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The Link for All Veterans and Active Duty & Family and Friends of the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment
Published by Family and Friends of the 508th PIR Association– October 2020

Message from Your Board of Directors

We hope this newsletter finds our Members and Supporters coping with the major challenges everyone has faced in 2020. Whether it is the COVID-19 pandemic, Hurricanes Laura and Sally, or the West Coast wildfires, we appreciate that so many individuals and families have suffered disruptions, health challenges and personal loss.

As we head towards year-end Holidays, we extend our sincere wishes to everyone for improved times, health and safety. And we look forward to seeing more of you in person in 2021.

All the best. Airborne All the Way! Fury from the Sky! ✈

Reunion Update

Like so many group events this year, the El Paso Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association was forced to cancel its Sun City "All-Airborne" Fiesta that was to be held in partnership with our Association's annual reunion.

The El Paso Chapter has re-scheduled the "All-Airborne" Fiesta to June 30-July 4, 2021. While our Association encourages our Membership to support the re-scheduled El Paso event, our Board is focused on organizing a Reunion in late June 2021 in the Columbus, Ohio area, a commitment the Board made back at our Annual Membership Meeting in October 2019. Given this objective, we seek volunteers for a Reunion Committee who can work on planning and executing a successful Reunion in Ohio. Anyone interested in participating on the Reunion Committee, please email President@508PIR.org as soon as possible.

Even though our Association Bylaws call for an Annual Membership Meeting, the current executive declarations by the Governor of Massachusetts (the State where our Association was incorporated) allow for non-profit organizations to postpone annual meetings and for existing boards of directors to remain in place until an Annual Membership Meeting can be safely organized in compliance with public health directives.



Even though the Sun City "All-Airborne" Fiesta could not proceed, the El Paso Chapter did conclude two raffles aimed at raising funds to offset the event's costs. Several Family & Friends Members graciously supported the raffles. The results of the raffles were: A total of $3000 raised to support the "All-Airborne" Fiesta in 2021; Winners from the vehicle raffle were El Paso chapter members Col. Dave Powell (ticket #1043), who won the first of two SAMSUNG 43" Series 6 Giant Screen TVs, with the second TV going to Mrs. Lesliann Swanson (ticket #1152), spouse of member Paul Swanson. The Grand Prize, 2020 KIA RIO S, went to: Myra Cooper, with ticket #0438; and the winner of the vintage, WWII-era, M-1 Garand Rifle, was none other than our Association's past-President, Donna Palmer (ticket #0071)! Congratulations to all, and many thanks for everyone who participated in the raffles. ✈

Second Annual Rock Merritt Squad Leader of the Year Awards Presented

Despite the logistical complexities presented by the pandemic and 2Fury's deployment to Iraq, the 2019 Rock Merritt Squad Leader of the Year has been presented by both 508th Battalions.

As a reminder, the *Rock Merritt Squad Leader of the Year Award* was established by the *Family and Friends of the 508th PIR Association* on Rock's 95th Birthday to honor his distinguished 35-year Army career. This special award is presented to a 508th Paratrooper who demonstrates outstanding leadership performance and potential.

In mid-May, Rock transmitted an inspiring congratulatory video to 2Fury's recipient, SGT Caleb Straub – A Co, 2nd Plt, 2nd Sqd.

Recently, on September 9, Rock and daughter Dianna welcomed a small contingent from 1Fury, including LTC Patrick Stone and CSM James Bradshaw, to award their Squad Leader of Year to SSG Jordan D. Tandler – A Co, 2nd Plt, 2nd Sqd.

Congratulations to both SSG Tandler and SGT Straub, two of our newest Supporter Lifetime Members by virtue of earning their Squad Leader of the Year award!



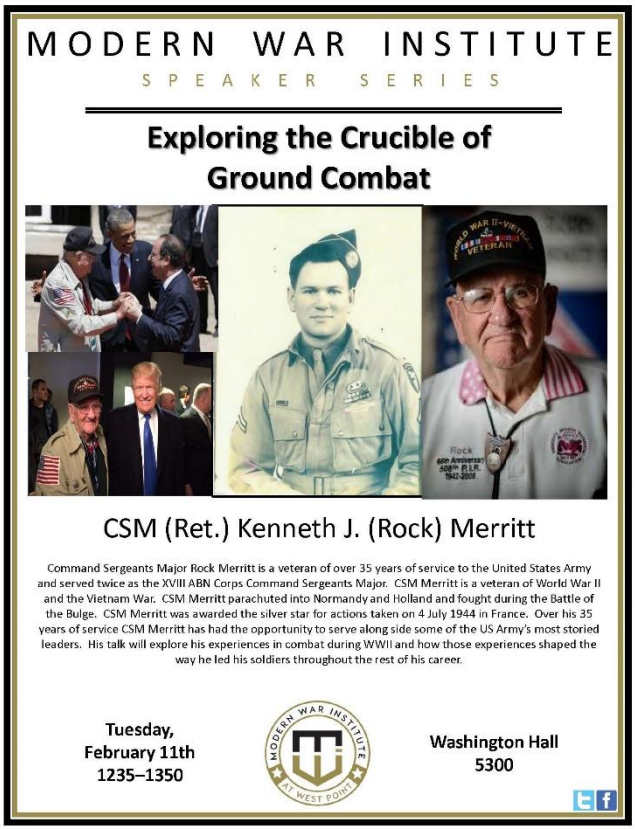
Rock Reads Congratulatory Comment to 2Fury's SGT Caleb Straub



Rock Presents to 1Fury's SSG Jordan Tandler

Rock Merritt - Lifelong Champion of the 508th PIR Makes 2020 Appearances despite Cancer Treatment & Pandemic

Back in mid-February, Rock and his daughter, Dianna, spent a couple days at West Point. They toured the campus, socialized with instructors and leaders, and, most importantly, Rock was a featured speaker of West Point's Modern War Institute's Speaker Series. On February 11th, Washington Hall was packed with hundreds of cadets and instructors. A most historic moment with four generations of the US Army present. Many thanks to Rock and Dianna for making the trek to upstate New York and helping preserve the legacy of the 508th PIR.







Association Members Dianna Pflueger, Robyn Harris and Chris Harris gathered at West Point for Rock's Speech

As Rock endured his cancer treatment and the ensuing fatigue during recovery, the pandemic shut down ordinary events at Fort Bragg and around the country. But Rock was front and center early in September alongside several other World War II Veterans when President Trump dedicated Wilmington, NC as the first World War II Heritage City. Thank you, Rock, for always showing up to promote the 508th PIR!



And so many were happy to hear a medical update from Rock on September 24th. Rock reported that his latest endoscopy found no tumor and no hot spots so that he appears to be cancer-free. Rock thanked God and everyone for all your prayers and well wishes. Way to go, Rock!

Fort Bragg Paratrooper Helps Save Shooting Victim's Life

By Rachael Riley, The Fayetteville Observer Sept 4, 2020

Spc. Matthew Conner heard repeated shots fired between noon and 1 p.m. April 27.

He was not in the field training or on a deployment. Instead, Conner was at home watching TV with his wife at his apartment complex near Willowbrook Drive and South Reilly Road in Fayetteville.

"I thought they dropped a trashcan or something like that, not anything really crazy, but it piqued my interest enough," Conner said. "Then I heard five or six consecutive shots right after that and thought, 'OK something's really actually happening right now.'"

That is when Conner, a paratrooper with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, let his military training take over.

"I went to go see what was going on, and since I had (combat lifesaver) training and stuff like that, I just figured that it would be best for me to go handle the situation … rather than somebody just panicking in front of them, 'cause in infantry, you're trained to handle well under pressure," said Conner, who's part of the brigade's 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Conner looked out his window and saw a young teenager running down the hill with a gun in his hand.

"The first thing I thought of was, 'OK, well what if they turn back around? What if something happens to my wife? What if something happens to my dogs? Like whoever is around me, what's going to happen?,'" he said. "So I made sure I armed my wife and was like, 'OK, just stay here, and I'm going to go see what's going on.'"

Once he stepped outside, Conner heard the victim's wife screaming and noticed a man was wounded. Conner helped carry the man downstairs and administered care, placing pressure on the wound with his bare hands, loosened the man's shirt and ensured he didn't go into shock.

When police arrived, he was able to describe the suspects' vehicle — a bright red Charger — and told authorities he heard two voices. He said by the time he was giving his statement, police were already chasing suspects and later caught three people.

The victim, Conner said, was in critical condition for about three days, but he saw him on crutches about a week and a half later. The victim and Conner have since moved out of the apartment complex.

And Conner credited his unit leadership listening to his experience, which he said helped him get promoted sooner and enabled him to purchase a new home to ensure his wife can sleep more safely at night.

"Spc. Connor's personal example of selfless service and unhesitating, decisive actions are consistent with the greatest traditions of our uniformed services and played a pivotal role in saving a life," said Staff Sgt. Anthony Buchanan, Conner's platoon sergeant for the Delta Company 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment. "His actions are a testament to the training that all paratroopers receive and enabled him to react without hesitation and perform his duties in a non-commonplace environment."

And Conner is not the only paratrooper or Fort Bragg soldier who has helped save a civilian's life this year. In June, Brig. Gen. David Doyle, outgoing deputy commander of sustainment for the 82nd Airborne Division, recognized Conner, Sgt. Brandon Alvarez and Pfc. Sean King. Alvarez helped rescue a driver and toddler from a smoking vehicle in April, and Pfc. Sean King helped a gunshot victim in Virginia earlier this year. On Sept. 1, the 18th Airborne Corps Tweeted that Maj. Levi Zok used his belt as a tourniquet to save the life of a driver in a car accident, with members of the Stoney Point Fire Department crediting Zok's actions.

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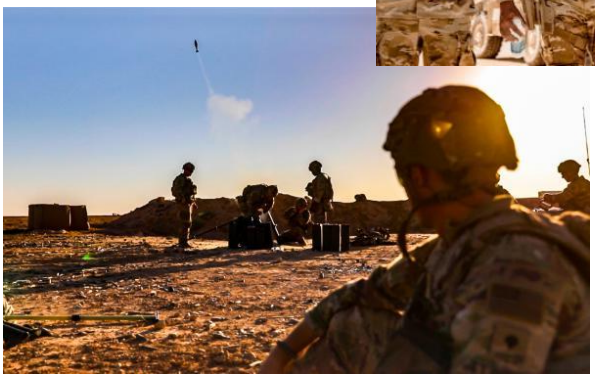
Photos From 2Fury In Iraq 2020


















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D-Day Paratrooper Falls Prey to Covid-19

April 15 by Contoveros

An American hero has fallen to the Coronavirus and the world may never see the likes of him ever again.

Ninety-eight-year-old George Shenkle, a card-carrying member of the "Greatest Generation" took part in the invasion of Normandy more than 75 years ago, freeing our universe from the evil of the Nazis. He served as a paratrooper with three combat jumps – including both D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge — and got a purple heart in return for the wounds he received after hitting the ground and running into enemy fire and explosions.

He didn't know at the age of 21 when he enlisted and became member of the Army's 82nd Airborne in 1942 that he was to take part in the largest amphibious assault ever. No more than 25 percent of the troop were expected to survive although a good 50 percent eventually made it back home.

"D-Day," as the Sixth of June since been called, started a two month-long attack on the beaches of Normandy, France, and led to Hitler's downfall a year later. It almost never materialized. General Dwight D. Eisenhower was ready to quit as commander of the Allied Forces when England Prime Minister Winston Churchill and his Air force leader opposed the plan. They gave in to Ike's demand and as they say, the rest became history.



Dwight Eisenhower addressing paratroopers the day before the D-Day Invasion.
Photo Source: Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs division under the digital ID cph.3a26521.

"When we flew over the English Channel, we saw thousands of boats crossing, we thought we could walk on water." Shenkle recalled in an interview with Marc Laurenceau of the D-Day Overlord association. "Above the French coast, we were hit by anti-aircraft fire. We were relieved to leave the plane!"

As a radio operator, Shenkle provided communications between headquarters and his commanding officer. But the latter jumped far from the drop zone and he did not find him, according to Laurenceau (See post at D-Day Overlord).

"Our mission was to protect two bridges over the Merderet River, at La Fière and Chef-du-Pont," Shenkle reported. At dawn, with a few soldiers, he joined a group of 200 paratroopers awaiting orders. They took possession of what was designated Hill 30, According to Laurenceau. For three days, the paratroopers defended this promontory against German assaults.

German casualties were at a staggering 320,000 (30,000 dead, 80,000 wounded and the rest missing) and Allied casualties were at about 230,000 (more than 45,000 dead).

The entire operation was one of the bloodiest battles ever for Americans, as 19,000 U.S. soldiers lost their lives and more than 70,000 were wounded or went missing. For comparison, of the 12,000 British casualties, 200 were killed.

Over the course of "the longest day" of June 6, 1944 over 10,000 servicemen – Brits, Frenchmen Poles and other allies of the Americans who suffered the lion's share of those killed or wounded.
He was awarded the French Legion of Honor in 2014 by both Presidents François Hollande and Barack Obama.

Many of the men returning from the war suffered from nightmares, depression, rage and some even turned to alcohol, drugs and a few to suicide. This man became crotchety, some would even call him a "curmudgeon" in a more loving way as he roared like a lion at home and at work. He suffered from an untreated life-long dose of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) which was labeled as Battle Fatigue for World War II and "Shell shock" from World War I. "A Soldiers' Heart is what doctor's called the injuries of soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

But no bullet, no artillery shell or no landmine ever stopped this man. He survived flack shot at his airplane, which was part of an aerial armada C-47 Skytrain or C-53 Skytrooper which carried the elite paratroopers on their mission to seize objectives ahead of the seaborne landings.
No, the enemy never got to him in 1944, but the Virus of 2020 did. "These are no ordinary times," is what his daughter, Rebecca Goff, said of the battles her father engaged in during World War II. The same can be said today about our battle with a different enemy as we honor this man who placed himself in harm's way so that his family, friends and nations of the world would have a better life. ✈

Translation of French Newspaper Article on George Shenkle

Courtesy of Valerie Cardin

Portbail, France: The Veterans Back to Normandy Association is in mourning.

George joined his brothers in arms….

The association of Veterans Back to Normandy is devastated. The members of the association have indeed been heartbroken since they learned from George Shenkle's family that he passed on to join his brothers-in-arms, those from the generation to whom we owe our FREEDOM. George Shenkle had planned to come again to Normandy to pay tribute to his companions for the 76th D-Day Anniversary. But life decided otherwise. He died during the night of April 9-10, victim of Covid-19, when pneumonia had already put his health at risk a week earlier.

The Friend of Students from College André Miclot in Normandy.

George was an iconic figure. He maintained very strong links with the President of Veterans Back to Normandy. The association, founded in 2012, has brought nearly forty veterans to set foot on Norman soil. The President, Valerie Gautier Cardin, and better known across the pond as "Frenchie", had a very special bond with George Shenkle. She had the chance to visit him last February in Philadelphia and had exchanged wonderful moments with the old soldier. His smile and his personality will be missed. Over the years, George had become the mascot of College André Miclot of Portbail where Valerie has been working since 2007.

Having returned in 2012 thanks to Mrs. Ellen Peters who also accompanied him, George loved sharing with young people. He dedicated his book "My Clear Conscience" during D-Day of June 2013. Thereafter, George came every year until 2019 with the Veterans Back to Normandy Association.

George was born on October 13, 1921 in Woodbury, NJ, where he grew up until he joined the army on October 29, 1942. When he announced the news to his parents, George was proud. He was going to earn more money than his dad.

George, a radio operator with the 508th PIR, 82nd Airborne, was parachuted on June 6, 1944 near Picauville and fought at Chef du Pont, Baupte and La Haye du Puits. He was parachuted again during Operation Market Garden in September 1944. At the Battle of the Bulge in December of 1944, he was wounded in the shoulder, receiving the Purple Heart.

On February 11, 2014, at the White House, George is awarded the Legion of Honor* by President François Hollande and in the presence of President Barack Obama.

A beloved character, George's zest for life and his iconic smile will be missed by all.
George wanted to live to be 106 years old and become the oldest living member of his family. He would have been 99 years old in October.

Goodbye, old soldier. And THANK YOU for what you did … ✈

*Legion of Honor is the Highest Award France can offer



George and the students of College Andre Miclot at Colleville Cemetery in Normandy, France

Normandy Is Crying

In Memory of George Shenkle

Paratrooper, 82 Div., Jumped in Normandy D-Day

Permission to Circulate, By Author, Daughter, Rebecca Shenkle Goff

Normandy is crying, they lost a hero.
A man, his family couldn't understand.
But then, how can we
We know not hero's

How can Normandy cry,
they hardly knew him,
But then again, maybe they did
And it is we who failed to see

Normandy, teach us to open our eyes
To the magnificence of gratitude
To the humility of breaking pain
Tears flowing, hearts open, arms wide
To embrace what we cannot see

We Americans are blind to hero's
Because we hide our suffering

Normandy knows suffering, then liberation
Those Hero's saved them

Those hero's came back to America
and were not understood
They were forgotten,
and this country never saw
what Normandy saw
This country never felt what Normandy felt
This country never felt at all

We turned our backs on the hero's
The hero's suffered in silence
The hero's are tucked away,
So we cannot see the suffering

Now the hero's will be dying
As their bodies are breaking down
Not forgotten, because they never were seen
As hero's, just old men.

Normandy, keep crying, keep crying for the world
The world needs tears, we have to feel the pain
We have to learn what horror looks like
Because you have not forgotten

Blessed Normandy, St. Mere Eglise
You honor our veterans
You helped them to rise to the skies again,
You brought them up, and held them high
For the world to see, what hero's are.
You kept your hearts and souls full of Love
And have showed the world what we need
Don't turn your backs on hero's
Don't idolize them, simply Love them
And rise the energy for all the world to see

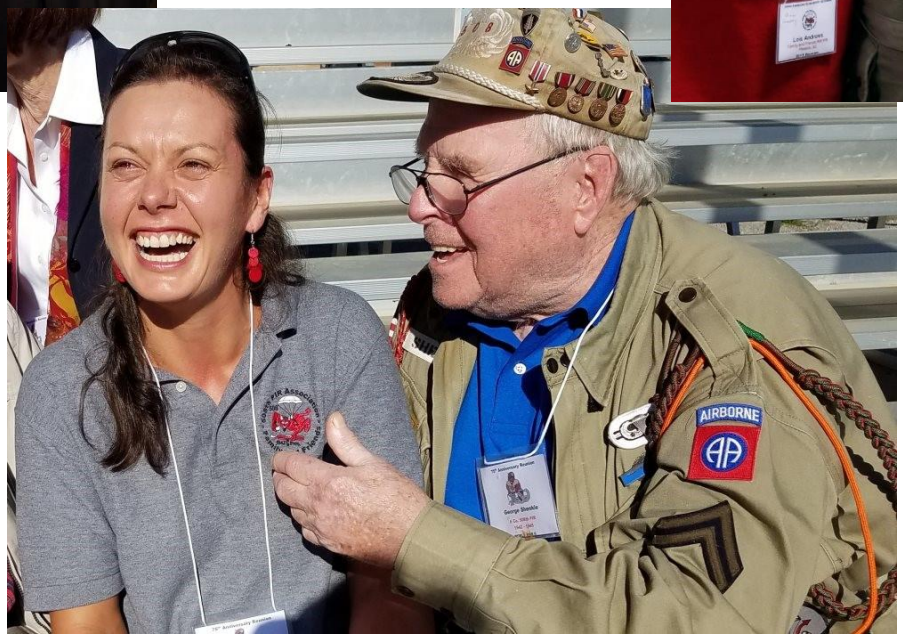
Thank You Normandy, we need you more than ever
As now another World War embarks
We have to save humanity
And not crumble, escape, or harden
God Bless Normandy, and The World,
And especially America, because we need
The tenderness, gratitude, and Love more than ever.
We Love You Normandy! ✈

George Shenkle
1921 – 2020









EVERY SOLDIER HAS A STORY

And we want yours!! Do you have a story to tell of your service in the 508th? Combat or otherwise? If so, please send it to the *DIABLO* editor at Editor@508pir.org. Our goal is to one day have a story or article from each generation of 508th paratroopers in every issue of the *DIABLO* newsletter.

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Photo from Ray Younes
508th ARCT – Fury from the Sky!



**Association Lifetime Members Peggy & Ray Younes'
Deck in Oxnard, California - Spring 2020**

New Book on LTC (Ret) Robert Chisolm and Fellow El Paso Chapter Airborne in the Works

Chairman of the El Paso Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, John Ceballos, is currently writing a book evolving around the life and exceptional military career of LTC (Ret) Robert E. "Col. Bob" Chisolm, an original World War II 508th Paratrooper who parachuted into Normandy and Holland and fought in the brutal Battle of the Bulge. The literary piece will describe how Chisolm helped establish the El Paso Chapter, an organization which has attained local recognition as well as prominence within the international Airborne community. Also to be included in the various sections of the publication (World War II, Korea & Vietnam), will be other well-known members of the El Paso Chapter with exceptional and/or interesting military narratives (WWII Veterans Angel Romero and Dr. Joseph E. Torres, et al).
You can support the project with donations at the Publication Project GoFundMe page: ✈

https://www.gofundme.com/f/quotcol-bobquot-amp-tropers-of-benavidezpatterson?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

Final Jumps



Barbara H. Asher, 86. It is with great sadness that the family of Barbara H. Asher of Winter Haven, announces her passing on Tuesday September 29, 2020, at age 86.
Barbara was born on April 20, 1934 in Lakeland, FL the eldest child of Robert H. Harrell, Sr., and Anna (nee¢ Dean) Harrell. She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Robert Asher. Barbara graduated from Lakeland High School in 1952 and attended Florida Southern College. She was faithful member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winter Haven.
Barbara was an active member of the Winter Haven community; she was a charter member of the Orange Slicers Tennis Club and belonged to the Polk County Tennis Association. She was very proud to have traveled with the Florida Citrus Queen, thanks to her very dear friend Bobbie Smith. Barbara was also a member of the Camellia Garden Club and was a Pink Lady at the Winter Haven Hospital. When not in Winter Haven, Barbara was often in the place she loved the most, Driftwood Landing in Isle of Capri, FL. She was known for her infectious smile, and her kind and compassionate spirit. Barbara's loyalty, generosity and kindness extended to all those she met, as she saw the best in everyone. The family wishes a special thanks to Barbara's devoted friend Kemp Smith for his care and companionship, as well as many other friends too numerous to mention.
She is survived by brothers Glen Harrell (Shelley) Gainesville, FL, Ken Harrell Winter Haven, FL; nephew Justin Harrell (Autumn) New Orleans, LA; great-niece Emery Harrell, niece Jenny Polson (Jason) Tampa, FL and great-nieces Halley and Hanna. Barbara was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Robert H. Harrell, Jr.
Due to an abundance of caution, there will be a public graveside service only. ✈



Olga Winifred Brown, 93, passed away peacefully on Friday, October 20, 2017, in Lubbock, TX. She was born in Newcastle on Tyne, England to Alexander and Winifred How, and was raised in Leicester, England. A member of the Women's Royal Air Force during WWII, Olga was responsible for the tracking of planes and airmen involved in the Battle of Britain. While in the RAF she met and married the love of her life, Earnest H. Brown, a lieutenant in the 82nd Airborne Division. They married in England on July 1, 1944, and were married for 65 years, and lived most of those years in Houston, TX.
Olga was a long time member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Houston, TX, and later in life of St. Catherine of Sienna Episcopal Church in Missouri City, TX. She volunteered for over 40 years at Spring Branch Hospital and was a very active member of the Transatlantic Brides and Parents Association. Olga and Earnest were avid square dancers and bridge players for over 40 years.
She was preceded in death by her husband Earnest, son, Anthony Brown, mother and father, Alexander and Winifred How. She is survived by her son Terrence Brown and wife, Sarah of Lubbock, TX, grandsons, Tyler Houston Brown of St. Helena, CA, and Cody Greyson Brown of Lewisville, TX.
A memorial service will be held in Houston at a later date.
In lieu of flowers, donations in Olga's name may be directed to Cal Farley Boy's Ranch or the Salvation Army. ✈



Willard Warren Davis, born July 28, 1925 in Rosepine, LA, and died February 7, 2020 in Amarillo, TX, lived a full 94-year life. He was the fourth child of Ida "Carra" Mitcham and Irving Columbus (IC) Davis. His older sister named him Willard Warren but the name was overridden in a few moments when the attending doctor slapped him on the butt and said, "Welcome to the World, Jake." Jake was preceded in death by Maxine Woodall Davis, his wife of 67 years, one son, his parents, and five siblings. He is survived by 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 10 grandchildren. During his youth, Jake was a depression era version of Huckleberry Finn. He regularly skipped school to go fishing or hunting. This youthful restlessness resulted in a poor education. And that's a shame because Jake was pretty bright. Jake eventually dropped out of high school in 1943 to marry his sweetheart. With World War II in full throttle, Jake found a job in Beaumont, TX with a shipbuilder. Because shipbuilders and other war industry companies were crucial to the war effort, employees were not subject to the military draft. Jake had a job with financial and personal security for himself and his new wife. But something happened to change the marital arrangement. Jake quit his job with the shipbuilder and joined the Army in October 1943 and was in boot camp a few weeks later. At the end of boot camp the Army sent recruiters for its elite forces. Jake liked the fancy uniforms worn by paratroopers, and the fact that paratroopers earned a few dollars more per month than the regular Army. A lifelong affiliation with the 82nd Airborne was borne. Nicknames for the 82nd include "All America Division.," "America's Honor Guard," and "Red Devils in Baggy Pants." The reference to their uniform is attributed to a German General.

Following extensive training, the 82nd boarded ship and crossed the Atlantic in 10 days. Atlantic crossings were subject to peril, including attack by enemy warships and notorious North Atlantic storms. The Queen Mary avoided the German Navy, but they did run into storms. Everyone on ship was seasick at one time or another. During the rough crossing men who weren't sick played cards. Jake was always fortunate at card playing. Jake enjoyed a few days in Liverpool before moving to the 82nd headquarters in Sherwood Forest near Nottingham.

D-Day the largest military invasion in history was on June 6, 1944. The Airborne's participation started the day before, on the 5th, with the task to land about 10 miles into mainland France, and to fight their way back to Normandy where their colleagues would land in the morning. Along the way they were create confusion and to cause hell, havoc and mayhem.

But Jake got to Sherwood Forest too late to take place in the battle; he was a replacement not assigned to D-Day. But that ended when he was tracked down in a pub and told, "Smith broke his arm and you are his replacement." Dad always thought this was the best way to enter a war. The other guys jumping that night had worried for days about their fate. Jake's worries were cut to only a couple of hours.

Jake fought the duration of the war but he had only one other jump, as part of "Operation Market Garden" on September 17, 1944 when the Allied forces jumped into the Netherlands to obtain control of three bridges and to break through German lines. Jake participated in many other battles including the "Battle of the Bulge." Most of the battles he participated in are documented in history books and in movies. Jake agreed with most soldiers that "war is weeks of boredom interrupted by minutes or hours or days of terror."

Soldiers agreed to stay in the armed forces for an undetermined period of time which was defined as "the duration plus six months." Jake left the Army in early 1946. Jobs held by Veterans before they joined the service were often saved for them when they returned to civilian life. That wasn't the case for Jake because he quit his shipbuilding job. He was an unemployed 20-year old going through a divorce. Job insecurity plagued Jake for several years.

Jake eventually had a stroke of luck while working on a farm project that included many laborers. At the end of the week the labors lined up in alphabetical order to be paid. Jake's neighbor was Bill Davis, the two men had much in common and Bill invited Jake to Amarillo to stay with his (very large) family. Six weeks later Jake married Maxine Woodall, one of Bill's sisters. The two seemed to be polar opposites and several people predicted the marriage would not last six months. Maxine was fond of saying on their (67) anniversaries, that this was the longest "@*#%" six months she ever experienced. Jake eventually went to work in Amarillo at Pantex, a sub-contractor with the Atomic Energy Commission working on NASA's space projects. Jake worked at Pantex until his retirement 35 years later. Along the way Jake worked with people he liked and respected, sometimes referring to his work partners as "Scientists" or "Engineers." He was quite proud that papers filed with the Library of Congress included his name as someone who provided invaluable help to the space program in the development of solid fuel for NASA's space projects. He literally did help put a man on the moon. Jake grabbed his version of the American Dream and held onto it for life. ✈



Arlene Powers- Age 89, of Woodbury, MN. Passed away peacefully surrounded by loving family on July 18, 2020. Born in Omaha, NE on April 9, 1931. Preceded in death by infant brother, Reuben E. Larson; son, Lee J. Powers; parents, Elma C. Korleski (Lane) and George E. Larson; brother, Wayne E. Larson; and father of her children, Leland H. Powers; brother-in-law, Evan B. Conway. Survived by daughters, Catherine L. Powers (David C. Bower) and April E. Powers (Christina G. Conforti); grandson, Daniel P. (Kristen) Spielman; great grandsons, Caleb, Luke, and Nathan Spielman; sister, Evelyn C. Conway; sister-in-law, Elaine M. Larson, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other dear relatives. We wish to thank the staff at Stonecrest Presbyterian Home and Optage Hospice for their kind and devoted care of Arlene. A private family graveside service will take place at Rush River Lutheran Church, River Falls, WI, at a later date. Arlene's son, Lee Jonathan (d. April 12, 1989), will be inurned alongside her. ✈

"Fury From The Sky" Normandy Hill 30 James Dietz Prints Available

James Dietz prints of "Fury From The Sky" are still available!

Following the Airborne Assoult on D-Day, Paratroopers of the 508th PIR seize Hill 30 and defend against relentless German counterattacks between Merderet and Douve Rivers.

Limited-Edition Prints signed by CSM (Ret) Rock Merritt and LTC (Ret) Bob Chisolm, both Veterans of all three 508th WWII combat operations 75 years ago and both are All American Hall Of Fame inductees.

Specially priced at $95.00, shipping included if delivered to U.S. mailing address!

Prints can be purchased on our website at the link below! ✈

http://www.508pir.org/f_and_f/qtrmstr_01.htm



THE PX IS OPEN

Hats are $26.95 and Shirts are $35.00. Prices include $5.00 Shipping and Handling. Shirts are available in Blue, Red, Black and Gray. To purchase a shirt, visit the website at www.508pir.org or contact Chris Harris at harris.chris.j@att.net or (310) 729-2745.







Royal Blue



Red



Black



Gray

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