Battle of Saipan in the Marianas and Espirito Santo, New Hebrides. He received the Bronze Star and was given an award for Conspicuous Service by the State of New York.

Following his military service, Ralph worked at the Huyck Mill in Rensselaer, N.Y. as a weaver. Ralph and his wife Magdalena, operated Britton's Soda Fountain in Rensselaerville, for nearly 20 years. He was postmaster in Rensselaerville for 26 years. Ralph was a charter member of the Rensselaerville Vol. Fire Co., serving as treasurer for 37 years. He was also a member of the Clark White Post American Legion for 57 years and a member of the 27th Div. Association (Post 11) for many years.

Surviving is his devoted wife of 59 years, Magdalena (Preisner) Britton; his loving children, Ralph Britton Jr. and his wife Patricia of Ravena, N.Y., Eileen Britton of Oakhill, N.Y., Diana Fritz and her husband Kenneth of Rensselaerville; his dear grandchildren, Brian and Michael Britton, Kimberly Henlin and her husband David, John Kotuc, Stephanie Stepp, Seth and Daniel Fritz.



*106th Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company D*

**Edward F. Bubas**, age 89 of Merrillville, formerly of Glen Park, passed away Wednesday, December 8, 2010. Ed is survived by his wife, Ann; three children: Edward M. Bubas of Dunedin, FL, David (Mary) Bubas of Plano, TX, and Gail (Steve) Selee of Clearwater, FL; one granddaughter, Stephanie Bubas of Plano, TX; one sister, Frances Ballard of Hobart, IN; one brother, Victor (Tootie) Bubas of Bluffton, SC; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ed was a WWII Army veteran serving in the South Pacific. After the service, he returned home and joined his father in the family hardware store on 38th and Broadway in Glen Park. He then moved the business to Hobart and the new store was called Villa Shores Hardware and Gifts. The business remained in Hobart until Ed retired. He often commented that he had a long and happy retirement.



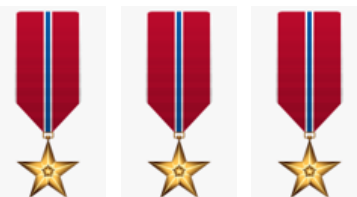
*106th Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company A*

**Rocco Caputo**, 89, of Colonie died Saturday, May 5, 2007 at St. Peter's Hospital after a long illness. Rocco was born in Albany; he was the son of the late Jerome and Anna Picciano Caputo. He was a graduate of Albany High School and Albany Business College, and had been a lifelong area resident.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran serving in World War II in the 27th Division and fought in the Pacific Theater, including the Battle of Saipan, where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart.

Rocco worked for the New York State Department of Labor for 34 years, retiring as a senior account clerk in 1980.

Rocco is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 58 years, Rose Carbonare Caputo; beloved father of Robert Caputo and his wife Cheryl; dear brother of Madeline Pierle of Albany, Esther Jasinski of Colonie, Benjamin Caputo of Colonie, and the late Frank Caputo, Daniel Caputo, and Nancy Geragosian; he is also survived by several loving nieces and nephews.



*106th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Headquarters & Headquarters Company*

**Nicholas J. Cavallaro**, 88, of Binghamton, passed away Sunday, January 13, 2008, at the New York State Veterans Home, Oxford.

He is survived his wife of 61 years, Mary J. Randesi Cavallaro, Binghamton; a daughter, Marie A. Cavallaro, Salisbury, Md.; a son, Nicholas A. Cavallaro, Houston, Tex.; a grandson, Ian N. Quillen, Williamsport, Pa.; a sister, Anna Lipka, Binghamton; sister-in-law, Ellie Cavallaro; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Nicholas served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the Pacific as First Sergeant with the 106th Infantry and was a life member of V.F.W. 2332, member of the 27th Division and Past National Commander of the 27th Division Association and member of D.A.V. Chapter 60. He was a retired independent insurance agent.

*106 Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion,  
Company G & Service Company*

**William W. Ellsworth**, 95, formerly of Des Moines, passed away on Saturday, May 10, 2014 in Sun City, AZ.

Bill served during WWII in the 27th Infantry Division and was part of the Asiatic-Pacific Theater in Saipan, Okinawa, and Eniwetok. He received 3 bronze stars, an American Defense Medal, Theater Medal with Arrowhead denoting landing on hostile shores, three Battle Stars, Victory Medal, and Combat Infantryman Badge. After the war, he enlisted in the Army Reserve with the 103rd Division in Ft. Des Moines. He retired from the Reserve in 1975.

He was a 50-year member of the Masons, member of the Scottish Rite, and Des Moines Shrine #43. Bill started working in 1938 for the Des Moines Union Railroad, the Milwaukee Wabash, and Norfolk and Western (now Norfolk Southern).

He retired in 1981. He moved to Sun City, AZ where he and his wife, Kathryn, joined the Sun City Posse and served for 20 years. He was awarded Posse Member of the Year and became Commander in 1993. He retired in 2004.

Bill is survived by his son William (Sharon) of Peoria, AZ, daughter Janet "Jan" Ellsworth of Des Moines, daughter Karen Mahon of Glendale, AZ, grandson Thomas Ellsworth of Peoria, AZ, and granddaughter Kristin Mattorano of Colorado Springs, CO.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company A and 27<sup>th</sup> Military Police Platoon 1942-1945*

**Carl Franklin Eman**, 84 years of age, of Oxford, passed away on Wednesday, October 4, 2006 at the Phelps Memorial Health Center in Holdrege, Nebraska. Carl was born May 15, 1922 at Oxford, one of seven children of Oscar and Bessie (Shields) Eman. He received his education at Oxford, graduating from Oxford High School with the class of 1940. Following his education,

Carl was employed by the Burlington Northern Railroad at Oxford, where he worked in the roundhouse repairing locomotive engines.

On November 4, 1942, Carl was inducted into the United States Army serving his country during WWII until his honorable discharge on October 19, 1945.

Following his service, he returned to Oxford where Carl enjoyed his passion of playing semi-pro baseball. On August 5, 1951 he was united in marriage to Virginia Flynn and to this union four children were born: Geraldine, Carla, Glenn and Virgil. The family made their home in Oxford, where Carl was employed by the United States Postal Service as Postmaster until his retirement in 1981. Through the

years, he was also a janitor at the school, school bus driver, cemetery caretaker, ran the Dairy Queen, managed the swimming pool and coached Legion Baseball. Carl was an avid bowler, pool player, card player and loved to attend sporting events.

He was a member of the Tehama Temple Masonic Lodge, and charter member of the V.F.W. Post #5437 in Oxford where he held every office through the years, life member of the American Legion Post #219, and held numerous offices with the local and state legions.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company H*

**Stanley W. Gardner** of Johnson City, 92, passed away Sunday (13 November, 2011) at his home. He was predeceased by his parents Rita and John Gardner, sister and brother-in-law Regina and Leo Pelton. He is survived by his loving wife of 68 years Esther Kolanda Gardner, son Timothy, sister Dorothy Dickinson, also several other family members. He was a veteran of WWII serving in the 27th Army Division. He retired from IBM after 25 years and was a member of the VFW and Past National Commander and the 27th Division Association. He was a member of the Binghamton Elks Club, and the Johnson City American Legion.



**Major General Howard G. Garrison** formerly of Johnson City. The General passed away on September 14, 2007 after a lengthy illness. Survivors include his son, Steve Garrison and his wife, Cindy;

his grandchildren, Scott Garrison, Atlanta, Ga., and Laura Brook and her husband, Dan, Alpharetta, Ga.; his great-grandchild, Alexandre Boulet; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. The retired General was born in Vestal Center, New York, and maintained his home in Johnson City, N.Y., for over 60 years.

In 1940, as a young soldier, his Army National Guard unit 106th Regiment of the 27th Division from Upstate New York was activated to Ft. McClellan, AL. While stationed at the Fort, he met his wife, the former Helen Cannon. He and Helen lived in Johnson City until 1989 when they moved to Anniston. MG Garrison lived in Anniston until 2005 when he moved to Glencoe, AL. MG Garrison was a decorated combat veteran with Merrill's Marauders and fought in Burma at the battle of Myitkyna.

After the war he had two concurrent careers, one as a senior manager with the IBM Corporation and another with the Army National Guard. He rose to the rank of Major General in command of the 42nd Infantry, a division of 15,000 men. His uninterrupted military career lasted 42 years until he retired in 1978.

He was a member of the Airborne Association, the VFW, American Legion and the Ends of the Earth Society. He loved his country and for many years he was honored to participate in local Memorial and

Veteran events that recognized those who served in the armed forces both past and present.

The General was a true hero to his family and friends; his generous nature, dignity and love of family and friends will always be remembered by those who knew him and loved him.



*106th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company E*

**Peter Korba**, 84, passed away on Wednesday, December 24, 2003, with his family present while visiting his daughter in Florida. He was a devoted husband to his late wife, Anna, and a loving father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, as well as a friend to those who knew him. He is survived and will be greatly missed by his daughter, Mary Ann Crowley; a son and daughter-in-law, George and Patricia Korba; a daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Mark Plichta; grandchildren, Jennifer and husband Richard, Mary Beth and husband Ryan, Kristin and husband Jeremy, Jamie and wife Melissa, Jeremy, Derek and wife Amanda, and Dustin; two great-grandchildren, Joey and Aidan, and Peter was anxiously awaiting the birth of his first great-granddaughter, Lilianna; his sister, Mary; three brothers, Andrew, George, and sister-in-law Julie, Edward and sister-in-law Irene; sister-in-law, Delores; and brother-in-law, John and wife Marion; and numerous nieces and nephews. He served honorably during WWII in the 27th Infantry Division, where he was wounded on Saipan. Peter and Anna formerly owned and operated Korba's Restaurant in Binghamton for 22 years, and retired after 10 years of service from SUNY Binghamton.

*106th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G*

**Harold M. Larsen**, 90, Lake Geneva, WI and Clearwater, FL. Beloved husband of Joyce, nee Foster. Served in the United States Army Infantry during WWII. Father of Donna (Michael) Gatlin, Lombard, IL; grandfather of two; great-grandfather of four.



*106th Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion, Company I*

**John A. Munka**, 90, passed away Monday, June 7, 2010. He was born in Akron and was retired from Ampco Inc.

He a veteran of the United States Army serving during World War II. Mr. Munka served in the 27th Division 106th Infantry I Company. He served in the South Pacific Theatre of the Saipan and Mariana Islands. He was awarded both the Bronze and Silver Stars for bravery and gallantry in action. He loved his grandchildren and singing.

He always had a good joke and was always ready to help someone. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Anna Marie; three children, Maryann (Ralph) Gault, Kitty (Skip) Scherer and John "Chip" Munka; 17 grandchildren, Ralph (April), Christian (Jaime), Daniel, Andrew (Robyn), Anne, Catherine, John, Michael, Nicholas, Benjamin and Maximilian Gault, Nathan (Lindsey) Putzier, Katiann and Katrina Scherer, Dustin Grams and Rachel and Alex Munka; six great-grandchildren; brothers, Fred (Doris) and Joe (Pat) Munka; sisters, Katherine Bryson and Maryjane (Dan) McCorkle; sister-in-law, Agnes Munka; and many nieces and nephews.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G  
1940-1945*

**Philip T. Pincher**, 85, of Valley View Blvd., formerly of Castleton, N.Y., went to live with the Lord on Saturday, April 10, 2004 at the Julie Blair Nursing Home in Albany, after a long illness. Born in Green Island, N.Y., the son of the late Barbara Tornesello and Pasquale Pincher. Mr. Pincher was educated in Watervliet and was employed by the former Behr

Manning, now the Norton Company and Nashau Company for a total of 30 years, retiring in 1981.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving five years in the South Pacific. He was wounded on Saipan and awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for Valor.

He was a member of V.F.W. Post #7337 of Castleton, a member of Emmanuel Reformed Church in Castleton where he was a Deacon of the Greater Consistory and also a member of the Rensselaer Elks and the Troy Norton Retirees Club. Beloved husband of 36 years of Marie Grooten Pincher; father of Phyllis Pincher of Albany; brother of Rose Halse and Viola Lawrence.

*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company H*

**Milan Planavsky**, 83, of Binghamton, passed away Monday morning, June 14, 2004, at Willow Point Nursing Home. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Helen Planavsky, Binghamton; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Richard and Wendy Planavsky, Buffalo, N.Y., Dan Planavsky, Binghamton; five grandchildren and their spouses, Tracey and Josh, David and Janice, Michelle and Kevin, Heather and Jerry, and Jason; eight great-grandchildren; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Evelyn and Herman Cower, Vlasta and Floyd LaClair; one sister-in-law, Ethel Planavsky; a special godchild and her family from N.J., Helen and Steve Hodul, Steve and Linda Hodul, Scott and Carol Hoffman, and their families; special nieces and their families, Linda and Jeanie, and other nieces and nephews. Milan was a lifelong member of Ascension Lutheran Church, Binghamton. He was a retired employee of the N.Y. Telephone Company, and was a veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Army.

*"We remember those who were called upon to give all a person can give, and we remember those who were prepared to make that sacrifice if it were demanded of them in the line of duty, though it never was. Most of all, we remember the devotion and gallantry with which all of them ennobled their nation as they became champions of a noble cause."*

*Ronald Reagan*





*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion, Company L*

**Robert J. Prusha**, 89 of Marshalltown entered into eternal life Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at the Iowa Veterans Home.

Division [?]. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Army during World War II. Walter was a life-member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Walton American Legion where he was also past Post Commander. Tink also received the Good Conduct Medal after returning from WWII. He was also a member of the Catholic War Veterans in Elmira Heights. Tink loved to socialize (talk), hunt and fish, but most of all Walter loved to attend his grandchildren's sports events and to spend time with them by playing or swimming. Tink was an avid sports fan and played semi-professional baseball with a Boston Red Sox Farm Club.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company B*

**Harvey D. Steffen**, 93, of Las Vegas, died Nov. 26, 2005. He was a sales manager and served in the U.S. National Guard. He is survived by his daughter, Mary Potter of Las Vegas; and son, Harvey Jr., of San Antonio.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company F*

**Walter E. "Tink" Roe, Jr.**, age 83, formerly of Horseheads, NY, and currently residing in Corning, NY, went to be with his Lord on Friday, July 16, 2004, at the Arnot Ogden Medical Center. He was born on August 4, 1920 in Walton, NY, to the late Walter and Barbara (Wormsley) Roe, Sr. Tink is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, Terrell and Eileen Roe of Orlando, FL, and Kirt and Patricia Roe of Corning, NY; sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy and Raymond Baldi of Walton, NY; grandchildren, Terrell (Ann) Roe of Albany, NY, Chantal (Paul) Avila of Pasadena, CA, Kirt Roe of Elmira, Brandon and Christopher Roe, both of Corning, NY; great-grandchildren, Luke and Ava Roe, both of Albany. Tink was retired from the New York State Armory



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, Company B  
1941-1945*

**Robert J. Stefferson** of Mattituck died Dec. 16, 2010, at Peconic Bay Medical Center in Riverhead. He was 92 years old. Mr. Stefferson was born in New York City on August 25, 1918, to William and Sophie (née Mikanik) Stefferson.

He served in the United States Army during World War II and later enjoyed a long career as a photo engraver with Master Eagle Photo Engraving in New York City.

Prior to moving to the North Fork 17 years ago, he had lived in Coram and, for many years, in New Hyde Park. He is survived by his son, Robert Jr. and his wife, Lori Stefferson of Marathon, NY.



*106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G  
1940-1945*

**Joseph Tessitore Jr.**, 85, of Oneonta, passed away Saturday, March 10, 2007, at his residence with his loving family at his side. He was born Jan. 10, 1922, in Schenevus, the son of Joseph and Anna (Stalata) Tessitore Sr. He married Ann Molinari on June 22, 1947, in St. Mary's Church.

Joe served in the United States Army Company G, 106th Infantry during World War II. He was discharged as a staff sergeant.

He worked as a brakeman for the D&H railroad for 35 years, retiring in 1981. For 35 years, Joe was a part-time associate with the Lester R. Grummons Funeral Home. He also was associated with Walter Rothery and John D. Murphy, predecessors to Les Grummons. He also held memberships in the Brotherhood of Railway Trainman, Oneonta VFW and American Legion, and the Young at Heart Club of St. Mary's Church. In earlier years, he enjoyed bowling, as well as being an avid Yankees fan.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ann M. Tessitore of Oneonta; his children, Richard A. Tessitore and his wife, Barbara, of Oneonta, Paulette M. Rogers and her husband, Terry, of Sandyville, WV, and Joanne M. Hanzalik and her husband, Tom, of Guilderland; his grandchildren, Joseph, Matthew, and Thomas Hanzalik, and Ann Marie Dowling; two great-grandchildren, Aiden and Liam Hanzalik.



**Bernard L. "Bernie" Wathen**, 93, of Evansville, IN passed away Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at Deaconess Hospital. Bernie was born on May 22, 1922 in Morganfield, KY to the late John B. and Mary (Luckett) Wathen.

Bernie was a World War II Veteran, serving three years in the South Pacific with the 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Company G, 106th Infantry as a Sergeant.

He was a graduate of Lockyears Business College and he also attended the University of Evansville. He was a lifetime member of the Evansville Personnel Association and was a past president. He was also a Kentucky Colonel. Bernie was a member of Christ the King Catholic Church, a member of the Men's Club, Knights of Columbus, Holy Father Council 7544, and a 4th degree member of Monsignor Sprigler Assembly. Bernie retired from Ball Plastics (formerly Kent Plastics) after serving 30 years as the Personnel Director, and from Drosste's Jewelry Shoppe for 20 years.

He flew to Washington D.C. on the May 2015 Honor Flight to be honored by his country.

He is survived by his sons; Stephen L. Wathen of Henderson, Ky, John B. Wathen of Evansville, his daughter, Ellen M. Wathen of Evansville, his grandchildren; Rebecca Skaggs (Clay), Joseph Wathen, Doug Wathen (Mallory), Christopher Wathen, several great grandchildren, sisters; Betty Stumpf, Eddmarie Padgett, his brother, Thomas Wathen, and numerous nieces and nephews.



# 165th Infantry Regiment "The Fighting Sixty-Ninth"



*165<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Headquarters Company*

**Anthony P. Daddato**, born on 01 January, 1922 and passed on 21 February, 2013. He was a resident of Long Island City, NY.

*165<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company H  
Hawaii, Makin, Saipan, & Okinawa*

**Roy S. Lazio**, U.S. Army World War II Veteran. Beloved husband of Grace (nee Ioppolo); son of Gaetano and Josephine Lazio (both deceased); dear brother of Joseph (deceased), Rose Ward, Edward, August, Mary Hitchcock, Tom and John (deceased); loving uncle to many.

Nora Keegan Lynch. Mr. Lynch was born in Nanticoke, Pa., December 20, 1923, son of the late Thomas and Mary Mc Andrew Lynch and was a Derby resident since 1959.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Pacific Theatre, Saipan, and Okinawa, Sgt. in the 165th Infantry Regiment (Old Fighting 69th) Company K and was decorated with the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He was a member of the Corps 69th Regiment, Military Order of the Purple Heart, American Legion Post 24, DAV.

He was a past captain of the East End Hose Co, and was employed for many years as a toolmaker at Atlantic Wire in Branford, and was also employed at the former Star Pin Co. in Shelton. Tom enjoyed many years of travels with his wife, especially enjoying attending World War II veterans' reunions.

He was the beloved father of Kevin Lynch and his wife, Deborah of Southbury, and Patrick Lynch of West Haven; the brother of Mary DiBattista and her husband, Lee of Milford, Joseph Lynch of Cheshire, and Anne Lisk of Milford. He is the cherished grandfather of Kevin and Emma Lynch and Brenda Lynch, and also leaves several nieces and nephews.



*Association records indicate he served with Company G 165<sup>th</sup> Infantry. It is possible that he transferred to the 864<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion which served on New Guinea and Luzon in the Philippines.*

**Thomas R. Lynch**, age 86 of Derby, entered into rest on Monday, December 28, 2009 in CT Hospice Branford. He was the devoted husband of the late

**Harold "Had" Robinson**, 84, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009, after a 15-month battle with kidney failure. He remained at home with his wife and family.

Had was born Nov. 9, 1924, to Ellery S. and Jennie A. Sholler Patchell Robinson, in a one-room schoolhouse at the Ashland town line. Family included Walter Patchell, Monroe, Pauline, Lillian, Glynn, Vernon and Chester.

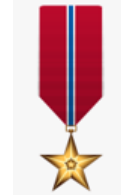
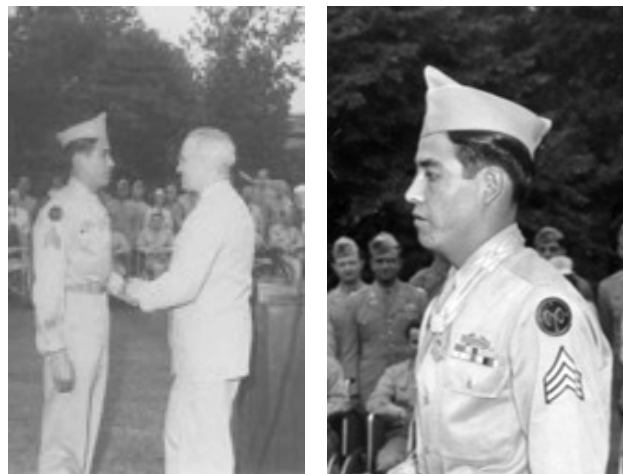
He walked six- and one-half miles to high school in Masardis for two years and graduated from Ashland High School in 1943. He worked on his father's farm and for Newl Smith in the potato house. He married Alice Snow, Dec. 28, 1944, and then went into the Army, Jan. 15, 1945.

He was a member of 864 Aviation Engineers from the 27th Infantry Division on Okinawa, Japan, and attended reunions in South Carolina and New Mexico.

Harold started working for Bangor and Aroostook Railroad in April 1947 and worked there for 37 years and eight months. His job took him from Searsport to Madawaska and on his last day of work he pitched his dinner pail into the woods. Harold was a member of the American Legion, lifetime member of Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way as well as VFW Post No. 9699 of Ashland. He proudly rode in the parade in Masardis on Memorial Day, 2009. He served as Sunday school superintendent of Rockwell Baptist Church, Masardis, and enjoyed giving everyone a ride to church that needed one. He recently organized reunions for retired railroad workers.

Harold was an avid reader, he especially enjoyed Westerns and history. He loved to travel, especially to the coast and Canada, taking the grandchildren along and letting them drive. Because he was a people person, he often could run into people he knew when he traveled.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Alice; a daughter, Hallie McKee and her son, Jason Barlett; a daughter, Joan Whipple and her husband, Donald, their children, Dawn and her husband, Philip Roberts, Robbin Whipple and Pam Bennett; great-grandchildren, Katherine Roberts, Amanda Whipple, Blake Vincent and Hunter Whipple; many nieces and nephews. superintendent of Rockwell Baptist Church, Masardis, and enjoyed giving everyone a ride to church that needed one.



*Company A 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 165<sup>th</sup> Infantry*

**Alejandro R. Ruiz Sr.**, an Army infantryman during World War II who received the Medal of Honor for single-handedly storming a Japanese machine gun bunker -- twice -- during the Battle of Okinawa, died of congestive heart failure 20 November, 2009 at a hospital in Napa, CA. He was 85.

On April 28, 1945, in the last months of the war, the private first class deployed to Okinawa on a mission with his platoon, seeking remnants of a Japanese battalion hiding in fortified emplacements on steep ridges near the village of Gasukuma. During World War II, the conquest of the Japanese island of Okinawa was considered vital for the Allied forces as a step towards an invasion of the Japanese mainland. The invasion (*codenamed Operation Iceberg*) was the largest amphibious operation of the Pacific war, and involved units of the U.S. Tenth Army, commanded by Lieutenant General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr. These units consisted of III Amphibious Corps (1st and 6th Marine Divisions, with 2nd Marine Division as an afloat reserve), and XXIV Corps (7th, 77th, 96th and 27th Infantry Divisions).

## Medal of Honor

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, 165th Infantry, 27th Infantry Division.

Place and date: Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, 28 April 1945.

**Citation:** *When his unit was stopped by a skillfully camouflaged enemy pillbox, he displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. His squad, suddenly brought under a hail of machinegun fire and a vicious grenade attack, was pinned down. Jumping to his feet, Pfc. Ruiz seized an automatic rifle and lunged through the flying grenades and rifle and automatic fire for the top of the emplacement. When an enemy soldier charged him, his rifle jammed. Undaunted, Pfc. Ruiz whirled on his assailant and clubbed him down.*

*Then he ran back through bullets and grenades, seized more ammunition and another automatic rifle, and again made for the pillbox. Enemy fire now was concentrated on him, but he charged on, miraculously reaching the position, and in plain view he climbed to the top. Leaping from one opening to another, he sent burst after burst into the pillbox, killing 12 of the enemy and completely destroying the*

*position. Pfc. Ruiz's heroic conduct, in the face of overwhelming odds, saved the lives of many comrades and eliminated an obstacle that long would have checked his unit's advance.*

On 26 June 1946, President Harry S. Truman presented Ruiz with the Medal of Honor in a ceremony held at the White House. He spent his career in the Army. He also served in the Korean War and retired as a master sergeant in the mid-1960s. Ruiz often recounted the circumstances that led to his Army service. As a teenager working in odd jobs for a cattle farmer in Carlsbad, N.M., he had been asked to drive a cow to another farm when he became distracted by thoughts of a girlfriend. He drove, with the cow in tow, straight to Barstow, Texas, 122 miles away, to woo the young woman into marrying him. Ruiz was detained, and a judge told him that he would either be sent to jail for stealing the cow, or he could enlist in the Army to stay out of trouble.

He chose the Army.

Survivors include two children from his first marriage, Celia Ruiz and Alejandro Ruiz Jr., both of Berkeley; a sister; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.





# 108th Infantry Regiment

## “Virtute Non Verbis”



*CSM of the 108th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion*

**Richard A. D'Eredita**, 80, passed on February 15, 2018 from liver cancer with his family by his side. Richard was born November 20, 1937 in Syracuse, NY to Anthony D'Eredita and Dorothy Sembrat. He graduated from North Side High School in 1956 and joined the Marines. After the Marines he worked at Bristol Laboratories for many years.

He joined the Army National Guard and rose up the ranks to Command Sergeant Major earning the Legion of Merit and Meritorious Service Medal along with multiple Army Achievement Medals and Army Commendation Medals. He was the OIC/NCOIC of the Counter Drug Task/Narco-Terrorism Task Force at Fort Drum, NY.

He was awarded a Plaque of Achievement from the Governor for the eradication of over 100,000 marijuana plants in New York State in one year. After retirement Richard & Pat relocated to Maine where they ran the gift shop, The Happy Cricket.

He leaves his loving wife, Pat (Trish); children in Syracuse; stepchildren, John (Nancy) Betts; Kelly (Fred) Ortega and Kim Betts (Steve); grandchildren, Alana Betts (Justin), Amanda (Jon) Slack, Ashley Betts, Abby Betts; and great grandchildren, nieces and their families. He also leaves his brother, Cosmo (Gertrude) D'Eredita; sisters, Theresa (Paul) Elmstrom, Mary (Brian) Sallinsky, Cathy Mattison, David Mattison and Robert Mattison.



*108th Infantry Regiment, 2d Battalion, Company G*

**Jack B. Howey**, 79, of Nichols, passed away unexpectedly Monday, April 14, 2008. Mr. Howey was born October 24, 1928 in Oneonta, N.Y., to the late Morris and Eva Burrell Howey.

Jack is survived by his wife, Audrey; son, Clark Howey, Smithville Flats; stepsons, Mark (Suzanne) Cole, Huber Heights, Ohio, Tom (Annie) Rupp, Port St. Lucie, Fla., Henry (Gail) Rupp, Jefferson, N.Y.; stepdaughters, Tammy (Lonnie) Gordon, Mooresville, N.C., Ellen (Jeff) Barber, Wellsbridge, N.Y.; sister, Maureen (James) Greeley, Oneonta, N.Y.; grandchildren, Maria, Randi, Chance, Andrew, Amanda, Justin; three great-grandchildren, Christian Lopez, Justin Mathew Howey, Shea Barber; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mr. Howey had 29 years of military service, having served during the Korean War in the 27th Infantry Division with the K-MAG Unit and retired as Captain in 1974 from the 204th Engineer Battalion of the National Guard. He led a full life as a past commander and life member of the Owego VFW Post #1371, member American Legion, Quiet Birdmen, Binghamton Hanger, and Harris Hill Soaring Corporation.

Jack obtained a pilot license at the age of 16, before he was able to drive a car. He was a pilot instructor for the Triple Cities Soaring Society, retired from Hadco Corp., and was currently employed at CINTAS, Director of the Tioga County Veteran's Administration, and part-time Designated Pilot Examiner with the FAA.



*108<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Service Company*

**Donald Rapp, Sr.** 93, passed away at the Baldomero-Lopez State Veterans' Nursing Facility on Sunday, February 19th, 2012. A native of Syracuse, NY, he served in the US Army 108th NY Infantry during WWII in the South Pacific. After a career in sales, he retired to Zephyrhills where he was a member of the Elks Lodge and Our Savior Lutheran Church. He enjoyed traveling, dancing and singing in the church choir.



In 2001, he joined M&T Bank as vice president of the corporate real estate department and managed a portfolio of more than 565 leased and owned properties. He joined the New York Army National Guard in 1992. He was deployed to Afghanistan in 2007-08 as deputy director of plans and operations for Combined Joint Task Force - Phoenix VII in Kabul. His military honors included the Legion of Merit.

For the Army National Guard, he was deputy director of plans and operations from 2002 to 2005, director of operations from 2005 to 2007, an executive officer from 2006 to 2007 and director of plans and operations from 2008 to 2011. In 2011, he became battalion commander for the Second Squadron of the 101st Cavalry with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Survivors include his wife of 21 years, the former Rosanne Coniglio; a son, Robert J. III; his mother and stepfather, Sharon and Charles "Rick" Kilburn; a brother, Clinton; and a sister, Sara Perdue.



**Robert J. Williams**, of Amherst, vice president of corporate real estate at M&T Bank and a battalion commander in the New York Army National Guard, died Thursday (27 February, 2014) in Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center after a struggle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

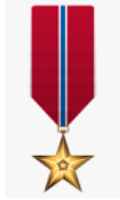
He was 44. Born in Buffalo, he was a graduate of City Honors School and SUNY Buffalo State. He earned his law degree from the University at Buffalo in 1997. Mr. Williams began his career as an attorney at the firm of Bouvier O'Conner, then spent three years as an attorney with Benderson Development Co.





# 104th Field Artillery Battalion

## “Semper Paratus”



*104th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion, Battery C*

*1940 – 1945, served on Saipan and Okinawa*

**Stephen J. Behil**, 84, of Endwell, went to be with the Lord, on Friday, November 15, 2002, at Wilson Memorial Hospital.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Genevieve (Jane Kozlowski) Behil; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Rose and Frank Ivan, Mary Ann and Henry Pochily; brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Barbara Behil; two sisters-in-law, Joan Behil and Pearl Zvolensky, Endwell. His life was also surrounded by his many nieces and nephews that loved him very much, and also several cousins in Michigan. Stephen was a member of St. Ann's Church, Binghamton, it's Holy Name Society, and also a Church Trustee and Usher.

He served his country from 1940 to 1945 in the US Army 27th Division (Artillery) as a Forward Observer and was a National Secretary of the 27th Division. He participated in the battles of Saipan and Okinawa. As a result of his meritorious actions, he was awarded the Bronze Star.

After the service he was employed by Endicott Johnson Shoe Corp. for eight years and later IBM Corp., retiring in 1983 after 30 years of service.

*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Battery A*

**James A. Collar**, 94, of Weedsport, passed away Monday in Auburn Community Hospital after becoming ill at home. Born in Ilion, Jim lived in

Weedsport for the past 30 years. He was a self-employed painting contractor and later he was employed for 10 years at Wegmans in Fairmount. Jim was an Army veteran of WWII.

Surviving are two daughters, Joan Collar of Weedsport, and Patricia (Steven) Fleet of Chapel Hill, TN; a son, James Collar of Phoenix, NY; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



*104th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion, Battery B*

**Clifford G. Cosler** passed away Friday morning, February 16, 2001 at his home. He is predeceased by his parents, Viola Mae and George Cosler; his brother, Leon Cosler; and his grandson, Kevin Munley. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Flora (Tanner) Cosler; daughters and sons-in-law, Richard and Carol Powell, Walter and Beverly Bacher, and Edward and Coralee Munley;

grandchildren, Mark and Amy Powell, Jeffrey and Mary (Powell) Weyant, Daniel and Wendy Bacher, Kevin and Susan Laubach, Joe and Jennifer Uholik, Jonathan and Mary Jo Munley, Ryan, Timothy and Keith Munley; great-grandchildren, Corey, Ashley, Kasey, Jamie, Kevie, Leah and Cassidy; sister, Laura Ryder; brother and sister-in-law, Gordan and Estella Cosler; sister-in-law, Esther (Russell) Marshall; special friends, Leona Adams and Frances Link; several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Cosler was a World War II Army veteran and a member of the American Legion.



He was employed at the Spaulding Bakery for 43 years, after which he worked at the Broome Community College until his retirement.

*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion,  
Battery C 1950-1961*

**John Edward "Jack" Donnelly**, 77, of Syracuse, passed away peacefully on March 25, 2007. Born August 2, 1929, Jack was a loving father, father-in-law, grandfather and a devoted husband. He will always be remembered as someone who gave of himself without any thought of reward and as someone who was always there when his family, friends or co-workers needed him.

Jack was a veteran of the U.S. Army and proudly served his country during the Korean War.

He was a graduate of Central Tech High School and LeMoyne College. He was a lifetime employee of Carrier Corporation in Syracuse until his retirement in 1987 and taught computer classes at Cayuga Community College.

He is survived by his spouse, Margaret Donnelly; his children, Carol D. Stevens of Windham, NY, Mary Kay Donnelly of Liverpool, NY, Patrick Donnelly and his wife, Laureen, of Camillus, NY, and Brian Donnelly and his wife, Deena, of Brewerton, NY. He is also survived by his five beloved grandchildren, Jamie Donnelly, Jillian and Kimberly Stevens, and Maggie and Kevin Donnelly.

*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion,  
Battery C*

**Frank W. Frieser**, 86, formerly of Endwell, died at Wilson Memorial Hospital Saturday, October 8, 2005. He is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Margie Frieser, Fernandina, Fla., and Edward and Nancy Frieser, Endwell; his grandchildren, Suzanne and Richard Lisboa and John and Joseph Frieser; a sister, Maybelle Rothrock, Hayward, CA.; also, several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was a member of Endwell United Methodist Church and retired GAF Corp. employee.

Frank was also a veteran of WW II, serving in the US Army 27th Division and was a member of the American Legion Post 82, Endicott, NY.



*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion,  
Battery A*

**Clifton E. Mason**, age 93, passed away on Sunday evening, May 29, 2011 at the E.J. Noble Hospital, Gouverneur. Mr. Mason was born on April 26, 1918 in Antwerp. He was the son of the late Ernest and Agnes (Reynolds) Mason. He graduated Antwerp High School in 1936 and served as a Corporal in Battery "A" of the 104th Battalion in the U.S. Army in the Western Pacific World War II.

Clifton worked as a jeweler for twenty-three years. He had also worked as a rural mail carrier for thirty-three years before retiring.

He was a member of the Gouverneur United Methodist Church, the VFW, American Legion, and the Rural Carrier Association.

His survivors include three sons and their wives, Alan C. (Joan), Arnold E. (Joan) Mason, and Andrew M. (Deborah) Mason all of Gouverneur; two daughters, Alice F. and Joseph Malec of Plano, TX, Amy A. Pilon of Gouverneur; a brother and his wife, Dean (Betty) Mason of Gouverneur;

14 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Frieda Mason of Sackets Harbor; and several nieces and nephews.



**Peter A. Sawicki**, 91, of Binghamton passed away peacefully at Lourdes Hospital surrounded by his family on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rose Sawicki, Binghamton; his children and their spouses, Peter & Rita Sawicki, Vestal, Paul Sawicki, Endwell, Pamela & David Martin, Fairport, Philip & Patricia Sawicki, Frank Sawicki, Hope & Walter Pragacz, all of Binghamton; seven grandchildren, Peter J. Sawicki, Endwell, Connor & Keri Martin, Fairport, Ryan (Loftus) Sawicki & Christopher Sawicki, both of Binghamton, Andrew Pragacz, Minnesota, and Brian Pragacz, Binghamton; a great-grandchild, Tristin Loftus, Binghamton; Godchildren, Tina Sawicki, Binghamton, Cheryl Orzel-Teris, Vestal, and Joseph Slavik, Endicott; and a sister-in-law, Susan Sawicki, Endicott.

Dad was a veteran of WWII, serving in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operations with Battery B 104 Field Artillery, 27th Division. He was also in the European Theatre of Operation with Battery C 284th Field Artillery, Third Army; his unit liberated Buchenwald. Dad helped reorganize the 104 F.A. Bn. 27th Division in November 1947. He was a member of the Army National Guard, retiring after 26 years of service.

He was awarded the European Theatre of Operations medal with four battle stars, the American Defense Service Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Medal. Dad was a charter member of the American Legion, Chester J. Jaskiewicz, Post 1305, a member of the VFW Post 2332 in Johnson City, and a Lifetime Member of the NRA. He was employed by Ansco/GAF Corp. for 36 years.



*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion,  
Battery B*

**Frank L. Sullivan**, 93, formerly Windsor, NY, passed away at Good Shepherd Fairview Home, Binghamton, NY. He is survived by a sister, Rita Ehrensberger, Windsor, N.Y.; cousins, James and Dolores Kenney, Windsor, NY; and a special friend, Leo Quinn. Frank was an Army veteran of WWII, a member of the VFW, Binghamton, NY, and a member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Great Bend, PA. He retired from the D&H Railroad in 1975.



*104<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Battery C*

**Elwood C. (Woody) Thorp**, 89, of Vestal went to be with the Lord Sunday, October 17, 2010 at home surrounded by his daughters. He is survived by his two daughters, Janet Rafferty, Apalachin, Debra and Jerry Hares, Auburn; his grandchildren, Brian Rafferty and Tori, Kristen Rafferty, Lisa Baribeau and Jason Kyle Hares and Stacey; great-grandchildren, Christopher, Emily, Lena and Caleb; sister, Yulia Selser, Binghamton; sisters-in-law, Lola Thorp, Texas, Hedy Wood, Binghamton, June Kohl, MN; several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was a Veteran of WWII serving in the US Army 27<sup>th</sup> Division. He was a member of American legion Post #89 Vestal, also the VFW. A Loyal employee of IBM Endicott with 31yrs of service, and a member of its quarter century club.



*Copies of Operation Leapfrog are available to Association members at each Reunion*

**Leigh Malcolm Trowbridge**. The Greatest Generation has lost one of its finest. Leigh Malcolm Trowbridge, a World War II veteran who served 2 1/2 years in the Central Pacific, passed away on June 28, 2004. He was 87 years old. He attended public schools in Columbia and graduated

from the University of Missouri there in 1939, receiving a B. and P.A. degree.

Upon graduation he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Field Artillery. On October 12, 1940 he married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Jane Hill. Following graduation, he worked for the International Harvester Company in Kansas until the beginning of World War II.

One month after World War II was declared he was on active duty at Camp Roberts, California, training enlistees and draftees in the art of military and artillery.

He then spent three months at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, at the Field Artillery School. Then it was back to California, from where he was sent overseas to Oahu, Hawaii where he was assigned to the 27th Infantry Division. The Division was set up in defense of the southern half of Oahu.

After intense combat training his regimental combat team was sent to the Marshall Islands, where his unit fought and helped secure Eniwetok Atoll. The next venture was at Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas Islands. He then went to Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides Islands for rest and resupply. The Division then sailed to Okinawa, which was the last land battle of World War II. He then flew to Japan as part of the occupation force.

Before retiring from the military, he was promoted to Lt. Colonel after serving in the Army Reserve.

In recent years he received great joy from the 2003 publication of his World War II memoirs, Operation Leap Frog. He is survived by his children, Leigh Malcolm (Pete) Trowbridge, Jr., and his wife, Cameron, of Los Altos, Jane Hill Beach of Campbell, and Judith Lyon Oswald and her husband, Paul, of El Dorado Hills. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Todd Beach, Paul Trowbridge, Laura Jane Beach Barrera, Kimberly Trowbridge, Melissa Oswald and Jill Oswald. Additionally, he is survived by five great-grandchildren, Breeanna Lauren Beach, Caleb Jesse Barrera, Justin Robert Beach, Brandon Leigh Beach and Megan Claire Trowbridge. Also surviving are three step-grandchildren, Curtis Engbretson, Scott Engbretson and Anne Engbretson Shachal.



# 106th Field Artillery Battalion



*Headquarters and Headquarters Battery,*

*1943-1945*

**Alan Dale Dabb**, Age 74, of Amherst, January 4, 2007, after a brief illness. He was the husband of the late Audrey Dabb; beloved father of Gary (Marybeth) Dabb, David (Laurel) Dabb, Jacquelyn Albert and Scott Dabb; grandfather of nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Alan served in the National Guard as a member of the 106th Field Artillery Unit and was a retired U.S. Postal Worker.



*106<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Battalion,*

*Battery C*

**Warren F. Hartz Jr.**, 85, passed away Saturday in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton. Born in Trenton, he was a lifelong Hamilton Township resident.

Mr. Hartz was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the 763rd Tank Battalion Association, 106th Field Artillery Association, 27th Infantry Division Association, VFW#3525 and was an American Legion member at large. Mr. Hartz was also a member of the Delaware Valley Radio Association.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Grace E. Hartz; a son and daughter-in-law, Warren F. III and Laurie Hartz; a daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Richard Moran; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Richard and Joan and Calvin and Bess Hartz; and many nieces and nephews.

Mount Tapotachau

Kakazu Pocket

Banzai Charge

Purple Heart Ridge

Death Valley

Rotation Ridge

The Pinnacle

Fort Slotsenburg

Tarlac

Clark Field

Aslito Field

Ryan's Ridge

Item Pocket

Machinato Airfield



# 249th Field Artillery Battalion



**Brigadier General K. Channing Verbeck** of Lincolnshire, Illinois and Ramsey Shores, Henderson, New York passed away Friday, September 18, 2009 after a short illness. He was 79. Born December 21, 1929 in Syracuse, New York to Karl H. W. and Mary Lighthall Verbeck, he lived most of his life in Manlius and Syracuse, New York. On May 30, 1953, he married Jane A. Gale. The couple had three sons, Channing Pierce Verbeck of Seattle, Washington, Jon Stuart Verbeck of Cazenovia, New York, and William Gale Verbeck of Manlius, New York.

General Verbeck enlisted in the New York Army National Guard in 1948 as part of A Battery, 249th Field Artillery, and served for 34 years, holding posts in the 27th Armored Division, the 27th Brigade (including as commander), the 1st Battalion of the 156th Field Artillery (as commander), the 50th Armored Division, and the 42nd Infantry Division (including as assistant commander). He retired in 1981 as a Brigadier General after serving as the Vice Chief of Staff to the Governor of New York and Deputy Commander of the New York National Guard. Upon his retirement after 33 years, he received a brevet promotion to Major General, and he was awarded the Legion of Merit by the First Army in 1981 for his outstanding service. Chan, as General Verbeck preferred to be called, joined Pipeline Service Company in 1959, moving to Lincolnshire in 1989 to take a broader role with the company as Vice President of Sales. He served on the board of directors of the American Gas Association. He re-

tired from Plexco, a division of Chevron, in 1996 after 37 years.

Chan is survived by Jane, his wife of 56 years; his three sons, Channing, Jon, and William; his brother Pieter of Norwalk, Connecticut; and six grandchildren, Channing, Jr., Katherine, and Zachary of Seattle, Alexandra of Cazenovia, Elizabeth and Emily of Manlius, who will all miss him dearly.



## *Headquarters & Headquarters Battery*

*1942-1945*

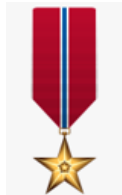
**Glen A. Wynn**, 87 of Moline, and formerly of Rock Island, died Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at Bickford Cottage in Moline. Mr. Wynn was born June 27, 1920, in Buffalo Prairie Township, the son of Harry and Myrtle Sackville Wynn. He married Elizabeth "Betty" Scott on Dec. 7, 1945, in Rock Island. He worked for the Rock Island Arsenal for 26 years before retiring in 1976 as supervisor of the Office Machine Repair Department. In earlier years, he worked for Birtman Electric and Midwest Typewriter.

He went on to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II, serving in the Pacific Theater with the 27th Division, 249th Field Artillery.

Glen is survived by sons and daughters-in-law, Chester and Leanna Wynn of Jacksonville, Thomas and Hye Suk Wynn of Richardson, Texas; grandchildren, Kerry, Anne, Chester, Beth and Karen Wynn, Elizabeth Hall; two great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; brother, Wayne Wynn of Milan.

# Field Artillery

## (Echelons Above Regiment)



*52d Field Artillery Brigade, Headquarters &*

*Headquarters Battery 1938-1945.*

**James L. Boyle**, 84, of Oswego, NY died July 7, 2005 at his home. Mr. Boyle was born in Brooklyn the son of the late James and Mary (Thompson) Boyle, and he has been a resident of East Northport, Long Island until moving to Oswego in August of 2004. Mr. Boyle was employed as an Installation Supervisor for Western Electric, in NYC. He was a communicant of St. Joseph Church, Oswego and the Knights of Columbus Council # 4810, Long Island.

Mr. Boyle served with the 27th Division of the United States Army as a Staff Sergeant from 1940 until 1945. He was the recipient of the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Mr. Boyle was a member of the Long Island Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Boyle is survived by his wife of fifty-eight years Marie Boyle of Oswego, his children Michael (Susan) Boyle of Long Island, Jeannie Sweeney of Baldwinsville, Kate (Pete) Colucci of Oswego, his brother Thomas Boyle of PA, his sisters Catherine Baumer of Brooklyn, Rose Domo of VA, Joan Bessey, and Annmarie Eick both of NJ, and his loving grandchildren Kerry, RJ, Erin, and Christopher Sweeney, Jim Boyle, and Carson Colucci, and several nieces and nephews.

*Headquarters & Headquarters Battery*

**John K. "Jack" Cotton**, 86, of Birmingham, and formerly of Farmington, passed away on Sunday, November 8, 2009.

Jack was born on October 17, 1923 in Penzance, Cornwall, England to John Kingsley Cotton, Sr. and Clara Cotton (nee Rowe). Jack came to Detroit as an infant and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1941, starring there in football and baseball. At Northwestern he met his future wife, Lois Urquhart.

After spending two years enrolled at Wayne State, he joined the U.S. Army during WW II and saw action in the battles of Saipan and Okinawa in the central Pacific. He was wounded twice and received two Purple Hearts. While overseas Jack corresponded almost daily with Lois. In recent years he assembled those letters, which were solicited by, and recently accepted for, a Library of Congress project about WW II veterans.

Following his service to his country, he returned to his education and graduated from Wayne State University. He was a football standout at Wayne before and after his army service and captain in 1946. He was named by Michigan State University to its all-opponent team.

Jack and Lois married on September 21, 1946. Their wedding pictures show Jack with a swollen lip and black eye from that day's game. Following graduation from Wayne State he stayed on and was hired as a teacher and coach. He remained a lifelong supporter of Wayne State University.

In 1956, Jack became the first athletic director for Farmington Public Schools until he retired in 1983. He and his family resided in Farmington for more than 50 years. During his tenure at Farmington, Jack was a statewide leader in interscholastic athletics and physical education. He was proud he established one of the first physical education programs in the state for elementary grades and was an early proponent and leader in establishing girls' interscholastic competitive athletics. Along the way he received every state award in his field and many national honors.

After retirement Jack and Lois remained extremely active, acquiring a private business and serving in numerous capacities for their church, civic organizations and Wayne State activities. Jack was also elected twice and served eight years on the Board of Education for Farmington Public Schools.

Along with his wife, he is survived by their four children, Kingsley (Beverly), Leslie Helwig (Rick), Mary Anne Cotton (Alan Koles), and Laurie Dalin (Mike). He was also a very special uncle to Kathleen Gallagher Lewis. He was a proud grandfather of seven: Anne Drolet (Michael Petruzzi), Jack Drolet (Kavita), Lauren Allswede (Rusty), Alexander Cotton, Kate Larcom (Chris), Elizabeth Cotton, and Chase Dalin, and great-grandfather of Sophie Drolet and Madeleine Petruzzi.





# 102d Medical Battalion



*Company A 102 Medical Battalion 1941-1947*

**Wilrose Ditter** age 97, of Crystal, passed away July 11, 2012. Survived by brother, Jerome Ditter; children, Joanne Goldsmith, Barbara (Tom) Tonn, Bill (Sue) Ditter; grandchildren, Renae and Ryan Goldsmith, Derek and Kyle Tonn, Billy and Molly Ditter; great-grandsons, Westin Geurkink and his dad, Ed Geurkink; sisters-in-law, Helen Barrows and Shirley Braun. He is interred at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, MN.

*102<sup>nd</sup> Medical Battalion ,*

*Medical Clearing Company*

**Nicholas Petrucci**, on September 19, 2006 of Queens Village, NY. Beloved husband of the late Louise. Beloved father of Connie and Lorri. Cherished grandfather of Larry, Amanda, Kelly. Also survived by his brothers Henry, the late Albert, and Richard and his sisters Viola Santopatre and the late Anne Conte.

Retired NYPD 13th Precinct and Proud WWII Veteran.

**Vernon Myron “Verne” Thiele** died May 12, 2000. He was born in Cleveland and his family soon moved to Bedford. Mr. Thiele was a Boy Scout and graduated from Bedford High School in 1938 where he played varsity football. He attended Kent State University, but his studies were interrupted when his National Guard unit was called up.

He was commissioned as a second lieutenant and served in the Pacific Theater with the 102nd Medical Battalion of the 27th Division during WWII where he was awarded the Bronze Star. He retired from the Army Reserves in 1980 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

He married the former Marjorie Balder in 1942. After the war, they built their own home in Walton Hills. Vernon was an active leader in the Walton Hills Boy Scout Troup as well as a volunteer with the Bedford Historical Association. He received a Community Service Award in 1976 by the Federal Executive Board for his commitment to his community. He studied architecture at Western Reserve University after the war and served on the architectural section in the Cleveland office of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, from 1970 until he retired in 1982.

Mr. Thiele was survived by his wife Margery, sons Kermit R. (Nancy) of St John, IN; Terry V. (Carol) of Cleveland Heights, and Randy V. (Donna) of Seven Hills; grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of six.





# 204th Engineer Battalion



**Richard S. Fidurski** passed away peacefully at home, Sunday, July 8, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; a daughter, Lori Schmidt and her husband, Kurt, Cincinnatus, N.Y.; a son, R. Glen Fidurski and his wife, Robin, Chenango Bridge, N.Y.; his grandchildren, Elise Schmidt, Richard Schmidt, Logan Schmidt and Kristina Frazier; a great-grandson, Landon Dailey; a sister, Freda Fidurski; and a brother, Theodore Fidurski; and several nieces and nephews.

He retired from AT&T/Lucent after more than 40 years and also retired from the Army National Guard, 204th Engineer Battalion, with over 40 years of service.



*Past National Commander,  
27<sup>th</sup> Division Association*

**Raymond E. Swift, Sr.**, 86, died June 11, 2020. He is survived by his children; Raymond (Cristina) Swift, Jr., Tammy (Dave) Pangburn and Kandi (Keith) Eigen, 5 grandchildren; Jared

(Jamie), Kiel (Ashley), Kate, Noah and Danny, a special friend Nadine Young, his siblings; Beverly Lilquist, Richard (Kathy) Swift and Sylvia (Dale) West, sisters-in-law; Toni Courtney, Sandra Oakley, brothers-in-law; William Wells and Frank (Linda)Wells, several nieces and nephews. Ray was a retired Highway Maintenance Supervisor for the NYSDOT, Kirkwood.

He served his country for 44 years in the US Army and New York National Guard, retiring as Command Sergeant Major. He was a member of the Kirkwood Seniors and the Kirkwood Historical Society.



**Robert J. "Bob" Urban**, 70, of Binghamton, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, February 18, 2010, while visiting family in Florida.

Bob graduated from Johnson City High School and joined the Army National Guard where he served 43 years, then retired as the MSG Maintenance Supervisor for the 204th Engineer Battalion. Bob simultaneously served 25 years at the State Armory in Binghamton, NY as the FMS 13 Shop Foreman and in recent years worked part time driving tractor-trailer for Kocak Trucking.



He is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Lucille; sons, Louis Nellis, Terry (Kim) Nell; grandchildren, Brandy Nellis, Nikki Ellis, Ginger Ellis, Raymond Ellis, and Justin Hammit; great-grandchildren, Ashlyn, Brittany, Brandon, Kassidy, Alexis, Nicolas and Anthony.

He is also survived by his brother, Jackie Urban; sister, Kathleen and Richard Kapinus; nephews, Richard and Christine Kapinus, Patrick and Marsha Kapinus, Danny and Kathleen Kapinus; and great-nephew, Thomas.



*175<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, Company A &  
204<sup>th</sup> Engineers*

**Constantine “Gus” Varvitsotis**, 79, of Vestal, died unexpectedly Wednesday, August 31, 2011. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Vivian Varvitsotis, Vestal; his children, Michael and Darlene Varvitsotis, Lebanon, CT, James Varvitsotis, Vestal, Connie and William Winters, Cicero; his grandchildren, William, Katherine, Cecily and Andrew. He was a member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Vestal, where he served as a Board Member.

Gus retired from the IBM Corporation after over 30 years of service and retired from the New York Army National Guard where he served for over 35 years. Gus enjoyed old movies, his autos, camping, hunting, fishing, boating and travel with his family.

- Fort McCellan, AL
- California
- Oahu, Department of Hawaii
- Butaritari (Makin)
- Majuro
- Eniwetok
- Guadalcanal
- Saipan
- Cape Gloucester
- Espiritu Santo
- Masbate
- Tsugen Shima (Okinawa)
- Okinawa
- Ie Shima (Japan)
- Japan
- Korea

## 27th Division or Brigade units as specified or unknown



**Anatole Gregory Babykin, Sr.** of Apalachin. Greg was born in Turkey on November 28th, 1922 as his parents, Gregory J. and Tatiana Babykin, were waiting to immigrate into the United States after leaving Russia. Major Babykin enlisted in the Army the day after Pearl Harbor, and served his country during WWII as a bombardier and navigator in the 7th USAAF, 26th Bomber Squadron, 11<sup>th</sup> Heavy Bomber Group, flying missions in the Pacific Theatre aboard the B-24 Liberator "Jeeter Bug."

One mission was the basis for a documentary in which the battle for Iwo Jima was literally put on hold to allow their wounded plane to land on the recently seized Japanese runway. The crew spent three days fixing their aircraft in the midst of the battle for the island. Greg received the Distinguished Flying Cross among other awards.

"Tony" was called back to duty during the Korean War, and later served in the Army National Guard for a military service of approximately 30 years.

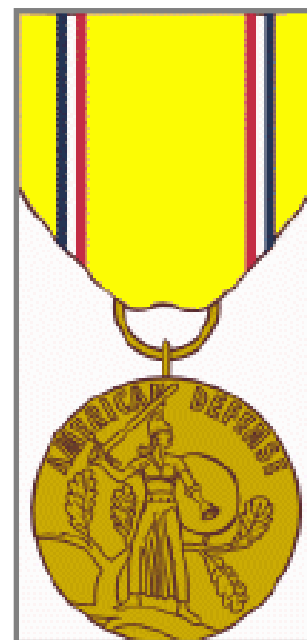
Upon release from active duty in November 1945, Greg returned to Duke University and received his degree in electro-mechanical engineering. He came to Apalachin, NY, to work for General Electric, Singer-Link, and NASA as an engineer before working in various government program management positions on the Apollo, AWACS and various war fighter systems.

Greg passed away Monday, November 23rd at Binghamton General Hospital. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Edna; his daughter, Gayle of Apalachin; and two sons, Gregory Jr. (Melissa) of Georgia, and Gary (Michelle) of Nevada; four granddaughters, Anastacia, Ashley, Adriane and Avery. He is also survived by a brother, Gregory V. Babykin; and a sister, Julianna McAllister; and many nieces and nephews. Deceased 30 June, 2009.



**Robert S. Bagby**, 92 of Columbus, died Thursday, July 31, 2014 at Kobacker House. Preceded in death by wife Mabel Bagby and sister Verda Bagby and survived by children, Debbie (Dominic) Lopresti and Myrna (Tony) Young; grandchildren Michele (Justin) Ritzman, Erica, Tony (fiancé Leah), Holly; great-grandchildren Bryce, Breanna, Braylon, Maxxwell;

sister Jeannie Winans; other relatives and friends. Member of McKendree United Methodist Church; life member of AMVETS and V.F.W., N.A.R.V.R.E. Vet U.S. Army, WWII. Retired from Conrail.





**Albert A. Beres**, 91, born in Gary, IN but a resident of Phoenix, AZ since 1974, died Thursday, October 31, 2013. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Elsie; 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Albert was a World War II veteran, awarded a Bronze Medal and a Purple Heart. He was retired from US Steel in Gary, IN and Sears in Phoenix, AZ.

In addition, as a civilian, he was employed by Eli Lilly and Company as a sales representative from 1955 to 1991.



**William Boog**, native of Syracuse passed away on February 25, 2017. William graduated from Central Tech High School and retired from the United States Postal Office and the National Guard. He was a big sports fan, especially Syracuse University sports. William is survived by his wife, Linda, brother, Victor (Mary Louise) in Littleton, CO, sister-in-law, Sue Britton, several nieces, and great nieces and nephews.



**Raymond J. Blake Jr.**, 88, of Dewitt passed away on October 31, 2017. Ray was born March 3, 1929 in Johnstown, PA, to Rose Heinrich Blake and Raymond J. Blake, Sr. He grew up in Olean, NY, and graduated from Olean High School in 1947 and from Albany College of Pharmacy, Union University, 1951. After graduation, he worked as a retail pharmacist in Elmira, NY.

**Leponty 'Lee' Dari**, 95, died on October 16, 2012. He is survived by his loving daughter, Viola, her husband Ron, three grandchildren, Regina, Erica, Mark and their families. Lee served his country in the US Army, taught business at Commerce High School and later in life enjoyed performing with the 'Yonkers Senior Kids'.

He received officer training at Fort Sam Houston. From 1953 until 1955 he served two tours of duty as an Army medic in Korea. Upon his return from active duty, he entered the New York National Guard where he completed 22 years of service and retired as a Major in 1975.

**Ralph Ardell Dernberger**, 86, 25 December, 2006. He passed at Flint Ridge Nursing Home. He was born 17 January, 1920 in Duncan, WV. He was a retired O.D. grinder and lathe operator at Rockwell International in Newark. He was a WWII Army veteran, serving in the Pacific with the 27<sup>th</sup> Division's Headquarters and Headquarters Company Special Troops. He received the Asiatic and Pacific Theater ribbon with two bronze service stars. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Alice.

*Association records indicate that Joe was with the 295<sup>th</sup> J.A.S.C.O. Army records indicate that the 295<sup>th</sup> served at Kwajalein-Marshall Islands, Marianas and Guam (attached 27th Infantry Division).*

**Joseph (Joe) Eugene Diamond**, 88, passed away peacefully on Dec. 24, 2010, at his home surrounded by members of his loving family. He was born and raised in the Bronx, N.Y., the son of the late Alexander and Anna McCabe Diamond.

In 1951, he married his true love, Dorothy Powers, and together they shared a wonderful 59 years. They lived in New York City for the first 12 years of their life together, and then relocated to Monroe, N.Y., where they lived for 40 years. Two years ago, they moved to Portland to live with one of their daughters.

Like many of his peers, Joe served his country during World War II. He was a member of the 106th Field Artillery Battalion, 27th Infantry Division. He served in the Pacific theatre as a radioman, and fought with the Infantry during its first combat assignment in November 1942, capturing the coral island of Makin. He was awarded the American Defense, Army Good Conduct, Army Occupation, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, Combat Service, Pacific Campaign, Victory Over Japan, and World War II Victory medals. He enjoyed meeting and reminiscing with other veterans and attended Division reunions regularly.

Joe took advantage of the GI bill and went to college after the war. He graduated from Long Island University in 1954 with a degree in political Science, and began his 40-year career as a civil servant with the New York State Department of Labor.



**Willmore F. Forney**, of Cortland-Groton Road, Groton, died on Thursday, July 9, 2009, at SUNY Hospital in Syracuse after sustaining injuries in a motor vehicle accident in Groton. Born in Fine, NY, he was the son of the late Willmore and Lila Madden Forney. "Will" had enlisted and made his career

with the US Army where he spent 38 years, retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer 3 in 1992. He had been a member of the American Legion in Black River and a national member of the D.A.V. as well as the US Army 27th Division Association.



**Roland "Gabby" H. Gadreault**, 94, of 62 Eden Trail Branch, died Thursday, April 3, 2014, at home with his family at his side. A native of Colrain, he was born June 5, 1919, to Harvey and Mabel Gadreault. Roland was a 1937 graduate of Arms Academy in Shelburne Falls, he then attended Bay Path Institute in Springfield. After graduation he worked at GE in Schenectady, N.Y.

In January of 1941, Roland was drafted into the U.S. Army "27th Infantry Division" Roland saw combat duty in the South Pacific, attaining the rank of Technical Sergeant. He was awarded the American Defense Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Service Star. Roland was honorably discharged from the Army at the close of World War II in September of 1945.

Roland worked at Millers Falls Tool and then he went to work for the U.S. Postal Service, working in both Greenfield and Springfield. He retired from the post office in 1995. Roland loved hunting and fishing.

He belonged to the VFW Post 8503, the American Legion Post 81, he was a Life Member of the Greenfield Elks Lodge 1296, the Moose Club Lodge 997 and the National Rifle Association. Roland was married to Marion Allasses (deceased) and his survivors are two sons, Gary and daughter-in-law Lorraine of Bernardston and James of Turners Falls, along with five grandchildren.



*27<sup>th</sup> Division Association Auxiliary*

**Esther Gardner**, 91 of Johnson City died on Tuesday December 15, 2015 at Lourdes Hospital. She was predeceased by her husband Stanley, parents John and Julia Kolanda; her brothers and a sister. She is survived by her son Timothy Gardner of Johnson City; brother Robert Kolanda; several sisters in law, nieces, nephews and friends. She was a Veteran of WWII serving in the Marines. Stanley and Esther were married 68 years. She retired from the Marine Midland Bank Binghamton.



*Past National Commander,*

*27<sup>th</sup> Division Association*

**Walter J. Glogowski**, 87, of Mineral Springs Rd., beloved husband of Regina Duffy Glogowski, died on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at St. Mary's Hospital in Troy. Born (June 30, 1917) and educated in Troy, he was the son of the late Michael and Mary Ewanek Glogowski.

Mr. Glogowski was a highly decorated US Army veteran having served in World War II.

Among the medals awarded to him were the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Conspicuous Service, American Defense, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, Good Conduct and World War II Victory Medals.

Larry retired from the United States Postal Service in Troy where he had been a mail carrier for over 30 years.

Devoted father of Michael Glogowski and his wife Elizabeth of Auburn, Calif., Stephen Glogowski and his wife Cheryl of Melrose and David Glogowski of Sunnyvale, Calif., brother of Frank Glogowski of

Rensselaer, Edward Glogowski of Wynantskill, Charles Glogowski of Saratoga Springs, Rose Madlin of Watervliet and the late John, Michael, Joseph, Stanley, and Peter Glogowski and Helen Talbott; cherished grandfather of Justin, Madeline, and Robert Glogowski and Christopher Easton, also survived by several nieces and nephews.



**Willis Carlyle "Sarge" Hammond**, 82, of Weedsport, died Saturday 31 August, 2013 with his loving family at his side. Willis died at his Jackson Street home, following a battle with cancer.

The son of the late Willis R. and Lillian Weaver Hammond, he was born in Knoxboro, N.Y. on March 20, 1931. Willis retired from the military after serving 41 years with the Army National Guard at the rank of chief warrant officer (CWO) 4.

He had previously been employed with Auburn Memorial Hospital, where he had worked with the Security Department. He was a member of the lifetime member of the Weedsport Fire Department and a member of the SK Post of the American Legion.

Willis is survived by his wife of 58 years Nancy Ogden Hammond; three daughters, Linette Thorp and her husband Fred, of Jordan, Lisa Raymond and her husband Mike, of Bradington, Fla., and Laura Gray and her husband Tim, of Weedsport; eight grandchildren, James Soules and his wife Melissa, of Canandaigua, Jacob Soules and Amy, of Geneva, Mary-Lee Soules, of Bradington, Fla., Ashley Smalley and her fiancé Pat Stagnitta, of Cicero, Alexandra Shenk and her husband Will, from Evan Mills, Michael Gray, from Weedsport, Caitlin Green and Timmy Ely, from Baldwinsville,

and Cody Green, from Weedsport; and one great-grandchild, Cullen Soules.



*Unable to determine his 27<sup>th</sup> Division or Brigade affiliation.*

**Robert E. Harp**, 79, of North Syracuse and Sarasota, FL, died Thursday, December 29, 2011 in Sarasota. Bob retired from Onondaga County in 1990, following 30 years of service as a deputy sheriff. Following retirement, he worked for the Cicero and North Syracuse police departments. Sarge was a retired U.S. Army veteran, serving with the 1209th.

He was a member of the American Legion and VFW. Surviving is his wife of 56 years, the former Virginia Annacchino; sons, Robert C. of North Syracuse and Brian D. Harp of Mattydale; daughters, Elaine (John) Crary of Mattydale and Valarie Carbona of Liverpool; brother, James (Carol) Harp of Liverpool; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.



**Benjamin H. Hazard**, 91 entered into rest on May 16, 2011.

Son of Massachusetts, he became a world traveler, serving in the United States Army during World War II and the Korean conflict as a language officer in the Pacific Theater. He continued to serve as a reserve officer and retired with the rank of Colonel.

After receiving a PhD in History from the University of California, at Berkeley he was a History Professor for many years at San Jose State University. A student of Japanese martial arts, he achieved 7th Degree Hanshi in Kendo and was instrumental in fostering the growth of Kendo, Kyudo and Naginata in California. He is survived by his daughters Daian Hennington, Alyne Hazard, Malyne Hazard, Francesca Custodia, three grandchildren and a host of loving students, friends and extended family.

**Philip F. Hirsch** died peacefully on February 4, 2017 in Chapel Hill, NC, at the age of 91. Dr. Hirsch was born in California and spent much of his early life in the San Francisco Bay Area.

He served in the U.S. Army in the Pacific during World War II and was part of the 27th Infantry Division Band. Later, in the 1970s, he organized a reunion of band members, which became an annual event for many years.

After being discharged from the Army, he attended the University of California at Berkeley, graduating with a degree in Chemistry. While pursuing his doctoral degree at UC-Berkeley, he worked in a laboratory where he met his future wife, Eugenia.

After he was awarded a Ph.D. in Physiology, Dr. Hirsch became an Associate Professor at Harvard University. He also spent a year as a Special Public Health Research Fellow in the Department of Biochemistry at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. Dr. Hirsch returned to California for two years when he worked at the Lawrence Livermore Radiation Laboratory before coming to UNC-Chapel Hill in 1966 as a Professor of Pharmacology.



**Murray O. Kilts**, 74, of Old County Road, passed away Friday, Oct. 12, 2012 at his home. He was born Nov. 29, 1937 in Canastota, a son of L. Lauren and M. Evelyn Eaton Kilts and was a 1955 graduate of Canastota High School. Murray married Emma Louise Roberts who predeceased him. He married Barbara Ogden Hoyt on July 26, 1997 in Peterboro and she predeceased him on March 19, 2011. Murray worked for G.E. in Syracuse for many years.

He was a member of the NY Army National Guard in Syracuse from 1955 until retiring in 1997 as a 1st Sergeant. Following that, he worked at Parts Plus in Bouckville for 15 years. Murray was a member and serving as Noble Grand of the Willow Glen Rebekah Lodge No. 158 of Eaton. He was a member and serving as President of the Smithfield Volunteer Fire Department, and was also Captain of the Fire Police for many years. He enjoyed bowling in the leagues at the Hi-Skor Lanes in Earlville.

Surviving are his children, Michael Kilts of Godeffroy, N.Y.; Timothy Kilts, Brian Kilts, Christopher and Wendy Kilts, all of Clockville; Lynne and James Hupka of Lebanon, Tenn.; Carol and Tony Zangardi of Chatham, Va.; and Bruce Kilts of Carlsbad, Calif.; a step-son, Carl Hoyt of Bridgeport; 13 grandchildren, several nieces and nephews.



*Served 1941-1945*

**Arvel Hughes**, age 95 of Gassville, passed away Saturday, October 5, 2013 at his home. Mr. Hughes was born September 25, 1918 in Henderson to John and Curtis (Sinor) Hughes.

He served his country in the United States Army during World War II. On January 12, 1948 he married Ella Faye Light in Salesville. Mr. Hughes worked for over 25 years as a construction superintendent for the Carrothers Construction Company in Paola, Kansas. He was a member of the VFW, and he enjoyed raising cattle and ranching.

Mr. Arvel Hughes is survived by his wife Ella Hughes, a son and his wife Harold and Laraine Hughes of Jonesboro, Arkansas, a daughter and her husband Debra and Tim Jackson of Leavenworth, Kansas, grandchildren Tony Skidmore, Matthew Jackson and Ryan Jackson, greatgrandchildren Raigan McCarty and Garrett Cade Skidmore, a sister and her husband Abitha and Clyde Dye of Norfolk, and several nieces and nephews.





**Henry "Hank" C. Kingsland, Sr.**, 84 passed away on Saturday, October 11, 2014 at his residence following a brief illness. He was born in Schenectady, NY the son of the late William H. and Marion J. (Miller) Kingsland. Henry served in the Army National Guard from 1948 to 1989. He retired from the Schenectady County Highway Department after 20 years of service. After retirement, Henry and his late wife Janet enjoyed traveling in their RV across the United States.

Hank is survived by his children William H. Kingsland, Sr. (Kathleen), David H. Kingsland, Laurie Pelton, Henry C. Kingsland, Jr. (Wendy), Sally Kingsland, and Karin Carvill (Joseph), his grandchildren David, Eric, Kimberly, Nicole, Sean, Brittany, Cory, Sarah, Matthew, William, Jr., Seth and Timothy and several greatgrandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters Ruth, Margaret, Louise, Elsie and Gladys, many nieces and nephews and his best friend Pietro Bucci.



**Anthony J. Klapat Jr.**, 92, passed away Saturday, March 11, 2006, at St. Mary's Medical Center. He was born in Racine on November 11, 1913, to the late Anthony and Eva (nee Lakovich) Klapat Sr. and was a lifelong resident of Racine. On June 6, 1942, he was united in marriage to the former Madlynne Haase at St. Catherine's Church in Milwaukee. Tony proudly served his country in the South Pacific

ic during World War II as a member of the United States Army, 27th Infantry Division, HQ Company.

He was a member of St. Edward's Church and the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Klapat is survived by his wife of 63 years, Madlynne Klapat of Racine; their daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Doug Engman of The Woodlands, Texas; granddaughter, Kristen (Paul)Moriarty; and great-granddaughters, Katelyn Caroline and Kiley Madlynne Moriarty, also of The Woodlands, Texas. He is further survived by his brother, Albert Klapat of Mountain Home, Ark.; his sister, Bernice Jelenc of Danville, Ky.; as well as by nieces, a nephew, and other relatives and friends.



**Harry Kloosterman**, of Kalamazoo, Michigan Went to be with his Lord Wednesday morning, March 12, 2014. Harry was born November 9, 1923 in Kalamazoo the son of the late Elias and Lena Izenbaard Kloosterman and had been a life resident in the area.

He was a veteran serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, where he earned various awards including the Purple Heart. Prior to his retirement in 1985 he was employed with the Kalamazoo Public Schools. On June 14, 1946 he was united in marriage to his loving wife Catherine, who preceded him in death on November 23, 2002.

Harry is survived by 3 daughters, Ruth Dick Durian, Mary Darwin Wellington, Joyce John Barkley; 4 grandchildren, Richard Beth Durian, Matthew Lisa Durian, Michael Barkley, Michelle Barkley; 5 great-grandchildren, Jacob, Claire, LillieAnn, Richelle, and Nicolas; sisters and brother, Lena Doherty, Josephine VanderRoest, and Robert Tillie Kloosterman; and many in-laws, nieces and nephews.



1942-1945

**Peter LaMarco**, of New Hyde Park on May 12, 2019. Devoted Husband of the late Ida at the age of 97. Beloved father of Joseph LaMarca (Kyong), and Peter John LaMarca. Cherished step grandfather of Jonas.



**Dr. Edwin J. Mays** of Waco passed away Sunday, July 12, 2009. Edwin was born October 24, 1919 in Mineral Wells, TX to Trosper and Madeline Mays. He graduated from Tarleton College, attended the University of Texas, was a captain in the U.S. Army, and received degrees from Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary.

He was pastor of seven different churches over a span of 50 years and finished his ministry as a teacher at Baylor. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Mary; two sons, Mark Howard Mays and wife, Jo Ann; David Burkett Mays; grandchildren, John Evans; Murray Evans and wife, Kim; Emily Benoit; Laura Tolar and husband, Chris; Jessica Mays; Sarah Mays and Emma Mays.



**Eugene M. Markiewicz**, age 81 of Schererville & former longtime resident of South Chicago, IL. Passed away on Tuesday, June 3, 2008.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years Christine (nee Bishop), his children Cynthia (Russell) Linn, Michael (Cheryl) Markiewicz, Barbara (Duane) Kortsha, Carrie (Donald) Beecher and Candice (John) Radziejewski. Preceded in death by daughter Patricia. He is also survived by his grandchildren Lisa, Jennifer and Jeffrey Linn, Joshua Markiewicz, Monica, Michelle and Marcus Kortsha, Emily, Casey and Max Radziejewski.

Eugene was a Chicago Police Officer for 34 years and a member of the FOP Lodge #7 and RCPA, VFW Post #9773 and U.S. Army Veteran of WWII.





*Past National Commander,  
27<sup>th</sup> Division Association*

**Joseph T. Nader**, ret Lt. Col., ret. Lt. YPD, passed away suddenly on July 15, 2010. He was 93 years old. A Yonkers native, Joe was born the second son of immigrant Lebanese parents. He enlisted in the National Guard, 27th Infantry Division in 1936.

He was called to active duty in 1940 and attached to the British 8th Army, serving in North Africa and Italy and reaching the rank of Captain. In 1946 he was the first Arab American appointed to the Yonkers Police Department. Recalled to duty during the Korean War, he served in Fort Gordon, GA and remaining in the Army Reserves, he attained the rank of Lt. Colonel. Joe retired from the Yonkers PD in 1978, having been a detective and head of the communications department. He received several citations from the YPD and was chairman of the Police and Fire Retirees for 8 years. Always active in veterans' affairs, he was Past Commander of Post 1666 VFW and Chairman of the Central Committee of War Veterans. Joe was instrumental in establishing Montrose Veterans Nursing Home and the Veterans Service Agency in Yonkers. He was very proud to be part of the committee to design and erect the Gold Star Mother's Monument in Larkin Plaza.

He has been a recipient of many awards among them the NY State Award for Conspicuous Citizenry, NY

Senate Veterans Hall of Fame, and was named Westchester County Veteran of the Year numerous times.

He is survived by his present wife, Eleanor Yacko, daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Richard Zlokovitz, grandson, James and 2 great-grandchildren, sister Mary Nader and numerous nieces and nephews.



**Felix "Fritz" Neubauer**, 90, arrived at the Happy Hunting Grounds September 20, 2010. He passed away peacefully surrounded by his family. Born Nov. 7, 1919, in Austria, Fritz immigrated to the United States with his mother and sister in 1927. As a young man he made his living as a fur trapper, then started and operated the legendary Neubauer's Fur, Fish and Game Farm in Newbury for more than 50 years. He was an avid outdoorsman and outspoken proponent of land and wildlife conservation issues.

Fritz was a decorated World War II veteran, serving as an Army Ranger in The Pacific Theater from 1941 to 1944, until he was wounded in the Battle of Saipan. He received a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantryman Badge.

"Fritz Neubauer was a legendary trapper, hunter and angler," said D'Arcy Egan, Plain Dealer outdoors columnist. "He was also the consummate conservationist, keeping the wildlife of Geauga County in perfect balance. He was fearless, whether swimming a frozen river to recover a large-antlered buck or confronting someone who violated his rules of hunting. A legion of city kids listened to Fritz Neubauer's call of the wild, learning to hunt and fish from the master."

Reno "Jay" Reda, retired state wildlife officer, said, "He was at times the best of friends and at times the most challenging of wildlife foes." Reda opposed Neubauer's war on raccoons but admired his love for their victims: game birds. One day, Reda's beloved retriever vanished. That night, Neubauer stopped by in a snowstorm. "Here this gruff, rough mountain-mannish kind of guy shows up with a Labrador retriever puppy and says, 'You take care of my dog until yours comes home.'

He said he started hunting, fishing and trapping as a toddler in his native Austria. When he grew tired, an uncle toted him by backpack.

Having poor vision, he memorized the eye chart and qualified for the Army for World War II. He fought for three years in the South Pacific and took a bullet in his right arm, the strong one, at Saipan. A colonel ordered a lieutenant to amputate. The lieutenant saved the arm instead. Neubauer went to a hospital in Michigan and strengthened the arm through fly-fishing.

He stayed in a cabin in Geauga County with dirt floors and no electricity. He gradually bought or leased about 2,000 marshy acres, built dams, dug ditches, and stocked the area with pheasants, mallards, bass, trout and more. Neubauer claimed to meet his first wife by reeling her boat in. He later married Helen Halle of the department store family. She'd coax him from the marsh to the opera. He'd slip out between acts to Pat Joyce's Tavern. Survivors are his daughter, Jamie (Jerry) Davis of Burton; son, Fritz (Jane) Neubauer Jr. of Chardon; grandsons, Fritz III and Sam; nieces, Ann (Keith) Elliott and Lynn (Bob) Munson; former wife, Dolores "Dee"; and eight stepchildren.



**James A. Polly** December 30, 2011 James A. Polly, 73, of Syracuse passed away Friday. He worked for Loblaws for over 20 years and retired from Smith's Supermarket in Cicero.

Jim retired from the Army National Guard after 21 years, where he was a staff sergeant who started in the 27th Infantry and retired from the 10th Mountain Division in 1986.

Surviving are his wife, Joan Durling Polly; his children, Robert, Timothy (Amy) and Brian; his grandchildren, Leighsa (Matt) McClean and Cpl. Brett Leskinen, USMC stationed in BAHRAIN MARCENT, Saudi Arabia; three great-grandchildren; sisters, Joan (Tom) Squadrito and Alice (Vincent) Montalto; his sister-in-law, Mary Ann Durling Holihan; nieces, Kelley (Bill) Kriesel, Melissa (Mike) Meyer, Erin Greco, Bonnie (Frank) Gagliardi, Melissa Polly and Kathleen (Michael) Finn; nephews, Michael (Deborah) Polly, William (Joy) Polly and Danny (Katie) Squadrito; and several great-nieces, great-nephews, great-great-nieces and -nephews.

**Joseph A Riberdy**, 95, of Cohoes, passed away Wednesday, August 29, 2010 at the Emeritus at Colonie Manor Retirement Community. Born in Cohoes on April 30, 1915, he was the son of the late Armand and Ada (Smith) Riberdy. He attended local schools and then began a career with G.E. in Schenectady working as a winder until his retirement in 1976.

Joseph also served in the U.S. Army and was a veteran of World War II.

After his retirement, he and his wife, the late Swanhild (Strom) Riberdy, relocated to Ft. Myers, Fla., where they spent more than 20 wonderful years together, and Joseph enjoyed many days on the greens as he was an avid golfer.

Joseph is survived by his three daughters: Donna Bryant of Texas, Karen Carlough of East Greenbush and Kristina (Roger) Hutson of Colo.; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Shirley Carparelli of PA.



**DeWitt "Red" W. Schell**, 87, of Woodhill Court passed away Thursday, November 27, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Hazel Schell, Binghamton; one son and daughter-in-law, Jeffery and Julie Schell, Binghamton;

one daughter and son-in-law, Julie and Stephen Pierson, Watertown; six grandchildren, Daniel, David, Janice, Stephen, Sara and Matthew; five great-grandchildren, Hannah, Dezraeana, Braden, Shea, and Madilyn; one sister and brother-in-law, Marjorie and John Gorman, Binghamton; brother-in-law, George Zabadal, Binghamton; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Red was a decorated Army Veteran of WWII with the 27th & 1st Infantry Divisions, taking part of landings in North Africa, Sicily, and Normandy. Red was a Member of both V.F.W. Post 478 and American Legion Post 1645.

He was a retired member of Teamsters Local 693 and a member of St. Marks Lodge No.1001 F. & A.M. Red enjoyed watching Tiger Woods and the N.Y. Yankees. He also enjoyed his trips to the casinos and loved to play Bingo.



**Leo Alvin Sharp, Sr.** - age 84 of Sevierville, passed away Wednesday, January 25, 2006. Major Sharp was a decorated Combat Infantry Officer in World War II, having served with the 27th Infantry Division in Saipan, Okinawa, and Japan. He was later with the 79th Infantry Division and the 75th American Military Government Company in Japan. Maj. Sharp was recalled to active duty during the Korean War and served as an instructor in small unit tactics at The Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

He was a retired farmer and businessman. He was the last surviving person who helped organize WSEV-AM & FM. Along with his step-brother Norman Burchfiel and others, he organized First Federal Savings & Loan of Sevierville. He served as Sevier County Delegate to the 1959 Tennessee Constitutional Convention. He was a 20-year member of the Sevierville Lions Club, serving as President and Zone Chairman; Chairman of the Sevier County Tax Equalization Board for over 20 years; Chairman of the Sevier County Housing Authority; Commander of the Sevierville Chapter of VFW Post 5123; Member of American Legion Post 104.

As a farmer he was President of the Sevier County Livestock Association, a Director of the Farm Bureau and the Sevier Farmers' Cooperative. Leo was a graduate of the University of Tennessee-Knoxville College of Agriculture, and he was a member of First United Methodist of Sevierville.

Survivors: wife of over 58 years, Lavelle Brown Sharp; son, Leo Sharp, Jr. and wife Barbara of Boca Raton, FL; grandchildren, Pamela Jane and Kathleen Elizabeth of Boca Raton, FL, and Rebecca Joy Bunker and husband Matthew of Puyallup, WA.



**Arthur Forrest Slocum**, 86 of Oneonta died January 29, 2015 at Saint Peter’s Hospital in Albany, NY. Art was born in Oneonta in 1928, eldest son of Forrest and Helen Becker Slocum. He is a graduate of OHS in 1947 where he excelled in football. Art was formally married to Dorothy Bagg.

He was employed by New York Bell Tel Co in Oneonta and Syracuse NY, General Telephone in Johnstown, owner and operator of Slocum’s grocery on 66 Church Street, and lastly SUNY Oneonta.

He was also retired as a Captain from the US Army with 40 years of service.

He is survived by his brother Francis (Jean) of Unadilla, sister-in-law Kathy Slocum, Smithtown, NY. Two Daughters Diane Eldred (Dennis) of Locke, NY and Debra Colwell (Steve) of Oneonta NY, Grandchildren Peter (Tammie), Todd (Andrea) and Susan Eldred; Rachel Colwell Brown (Rick), Rebecca Colwell, (Dola) Ryan Colwell (Ember), Robin Colwell Powell (Sean) and Great-grandchildren Nicholas, Brooke, Alexandra, Hunter, Sierra, Odin, Zephyr, Ryan and Makenna, and several nieces.

**Carl Jacob Sorg**, 90, of Anderson, passed away at Saint John’s Medical Center on December 1, 2008, after an extended illness. He was born in Pocatong, AR, on Jan. 3, 1918, to Mary (Thennes) and George Sorg.

He served during World War II in the U.S. Army in Hawaii and surrounding islands in the South Pacific for four years.

He worked at Delco Remy for 29 years and in the apple business for nearly 50 years. He was co-founder and co-owner with his father-in-law of the Hoosierland Orchards.

Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Joan A. (Baker) Sorg, whom he married April 9, 1983; children, Michael T. (Mary) Sorg of Evansville and Jennifer M. (Jamie) Matthews of Fortville; seven grandchildren, Jill, Tara, Anna, Kate and Mark Sorg of Haubstadt and Jacob and Jocelyn Matthews of

Fortville; four brothers, Earnest, Matthew, Herman and Raymond Sorg; sister, Mary Ann Swann; step-children, Mike Baker, Bonnie Linn, Patricia Paschal and David Baker; many step grandchildren and step great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.



*Past National Commander, 27<sup>th</sup> Division Association 2001-2002*

**Edward R. Sourbeck**, age 87 of Yonkers, NY, died Sunday, December 10, 2006 at Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville. Mr. Sourbeck was born April 5, 1919 in the Bronx. He was the son of the late George & Dorothy (nee White) Sourbeck.

He proudly served in the Army during World War II, and was the recipient of two Purple Hearts, a Silver Star and a Bronze Star. He was an active member of VFW Post 1666, DAV, and the Purple Heart Association right up until his passing. He was employed by the US Postal Service, NY.

He is survived by his daughters Peggy (Henry) Kaufmann, Nancy (Brian) Coggio and Mary Kay Sourbeck. He was the devoted Pop of Henry, Jennifer; Michael, Brian, and Vicki. He is also survived by two great Grandchildren Kylie and Mackenzie.

*“The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”*

*Douglas MacArthur*

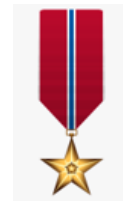


**Paul Conley Stike** of Newark, Del. Paul Conley Stike, 91, of Newark, Del., formerly of Toughkenamon, died Tuesday February 15, 2011 at his winter home in Altoona, Florida. He was the husband of Ethel Fortner Stike, with whom he shared 64 years of marriage. Born in Ashe County, North Carolina, he was a son of the late James B. and Margaret R. Stuart Stike.

Paul served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was among the first ground troops into Pearl Harbor and fought throughout the Pacific Islands for the duration of the war. He achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant, a Silver Star, a Good Conduct Medal and numerous other awards.

Separation on September 30, 1945, brought him back to Chester County, to raise a family. He worked for NVF Company in Yorklyn, Delaware for 42 years retiring in 1981. Paul lived a long, full life. He was a man of high energy and many interests. He built homes, remodeled houses, and did fine carpentry, especially cabinet making. He was an avid sportsman and outdoorsman. He bred and raised hunting dogs, owned horses and enjoyed hunting, both small and large game. He was a supporter of the Boy Scouts, active member of the American Legion Post 491, Kennett Square. He enjoyed gardening, landscaping and wine making. Most of all he loved his family. The world will be a lesser place without him.

Survivors include, in addition to his wife, one son, Paul C. Stike, Jr. and his wife Linda of Newark, Del., two daughters, Patricia Emerson Sammons and her husband John of Altoona, Fla., and Sharon P. Groff and her husband Jeff of Lancaster, two brothers, G. Howard Stike and his wife Peg of Port St. Lucie, Fla. and twin brother Ray D. Stike and his wife Helen of Nottingham, one sister Gladys Porter of Wauchula, Fla., six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.



**Peter H. Sweeney**, 87, died July 17, 2006, in Salem, Mo., at the age of 87 years, five months and nine days.

Pete is survived by his wife, Helen "Chris" Sweeney of Salem; sister, Mary Ford of Portland, Ore.; sister-in-law, Viola Iverson of Dillon; brother-in-law, Harry Christensen and wife, Cam, of Medford, Ore.; nieces, Kathleen Cragun and husband, Larry, of Issaquah, Wash., Nancy Glover of Brooklyn, N.Y., Sandra Hansen and husband, Ross, of Dell, and Diane Sparks, of Mt. Angel, Ore.; nephews, David Hagenbarth and wife, Pat Carrick, of Dillon, James Hagenbarth and wife, Laurie, of Dillon, Bryan Ford and wife, Anne Plato, of Winterhaven, Fla., and William Sweeney and wife, Gail, of Moses Lake, WA; and many beloved great-nieces and -nephews, and extended family and friends.

Pete grew up on a ranch in Big Sheep Creek Basin. He graduated from Beaverhead County High School in Dillon. Pete served in the Army from Nov. 6, 1941, to Oct. 8, 1945, which was all of World War II. He was stationed in the South Pacific and was awarded the Bronze Star, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

After the war, he graduated from the Montana School of Mines with a degree in geological engineering. He spent most of his career employed by Cominco American. He and Chris moved to Salem in November 1966 and he went to work at the Magmont Mine in Bixby, Mo.

Pete was an avid golfer and a member of the Salem Golf and Country Club. He was a longtime member of the Salem Rotary Club and was named a Paul Harris Fellow.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Dillon Chapter, for more than 50 years. He served on the Salem Planning and Zoning Board. His professional affiliations were Missouri Mining Industry Council; American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers; SME; and Society of Economic Geologists.



**Clement Terino, Jr.**, 89, of North Syracuse passed away Friday (12 February, 2021) peacefully at his home surrounded by his family. Clement retired from the Teamsters Union 317, was a bus driver for Liverpool School District and retired as a Major from the Army National Guard.

He enjoyed the time spent with his family during Sunday dinners, making gnocchi for the holidays, working on jigsaw puzzles, and spending many weekends at Crystal Lake. Clem and his wife found great joy in traveling. He was a member of PEACE Inc. where he enjoyed playing cards. His proudest accomplishment was his family.

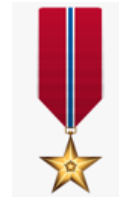
Survivors include his loving wife of 59 years Dolores (Tracy) Terino; son, Clement (Maria) Terino, III; daughters, Julia Semans, Marie Brooker, Sylvia Terino, Lisa (John) Emert, Ann Marie (Leo) Lucisano and Tracy (Bill) Carr; brother, Frank; sisters, Mary and Carm; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.



**Steven P. Torok**, age 90, passed on 21 October, 2008. Beloved husband of Grace loving father of Gail; Suzanne (John) Patti; Nancy; Roberta (Tim) Kettler; Rosemary (Renald Baron);

Michelle LaMar and Patricia. Dear grandfather of seven and great grandfather of three. Brother of Max; John; Thelma; Helen; Betty and the late Bill, Pete, Joe, Rose and Ethel. Uncle to many.

U.S. Army Veteran, W.W. II.



**Vincent W. Walsh**, born 04 February, 1920 and passed on 19 June, 2019.



**George B. Yohe**, 94, of New Cumberland, PA, passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at Harrisburg Hospital. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 27th Infantry Division in the invasions of Saipan and Okinawa.

He was a delivery salesman for Gulf Oil of Mechanicsburg for 33 years.



He was a Past Worshipful Master of the former West Shore Lodge No. 681 F&AM. He was a member of American Legion Post 143, New Cumberland and Lower Allen VFW Post 7530.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Helen M. (Forry) Yohe; a son, Thomas E. Yohe, of Carlisle; 2 daughters, Sherry M. of Mechanicsburg and Gail L. Luckenbaugh of Lewisberry; 3 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren.

