FONTANA HONOR ROLL

OUR LOCAL HEROES



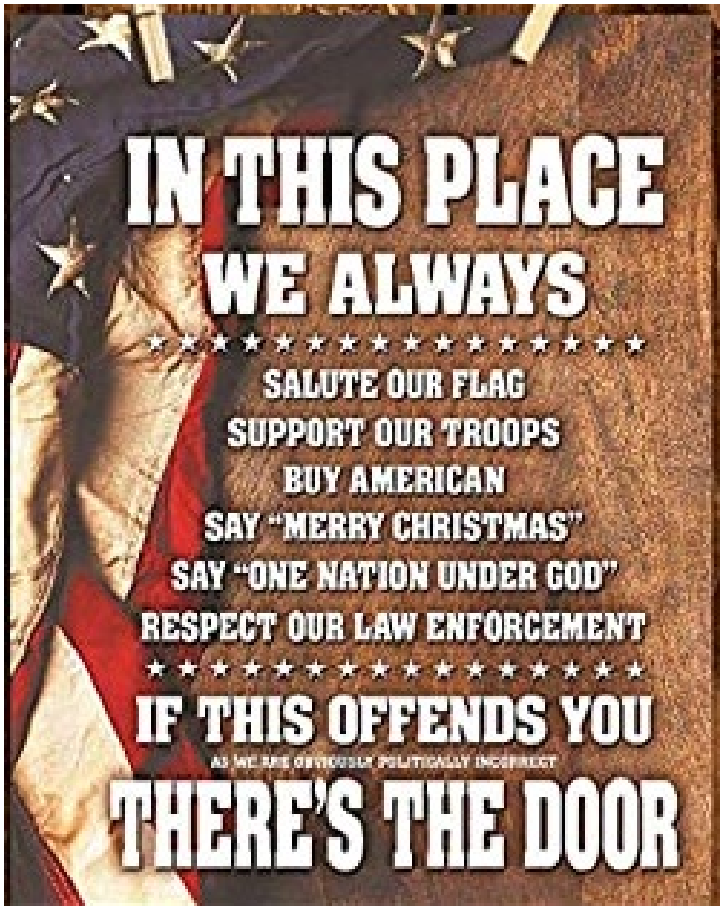
There is an old and oft-repeated saying that a person dies twice. Once, when he or she physically dies. Then, a second time, when no one remembers them.

59 men with Fontana connections were killed or are missing in action or were POW's while serving in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the War on Terror. Remember these men. They already died once for us. Please, don't let them die again.

Bill Freeman, Author
FONTANA HONOR ROLL

OUR 59 HONOREES FOUGHT OR WERE P.O.W.'s, SO AMERICANS CAN FREELY POST SIGNS LIKE THIS ONE!
YOU MAY AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE MESSAGES IN THIS POSTER; HOWEVER, PLEASE REMEMBER, THESE MEN DIED SO YOU HAVE THAT RIGHT!

By the Author – Bill Freeman



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I was already a PFC out of Basic Training, however….



I missed too many weekend Reserve unit drills, and I was busted a grade back to Private and activated and ordered to Inchon, South Korea for 19 months. I was a flame thrower and chemical equipment repairman.
But God had other plans for me. I was discharged for medical reasons a few days before deployment



Expert, M-16 rifle and grenade



Chemical Corps

In 2022, I finally wrote my book!

FOREWORD

Writing this book, the **FONTANA HONOR ROLL,** was a labor of love. It is NOT meant to be an academic publication and is probably laden with incorrect grammar, misspellings, inaccuracies and/or omissions, especially those parts of the book which my editor (see below) did not have an opportunity to review due to print deadlines. I apologize in advance for these possible mistakes.

I hope my book will be seen by untold numbers of high school students, community members, elected officials and veterans and their families in hopes of preserving the memories of these Fontana heroes.

Speaking of Fontana, some of these men were not Fontanans in the truest sense of the word, however, their spouse, parents or other relatives lived in Fontana when they met their death.

I hope I have honored every Fontana man and/or woman who served and died or who were P.O.W.'s during their time of service. My sincere apologies if I missed someone.

Most of this information was found online from newspapers.com, honorstates.org, Ancestry.com, findagrave.org, familysearch.org. togetherweserved.org, government records, high school yearbooks,. and interviews with surviving family members. I urge you to also use these resources so you can preserve your family's history. If you need a reason to do so, I highly recommend you watch the movie ***Coco***! It moved me beyond words!

Finally, I am compelled **to thank three people** for their help, support and patience:

First, my wife, Judy Tate Freeman, FOHI class of 70. The love of my life! I promise to clean up the dining room table when I am officially done with the book!
Second, thank you Cheryl Heath, FOHI class of 62, retired English teacher at A.B. Miller High School, my friend, fellow church member and former colleague at Fontana Jr. High School and editor of this book!
Third, Kathy Logan, for donating her 1944 Herald News "Souvenir Magazine Honoring Fontana Men and Women in the United States Armed Forces," without which this book would not have been 100% complete!!

THE GENESIS OF THE FONTANA HONOR ROLL PROJECT











About 1924 Benjamin "Ralph" Broiles is born
Mid-1930's Ralph **attends Fontana Jr. High**
Late 1930's Because there is no high school in Fontana, **Ralph attends Chaffey High School** in Ontario
Early 1941 Ralph **enlists in the Navy** after his junior year
Dec. 7, 1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. WWII begins for the U.S.
March 3, 1941 Ralph is killed when his gunboat, the USS Asheville, is attacked and sunk by two Japanese destroyers, south of Java
1941-45 Ralph's mother receives his WWII medals
1960's Advancing in age, Ralph's mother seeks out a veteran to safeguard his medals. She gives them to **Dr. Charles "Charlie" Koehler**, a WWII Army Air Corps veteran
1999 Now also advancing in age, Charlie seeks out a veteran to safeguard Ralph's medals. He gives them to **Bill Freeman,** a Vietnam era Army/Army Reserve veteran
11-11-2019 On the 100th anniversary of the Armistice ending WWI, now also advancing in age, **Bill** presents Ralph's medals, his Navy story, death and photos in a **shadow box to the Ralph Broiles Post 6563 Veterans of Foreign Wars**. Bill also presents the Post with a 60-page booklet, with 30 pages dedicated to the Ralph Broiles story, and 30 pages dedicated to the then-known 13 Fontana men killed in Vietnam
2019-2022 Bill researches all 49 Fontana men then known to have died in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Global War on Terror **and writes weekly columns for the Herald News known as the FONTANA HONOR ROLL.**



September, 2022, the 318-page Full color FONTANA HONOR ROLL book is written and ready for distribution to veterans, schools and libraries



THE GENESIS OF THE FONTANA HONOR ROLL PROJECT

August 2021 **12 Marines and one Navy Seal are killed in Afghanistan** on the last day of the Global War. Bill sees "pop-up" memorials to these members of the armed forces and realizes that there are no memorials with photos and stories about the then-49 Fontana men who died while in service to country.

Nov. 2021 The **FONTANA HONOR ROLL** Committee is formed, "Dedicated to building individual monuments in downtown Fontana for every serviceman or servicewoman with Fontana ties who gave their life or who were POW's while in service to our country."

Jan. 25th, 2022 The draft proposal is **presented to the City Council** for initial permission to move forward in the planning of the monument project, including the designation of the preferred site. (see below)



THE FONTANA HONOR ROLL TRAVELING EXHIBIT **is now available for display** at community sites, functions and all Fontana high schools.

SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2022 **THE FONTANA HONOR ROLL** book, *this* publication, a 318-page book about our now-59 honorees, including their lives, deaths and photos, is completed and available for purchase and also for distribution to all Fontana High Schools.



FUNDRAISING BEGINS

Construction and dedication of the FONTANA HONOR ROLL MEMORIAL SITE takes place (dates TBD), depending on how quickly the project and fundraising proceeds.



GOLD STAR FAMILIES

WWII HELMET, RIFLE AND BOOTS

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR HELMET, RIFLE AND BOOTS

OUR LOGO REPRESENTS

ALL FALLEN FONTANA SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN AND MARINES

WHO DIED OR WHO WERE P.O.W.'s FROM WWII THROUGH THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

OUR MISSION:

“THE FONTANA HONOR ROLL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE IS DEDICATED TO BUILDING INDIVIDUAL MONUMENTS IN DOWNTOWN FONTANA FOR EVERY SERVICEMAN OR SERVICEWOMAN WITH FONTANA TIES WHO GAVE THEIR LIFE OR WHOM WERE PRISONERS OF WAR WHILE IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY”

DEDICATED TO MY FAMILY AND FAMILY FRIENDS WHO SERVED



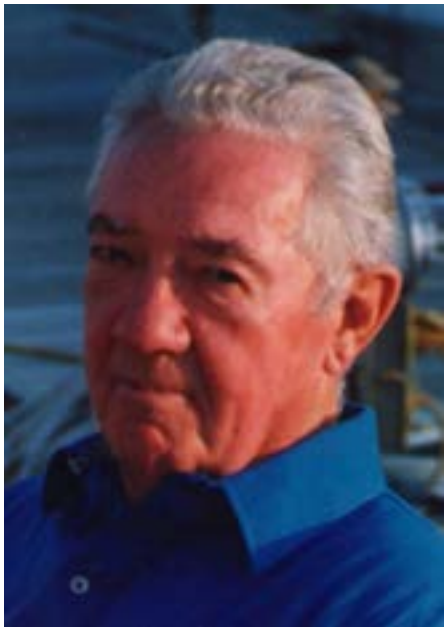
Tudor "Toot" Freeman
My dad -WWII Army Air Corps ★



Bob Freeman – My brother- **FOHI 67** - U.S. ARMY Reserves/USAF Reserves- Vietnam Era ★



Army Sgt. Yale Freeman
My dad's cousin - KIA in Italy on June 8, 1944, fighting the Nazis ★



Bill Sexton – My Uncle WWII - ARMY ★



Billy Gene Tate
Judy's (my wife's) Dad - US NAVY – Korean War ★

★ = Deceased

Family, Faith and Country





DEDICATED TO MY FAMILY, AND MY FAMILY'S FRIENDS WHO SERVED



A. Bruce Carlson
WWII – Navy
My brother's (Bob Freeman's) father-in-law



John Costello - NAVY My son-in-law's (Brian Costello's) Dad My daughter's (Kara's) Father-in-law



Wes Bush – Former Ex. Dir. Fontana Chamber of Commerce – USMC – Iwo Jima- Bronze Star – Richard Bush's dad.





Mike Bacor – My BUD! FOHI '68 - with his 50 cal. machine gun - ARMY – Vietnam – 18-month tour



Harold Brogdon
Long –time Fontanan and the Author's Little League coach - WWII- US Navy Disabled Vet



Richard "Rick" Bush- FOHI 67- Vietnam Attack Helicopter pilot at age 19, 20+ years in the Army – Son of Wes Bush

Richard's Vietnam attack helicopter

= Deceased

DEDICATED TO MY FAMILY, AND MY FAMILY'S FRIENDS WHO SERVED



Aubrey Montgomery Jr. FOHI 68
My step-brother-in-law - Vietnam Wounded, died as a result of his wounds and PTSD
(see his page)



Donna McGonigal
Manager, Ralph Broiles VFW Post 6563, Fontana. Not a Vet, but a hero to many who HAVE served, including this author!



Aubrey "Monty" Montgomery Sr. My step-father-in-law – US Navy, Korean War

★ = Deceased



Jack Limbacher – My Mom and Dad's best friend, WWII- ARMY Infantry



Major Steve Ellis USAF/AFR Flight Medic 20+ years; 20+ years as an AMR first responder helicopter flight nurse



Mrs. Mary Broiles, Ralph Broiles' mother, whose donation of Ralph's medals started this project some 70 years after Ralph's death



Jerry Loessin
United States Army Reserve 489th Light Equipment Maintenance Company; served with this author



Dr. Charles "Charlie" Koehler – My City Council colleague who started me on this writing journey. ARMY Air Corps - WWII



Steve Featherstone
ARMY - 82nd Airborne Ranger, Vietnam - Silver Star, POW - Combat Wounded -3 Purple Hearts ★



USMC Keith Johnson
Vietnam – 25 + year commercial airline pilot



E. Michael "Mike" Rossi
USMC Iran Embassy Crisis – My Good Buddy and colleague – R.I.P. Mike! ★



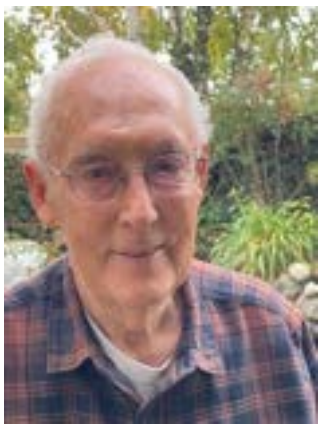
"Bud" Harris, Korea, U.S. Navy. One of the kindest men I've ever known ★



Kenneth H. "Pete" Pearsall - ARMY Band – My former teacher and the man who first hired me as a 24-year-old rookie teacher, ASB Director and baseball coach. Pete was my role model and "sponsor" in promotion opportunities. Pete, R.I.P. ★
and THANK YOU!!



Don Overton, Vietnam Artilleryman, my daughter-in-law's (Kristina's) dad and my
son Mark's father-in-law



Hal Andersen, United States Army Reservist and Staff Sergeant, (E-6), served 6 years in the Reserves as a Tank Company Commander

And some of my ancestors:
Lt. John Lyman 1676 Falls Fight Commander
John Lyman III – Revolutionary War – 1776 (Connecticut Regiment)
George Julius Lyman - War of 1812
Henry Montgomery Sexton – American Civil War (1863 **Union**)
Mr. Tate, Wife's side, American Civil War (1863 **Rebels**)

In 1968, the year from which I graduated from Fontana High School, the Vietnam War was at its height. Hundreds of men were dying every week. As in WWII, it was simply expected that most of us would serve. This book describes in detail the men with Fontana ties who died while in service or who were P.O.W.'s in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Global War on Terror. The men and women listed below, however; all my friends or near-classmates, also served either in the armed forces or as first responders and were fortunate enough to return home. This book is also dedicated to them. I know I missed some of you guys. My apologies, buds! But thank you too!!

Maroon lettering signifies FOHI grads.

Steve Roberts, Jim Roberts, John Roberts (all three brothers served in Vietnam), Dan Castellini, Tony Ciluffo (deceased), John Ryan, Darrel "Mel" Kell, Richard Moscone, Mark Young, Don Testa (deceased), Frank Tiburzio, David Duggins (deceased), Jerry Bomgaars, Rory Mezzanato, Eddie Alborn, Robert Silguero, Steve Palazollo, Claudette Baker, Mark Young, Charlie Williams (deceased), Rick Torres (deceased) Jim Torres, Steve Higginbotham (20 year Navy Vet), Richard Downing, Danny Estrada, Bill "Cheeto" Escobar, Jerry Keeney, George Klepar, Rod Sled, Bob Craighead, Chris Sled, Tom Baldwin, Michael Andersen (deceased), Kevin Holley, Guillermo Santiago, Richard Brooks, Nancy Andersen, David C. Andersen (deceased), Robert Falkenthal, Alan Fowlkes (deceased), Mike Ford, Larry Ariaz, Chris Santos (currently serving as a United States Marine Corps Reservist), Lt. Col. Denny Meelarp (Ret.) FOHI USMC JROTC Instructor, Sgt. Harkey, (Ret.) FOHI USMC JROTC, Jonathan Salas (Army active duty).

I also dedicate this book to our front-line home defense heroes, my first responder friends and buddies:

FIRST RESPONDERS: (POLICE) Larry Clark FOHI 74, Frank Scaldione, FOHI 67 Ed Stout, Ben Abernathy (deceased) (all retired Fontana PD Chiefs of Police) John McMillan Sr., John McMillan Jr. AB MILLER, Cliff Hilquist, Sully Stacey, Nick Clark FOHI 99, Tim Ousley FOHI 67 Bob Miller, Robert Falkenthal, Dave Mendoza, Mike Graham, Stan Bennett FOHI 67, Pete Graziano (**FIRE)** Gary Boyles FOHI 69, John Roberts (retired chiefs), Dennis Cunningham FOHI 68, Fred Roy FOHI abt. 64, Kevin Jones FOHI 74, Ed Keen FOHI 68 (deceased), Steve Ellis 23 years flight nurse, Aaron Vrana, Megan Vrana. (My niece and nephew on Judy's side)

Finally, I acknowledge a few of my friends whom, in my opinion, are super patriots as demonstrated by their love of country.



Greg Sled, lifetime Fontanan, **FOHI 70**



Randy Garber – my best friend for almost 50 years!! **FOHI 70**



Tony Santos – Escaped Fidel Castro's Cuba on March 10, 1968
LOVES THIS COUNTRY MORE THAN ANYONE I KNOW!

FONTANA HONOR ROLL

Biographies of the 59 Men With Fontana Connections Who Were Killed During Their Service or Whom are Missing in Action or Whom Were P.O.W.'s in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and in the Global War on Terror

GOLD STAR FAMILY

A family who lost a family member in war

DEDICATED TO THE GOLD STAR FAMILIES WHOSE LOVED ONES GAVE THEIR LIVES IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM



The Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is a United States military decoration awarded in the name of the President to those wounded or killed while serving, on or after April 5, 1917, with the U.S. military. With its forerunner, the Badge of Military Merit, which took the form of a heart made of purple cloth, the Purple Heart is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military.



THE BRONZE STAR
5 Recipients

The Bronze Star medal is an honor awarded by the United States government to men and women in any branch of the military who have demonstrated exceptional valor in combat.



THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
2 Recipients

The Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) is our nation's highest award for extraordinary aerial achievement. As a valor decoration, it ranks fourth in order of precedence, and is awarded to recipients for heroism while participating in an aerial flight.



THE SILVER STAR
2 Recipients
and one more nominated

The Silver Star is the fifth-highest award for bravery in combat given by the United States military. It honors service personnel who display exceptional valor while engaged in military combat operations against an enemy force for gallantry in action.

60 MEN WITH FONTANA CONNECTIONS

- -10 OFFICERS
- -50 ENLISTED MEN
  - -39 ARMY
  - -9 MARINES
  - -6 NAVY
  - -5 ARMY AIR CORPS
  - -1 AIR FORCE

2 DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSSES
1 NEAR-ACE JET PILOT
2 ARMY AIR MEDALS
5 BRONZE STARS
2 SILVER STARS



49 PURPLE HEARTS

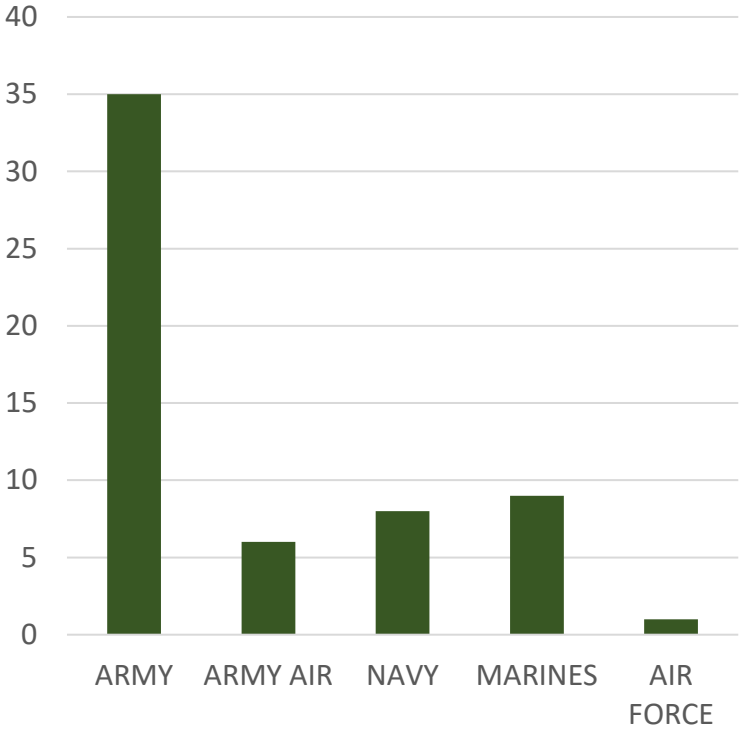
INCLUDING MULTIPLE AWARDS TO THESE MEN:

- **USMC PFC DOMINIC CORONA (x3)**
- **ARMY SGT. CLAUDE FEASTER (x3)**
- **ARMY PFC LELAND INKLEBARGER (x3)**
- **USMC CPL. DEAN WALLACE (x2)**
- **ARMY SGT. STEVE FEATHERSTONE (X3)**

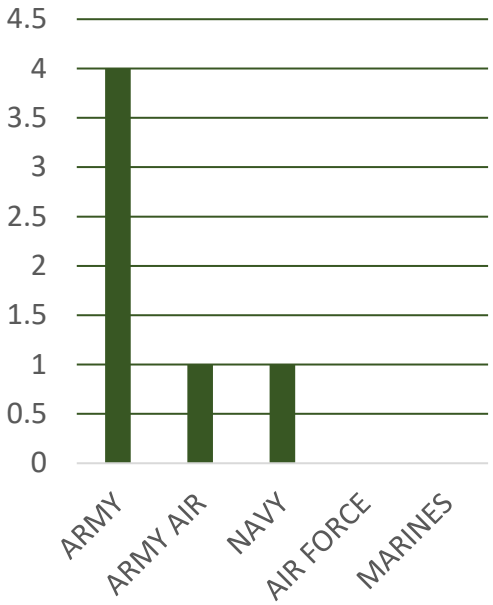
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BY THE NUMBERS

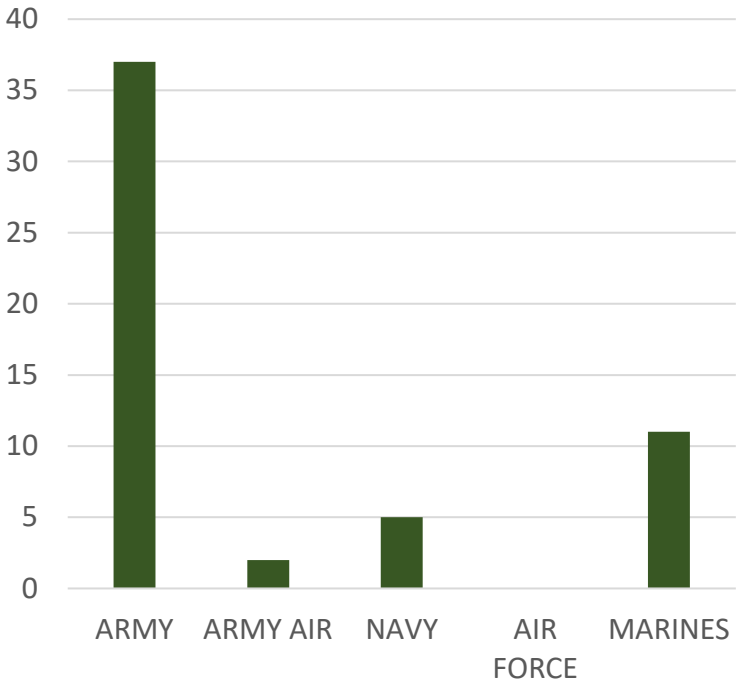
HONOREES BY BRANCH



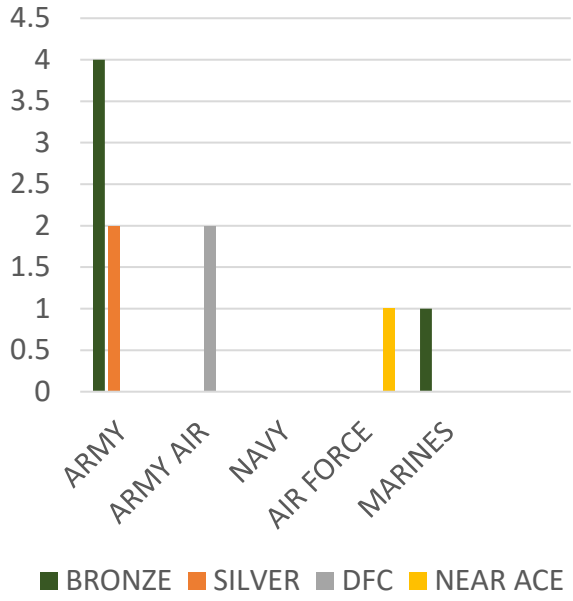
P.O.W.'S BY BRANCH



PURPLE HEARTS BY BRANCH



AWARDS OF VALOR BY BRANCH





A CONDENSED HISTORY OF WWII, THE KOREAN WAR, THE VIETNAM WAR AND THE WAR ON TERROR

TOTALITARIANISM. This one word sums up the cause of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars and the War on Terror. It is defined as a political system in which the government acts as an absolute ruler with complete control over every aspect of life.

After WWI, poverty, instability and dissatisfaction in Europe led to the rise of totalitarian dictators who promised their citizens they could create change only if they had complete control of EVERYTHING.

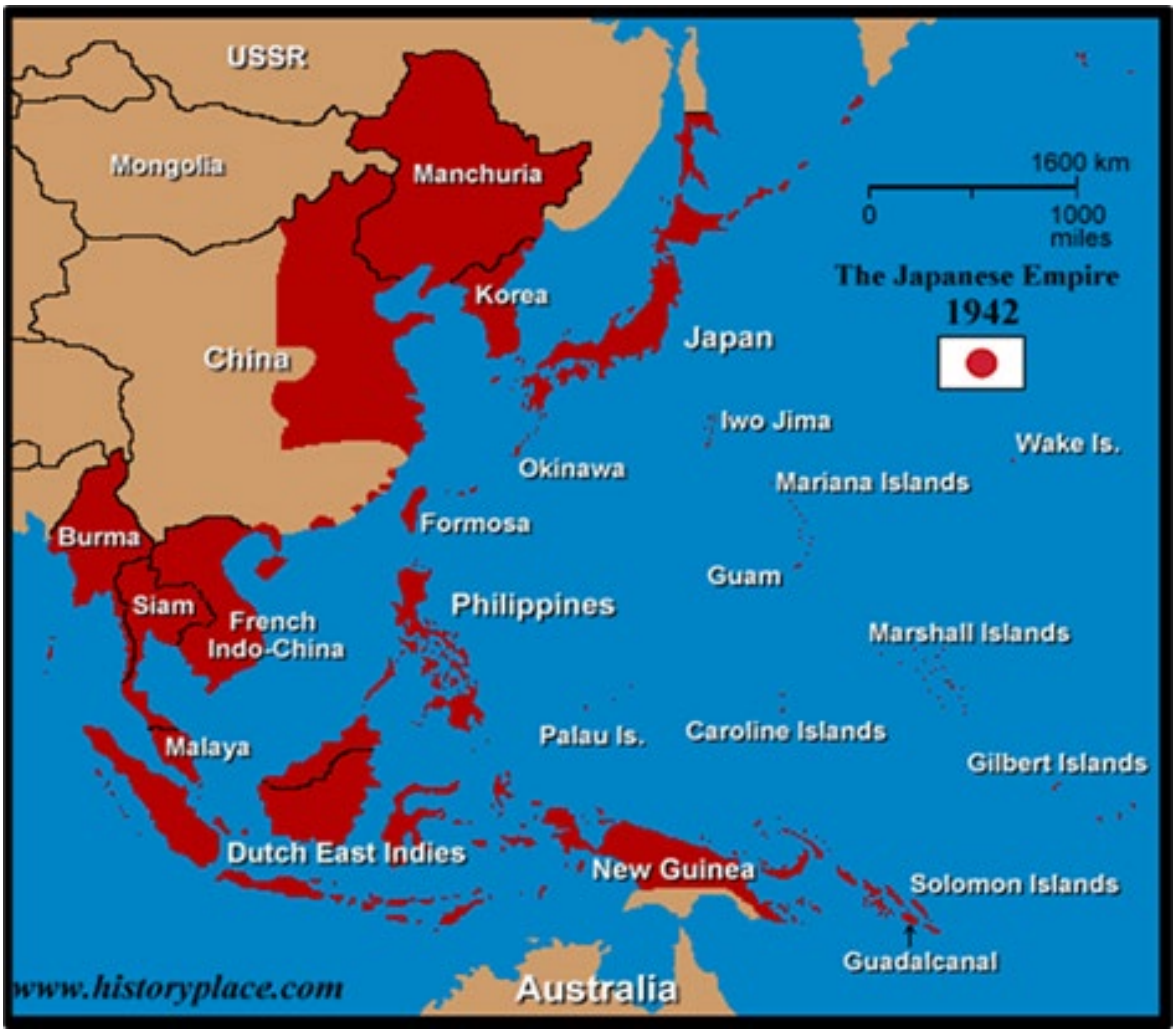
WORLD WAR II

WWI ended in 1918 with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, in Paris, France. The losing side was referred to as The Central Powers and included Germany, Austria-Hungary, The Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria. The victors, the United States and European countries referred to as the Allied Powers included Great Britain, France, Russia, Serbia and later Japan and Italy. Unfortunately, the terms of the Treaty were extremely harsh and included massive reparation payments from Germany. The Treaty also radically redrew boundaries in Europe, including splitting up the Ottoman Empire and Austria-Hungary. Adolf Hitler's meteoric rise to power in the early 1930's was the direct result of resurging nationalism in Germany with the intent of reclaiming much of what they lost by the terms of the Treaty. Additionally, the financial reparations nearly bankrupted Germany and led to widespread despair among German citizens. It is often said that WWII began the day WWI ended.

THE EUROPEAN THEATRE



THE PACIFIC THEATRE



Fast forward to 1938 when Great Britain's Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, and France's Prime Minister, Eduard Daladier, acquiesced to a proposal that Hitler could have what was referred to as the Sudetenland *IF* he promised not to invade any more countries. Chamberlain returned to Britain after making this agreement with Hitler and proclaimed, "I believe it is peace for our time!" Known as appeasement, France and Britain's capitulation to Germany's totalitarian dictator provided Hitler with an additional year to rebuild his military prior to invading Poland on September 1, 1939, a mere 12 months or so after Chamberlain's well-intended but seriously flawed belief that Hitler would abide by his word. On September 3rd, England and France declared war on Germany and WWII began in earnest.

Although the United States sought to avoid entanglement in another foreign war, any hope of doing so was dashed when Japan mounted a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor two years later, on December 7, 1941, killing 2,400-plus American servicemen and civilians. The U.S. declared war on Japan the next day and three days later Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S. The result was tens of millions of deaths, including the twenty-seven WWII fighting men who died and five P.O.W.'s from Fontana.

THE KOREAN WAR

The Korean War has roots in World War II, when Korea was occupied by Imperial Japan for much of the early 20th century. When Japan was finally defeated in 1945, Korea was divided into two nations along the 38th parallel by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Five years later, and after frequent border skirmishes, North Korea invaded its southern neighbor. Within a month, U.S. and United Nations forces began pushing back against the invading force while the Soviet Union and China provided the North with limited materiel support.

China, under communist dictator Mao Zedung (AKA Mao Tse Tung), supported communist North Korea and its dictator, Kim Ill Sung, in his effort to overtake democratic South Korea. Communist Russia also supported North Korea. On June 26, 1950, North Korean troops crossed the border between the two Koreas in an effort to conquer South Korea and unite the countries under one communist government. As a result, the United Nations and 16 of its member nations, including the United States, came to the aid of South Korea. While U.S. and allied forces were able to successfully push the North Korean Army out of South Korea, and nearly to the Chinese border, this progress was lost when Chinese forces supported by the Soviet Air Force joined the North Korean war effort. U.S. and U.N. forces were driven back to the 38th parallel where the remainder of the war saw limited gains for either side, although, South Korea's capital—which had twice been taken over during the war—was eventually recaptured for a final time by allied forces.

Although war was never formally declared, neither was peace. The Korean War, or "conflict" as it was also known, ended in 1953 with a truce, or armistice with North Korea occupying land above the 38th parallel and South Korean doing the same below the 38th parallel. Once again, the violent and evil policies of totalitarian dictators led to over 33,000 American military deaths in Korea, including three Fontanans.



THE VIETNAM WAR

The advent of the Cold War after Korea caused many conflicts between the free, democratic world and the totalitarian communist world. One particular "hotspot" where once again one-half of a nation was communist and the other half free, was Vietnam. Originally, Vietnam was part of French Indochina (the present-day nations of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam). In 1954, North Korean dictator Ho Chi Minh and his communist North Vietnam forces decisively defeated the French in the Battle of Dien Bien Phu, ending France's involvement and setting the stage for U.S. involvement. Again, the settlement ending the conflict divided a nation between communists (the North) and non-communists (the South). Eventually, under Ho Chi Minh, the North continued to raid the South using both guerilla Viet Cong forces (VC) and the regular North Vietnamese Army (NVA). In 1964, North Vietnamese patrol boats attacked two U.S. destroyers in international waters. This led Congress to issue the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving the President the power to take military action without declaring war. In March 1965, the U.S. committed combat forces to South Vietnam. Meanwhile, the communist North received assistance from both the communist Soviet Union (Russia) and communist China (also known as "Red China") in the form of money, equipment, supplies and materials. In what would eventually be known as a political war, the United States would suffer through a decade of war dead and anti-war civil unrest at home. Eventually, the democratic South Vietnamese government collapsed in the spring of 1975, resulting in a communist "reunification" of the country, but not before over 58.000 (and counting), U.S. military deaths, including SIXTEEN men from Fontana who died, and one P.O.W.



THE WAR ON TERROR

It is widely accepted that the "Cold War" between communism and democracy ended when the Berlin Wall was torn down in November 1989; and communist East Berlin was re-united with democratic West Berlin, followed by communist East Germany reuniting with free, democratic West Germany. That is not to say however, that armed conflicts ceased to exist. The most troublesome conflict is known as the War on Terror, which began in August 1990, when Iraqi totalitarian dictator Saddam Hussein invaded oil-rich Kuwait and then ignored the United Nations' demand that he withdraw. This first phase, called the Persian Gulf War, led to the U.S.'s direct involvement in what would become 31 years of on-and-off conflicts in Arab nations. Since 1990, the U.S. has fought the Persian Gulf War (Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm), Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn and Operation Inherent Resolve. Recent reports state that as of 2020, 6,844 men and women from the United States armed forces have died as a result of the War on terror, not including PTSD and other post-combat causes of deaths. These deaths include the SEVEN Fontanans who died fighting in these wars.



AFGHANISTAN

IRAQ



THE TOTALITARIAN DICTATORS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR FONTANA WAR DEAD

WORLD WAR II



HIDEKI TOJO- Japanese Minister for War from 1940 to 1941 and then Prime Minister until 1944. Regarded as a personification of ruthless Japanese militarism, he was held responsible for the murder of millions of civilians in China and the Far East and thousands of Allied prisoners of war. He was the primary advocate of war with the U.S. and ordered the Imperial Navy to plan and carry out the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. In the end, Tojo was found guilty of war crimes and was hanged in 1948.



EMPEROR HIROHITO- Hirohito was Emperor of Japan from 1926 until his death in 1989. During World War II (1939-45), Japan attacked nearly all of its Asian neighbors, allied itself with Nazi Germany and launched a surprise assault on the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor. Hirohito later portrayed himself as a virtually powerless constitutional monarch; however, many scholars have come to believe he played an active role in the war effort. After Japan's surrender in 1945, he became a figurehead with no political power.



ADMIRAL ISOROKU YAMAMOTO – Admiral Yamamoto meticulously planned and carried out the Japanese air strike on the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor on Oahu Island, Hawaii, December 7, 1941. On April 18, 1943 Captain Thomas Lamphier became an American WWII hero when the 27-year-old Army captain, piloting a P-38 Lightning fighter shot down Yamamoto's plane, killing him.



ADMIRAL CHUICI NAGUMO- Nagumo was an Admiral in the Imperial Japanese Navy during WWII. He led Japan's main carrier battle group in the attack on Pearl Harbor. He also led the attack in the Indian Ocean Raid and the Battle of Midway. On July 6, 1944, he committed suicide during the Battle of Saipan.

WORLD WAR II cont.



ADOLF HITLER- There is general consensus that Hitler was principally, and solely, responsible for starting World War II. He was also singularly responsible for the Holocaust and extermination of Jews, including, he hoped, *all* the Jews in Europe. It is estimated WWII cost the lives of 35-40 *MILLION* people; the majority of whom were innocents. Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945, while hiding in a Berlin bunker as the Russian army advanced on Berlin.



BENITO MUSSOLINI- Mussolini was the fascist dictator of Italy who allied his country during WWII with Nazi Germany and Japan. On April 25, 1945, as Allied troops were advancing into northern Italy, and the collapse of the Italian Republic was imminent, Mussolini and his mistress set out for Switzerland. Two days later, on April 27th, they were stopped by communist partisans and taken prisoner. The next day, April 28th, 1945, two days before Hitler's death, they were both summarily shot and strung upside down where Italians mutilated their corpses.

KOREAN WAR



KIM II SUNG- Dictator Kim II Sung ruled North Korea with an iron fist from 1948 to 1994. He created a patriarchal dictatorship where, upon his death, his son and later his grandson assumed dictatorial control of North Korea. The Korean War, or "conflict" as it was also known, began on June 25, 1950, when he sent some 75,000 soldiers from the North Korean People's Army across the 38th parallel, the boundary between the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the north and the pro-Western Republic of Korea to the south. He died of a heart attack in 1994.



MAO ZEDONG (AKA MAO TSE TUNG)- Mao, Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party and also an absolute dictator, ordered Chinese intervention in the Korean War in October 1950. His military support of North Korea extended the war and undoubtedly caused the deaths of many of the 33,686 U.S. troops who died in that conflict. The U.S. fought in Korea from 1950-53 after which an Armistice was signed. Technically, a state of war still exists between North and South Korea. Mao died of a heart attack on September 9, 1976, at age 82. China remains a communist country.

KOREAN WAR cont.



JOSEPH STALIN- Josef Stalin was the dictator of Russia from 1922 to 1953. As ruthless as Hitler, he was singularly responsible for the deaths of tens of millions of his own Russian citizens. Recent reviews of previously-classified Russian documents clearly demonstrate that he approved the North Korean attack on South Korea that started the Korean War in 1950. Soviet military advisers then helped draft the North Korea battle plans and Stalin ordered all of North Korean dictator Kim's requests for weapons and equipment to be met quickly. Stalin died in 1953 at the at age 74 after suffering a stroke.

VIETNAM WAR



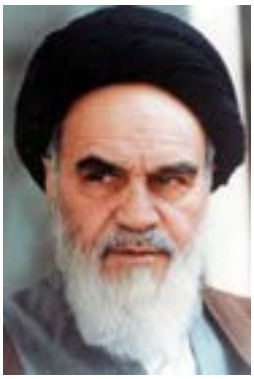
HO CHI MINH- Communist leader Ho Chi Minh led the Vietnamese nationalist movement for more than three decades, fighting first against the Japanese, then the French colonial power and finally the United States-backed South Vietnamese. He was President of North Vietnam from 1954 until his death in 1969. He was determined to reunite North and South Vietnam under communist rule. By the early 1960s, North Vietnamese-backed guerrillas, the Vietcong, or VC, were attacking the South Vietnamese government. Fearing the spread of communism, the United States provided increasing levels of support to South Vietnam. By 1965, large numbers of American troops arrived and the fighting escalated into a major war. More than 56,000 American troops died in this war and many more continue to suffer today from the effects of that jungle, politically-motivated war. Ho Chi Minh died on September 2nd, 1969.





MAO TSE TUNG AND LEONID BREZHNEV- Mao, of Communist China, and Brezhnev, of the Communist Soviet Union, both supported Ho Chi Minh's efforts to militarily defeat South Vietnam and the United States and unify the country. Both men contributed arms, munitions, advisors and other resources to the North in an effort to stand with, at, or near equal footing with South Vietnam and her allies, including the U.S. Other ruthless leaders, especially in Cambodia and Thailand also supported North Vietnam.

THE WAR ON TERROR



AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI- Khomeini was an Iranian Shi'I cleric who led the revolution that overthrew the pro-western Shaw of Iran in 1979 and who was Iran's ultimate political and religious authority for the next ten years. Khomeini transformed Iran into a theocratically ruled Islamic state. The main thrust of Khomeini's foreign policy was the complete abandonment of the Shah's pro-Western orientation and unrelenting hostility toward both superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. In addition, Iran tried to export its brand of Islamic revivalism to neighboring Muslim countries. Khomeini sanctioned Iranian militants' seizure of the U.S. embassy in Tehrān in November 1979 and their holding of American diplomatic personnel as hostages for more than a year. He also refused to consider a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq War, which began in 1980 and which he insisted on prolonging in the hope of overthrowing Iraq's Saddam Hussein. A logical conclusion is that Khomeini planted the seeds for the anti-U.S. sentiment that eventually lead to the War on Terror. Khomeini died in 1989.



SADDAM HUSSEIN- Hussein, self-proclaimed Anointed One, Glorious Leader, Direct Descendant of the Prophet, President of Iraq, Chairman of its Revolutionary Command Council, Field Marshal of its Armies, Doctor of its Laws and Great Uncle to all its Peoples, was President of Iraq for more than two decades and is seen as a figurehead of the country's military conflicts with Iran and the United States. Hussein was a secularist who rose through the Baath political party to assume a dictatorial presidency. Under his rule, segments of the populace enjoyed the benefits of oil wealth, while those in opposition faced torture and execution. After military conflicts with U.S.-led armed forces and United Nations armies, particularly the invasion of Kuwait in 1990, Hussein was captured in 2003. He was later executed by the new Iraqi government.

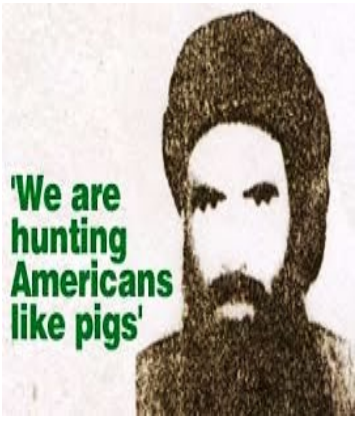


OSAMA bIN LADEN- Bin Laden was the 17th of 52 children of construction magnate and billionaire Muhammad Awad bin Laden. In 1988 bin Laden founded al Qaeda, a militant group with a core goal of waging global jihad.

Following the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, US troops arrived in Saudi Arabia. Bin Laden was outraged at their presence, and soon targeted the United States for its presence on Saudi soil. Worth an estimated $250 million, bin Laden financed world-wide terrorist attacks, including the detonation of a bomb in the World Trade Center in 1993. Also in 1993, eighteen US servicemen, part of a humanitarian mission to Somalia, died in an ambush perpetrated by militants who reportedly trained with al Qaeda. Bin Laden then ordered the 1998 bombing of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, eight years to the day after U.S. troops landed in the Saudi kingdom, killing 224 people. In 2000, bin Laden was linked to an attack and bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen that killed 17 sailors and injured 39 more. Then again, in 2000, a bin laden soldier plead guilty in connection with a failed plot to bomb Los Angeles International Airport during the millennium celebrations. Following the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center attacks, the U.S. government named bin Laden as a prime suspect in planning and executing the four suicide commercial airline attacks on the World Trade Center Twin Towers, the Pentagon and an unsuccessful attack on the U.S. Capitol building.

In the early morning hours of May 2, 2011, a small group of US forces, including Navy Seals raided a walled and fortified compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. In the ensuing firefight, bin Laden died of a gunshot wound to the head. He was buried at sea by the U.S. Navy.

WAR ON TERROR cont.



MULLAH MOHAMMED OMAR- Omar, known as The Commander of the Faithful, is credited with creating the Taliban in 1996 and was its spiritual guide. He created the Taliban to overcome what he saw as Afghanistan's descent into warlordism and lawlessness. Initially, the U.S. may have tolerated the Taliban because Washington viewed it as anti-Iranian, anti-Shia and pro-Western. Since 2001, the Taliban has maintained its insurgency against the U.S.-led mission in Afghanistan and the Afghan government. The United States once offered a reward of $10 million for his capture. The United States' invasion of Afghanistan after the 9/11attacks was to dismantle al-Qaeda and deny it a safe base of operations in Afghanistan by removing the Taliban from power. In July of 2015, the White House confirmed that Omar was dead, but stated that the exact circumstances of his death remained uncertain.



German Annexation of the Sudetenland



A Frenchman Weeps as Nazis March in Paris



WWII Patriotic Comic

Pearl Harbor



Korea



Vietnam



The War on Terror - Afghanistan





A NOTE ON CONSCRIPTION (AKA the "Draft")

- **CONSCRIPTION**—Drafting men to serve as soldiers dates back at least 2,500 years to the ancient Greeks and Romans. They eventually turned to professional soldiers who were more battle-ready than ordinary citizens. Our armed forces have followed suit.
- **THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:** When the colonies decided to rebel against British rule, militias organized themselves, usually at the state level. America's new government had the power to establish the Continental Army, but not to draft men into it. The Army faced manpower shortages the entire length of the war, however, conscription was never enacted.
- **THE CIVIL WAR:** Conscription finally appeared in the Civil War. The Confederate states were the first to enact a draft, in 1863, followed by the Union states in that same year. Only 2% of the Union soldiers were actually conscripts. At the time, conscripts were viewed as derelicts or cowards; hence, most soldiers were enlistees or paid substitutes (6%)

Conscription, cont.

- **WORLD WAR I:** Congress passed the Selective Service Act in 1917. It required all men between the ages of 17 and 21 to register for the draft and be examined for mental and physical fitness. By the end of WWI, 2.8 million men were drafted while the remaining soldiers were volunteers. After the war, most draftees were discharged, and an all-volunteer military was maintained for the next two decades.

- **WORLD WAR II:** The first peacetime draft law in U.S. history, "The Selective Training and Service Act," was enacted in 1940 in anticipation of the country being drawn into the European war waged by fascist Germany and Italy. Draftees comprised approximately 66% of the armed forces. Exemptions were given for clergymen and conscientious objectors. In 1942, a lottery system was enacted in an effort to make the draft more equitable. This Act expired after the war in 1947, however, it was quickly replaced with a new act passed by Congress in 1948, as war clouds once again arose in the Pacific and the Koreas. All men aged 19 to 26 were required to register.

- **KOREAN WAR:** When North Korea invaded South Korea in June, 1950, Congress quickly extended the Selective Service Act; more than 200,000 men were drafted by the end of the year. New features in the modified law included deferments for fathers, certain professionals and college students who maintained good grades and scored well on standardized tests. It also lowered the draft age from 19 to 18 ½, increased the term of enlistment from 21 months to 36, lowered mental and physical standards and limited active-duty personnel to five million. Forty-six percent (1.3 million) of the men who served in Korea were draftees.
- **VIETNAM WAR:** Of the 3.5 million men who saw combat duty in Vietnam, 2.2 million, or roughly 63 percent, were draftees. Many enlistees joined voluntarily because they were usually guaranteed a choice of vocations, or preferential placement; in other words, non-combat assignments. The Vietnam draft was immensely unpopular in the country, with as many as 500,000 men being classified as draft offenders. Another 100,00 dodged the draft by fleeing to Canada, Mexico or Sweden. Of these 600,000 men, only 10,000 or so were convicted of draft dodging. It was during the Vietnam War when massive anti-war and anti-draft sentiment arose. Thousands of men publicly burned their draft cards in protest of this widely detested war. As in other 20th century conflicts, exemptions were granted to students, clergymen and professionals whose services the government deemed useful. In addition to the conscientious objectors, some men tried to be declared exempt by getting married and having children to gain a paternity exemption, or claiming a medical condition, or in the words of those days, a "homosexual" exemption. Eventually, resentment arose among the poor and working classes who didn't qualify for these exemptions and/or weren't as knowledgeable about how to "work the system." In 1969, a lottery system that used randomly selected birth dates was used to "level the playing field," so to speak. The lottery system was allowed to expire by President Nixon in 1973.
- In 1980, President Jimmy Carter re-established the draft system to deal with rising tensions with the then-Soviet Union over Afghanistan, with registration required for men between the ages of 18 and 25. The system remains in effect; however, no one has been drafted since the Vietnam War. Hopefully, this satisfies the 70% of the population who remain opposed to a draft.



Conscription, cont.

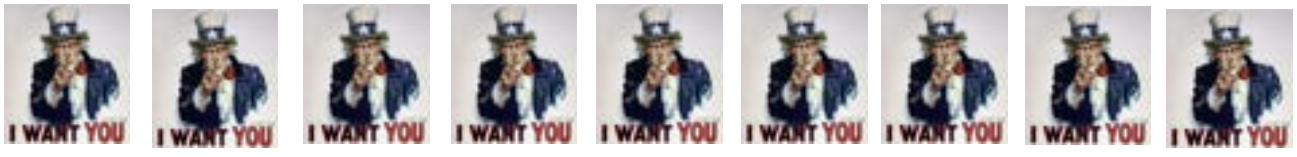
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1950’S FONTANANS HONOR OUR WAR DEAD



Page 19— Friday, November 9, 1956

Fontana War Dead to Be Honored at Rites

Legion Reports Program for Veterans Day

Plaque to Eulogize Fontanans

UR TO SHARE IN SANTA FE GIFT

Plans to Organize Valley City Of Hope Chapter Are Advanced

Fontanan to Speak in TM Competition

Editor Ends 40 Years Work Associated Press

Circle Meeting Held

Annual Legion Breakfast To Precede V-Day Rites

— FONTANA —

CHRISTMAS TOYS
COMPLETE TOY DEPT.
Fully Stocked
WE MADE A GOOD BUY ON PORTABLE TV (YOU CAN TOO)

FONTANA HONORS WAR DEAD AT RITES IN MILLER PARK

FONTANA — In solemn, traditional ceremonies under a bright sun and the Stars and Stripes flying at halfmast, Fontana honored her war dead yesterday, in observance of Veterans Day.

Among those who "gave their last full measure of devotion"—in the words of several of the program's speakers—were 22 Fontana youths who gave their lives in service of their country during World War II and the Korean conflict.

A plaque inscribed with their names was unveiled by Judge Roy E. Berridge was Mrs. Hazel Ellis, president of the Fontana Youth Council, presented the plaque to the community and charged Fontanans with memorializing their deeds.

NAMES ON PLAQUE

Names thus commemorated are B. Ralph Broiles, Robert Von Lehe, Paul L. Harvey, Emmet E. Smith, Donand M. Murray, Edgar C. Feaster, Robert Mortrud, Haskell Owens, Raymond D. McCurdy, Cecil D. Sansome, Manuel Vega, Kenton B. Nicholas, Richard P. Poe, Joseph Plese, Eugene K. Horn, Walter Crosslin, Fred Stewart, Paul G. Garcia, Billy B. D. Dobbs, James D. Pow, Albert Harder and John C. Humphrey.

State Sen. James E. Cunningham, principal speaker, told the group gathered in Miller Park for the 10:30 a.m. ceremonies, "We are enjoying the freedom of our nation because a great price has been paid for it . . . we must be strengthened and fortified by calling to mind what others have done."

Speaking of the "solemn occasion," Mayor M. W. Leetzow said, "If we live and build for the future, maybe some day we are going to see peace on this earth and men and nations living peacefully, one with another."

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Harold Murphy, past district commander of the American Legion, under whose auspices the program is traditionally presented, introduced distinguished guests present. In addition to Sen. Cunningham and Mayor Leetzow, speakers were Police Chief Henry A. Younge and Harry Deputy, district commander of the Legion."

Don H. Crowl, first vice commander of Post 282, served as master of ceremonies on behalf of Cmdr. E. T. Bokkin and the Legion membership.

Participating in the services were Reuben Lewis, who sang the national anthem; Rabbi J. W. Shapiro, president of the Inter-Faith Council; a color guard from Norton Air Force Base; the March Air Force Base Band; the Gold Star Mothers of San Bernardino Valley Chapter; Stan J. O'Neill, president of Local 2869, United Steelworkers of America; Ralph Broiles Post, VFW; Chapter 87, DAV; World War I Veterans Barracks; auxiliaries of the veterans groups; the Rev. John Donaldson, St. Luke's Episcopal Church; and the Rev. Henry Stec, C. R., St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Increase in Juvenile Delinquency Reported

ONTARIO — There were 103 cases of juvenile delinquency handled during October by the crime prevention bureau of the Ontario Police Department, an increase of seven over September.

The figure is revealed in a report prepared by Lt. Roger H. Sagouspe, bureau head. The increase was due to girl offenders, with 17 handled in October as compared with six in September. There was a decrease in the number of boy delinquents, with 86 listed in October, as compared with 90 in September. An increase is noted in the number of traffic law offenders, with 43 listed last month, as compared with 22 in September.

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Many of the FONTANA HONOR ROLL HONOREE'S, from WWII through the Global War on Terror, grew up in Fontana and attended Fontana Jr. High



SCENES FROM WORLD WAR II

Medics assist a wounded soldier in France in 1944



Hitler accepts the ovation of the Reichstag after announcing the "peaceful" acquisition of Austria.

National Archives photo

"A Frenchman weeps as German soldiers march into the French capital, Paris, on June 14, 1940, after the Allied armies had been driven back across France."

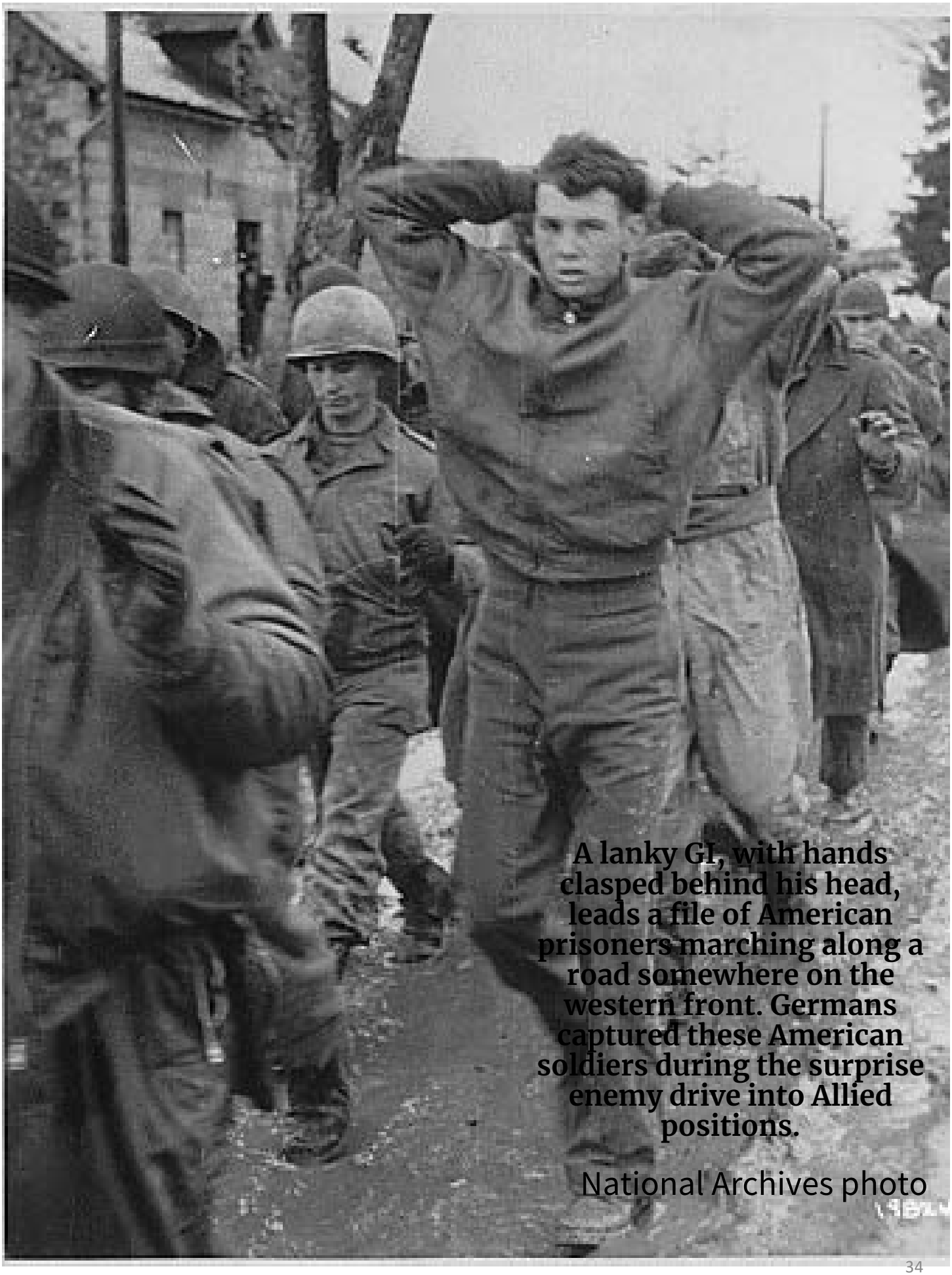


National Archives photo



American howitzers shell German forces retreating near Carentan, France

National Archives photo



A lanky GI, with hands clasped behind his head, leads a file of American prisoners marching along a road somewhere on the western front. Germans captured these American soldiers during the surprise enemy drive into Allied positions.

National Archives photo

Fontana WWII Combat Casualties in the European Theatre



Army Private Kenton B. Nicholas
(Somewhere In Germany- Nov. 1944)

Army Private First Class Leland Inklebarger
Somewhere in France
January 3, 1945

Army Air Corps 1st. Lt. Donald Murray
While flying somewhere over France
Sept. 16, 1943

Army Private Manuel L. Vega
Lorraine, France
Sept. 26, 1944



Army Sgt. Claude E. Feaster
Italy
Feb. 9, 1944

Army Sgt. Yale H. Freeman
Sicily, Italy
June 8, 1944

Army Tec 5 Albert Harder
Firenze, Italy
April 16, 1945



Fontana WWII Combat Casualties in the Pacific Theatre

Navy Petty Officer Paul Lester Harvey
Submarine lost off the southern coast of South Korea, March, 1944

Army Air Corps Flight Officer Raymond D. McCurdy Jr.
South Korea, February 28, 1946

Navy Ensign Robert Logan Von Lehe
Plane crash somewhere in the Pacific Ocean
October 2, 1942

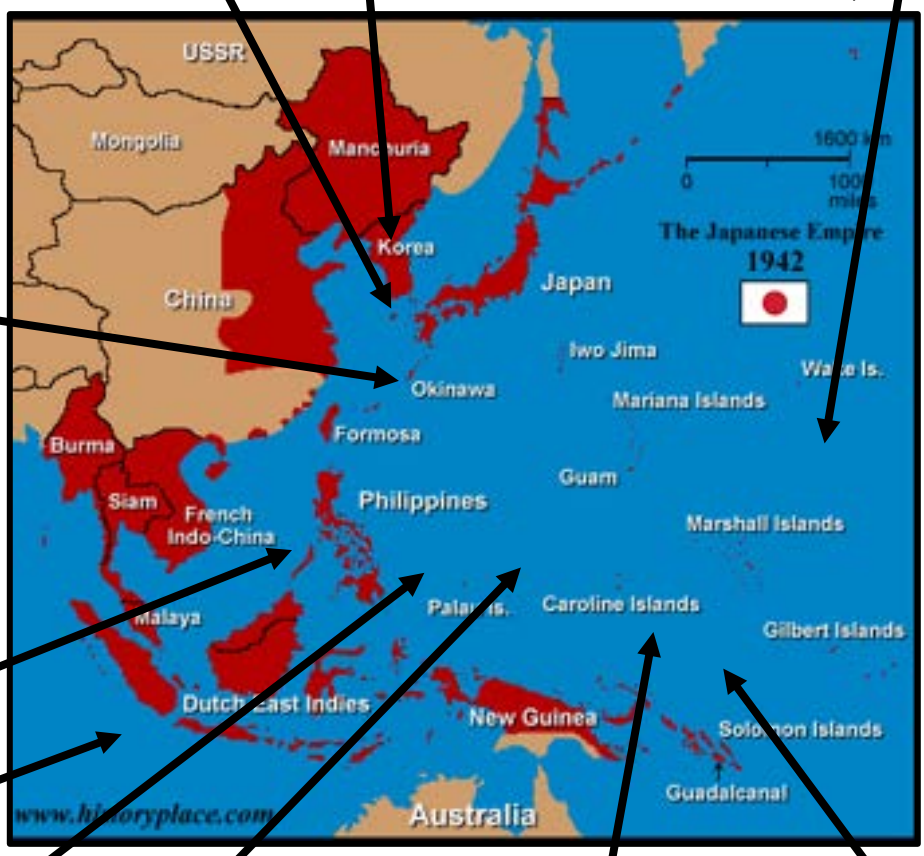
OKINAWA

Marine Corps Corporal Dean Wilson Wallace
Okinawa May 20, 1945

Army Private First Class Joe E. Bermudez
Okinawa April 12, 1945

Army Private First Class Paul G. Garcia
Okinawa-Non-battle
October 21, 1945

United States Army Private Robert O. Bushey
Okinawa- April 22, 1945



United States Army Corporal Haskell Lee Owens
The Philippines, May 8, 1942

U.S. Navy Fireman First Class Ralph B. Broiles
Off the coast of Java
March 3, 1942

Navy Gunners Mate 3rd Class Walter Charles "Mickey" Crosslin
November 30, 1942, while serving somewhere with the Pacific fleet

Navy Petty Officer Second Class Eugene K. Horn
Killed by Kamikaze attack in the So. Pacific, October 25, 1944

Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Joseph J. Plese
Plane crash somewhere in the So. Pacific
November 8, 1942

Marine Private First Class Eugene W. Sanford
Somewhere past the Solomon Islands
October, 1944

THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL IS A DECORATION PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY WHO WERE WOUNDED OR KILLED IN BATTLE

Fontana WWII Non-Combat Casualties in the U.S.

Army Major
Frederick Clarence Stewart
Illness- Patterson, Ohio
August 12, 1944

Navy Ensign Cecil George Sansome
Military plane crash in
Beaufort, South Carolina
September 21, 1945

Army Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud
died from burns Camp Adair, Oregon
May 6, 1943



Army Air Corps Master Sgt. Emmet E. Smith
San Francisco
after being ill for 4 months
January 17, 1943

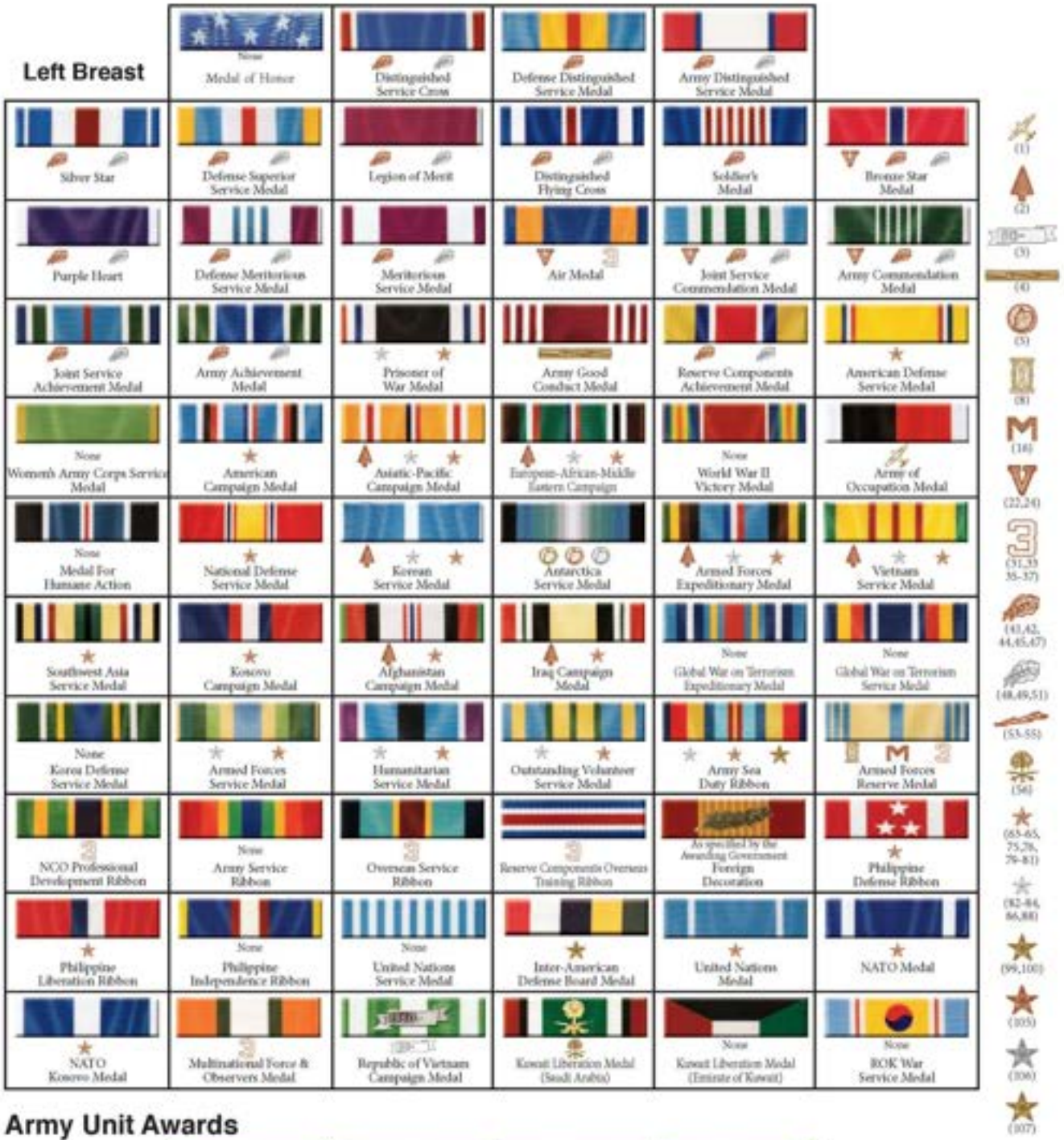
Army Private First Class Eraclio Robles Manzo
in an Army truck accident in Hollywood
September 1, 1944.

Army Private John C. Humphrey Jr.
In a collision with a train in Fontana
November 5, 1945

Army Air Corps
1st Lt. Richard P. Poe
Military aircraft training crash
Bay Minette, Miss.
January 17, 1945

U.S. Army Ribbons & Devices

Correct Order of Ribbon Wear



Note: Per Army regulations, no row may contain more than four ribbons or three (3) unit awards. The display is arranged solely to conserve space on the page.

WWII Awards, Ribbons and Medals Won By Fontanans



Marine Corps Marksmanship Medals



Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon



Marine Corps Good Conduct Ribbon



Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



Navy Good Conduct Ribbon



Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon



Army Air Medal



Prisoner of War Medal



PURPLE HEART



Army Distinguished Flying Cross



Bronze Star



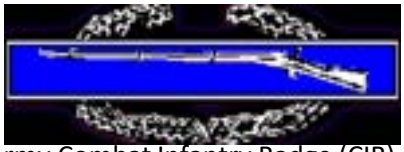
WWII Victory



Navy Submariner Badge



Army Marksmanship Medals



Army Combat Infantry Badge (CIB)



American Defense Ribbon



American Presidential Unit Citation



American Campaign Ribbon



European – African – Mideastern Campaign



Navy Expeditionary Ribbon



Navy Presidential Unit Citation



Navy Combat Action Ribbon





"I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve."
Japanese Admiral Yamamoto's quote in the movie "Tora, Tora, Tora. (Historians assert Yamamoto never uttered these words and that they were from the overactive imagination of a Hollywood screenwriter!)

ALL THE NEWS ALL THE TIME

Los Angeles Times

IN THREE PARTS — 42 PAGES

VOL. LXI C MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1941. DAILY, FIVE CENTS

JAPS OPEN WAR ON U.S. WITH BOMBING OF HAWAII

City Springs to Attention

Los Angeles, Stunned by Sudden War Start, Turns Wholeheartedly to Defense Task; 'They Started It, We'll Finish It,' Matto

F.D.R. Will Ask Congress Action Today

President to Make Plea Personally as Move to Answer Japan Attacks

Berlin Shy About Aid to Tokyo

Toll Feared High in Attack Against Isles

Field Near Honolulu Takes Brunt of Bombing; Naval Battle Reported

Fleet Speeds Out to Battle Invader

Tokyo Claims Battleship Sunk and Another Set Afire With Hundreds Killed on Island; Singapore Attacked and Thailand Force Landed

Japan assaulted every main United States and British possession in the Central and Western Pacific and invaded Thailand today (Monday) in a hasty but evidently shrewdly-planned prosecution of a war she began Sunday without warning.

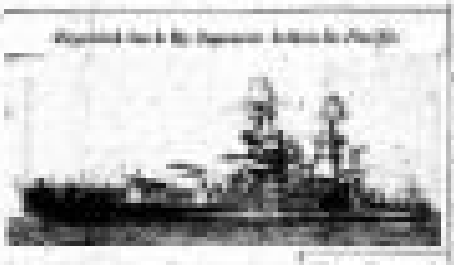
Her formal declaration of war against both the United States and Britain came 2 hours and 55 minutes after Japanese planes spread death and terrific destruction in Honolulu and Pearl Harbor at 7:35 a.m., Hawaiian time (10:05 a.m., P.S.T.) Sunday.

Japanese Aliens Roundup Starts

F.B.I. Hunting Down 300

Fitchburg Sentinel

U.S. DECLARES WAR



3000 Casualties In Jap Attack; 2 U. S. Warships, Planes Lost

Believe 1500 Dead In Hawaii Bombings

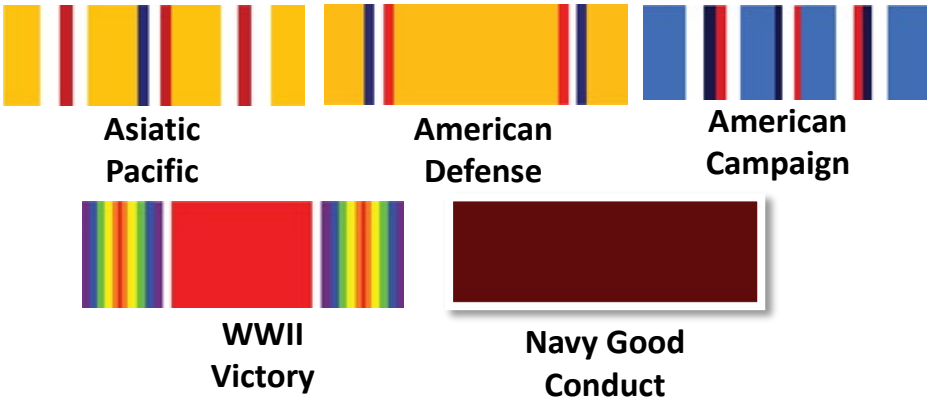
House Votes 388-1, Senate Result 82-0 In Show Of Unity

Other Islands Hit

WWII Navy Fireman 1st Class Benjamin Ralph Broiles



PURPLE HEART





The First Fontanan to Die in WWII, Killed in Action on March 3, 1943, off the Coast of Java





U.S. Navy Fireman First Class Benjamin Ralph Broiles

Benjamin R. Broiles, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Louis Broiles of Fontana, was the first Fontanan killed in WWII.

Broiles attended Fontana Junior High in the mid-1930's and enlisted in the Navy in January 1940, after completing his junior year at Chaffey High School, before Fontana High School was built and was assigned to the USS Asheville, a WWI-vintage gunboat.

On March 3rd, 1942, the ship was engaged and sunk by two enemy Japanese destroyers about 300 miles south of Java. All personnel were considered Missing In Action; however ,it was later learned that a sole survivor, Fireman 2nd Class Fred Brown, was pulled from the water by the Japanese. Brown died in March 1945 in a Japanese POW camp, but not before telling the story of what had happened to the Asheville. After the war, fellow POW's said Brown told them the Japanese machine gunned all other sailors who were thrown into the sea after the attack, leaving Brown as the only survivor. They reported that the Japanese intentionally saved him in hopes of forcing him to divulge US Navy strength in the area.. Ralph was officially declared Killed in Action after the war on November 25, 1945.

For his Navy service and ultimate sacrifice, Broiles was posthumously awarded the American Defense, the Asiatic Pacific, the American Campaign and the Navy Good Conduct Medals. He also received the WWII Victory Military Ribbon and the Purple Heart. The Purple Heart is presented on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize members of the military who were wounded or killed in battle. Additionally, Fontana's VFW Post 6563 is named in his honor.

The whereabouts of Broiles actual medals remained a mystery until November of 2018, when US Army/Army Reserve veteran and former Fontana City Councilman Bill Freeman presented them to VFW Post 6563. Freeman came into their possession in the mid-1990's when former Fontana City Councilman and WWII Army Air Corps veteran Dr. Charles Koehler asked him to safeguard them. Koehler received them decades before from Ralph Broiles widow, who asked that they always be safeguarded by a fellow vet.

- Broiles' medals and his extensive biography are on display at the Fontanan Ralph Broiles VFW Post 6563, located at 9190 Fontana Avenue. Additional copies of the biography are also available for review in the Fontana Historical Society, located on the 2nd floor of the Lewis library on Sierra Ave.

ACCESS GENEALOGY WEBSITE INFORMATION
Name: BROILES, BENJAMIN RALPH
Service Branch: NAVY
Rank: FIREMAN FIRST CLASS
Date of Death: 0000-00-00
Hostile: Kia
Home of Record City/County: San Bernardino
Home of Record State: California
PARENTS MR AND MRS ARTHUR LOUIS BROILES RT 1 BOX 27, Fontana
Conflict: WWII
Source: Access Genealogy

Name: Benjamin R Broiles
Titles and Terms:
Event Type: Census
Event Date: 1930
Event Place: Fontana, San Bernardino, California, United States
District: ED 134
Gender: Male
Age: 8
Marital Status: Single
Race: White
Race: White
Relationship to Head of Household: Son
Relationship to Head of Household: Son
Birth Year (Estimated): 1922
Birthplace: California
Immigration Year:
Father's Birthplace: Tennessee
Mother's Birthplace Missouri
Sheet Letter: B
Sheet Number: 7
Sheet # and Letter: 7B
Household ID: 217
Line Number: 86
Affiliate Name: **The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration** (NARA)
Affiliate Publication # T626

"United States Census, 1930 == Household of Arikus L Broiles, (Note Misspelled name)

Mary M Broiles	Wife	F	39	Missouri
Earle L Broiles	Son	M	16	California
Roy B Broiles	Son	M	15	California
Benjamin R Broiles	Son	M	8	California

Citing this Record:
"United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XC67-PZH : accessed 3 October 2018), Benjamin R Broiles in household of Arikus L Broiles, Fontana, San Bernardino, California, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 134, sheet 7B, line 86, family 217, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 188; FHL microfilm 2,339,923.
Birth June 30, 1921 SOURCE: ANCESTRY.COM

DEATH NEARS FOR BROILES

DOLLARS ENLIST YOUR

The San Bernardino Daily Sun

A Newspaper for San Bernardino County

FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR — TWENTY PAGES

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 3, 1942

HUGE ENEMY FLEET NEARS JAVA

Nelson Calls Home Front Into Action

Competitions Set Up To Spur Production

Army Uses Streamlined Nazi Pattern

NAVY ARRESTS BAR BLABBERS TO CURB TALK

Flying Forts, Allied Navy Go Out to Meet Challenge

Ship Fights Off Jap Sub And Escapes

DUTCH ASSUME COMMAND HELD BY GEN. WAVELL



GEN. A. P. WAVELL

MENACE RAISED BY NEW ARMADA

Defenders Previously Had Checked Foes on Three Fronts by Savage Counterattacks

Marshall Says Army Must Fight Overseas

Winchell Under Fire in House

Scores of Japanese Ships Approach Java

MOROS PLEDGE TO FIGHT JAPS

FLORIDA HIT BY SEVERE FROST

CREW SAVED AS BOMBER FALLS

Germans Say Russians Massing Immense Force

RUSSIANS TELL AIR VICTORIES

JAVA DEFENSE HOLDS INVADER

Bandits Get $5,000 Worth of Olive Oil

Cleanup of Terminal Island Is Completed

Temblor Reported in San Diego District

Hart Leaves Cairo On Washington Trip

Japs Preparing New Onslaught in Burma



ENLIST YOUR DOLLARS

The Sun
San Bernardino Daily
A Newspaper for San Bernardino County

1942 MARCH 1942

FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR—FORTY-FOUR PAGES — SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1942

JAPANESE LAND ON JAVA

JAPS PREPARE TO EVACUATE COAST AREAS

Bipon Expainders Executive Says He Pegin to Make Patriotic Sacrifice

STEP TAKEN VOLUNTARILY

Mass Departure is Be Viewed As Coup's Contribution To National Defense

More Looked Upon as Patriotic Sacrifice

Hope to Go Before Army Issues Order

Bataan Boys Offer 'Help' To California

ACTION SOUGHT ON D.C.D. SHIFT

Negro Barred From Alabama Candidacy

Truck Blast Kills Sheriff, Bystander

KIMMEL SHORT TO FACE TRIAL AT WAR'S END

Army, Navy Call Courts-Martial For Dereliction of Duty at Pearl Harbor Posts

RETIREMENT GRANTED THEM

Each to Receive $6,000 Yearly Pending Hearing of Charges Based on Roberts Report

Charges Based on Commission Report

Trials May Not Start Until War Is Finished

Two Trainman Hurt In Santa Fe Wreck

British Chute Troops Raid French Area

NAZIS ATTEMPT TO SAVE ARMY

U.S. UNDERSEA CRAFT CARRY WAR TO JAPAN

Vice Island Disarmed, Asserts Navy Report of Widespread Triumphs by Submarines

NOTEWORTHY STORIES TOLD

Enemy Ships Torpedoed 'Almost In View of Landmarks at Its Principal Home Ports'

By WENDELL WEBB

Air Raid Executive Dies During Parade

Enemy Pierces Defenses at Three Points After One of Its Invasion Fleets Broken

BAY RADIO CUT OFF 36 MINUTES

SHIPS PARADE GAINING SPEED

Yankees Parade And Irish Cheer

Jap Invasion Forces Fight Past Warships

YANKS GIVE UP 'VICTORY ROLL'

TOKYO ADMITS WAKE DAMAGE

Baby Bottle Nipple Industry Finds Its Best Customer at Plane Factory

17 Days Needed To Clear L. A.

BOY ADMITS ROBBING TO BUY WAR STAMPS

PUBLISHED TWO DAYS BEFORE RALPH BROILES WAS KILLED.

ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE SAN BERNARDINO SUN ON MARCH 21, 1942, THAT RALPH'S SHIP, GUNBOAT 21, THE USS ASHEVILE, WAS SUNK 18 DAYS EARLIER.

With Crew Off Java

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 21. — The navy department announced tonight that the 1,270-ton gunboat Asheville is presumed lost in enemy action south of Java.

Her commander was Capt. Kenneth Mortimer Hoeffel, 48, of Oconto, Wis.

No word has been received of the personnel on the ship, and all must be presumed lost.

The navy did not announce the number of her personnel, but the publication of Jane's Fighting Ships lists the Asheville's normal complement as 185 officers and men.

Built in 1918 at Charleston, S. C., the gunboat carried three 4-inch guns. She was 241 feet long, 41 feet at the beam, and had a designed speed of 12 knots.

She is the nineteenth American combat ship acknowledged lost since the war began.

The navy gave no details of the action in which the Asheville was lost except to say it occurred south of Java early this mornth.

The gunboat operated with the special service squadron of the Asiatic feet.



Approximate location where Ralph Broiles' WWI Gunboat, the USS Asheville, was sunk on March 3, 1942

YOUNG SEAMAN FEARED KILLED FIGHTING JAPS

Ralph Broiles, 20, of Fontana Missing After Java Battle; His Parents Notified

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, March 19. — Ralph Broiles, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Broiles of Arrow highway, is missing following the sinking of his ship off the coast of Java, the navy department notified his parents today.

He is the first Fontana youth to be listed as missing or dead since the beginning of the war.

CAME AS BABY

Ralph Broiles came to Fontana with his parents as a baby. He went through Fontana schools, beginning with the first grade. Before completing Chaffey High school, he joined the navy in January, 1940. After the first six weeks of service he was given a 10-day leave to come home. Since that time he had not been home during his service with the colors.

Ralph Broiles started as a third-class seaman, but last July was promoted to fireman, second-class. At that time he wrote a letter to his parents, telling how happy he was with the promotion. He was transferred to various ships, and was never able to come home.

His brother, Roy, is also serving in the navy. Another brother, Earl, is married and lives in Los Angeles.





4 FRIDAY MORNING.

Navy Lists 180 Mer Missing in Action

Total Includes All From Los Angeles Area Unreported From Dec. 7 to April 15

Missing . . . 180 Navy officers and enlisted men from th Los Angeles area.

This was announced yesterday by the Navy in an offici list of men missing during the period from the treacherou Jap attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, until April 15.

Of this number, 33 were from Los Angeles, 31 from Long Beach and 10 from San Pedro. The remainder were from various communities in the metropolitan area.

STATE TOTAL IS 304

Throughout the entire State 304 men were reported as missing. This included 36 officers and 268 enlisted men.

At the same time the Navy Department pointed out that the classification "missing" covers cases who cannot be accounted for, some of whom might be prisoners, and some of whom may have been rescued at sea and landed at isolated spots and have no opportunity to communicate with the United States Naval authorities.

In brief, the term "missing" does not necessarily mean that the person named is dead.

LIST OF MISSING

Following is the list of those from this area, and the addresses of their next to kin:

LOS ANGELES

ALHAMBRA

ARCADIA

AZUSA

BELL

BELLFLOWER

BURBANK

COMPTON

CULVER CITY

EL MONTE

ELSINORE

FONTANA

Benjamin Ralph Broiles, fireman, 1st W. Arrow Blvd.



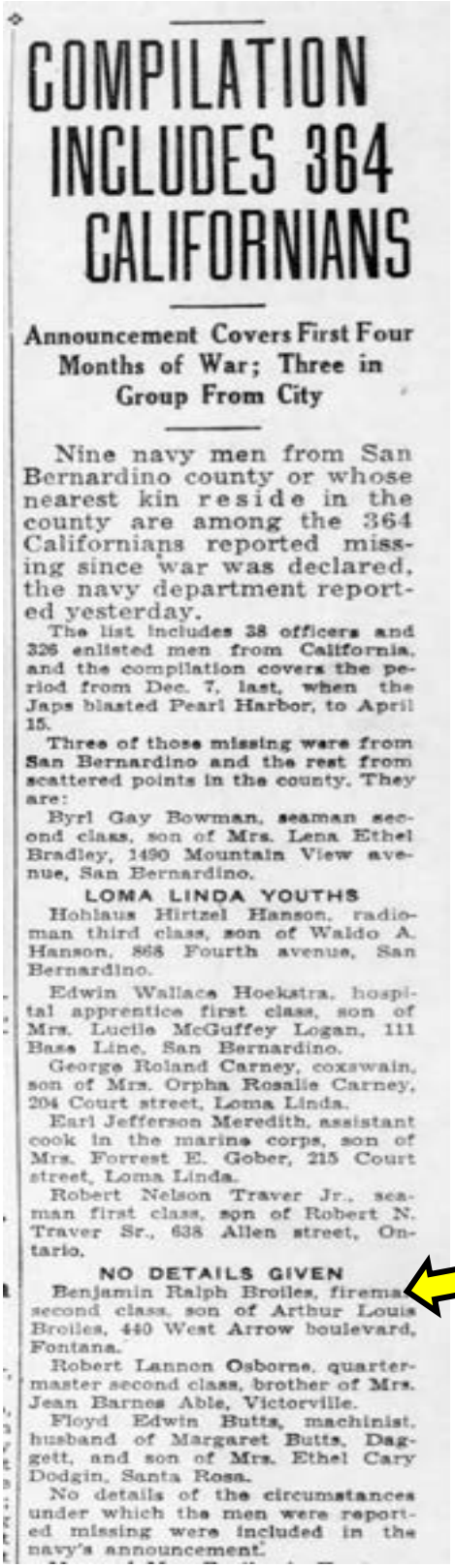
SECTION TWO
INLAND EMPIRE

The San Bernardino Sun
AND THE DAILY ORANGE BELT NEWS

SECTION TWO
INLAND EMPIRE

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 15, 1942

NAVY LISTS NINE COUNTY MEN MISSING



COMPILATION INCLUDES 364 CALIFORNIANS

Announcement Covers First Four Months of War; Three in Group From City

Nine navy men from San Bernardino county or whose nearest kin reside in the county are among the 364 Californians reported missing since war was declared, the navy department reported yesterday.

The list includes 38 officers and 326 enlisted men from California, and the compilation covers the period from Dec. 7, last, when the Japs blasted Pearl Harbor, to April 15.

Three of those missing were from San Bernardino and the rest from scattered points in the county. They are:

Byrl Gay Bowman, seaman second class, son of Mrs. Lena Ethel Bradley, 1490 Mountain View avenue, San Bernardino.

LOMA LINDA YOUTHS

Hohlaus Hirtzel Hanson, radioman third class, son of Waldo A. Hanson, 868 Fourth avenue, San Bernardino.

Edwin Wallace Hoekstra, hospital apprentice first class, son of Mrs. Lucile McGuffey Logan, 111 Base Line, San Bernardino.

George Roland Carney, coxswain, son of Mrs. Orpha Rosalie Carney, 204 Court street, Loma Linda.

Earl Jefferson Meredith, assistant cook in the marine corps, son of Mrs. Forrest E. Gober, 215 Court street, Loma Linda.

Robert Nelson Traver Jr., seaman first class, son of Robert N. Traver Sr., 638 Allen street, Ontario.

NO DETAILS GIVEN

Benjamin Ralph Broiles, fireman second class, son of Arthur Louis Broiles, 440 West Arrow boulevard, Fontana.

Robert Lannon Osborne, quartermaster second class, brother of Mrs. Jean Barnes Able, Victorville.

Floyd Edwin Butts, machinist, husband of Margaret Butts, Daggett, and son of Mrs. Ethel Cary Dodgin, Santa Rosa.

No details of the circumstances under which the men were reported missing were included in the navy's announcement.



. FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1942

COMPILATION INCLUDES 364 CALIFORNIANS

Announcement Covers First Four Months of War; Three in Group From City

(Continued from Page Fifteen)

parents of Benjamin Ralph Broiles, said they had been informed by the navy department their son had been missing since March 3 in the Pacific war zone. He had been in the navy for two years, leaving Chaffey High school to enlist.

A brother, Roy Broiles, also is in the navy. He likewise enlisted two years ago.

Included in the navy's announcement, however, was this statement:

"The classification 'missing' covers those who cannot be accounted for, some of whom may be prisoners, some of whom may have been rescued at sea and landed at isolated spots and have no opportunity to communicate with the United States naval authorities."

In brief, the term "missing" does not mean that the person named is dead.

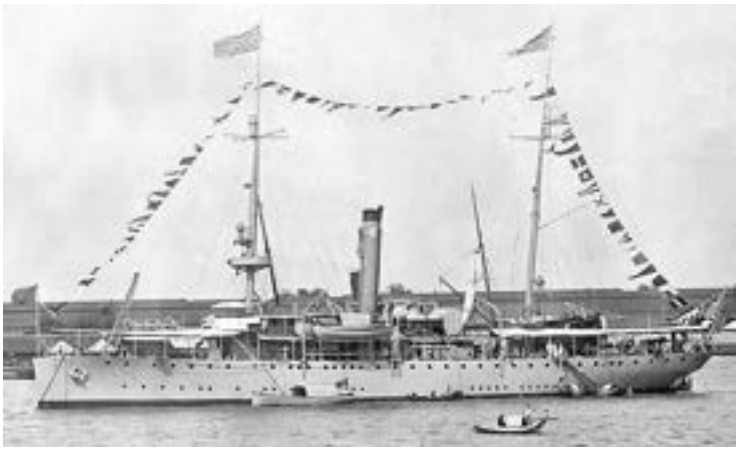
THE HISTORY OF GUNBOAT 21, THE USS ASHEVILLE



Under Construction, 1918



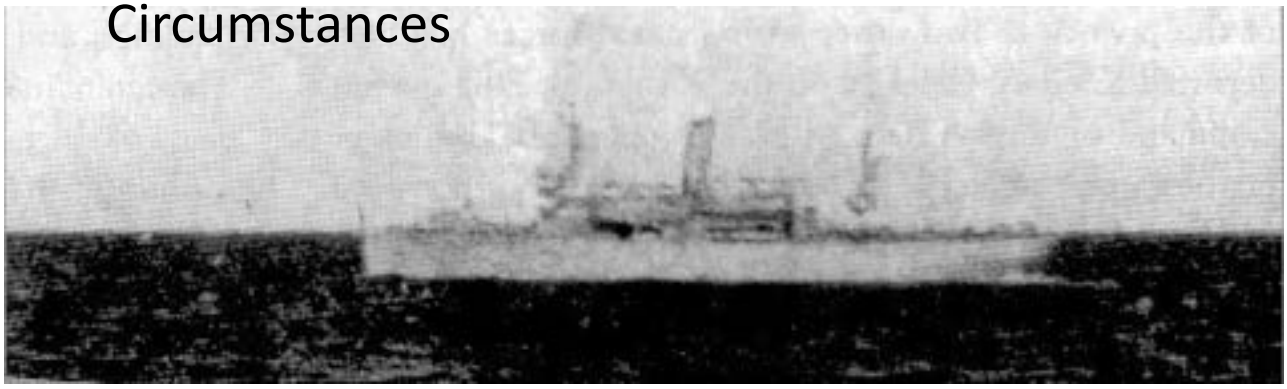
Docked in Hong Kong, 1924



Unknown Circumstances



Unknown circumstances



THE LAST KNOWN PHOTO OF THE USS ASHEVILLE AS SHE MADE HER ATTEMPTED ESCAPE FROM TJILATJAP, JAVA, ON MARCH 3, 1942

(Source: US Naval History and Heritage Command photo, from the April 2009 edition of the *Naval History* magazine)

WWII Army Private First Class Joe E. Bermudez









WWII Victory



American Campaign





Army Presidential Unit Citation

SHARPSHOOTER

PURPLE HEART

Army Good Conduct

United States Army Private killed in Okinawa on April 12, 1944

This writer was emotionally touched as I wrote the FONTANA HONOR ROLL. However, in regard to WWII, it was before my time and I no longer knew anyone who participated in or lived during that time, hence, they did not affect me as did the Vietnam casualties, five of whom I knew personally. Then I had the honor of interviewing Mrs. Mary Bermudez, 88, of Fontana, a younger sister of PFC Joe E. Bermudez. I was touched by her first-hand report of how not only brother Joe served and died in the Okinawa campaign, but also how her brother Tony served in WWII in Germany as a guard at a liberated concentration camp. Another brother, Frank, served in the Korean War. Here is Joe's story as told mostly by Mary.

Army Private First Class Joe E. Bermudez, a native of Etiwanda, was the son of Jose A. and Hilaria Perez Bermudez. He was killed in action in Okinawa on April 12, 1945, twelve days after he landed .

Mary Bermudez vividly recalls his death in WWII. While reading some of the FONTANA HONOR ROLL newspaper articles, she noticed that three other Fontanans were also killed on Okinawa, as was Joe.

Mrs. Bermudez said Joe was born on November 15, 1924 in Etiwanda. He was one of seven siblings from Jose and Hilaria's Bermudez's union. The family lost Hilaria when Joe was sixteen years old. Sometime after that, his dad remarried. That second union produced four more children, all boys, including one set of twins. Joe attended Chaffey High School and graduated in 1943.

A contemporary news article said Joe was drafted and left for the Army on July 29, 1943 departing from "the Masonic Temple." Other Fontanans drafted by the Army on that same day included Joe Tomiska, Milton J. Smith, Jacob Matouk, David Norris and Raymond L. Jones. Also drafted that day by the Navy for a later induction date were fellow Fontanans Maurice Weintraub, Harvey M. Curtis, Edward C. Poe, Frederick Cunningham and Raymond F. Micallef.



Army Private First Class Joe E. Bermudez



Joe scored high on his armed forces aptitude test, so, rather than deploying after initial training to join his comrades in arms overseas, he was sent to the University of Wisconsin to study engineering for the Army Corps of Engineers in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP). However, subsequent manpower shortages in the Pacific theatre of war ended that option prematurely and Joe was sent to the Philippines in 1944 as part of the U.S. occupying force.

PFC Bermudez's first taste of combat took place in Leyte while assigned to the 381st Infantry, 96th Infantry Division. Surviving that, he was among the brave men who endured what was to become an 82 day, fierce, often hand-to-hand combat battle to secure the Okinawa. Sixty-two thousand total wounded and killed U.S. casualties were the result, including 12,000 killed or missing. Young, handsome, Army PFC Joe Bermudez was among those killed, dying on April 12, 1944, twelve days into the Okinawa siege. Joining him in an Okinawa death were Fontanans Army PFC Paul Garcia (October 21, after hostilities ended on the island), Marine Corporal Dean Wallace (May 20,) and Army Private Robert O. Bushey (April 22). Official verbatim records from April 12, 1944, the day Joe died, describe the battle as follows: (Note: When sharing this info with Mary during our interview, she became quite emotional. This was the first time she heard the circumstances of his death. Said she, "It just hurts to know what he went through and how he died.")

> "While the Japanese readied fresh infantry units for a counterattack, the 7th and 96th Divisions (Joe's Division) spent 11 and 12 April consolidating their gains of the previous week. The 1st Battalion of the 381st Infantry pushed forward 300 yards on 11 April by dint of desperate hand-to-hand fighting to improve the regiment's hold on Kakazu West and its northeastern slopes. On 12 April the battalion was repulsed in three separate attacks on Kakazu Ridge by intense enemy mortar, machine-gun, rifle, and grenade fire. Even an air strike and the combined fire support of 2/381 and 3/381 were unable to beat down the enemy resistance."

PFC Bermudez was originally buried in Okinawa, however, his body was returned to U.S. soil a few years later. He is now resting in Belleview Cemetery in Ontario, California, along with Fontanan Army PFC Eraclio Manzo, also killed in WWII. At the time of his death, Joe was survived by his parents, sisters Mary, Sally, Connie and Rafaela; brothers Tony, Frank and newborn Joe. For his service, **PFC Bermudez was awarded The Purple Heart, The World War II Victory Medal, The American Campaign Medal, The Army Presidential Unit Citation and The Army Good Conduct Medal.**



Bellevue Cemetery in Ontario, California

Twenty-Eight Inducted for Army Service

Colton Registrants Will Leave July 29; Navy Takes Fourteen

Twenty-eight registrants of the Colton selective service board No. 150 have been inducted into the Army and will leave Thursday, July 29, for active duty, Henry W. Roller, board chairman, announced yesterday.

The men will assemble at the Masonic temple. Two registrants, Earl Easton of Colton and George Sennett Jr. of Rialto, will report at 6 a. m. while the remaining 26 men will leave at 9 a. m.

INDUCTED

Departing for military duty will be Paul L. Knox, Bloomington; Ramon A. Cordova, Colton; Milton J. Smith, Fontana; William H. Nieto, Colton; Trini G. Caldera, Colton; Frank Schwangler, Rialto; Wayne B. Allen, Colton; Paul V. Rubio, Colton; Manuel Villalobos, Colton; Carlos J. Bainer, Colton; Clay D. Flatt, Colton.

Robert J. Peeters, Rialto; George W. Henderson, Colton; Darrell B. Carter, Rialto; Alexander Martin, Colton; Joseph F. Tomiska, Fontana; Jose E. Roybal, Colton; Jacob Matouk, Fontana; David B. Norris, Fontana; Neil H. Ingram, Colton; William J. Shea, Colton; Raymond L. Jones, Fontana; Eugene A. Olson, Colton; Victor P. Rodriguez, Colton; Joe E. Bermudez, Etiwanda, and Richard G. Harber, Colton.

ACCEPTED BY NAVY

Fourteen registrants have been accepted for service with the U.S. Navy, Mr. Roller said. Date of their departure has not been set, he added.

They are Maurice Weintraub, Fontana; Harvey M. Curtis, Fontana; Salvador C. Ayala, Colton; Randall A. Lauterborn Jr., Rialto; Joseph Sladwich Jr., Colton; Edward C. Poe, Fontana; Hershel L. Hillin, Colton; Frederick Cunningham, Fontana; Robert J. Fry, Colton; James E. Myers, San Bernardino; John H. Elser, San Bernardino; David G. Delgadillo, Colton; Thomas E. Dye, Rialto, and Raymond F. Micallef, Fontana.

Author Bill Freeman Presents a Shadow Box with PFC Bermudez's Replacement Medals and Awards to his Younger Sister, Ms. Mary E. Bermudez of Fontana, in October, 2020





WWII Army Private Robert Otho Bushey



PURPLE HEART





American Campaign



Army Presidential Unit Citation



WWII Victory





Army Good Conduct



Killed in Action on Okinawa On April 24, 1945

United States Army Private Robert Otho Bushey was born in Rifle, Colorado on August 8, 1921. He was the son of Mrs. Art Berry and Mr. C.O. Bushey and was married to the former Eleanor Dowd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Dowd who made their home on Lemon Street here in Fontana. Various news articles in the San Bernardino Sun published information regarding his engagement and subsequent marriage to Ms. Dowd on January 2, 1944. A January 14, 1944, article featured a photo of a smiling and bespectacled Bushey and his new bride as they left Fontana Community Church immediately after exchanging matrimonial vows. (This writer also walked down that same aisle after marrying Fontana girl Judy Tate in 1974. Both my marriage and Private Bushey's were solemnized by the same Pastor, the Reverend Horace Cushing.) Organ music was provided by longtime Fontanan and Community Church organist Mrs. Catherine Forbes. After the wedding, the newlyweds honeymooned "in the mountains and upon their return they resumed their defense work" in the City of Los Angeles. At the time, Bushey had four years of high school and was employed as a draftsman for the W.A. Hite Company.



EXCHANGE VOWS—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Otho Bushey, who recently were married in Fontana Community church. Mrs. Bushey was formerly Miss Eleanor Richards Dowd of Fontana.

FONTANA GIRL WEDDED IN CHURCH CEREMONY

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Jan. 13 — Miss Eleanor Richards Dowd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Dowd of Lemon street, became the bride of Robert Otho Bushey of Los Angeles at the Fontana Community church, January 2, at 3 p.m., in the presence of relatives and close friends. The Rev. Horace Cushing, pastor, conducted the ceremony.

The chancel of the church was tastefully decorated with a background of greenery enhanced with large baskets of white chrysanthemums and candles in tall candelabra.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She presented a charming appearance in a gown of sheer white chiffon over silk trimmed with wide lace, worn by her sister, Mrs. Carl Schuler, (Lugen Dowd) at her wedding, a few years ago. Her fingertip veil was held in place by a circlet of beads and real orange blossoms. Her dainty bouquet was of white sweet peas, bouvardia, tiny pink rose buds and maidenhair fern.

Miss Leona Welsh of Fontana, a school girl friend of the bride, served as bridesmaid. She wore a gown of aqua blue brocaded satin and carried a bouquet of sweet peas in pastel shades, fashioned in colonial style.

Little Jeanette Marsha Dowd, niece of the bride, was flower girl, dressed in turquoise blue taffeta, made with full skirt and fitted bodice. She carried an old-fashioned bouquet of pink carnations, sweet peas and fern.

Carl Schuler, brother-in-law of the bride was the best man.

Four girl friends of the bride in formal attire, served as ushers. They were the Misses Marjorie Lou Halderman, Doris Elaine Ingold, Romala Austin, of Fontana, and Bonita Brewer of Upland.

Mrs. Catherine Forbes, church organist, played many favorite selections preceding the ceremony and the traditional wedding marches. Mrs. Helen Lund Johnston sang two selections preceding and at the conclusion of the ceremony.

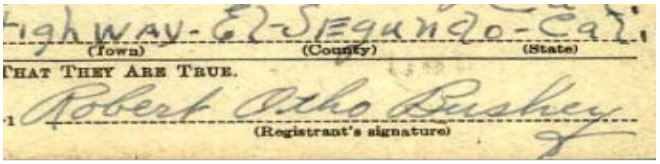
Immediately following the wedding, the guests gathered in the social rooms of the church for an informal reception.

Shortly after the reception, Mr. and Mrs. Bushey left for a honeymoon in the mountains and upon their return to Los Angeles will resume their defense work.

U.S. Army Private Robert Otho Bushey died on Okinawa fourteen months after his marriage to Fontana girl Eleanor Dowd

United States Army
Pvt. Robert O. Bushey

Privates wore no Private stripes in WWII

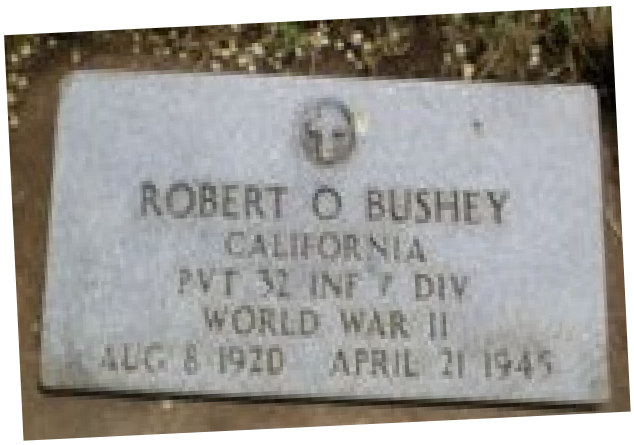


Private Bushey's Signature on his Draft Registration Card



Private Bushey entered the Army at Fort MacArthur, San Pedro, CA on June 23, 1944, and was killed just 10 months later at the age of 24 on April 21, 1945, in the U.S. invasion of Okinawa, which began on Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945. As was common for all WWII servicemen, his enlistment was "for the duration of the War or other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise according to law." Military records indicate he was killed by an artillery shell causing traumatic head and lower extremity wounds. Although he was killed in 1945, his body was not returned to the States until 1949, at which time a full military burial was held in his honor in Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Bushey received his military training at Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Arkansas and Ft. Ord, in Monterrey, CA, where this writer served on temporary duty in 1972. Ft. Ord is no longer in existence and is now California State University, Monterrey. After basic and advanced training, Bushey was first assigned to Hawaii, then the Philippines, serving in the Pacific theatre of war Army infantry unit until his death. He was a member of the 32nd Infantry, 7th Infantry Division**. Bushey was awarded the Purple Heart. WWII Victory Medal, Army Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**



Glenwood Springs, Colorado.



United States Navy Chief Pharmacist's Mate and later Lt. Commander Jesse "J.R." Royce Chambliss

WWII PRISONER OF WAR FOR 45 MONTHS

No record was found of Chambliss' medals, ribbons and awards, however, he most likely received the same ones as did other WWII Navy servicemen, including but not limited to the following:



POW Medal



Asiatic Pacific



WWII Victory



American Campaign



American Defense



Navy Good Conduct

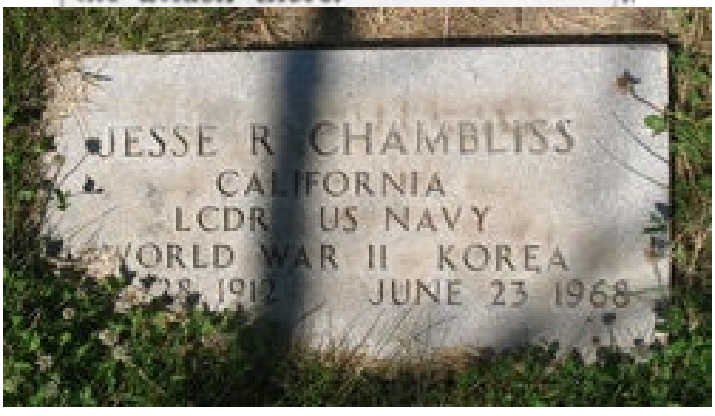
No other information is available on Navy Pharmacist's Mate J.R. Chambliss' internment and/or life, other than what was found in these newspaper articles and the info on the following page

Fontana Man, Former Captive Of Japs, Home

J. R. Chambliss Held In Camp 45 Months, Was at Wake Island

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Oct. 19 — Chief Pharmacist's Mate J. R. Chambliss has arrived home in Fontana, after spending 45 months in a Japanese prison camp. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Chambliss of Randall avenue. Chambliss was one of the defenders of Wake Island who was taken prisoner in January, 1942. He described the food and living conditions as "terrible." he was stationed at Hawaii as a commissioned pharmacist and was transferred to Wake just three weeks before the war began. His wife and daughter remained in Hawaii and were not injured in the attack there.



Chambliss' Father's Obituary

Last Rites Tuesday for Davis Royce Chambliss

Funeral services will be held at Ingold chapel, Fontana, at 11 a.m. Tuesday for Davis Royce Chambliss, well-known Fontana resident who died suddenly Sept. 30 while returning to his home from a motor trip.

A native of Chambliss, Texas, he had lived in California 42 years and at 347 West Randall street, Fontana, for 24 years. He was 61 years of age.

Surviving are his wife, Elsie; a son, Jesse Royce Chambliss of Long Beach; three brothers, Clyde of Rochester, N. Y., Joe of Grass Valley and Leo of Long Beach; two sisters, Mrs. Mary A. Smith of Berkeley and Mrs. Catherine Smith of Phoenix, Ariz.; his mother, Mrs. Dorcas Chambliss of Phoenix; and one grand-daughter, Ann Chambliss.

Mr. Chambliss was a member of the American Legion, the Fontana Masonic lodge, Al Malaikah shrine of Los Angeles, the St. Bernard consistory and the I.O. O.F.

FIND A GRAVE INFO

Name:	Lcdr Jesse Royce Chambliss
Birth Date:	28 Nov 1912
Birth Place:	San Gabriel, Los Angeles County, California, United States of America
Death Date:	23 Jun 1968
Death Place:	Salem, Marion County, Oregon, United States of America
Cemetery:	Kremmling Cemetery
Burial or Cremation Place:	Kremmling, Grand County, Colorado, United States of America
Has Bio?:	N
Father:	Davis Royce Chambliss
Mother:	Clara May Orndorff
URL:	https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62965572/jesse-royce-chambliss

WWI PRISIONER OF WAR INFO

Name: Jesse Royce Chambliss
Race: White
Residence Place: Hawaii, USA
Report Date: 23 Dec 1941
Latest Report Date: 16 Sep 1945
Grade: Pharmacist`s mate, first class
Arm or Service: United States Navy
Arm or Service Code: United States Navy
Area Served: Pacific
Theatre_Guam: Wake Island
Detaining Country: Japan
Camp: Shanghai War Prisoners Camp - Kiawgwan Shanghai 31-121
Status: Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
Report Source:
Individual has been reported through sources considered official.

WWII Navy Gunners Mate 3rd Class Walter Charles Crosslin





PURPLE HEART



Asiatic Pacific



American Defense



WWII Victory



Navy Good Conduct

Note: No record of Gunner's Mate Crosslin's Awards was found. It is likely he received, at a minimum, the same awards as other Navy personnel killed in action in WWII, as shown above.





WWII Navy Gunners Mate 3rd Class Walter Charles (Mickey) Crosslin

There is very little information about Mickey's Navy service, other than what is found here. Perhaps the following will suffice:

A quick chronology:

1917-1918: Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Walter Crosslin's *father*, Jerry Crosslin, fights in *WWI*, also as a Navy seaman.

December 22, 1921: Walter Charles "Mickey" Crosslin is born in Ontario, CA, the son of Jerry and Louise Crosslin.

1936-39: (approx.): Son Mickey Attends Chaffey High School; joins the Navy while still in school.

November 30, 1942: Son Mickey is killed/missing in action while serving with the Pacific fleet. The whereabouts of his body is unknown at that time.

February 4, 1943: Son Mickey's body is found. He is buried in Sydney, Australia.

February 1943: At the age of 47 to 49 (news reports conflict), Jerry Crosslin, Mickey's father, a WWI Navy veteran re-enlists in the Navy with the specific intent of **"avenging his son's death."** He is also sent to the Pacific war zone.

July, 1943: Dad Jerry is sent home for medical treatment at the Navy hospital in Oakland, CA, "suffering from a tropical fever."

January 17, 1945: A year after receiving a medical discharge, dad Jerry dies. No record was found determining whether he believed he had avenged his son's death.

October 18, 1948: Son Mickey is re-buried in the Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno, CA.

A father and a son, both victims of WWII. The son, a popular member of the Chaffey high School student body, joined the Navy while still attending Chaffey. The father, who already performed his patriotic duty and survived WWI, served again in WWII with the express intent of avenging his son's death. Both men paid the ultimate price.

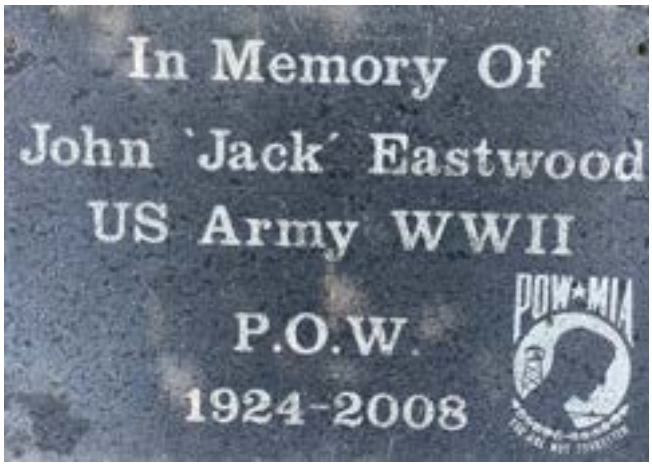


Mickey's father, Jerry Crosslin, Ontario Police Officer, WWI Veteran and WWII Casualty

WWII ARMY SERGEANT AND POW JOHN "JACK" EASTWOOD

Field Title	Value	Meaning
SERIAL NUMBER	19078544	19078544
NAME	EASTWOOD JOHN R	EASTWOOD JOHN R
GRADE, ALPHA	SGT	Sergeant
GRADE CODE	7	Second Lieutenant or Nurse or Dietitian or Physical therapy aide or Private First Class or Ensign or Second Class, Seaman
SERVICE CODE	1	ARMY
ARM OR SERVICE	INF	Infantry
ARM OR SERVICE CODE	10	INF: INFANTRY
DATE REPORT: DAY (DD)	30	30
DATE REPORT: MONTH (MM)	12	12
DATE REPORT: YEAR (Y)	4	1944
RACIAL GROUP CODE		
STATE OF RESIDENCE		
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	22P	Infantry
PARENT UNIT NUMBER	0134	0134
PARENT UNIT TYPE	35	Shop/Construction Headquarters
AREA	77	European Theatre: Belgium
LATEST REPORT DATE: DAY (DD)	31	31
LATEST REPORT DATE: MONTH (MM)	08	08
LATEST REPORT DATE: YEAR (Y)	5	1945
SOURCE OF REPORT	1	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.
STATUS	8	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
DETAINING POWER	1	GERMANY
CAMP		
REP		





Little is known about Army Sgt. and WWII POW Jack Eastwood's connection to Fontana other than the fact that the Fontana Ralph Broiles VFW Post 6563 maintains a plaque in his honor at their Post.

Sgt. Eastwoods military records indicate that he was an Army infantryman who was taken as a Prisoner of War during WWII by NAZI Germany while serving in the European theatre of Belgium. It appears he was taken prisoner, or at least reported as a prisoner, on December 4, 1944. It was later reported on August 31, 1945, that he was "returned to military control, liberated or repatriated."

Sgt. Eastwood most likely received awards, medals and ribbons received by other WWII Army participants, including, but not necessarily limited to, the following:



WWII Victory



ARMY Combat Infantry Badge



POW Medal



American Campaign



Army Marksmanship Medal



American Defense



Army Good Conduct Medal



European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign

WWII Army Sergeant Edgar Claude Feaster



THREE
PURPLE HEARTS



WWII Victory



American Campaign



Army Good Conduct



Army Presidential Unit Citation

On February 29, 1944, US Army Sgt. Claude E. Feaster, 26, of Fontana was killed in action on the Italian front. Word of his death was not reported in newspapers until April 22, 1944. Born in Missouri, Sgt. Feaster lived in Fontana from November 1936 until enlisting in the Army on December 3, 1941, just four days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He was survived by his parents, father J.F. Feaster, who lived on West Foothill Blvd; his mother, of Pepper St., Mrs. Ira Byers, and his sister, Mrs. O.H. Harbit, of Athol St.

Prior to enlisting, Sgt. Feaster was employed for two years as a foreman in the egg candling department at Swift & Co.

Sgt. Feaster took basic training at Ft. Ord, in Monterrey, CA, and received specialized training at Camp Pickett in Virginia.

Feaster entered the African theatre of war in November, 1942 where he fought with the First Infantry Division, also known as “The Big Red One.” He survived the entire North Africa campaign and was almost across Sicily when he was injured and hospitalized for forty-two days, earning his first Purple Heart. After recuperating, Feaster was sent back to the Italian front where he was once again wounded and hospitalized, earning his second Purple Heart. **Offered a furlough to go home and recover, Feaster refused, saying he did not want to abandon his Army buddies.** Twenty-six days later **he earned his third Purple Heart** when he was killed in battle in Italy.

Sgt. Feaster was awarded 3 Purple Hearts, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.



United States Army Sgt. YALE HOADLEY FREEMAN



Killed in Action in Italy, June 8, 1944
117th Cavalry Mechanized Reconnaissance Squad

United States Army Sgt. Yale H. Freeman

Killed in Action in Italy, June 8, 1944
117th Cavalry Mechanized Reconnaissance Squad

Although not a Fontanan, after spending months researching the then-known 54 Fontanans or Fontana-related men who died or who were P.O.W.'s while in service to our country in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the War on Terror, I have taken the liberty of sharing his story in the FONTANA HONOR ROLL, not only in his memory, but in recognition of my family's service to country dating back to the 1670's. Also, I ask you to please indulge me as I speak in the first person.

United States Army Sgt. Yale H. Freeman is not a Fontanan in the traditional sense of the word, yet his ties to Fontana and the Bill and Bob Freeman (my brother) family run deep. He was one of my father's (Tudor Freeman, US Army Air Corp, WWII) closest first cousins, thus making him this writer's 1st cousin, once removed.

I never met Yale; I being born in 1950 and he dying in WWII six years earlier, on June 8th, 1944. I heard of him as a youngster and recall seeing his name on a bronze memorial on Money Island; a memorial dedicated to the men from Money Island and Stony Creek, Connecticut who died in the war. I never saw a picture of him and had no facts relating to his death, except for what turned out to be erroneous family reports that he died in a plane crash in the Alsace Lorraine area of France. It was not until I began researching this book in earnest that I located a plethora of information about him, including being fined $10 by a judge when he was 18 years old for driving without a license and the facts surrounding his ultimate sacrifice.

Although Yale died five and one-half years before I was born, I recall my folks and aunt and uncle frequently talking about him. I had never saw his face until my research discovered it online. He bears an uncanny resemblance to my father's side of the family.

Yale was born in 1917 and raised in Hartford, CT, as was I in my early years. He was the son of Harry William Freeman (after whom I received my first name), my father's favorite uncle, and his mother Goldie M. Goodell. He Yale attended West Hartford public schools. was raised in Hartford, CT., as was my mother, Virginia Lyman Sexton, and my father, Tudor Shippey Freeman, in his adult years.

On February 11, 1928, as was the custom in those times, the Hartford Courant listed the will bequests of Yale's grandmother, (my GGM), Jennie Louise Shippey, including leaving Yale the sum of $500, a goodly amount in those days.

The next mention of Yale was in his junior high years, in the late 1920's or early 1930's, when a newspaper article listed Yale as one of fifty student members of the Alfred Plant Junior High School orchestra. The orchestra was preparing to enter the state contest for orchestras the following spring and hoped to duplicate it's previous year first place victory. No word however, as to what instrument Yale played or whether they repeated as state champs.

United States Army Sgt. Yale H. Freeman



PURPLE HEART



American Defense



American Campaign



WWII Victory



ARMY Combat Infantry Badge



In 1937 Yale moved to Montclair, NJ to live with his brother, H. Carlyle Freeman, also known as “Bill Freeman.” (How “H. Carlyle” became “Bill” remains a family mystery!) Ironically, on December 7th, 1941, the day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, he married his sweetheart, the former Margaret Scott in Columbia, SC. It appears Yale married while in basic training at Fort Jackson, also in Columbia. I never envisioned that twenty-eight years later I too would undergo Army basic training at Fort Jackson.

On January 6, 1941 the 102nd Cavalry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard, of which Yale was a member, was ordered into federal service for what was to be one year. That one year turned into the entire duration of WWII. That day, all troops reported to their respective armories to prepare for shipment to Fort Jackson, S.C. for one year of training.

In mid-January 1942, the Regiment received orders to prepare for embarkation for overseas duty. It was to board the French Luxury Liner "Normandy" on February 26th. It had been tied up in N.Y. since 1939 when war broke out in Europe. On the morning of February 18th, the "Normandy" burned and sank at her pier in New York. Sabotage was suspected.

On April 6, 1942, just 15 months to the day following its entry into federal service, the 102nd Cavalry Regiment was reorganized into a fully mechanized regiment (rather than its historic “Horse Cavalry” unit) and renamed the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squad (Mechanized). On September 25th, 1942 the troops boarded the H.M.S. Dempo, a Dutch passenger liner under British Army control, and sailed October 1st for England in a 96-ship convoy, plus escort.

United States Army Sgt. Yale H. Freeman

In 1935, at about 19 years of age, it appears as though Yale was working in the Hartford Welfare Department. A July 6, 1935, contemporary news article in the Hartford Courant listed Yale as a charter member of the newly-formed Hartford Welfare Department Men's Club. The article included the following statement: "Any male employee in any branch of the department is eligible to join." That certainly wouldn't fly today!!

The 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squad was to play a very significant role in five campaigns of World War II in Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Then-corporal Freeman fought valiantly in North Africa and, after defeating the Germans, his unit moved on to Italy. On June 4, 1944, he wrote his brother, "Bill Freeman," that he was recently promoted from corporal to sergeant.

Four days later, on June 8, 1944, newly promoted Sgt. Yale H. Freeman was dead. Tragically, he had a son born in November 1942 whom he never saw, and whom I have yet to locate.

Verbatim Unit records for June 8, 1944, as the squad fought in Sicili, Salerno, state:

> "On June 8th, 'A' and 'B' Troops continued reconnaissance in advance of the Howze Task Force' 'A combat team of Infantry, Medium Tanks, Tank Destroyers and Engineers. 'A' Troop on the left flank ran into two fire fights and took seven prisoners. A third engagement produced six more prisoners, but strong resistance prevented the patrols further advances to the north. Meanwhile, on the right flank of the Squadron sector, 'B' Troop lost an armored car and a bantam to mines and the 2nd platoon was subjected to heavy artillery fire at the scene of those losses. The day's casualties, all in 'B' Troop, **included Cpl. (actually, Sergeant) Freeman KIA**, (parenthetical and emphasis added,) S/Sgt Corey, Tec 4 Etlinger and Tec 5 Gruskowsky lightly wounded in action; and Tec 5 Renzi, Tec 5 Stewart and Pvt. Ehrlich slightly injured in action."

Sergeant Yale H. Freeman is buried at plot I, row 11, grave 35 in the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery in Nettuno, Italy. Rest in peace, cousin. Rest in peace.



Army Sgt.
Yale H. Freeman
Sicily, Italy
June 8, 1944



Yale Freeman Newspaper Articles

New Welfare Dept. Men's Club Elects Hickey as President

John J. Hickey was elected president of the newly-formed Men's Club of the Department of Public Welfare, at its organization meeting Friday, when plans were discussed for the summer program, and when officers were elected for the year. Any male employe in any branch of the department is eligible to join the club.

The club will enter one or more teams in the municipal bowling league in the fall, may organize a baseball team and will embark on a general program from seasonal activities.

The complete list of officers elected Friday follows:—

President, John J. Hickey; treasurer, Thomas W. O'Connor; secretary, Albert P. Ierardi; steward, George L. Linnane; chairman of house committee, John J. Hogan; sergeant-at-arms, Edward Kelly; chairman of publicity committee, Frank Hathaway; chairman of entertainment committee, Raymond W. Griffin, assistant superintendent; members of the entertainment committee, William J. Ryan, superintendent; H. C. Freeman and Anthony Juliano.

In addition to the officers, the charter members are:—

Robert Simpson, Edward Sheehan, J Edmond Gray, Yale Freeman, Rocco Sagarino, Harry Buckley, Charles Rosengard, Harry Staples, John A. Granfield, John Creehan, David Comptois, Richard Marchese, James King, Stanley Pomeroy, Frank Chamberlain, John Gunshannon, Thomas J. Kelly, Major John H. Williams, Joseph P. Rourke, Harry Kurland, Theodore Charest, Ralph Quigley, Joseph Zimmer.

AVIES MRS. C. GORDON KENNELLY

They all carried bouquets of Spring flowers in harmonizing shades.

Mrs. Bell, mother of the bride, wore a gown of turquoise lace and chiffon and a corsage of orchids. The bridegroom's mother was gowned in aquamarine crepe and lace and also had an orchid corsage.

The bride attended Les Pougeres, Lausanne, Switzerland; Hollins College, Hollins, Va., and the Katharine Gibbs School in Boston. Mr. Davies attended Montclair Academy, Salisbury School and Princeton University, where he was a member of the Tiger Inn Club. He is associated with Duff and Conger, real estate agents in New York, and is a member of the Princeton Club of New York.

The couple have left on a motor trip to South Carolina and Georgia. They will be at home after May 1 at 70 Park Avenue, Bloomfield.

Out of town guests at the wedding included Mrs. James T. Gardner, Mrs. Charles R. Bell and Miss Mary Gardner of Anniston, Ala., Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hardie and Miss Alice Hardie of Baltimore, Md., Mrs. M. C. Stewart and the Misses Beverly Norment and Betty Crawford of Birmingham, Ala., Mr. and Mrs. George T. Southgate of Forest Hills, L. I., Miss Adeline Tuttle and Mrs. A. M. Reynolds of Warwick, N. Y., Mrs. Clarence Whorf and Mrs. Erroll O. Horner of Winchester, Mass., Miss Jacqueline Lee of Lynchburg, Va., Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hillis and Miss Ann Hillis of Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. A. Maxwell Rode and the Misses Barbara and Nancy Rode of Scarsdale, N. Y., Mrs. Francis Parkman of Providence, R. I., Mr. and Mrs. James P. Kinard and Miss Margaret Kinard of Darien, Conn., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brinkerhoff of Pottsville, Pa., and Miss Barbara Stevens of Greenwich, Conn.

The Swedish Congregational Church formed the setting Saturday evening for the marriage of Miss Ruth Usher, daughter of Mrs. Dorothy H. Usher of 118 Midland Avenue and C. Gordon Kennelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Kennelly of 534 Valley Road, Upper Montclair. The ceremony was performed at 8:30 o'clock, with the Rev. S. V. Hanson, pastor, officiating. A reception was held at the bride's home.

Given in marriage by her grandfather, Joseph Scholm of Montclair, the bride wore a gown of white net over satin fashioned with short puffed sleeves and a long train. Pearl clips were used as trimming on either side of the square cut neckline, and her tulle veil was draped from a halo coronet trimmed with orange blossoms. She wore a string of pearls, a gift from the bride-groom, and carried a cascade of lillies of the valley and gardenias tied with a white satin bow.

The maid of honor, Miss Anne Erickson of Montclair, wore a sky-blue tulle and lace gown with a full skirt and puffed sleeves and carried a cascade bouquet of pink roses. The bridesmaids, Miss Claire O'Dea of Belleville and Miss Harriet Shafron of Montclair wore gowns of pink tulle and lace and carried bouquets similar to the maid of honor's. A cousin of the bride, Judith-Anne Alexander of Montclair, and a cousin of the bridegroom, Joan Parker of Montclair, were flower girls. They wore periwinkle blue net and carried nosegays. The bride's mother chose a gown of powder blue chiffon with which she wore a corsage of orchids and forget-me-nots. Mrs. Kennelly, mother of the bride-groom, wore an orchid chiffon gown and a corsage of orchids.

William Koenig of Montclair served Mr. Kennelly as best man and the ushers included Yale Freeman, Ralph Jensen and Harold Gamble of Montclair and John O'Brien of Tuxedo Park.

Mr. Kennelly is associated with the Ingersoll-Rand Company, New York City.

After a week's visit in Washington, D. C., the couple will reside at 63 Elm Street, Montclair.

School Orchestra Personnel.

Fifty pupils have been selected from 202 instrumentalists at the Alfred Plant Junior High School for the school orchestra, Harry B. Carter, music supervisor at the school, announced Friday. The orchestra rehearses weekly and plays at the Wednesday and Thursday morning assemblies. The orchestra is preparing to enter the state contest for orchestras next spring and hopes to duplicate its performance of last year in winning its respective class.

Those selected for the orchestra follow: Piano, Donald Moody, conductor. Barbara Harries, Millard Thomson and Ellsworth Parsons; trumpet, Robert Richardson, Malcolm Holmes, Ralph Bayrer, Frederick McCormack, John Korper, Russell Hobson, and William Kingsbury; saxophone, Sydney Perlmutter; 'cello, John Woodcock and Charlotte Witter; bass viol, Hosmer Jones; trombone, Alvin Kauffman; flute, Eugene Reiner; drums, Pasquali Conti, Mado McDonald and Yale Freeman.

Jennie L. Freeman Will Makes Many Bequests

Four children are named as principal beneficiaries under the terms of the will of Jennie L. Freeman, late of Hartford, which has been admitted to probate by Judge Walter H. Clark. Among the specific bequests are the following:—

To Mrs. Minnie J. F. Greenbaum and Mrs. Louise Church, daughters, wearing apparel; to Leon F. Greenbaum, a grandson, $4,000; to Carlyle Freeman and Yale Freeman, grandchildren, $500 each; to Leon F. Greenbaum, contents of room occupied by him, and furnishings of the room of the testatrix, except some specified articles; to Harry W. Freeman, a son, other furniture, house furnishings, etc., in residence at 80 Edwards Street, and a diamond ring; to Sanford G. Freeman, a son, a solitare diamond ring; to Mrs. Louise F. Church, gold chain and lorgnettes; to Mrs. Minnie J. F. Greenbaum, diamond ring and cottage and contents at Stony Creek, as well as an income of $75 for each month in which the estate shall remain undisturbed; to Mrs. Harry W. Freeman, a cameo pin; to the members of the family of the testatrix occupying the house at 80 Edwards Street, the right to use the residence for six months after her death.

The residuary estate is bequeathed to the four children, in equal shares. The Hartford National Bank & Trust Company is executor.

Florence, Italy, plans the erection of many new schools.

HARTFORD

Yale in Action in Africa, Prior to Moving on to Italy, Where He Met His Death in June,



'The Vino Boys' in Africa



Private (first class) T. J. Williams [illegible], son of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Williams of 118 Edgemont Road, sent this picture home to his family from Africa where he is stationed with a cavalry unit. Private Williams, center, rear row, entered service with the Essex Troop of the 102d Cavalry in December, 1940, and was stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C., before going abroad last October. A graduate of Montclair High School, he was Montclair's youngest volunteer, 18, when he entered the Army in May, 1940. Standing at Williams's left is Yale Freeman, brother of H. Carlyle Freeman of 5 Emerson Place.

When Williams wrote his family he said they had taken to drinking wine to quench their thirsts because the water was so scarce and so undependable. He also said he had just had his first bath since landing in Africa. "Hot water, spring and an enormous pool, really means luxury," he declared.

Police Court.

Fines and costs were assessed in Police Court Saturday violators of motor vehicle regulations. Charles A. Daniels, 213 Lawrence Street, Hartford, arrested by Policeman David Galligan Thursday for operating a car while his license was under suspension, was fined $100 and costs and $50 was remitted. Rodney W. Hewitt, Jr., of Lebanon, arrested Thursday by Policeman Joseph Prentice and charged with speeding on East Center Street, was fined $10 and costs, as was Kenneth B. Hawkins of Willimantic. Yale Freeman, 18, of Evergreen Avenue, Hartford, charged with driving without a license, was fined $10 and costs with the fine remitted.

After arriving in Italy, Sgt. Freeman is quoted in a Montclair, NJ newspaper article saying, "…we're glad to be here." Unfortunately, this article was published just a few days after he was killed there.

…s graduated tomorrow evening, will …nd overseas. It will be particularly … be graduated in the garden theatre …t. Their names will be called, how-

half years, he is a graduate of Montclair High School, Class of 1933. Lt. Rubino is engaged to Miss Rose Bellofatto, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Bellofatto of 109 Midland Avenue.

Charles A. Burgi Jr., 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Burgi of 439 Valley Road, won his tNavy "Wings of Gold" and was commissioned an ensign in the Naval Reserve this week following completion of the prescribed flight training course at the Naval Air Training Center, Pensacola, Fla., the "Annapolis of the Air." Having been designated a Naval Aviator, Ensign Burgi will go on active duty at one of the Navy's air operational training centers before being assigned to a combat zone. Prior to entering the naval service, he attended Columbia University for three years.

John Herbert Arnold Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Arnold of 73 Gordonhurst Avenue, Upper Montclair, has begun training as an aviation cadet in the Army Air Forces Training Command School at Yale University. His training will prepare him for the duties of a technical officer in communications, and upon completion of the course he will be commissioned a second lieutenant. West Point traditions and discipline are in effect at the Training Command School at Yale.

Lieutenant Gene Caprio, former Mailbag editor now with the Army in Italy, sends a clipping from an unspecified paper telling of the arrival of Fifth Army forces at the Anzio beachhead. Included among them were Corporal Yale Freeman and Technician (fifth grade) Arthur Hallgren. Their outfit just missed being the first to make contact with the beachhead forces. "You can't have everything, but we're glad to be here," Corporal Freeman declared. En route to Anzio, Hallgren remarked, "There were plenty of Italians who came out of caves, clapped and called us 'fratelli.'" Lieutenant Caprio, who has been doing liaison work between Army men and correspondents, asks that a place be reserved for him on The Times softball team. He also sends "an example of newspaper eyewash" from a Midwest paper. "You can buy anything in Naples, including articles not obtainable in New York or London," said the account. "What," queried Capric, "the local newspaper?"

Raymond R. Ammarell Jr., 17 Glenside Terrace, Upper Montclair, has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant at Headquarters Air Service Command, Patterson Field, O.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in October, 1943, after at-

tending …School at … Statistical … Prior to … was statio… Command, … Ammarell … High Sch… graduated … sity in 193… ministratio… active in … wife, Barb… Robert R., … clair addr…

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Provides healthful recreation during …
BASEBALL, TENNIS, BADMINTON, ARCH…
Ages Six to Fourteen
Bus Transportation Availab…
For booklet, write or phone MONTCLA…
MOntclair 2-1874 **E. …**



Sergeant Freeman Is Reported Killed

Veteran of African, Anzio Battles Dies in Italy.

Sergeant Yale H. Freeman, brother of H. Carlyle Freeman of 5 Emerson Place, was killed in action in Italy on June 8, according to word received this past week by his brother, with whom Sergeant Freeman made his home.

Sergeant Freeman was federalized with the Essex Troop in January, 1941, and trained at Fort Jackson. He went overseas to North Africa in late 1942 and served through the North African campaign. Later he was with a mechanized reconnaissance troop which landed with one of the early waves at Anzio.

Educated in the Hartford, Conn., and West Hartford public schools, Sergeant Freeman came to Montclair to live with his brother in 1937. He was married in Columbia, S. C., to the former Miss Margaret Scott on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1941, and was the father of a son born in November, 1942. Sergeant Freeman had never seen his son.

In his last letter home, dated June 4, Sergeant Freeman had reported his promotion from corporal to sergeant.

Three Army Men From Hartford Killed In Action

Word has been received of the death in action of three Hartford men, two in the Pacific theater and one in Italy.

Staff Sergeant Joseph P. McCooe, Jr., 26, was killed in action in Aitape, New Guinea, August 7. The sergeant, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. McCooe live at 36 Amity Street, was a native of Hartford. He graduated from Our Lady of Sorrows and Hartford Public High School and entered the service in February 1941. After going overseas in October 1942, he participated in the entire Munda campaign.

Besides his parents, he leaves three sisters, Miss Eileen McCooe, Miss Mary McCooe and Miss Gertrude McCooe, all of Hartford.

A mass for Sergeant McCooe will be celebrated at Our Lady of Sorrows Church Monday at 8 a. m.

Second Lieutenant Herbert C. Dent, 33, has been killed in action in the Southwest Pacific. The lieutenant, son of Mrs. Nellie Dent of 90 Willow Street, enlisted in the 169th Infantry in 1929 and rose to the rank of master sergeant in the headquarters company. Before entering the regular Army when the Guard was federalized in 1941, he was employed at Veeder-Root, Inc.

Lieutenant Dent fought at Munda and had been awarded the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star.

A brother, Joseph Dent, has been medically discharged from the Army after Pacific fighting which included the famous crossing on foot of the Owen Stanley Mountains in the campaign against Buna in 1942.

Lieutenant Dent leaves two other brothers, John J. Dent and George Dent, and two sisters, Mrs. Helen Rousseau and Miss Lillian M. Dent, all of Hartford. Their father, Herbert C. Dent, Sr., died in 1941 when two sons were in service.

Sergeant Yale H. Freeman, son of Harry Freeman of 90 Edwards Street and Mrs. Goldie Freeman of Montclair, N. J., was killed in action in Italy on June 8. The sergeant had received the Purple Heart and a presidential citation. He went overseas in 1942 and served throughout the North African campaign. He landed with one of the first units at Anzio.

Sergeant Freeman was educated in the Hartford and West Hartford schools and went to Montclair, N. J., in 1937 where he enlisted in the New Jersey State Guard. He was federalized with that unit in 1941.

Besides his parents he leaves his wife, the former Margaret Scott, an infant son, Robert, whom he had never seen, and a brother H. Carlyle Freeman of Montclair.

WWII Army
Private First Class
Paul G. Garcia

A photo is not available







WWII Victory



Army Presidential Unit Citation



American Campaign



Army Good Conduct

UNITED STATES ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
Paul G. Garcia's Headstone
Holbrook Cemetery,
Navajo County, AZ

Army PFC
Paul G. Garcia

United States Army Corps of Engineers PFC Paul G. Garcia was 19 years old when he was killed in a tragic non-battle related accident on October 21, 1945, just two months after WWII ended. A contemporary news article published in the San Bernardino County Sun on November 7, 1945, titled "FONTANA MAN KILLED BY JAP MINE BLAST" said:

> "PFC Pau (sic) G. Garcia of Fontana was among those killed when a Japanese land mine in the Naha area of Okinawa brought death to three enlisted members of an Eighth Air Force engineering unit, the War Department announced yesterday, according to the United Press. Five other servicemen were wounded. One of the victims, the United Press said, was souvenir hunting when he found an odd-looking box he mistook for a Japanese telephone. He pulled a lever, which detonated the mine."

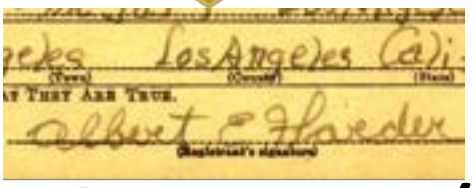
Quite ironically, PFC Garcia was born on April Fool's Day, 1926, in McNary, AZ. A 1944 enlistment record indicated he was a "White, citizen…" who enlisted in Los Angeles as a Private on July 8, 1944 "for the duration of the War or other emergency plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise subject to law." He was single, had completed two years of high school and as a civil occupation was in an "unskilled non-process occupation in manufacturing." Garcia was not assigned to any specific branch of the military upon enlistment although he was a member of the Army when he died. **For his service, PFC Garcia was awarded the WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**







(Photo of PFC Garcia is Not Available)



United States Army Tec 5 (Corporal)

Albert Earl Harder

Research produced no photo of Corporal Harder, however, his signature on his 1940 draft registration card brings to life the soldier behind the name.

Every WWII death was a tragedy, yet few were as heartbreaking as Corporal Harder's. Records conflict on where he was killed (France or Italy), however his ultimate sacrifice fighting Nazi forces on April 16, 1945, was a mere fourteen days before Adolf Hitler's cowardly suicide in a bunker in Berlin, Germany, effectively ending the war in Europe.

Corporal Harder was born on July 10, 1924, in Los Angeles, however, his family moved to Fontana soon thereafter. The son of John Henry Harder and Priscilla Esther Simpson, Harder had five brothers; Thomas, John, Darwin, Eugene and an unnamed one. Harder grew up mainly in Fontana, however, he graduated from what was then called San Bernardino Senior High School. He was listed as one of 503 graduates in the class of 1941. A San Bernardino County Sun news headline announced, "DEGREES GIVEN IN NEW ORANGE SHOW STADIUM." In moving and prophetic graduation speeches, student speakers warned of "an immediate future of ominous tests" and challenges. Most of what they said eight decades ago is just as relevant today as it was then. Said one:

> "…while this nation was preparing its defense, it is imperative that our democracy, this America of ours, be still a democracy (sic) when these clouds of hate disperse."
>
> "The cardinal principle of democracy has been largely forgotten in the last few years" said the young female speaker. She then urged an "immediate revival of it as an answer to the propaganda and threats of foreign totalitarian powers… Although Nazism gives an appearance of unity, it is actually based on slavery that destroys the spirit of its people. We may build defenses and munitions, but unless we have morale, we will not be able to stand."

Army Tec 5 (Corporal)

Albert Earl Harder



PURPLE HEART



Army Combat Action Ribbon





European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign



WWII Victory



Army Marksmanship Badge



American Campaign



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Army Good Conduct

The last student speaker seemed to be directly addressing the Harder family, particularly fellow graduate and future Tec 5, Albert E. Harder, when she said,

> "…the people of the United States must be ready to make sacrifices… in the interests of national defense."

Finally, in an almost surreal premonition of future events, the student said:

> "It is not entirely inconceivable that one of these days we may find ourselves standing alone in a fear-crazed world."

After graduation, Harder moved to Compton to work at General Electric in Los Angeles and enlisted in the Army from there. His draft registration information described him as 5'9", 135 pounds, ruddy complexion with gray eyes and brown hair. He married Mary E. Johnson, however, no other wedding information was found. Additionally, there were no children mentioned in any of the records.

Tec 5 Harder fought and died in the European theatre as a member of the 91st Infantry, 363rd Infantry Regiment. He died during combat either in a battle in the Ponzalla area of Italy or in Firenze, France (records conflict.) VE day, or Victory in Europe Day, occurred just 23 days after he was killed in action as a result of hostile actions. Military records support the Italian death scenario and indicate Tec 5 Harder is buried and memorialized in the Florence American Cemetery in Imprunetta, Italy, while contrary family records show burial in Firenze, France.

In any event. Tec 5/Corporal Harder was awarded the following for his Army service: Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Army Good Conduct Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon.

WWII Navy Petty Officer
Paul Lester Harvey





Navy Submariner





NAVY Insignia





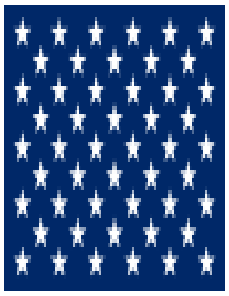
Navy Combat Action Ribbon



WWII Victory Ribbon



American Campaign Ribbon



United States Navy Jack, Now Flown on all U.S. Navy Ships



Navy Presidential Unit Citation



Navy Good Conduct



Asiatic-Pacific Campaign



Navy Expeditionary Medal

Lost at Sea While on Submariner Patrol, South of Korea in March, 1944



Navy Petty Officer and Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Submariner Paul Lester Harvey



SS Scorpion Insignia



SS-278 Scorpion, Lost While on Patrol South of Korea in March, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Harvey of Fontana learned in the 3rd week of March 1944, that their son, United States Navy Petty Officer and Electrician's Mate Second Class, Paul Lester Harvey, was reported "Missing in Action." Petty Officer Harvey was later declared "Killed in Action." Vice Admiral Randall Jacobs wrote Petty Officer Harvey's parents, saying:

> "…your son, Paul Lester Harvey… is missing in action in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country. The (Navy) department appreciates your great anxiety but details are not now available and delay in receipt must necessarily be expected."

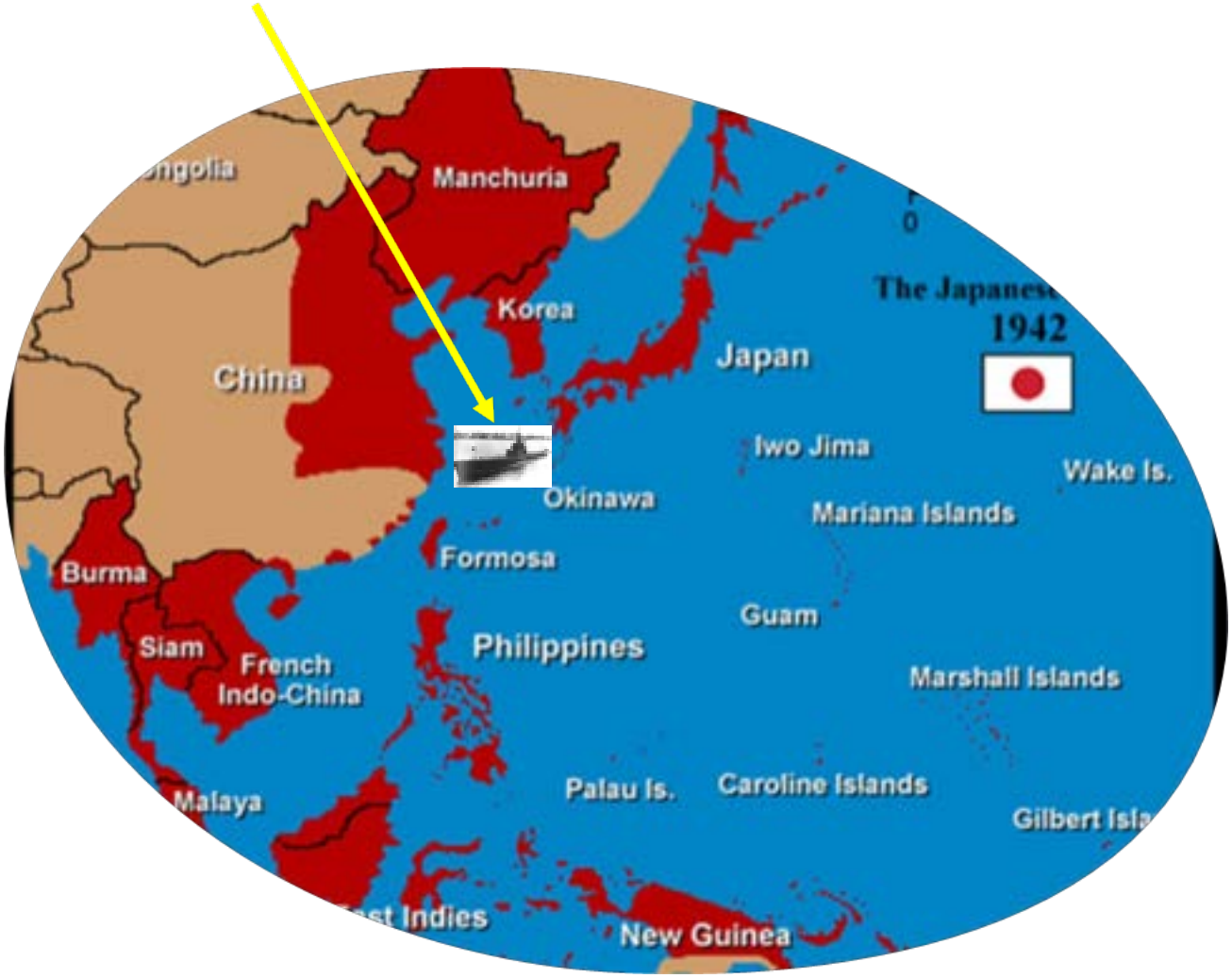
It was later determined that Petty Office Harvey was killed while on submarine patrol on the SS-278, Scorpion, off the southern coast of South Korea. The Scorpion was credited with sinking ten enemy ships, and damaging two more for a total of 16,000 tons. Her three patrols before being lost at sea were in the approaches of Tokyo, the Yellow Sea and in the Mariana Islands. No other details regarding the circumstances of his death have been found. Harvey was eventually declared "Killed in Action (KIA)," one of twenty-seven men from Fontana who died in WWII.

Harvey lived at 133 Martin St. and attended Fontana elementary schools and Fontana Junior High before graduating from Chaffey High School. This was before Fontana High School was built. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1917 and came to Fontana with his parents in 1925. While in school he was known as an outstanding athlete, especially in football and track. He was a charter member of the Fontana Boy's band and later the Chaffey band.

After graduation, he enlisted in the US Navy in March 1942, and underwent boot camp at the San Diego Naval Station. From there he was sent to New London, CT, where he completed his submarine training, receiving the Electrician's Mate 2nd Class rating. He returned to Fontana for a visit with his family before deploying in the spring of 1943. He was then sent to overseas duty and earned his Petty Officer rating.

For his service and death from hostile action, Petty Officer Harvey was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Navy Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the Navy Expeditionary Medal.

Navy Petty Officer Paul Lester Harvey's submarine, the USS Scorpion, was lost off the southern coast of South Korea, in March, 1944



United States Navy Aviation Machinist's Mate and Petty Officer Second Class Eugene K. Horn

A photo is not available



October 25, 1944 photo depicting the actual Kamikaze attack that is believed to have killed Petty Officer 2nd Class Eugene Horn and sunk his ship, the USS St. Lo.

Navy Aviation Machinist's Mate and Petty Officer Second Class Eugene K. Horn



Asiatic Pacific



American Defense



WWII Victory



NAVY Expeditionary Medal



Navy Good Conduct



Navy Combat Action Ribbon

United States Navy Aviation Machinist's Mate and Petty Officer Second Class Eugene K. Horn was killed in action and lost at sea on October 25, 1944, when his ship, the aircraft carrier USS St. Lo, became the first major warship to be sunk as the result of a Japanese kamikaze attack. It is believed the burning ship photo on the previous page is the actual kamikaze attack that killed Petty Officer Horn. Petty Officer Horn's name is included in a Memorial to the Dead and Missing in the Manilla American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines. **Petty Officer Horn was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Navy Presidential Unit Citation, Navy Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the Navy Expeditionary Medal**.





United States Army Private John C. Humphrey Jr.

John Charles Humphrey Jr. was born on February 11, 1926, in San Francisco, California, to John and Eloise Humphrey. Along with his brother Cyrus and his sister Mary, he spent his formative years in San Francisco. The Humphrey family later moved to Fontana, California, where he enrolled in high school. In 1943 the family relocated to Santa Cruz and John transferred into the junior class of Santa Cruz High School. During his year at Santa Cruz High, he took a college preparatory course and majored in mathematics. After leaving high school, he moved back to Fontana.

Then, on November 5, 1945, when he died, the Santa Cruz Sentinel newspaper included this headline: "**Humphrey was Killed in Auto Crash."**

On November 5, 1945, The San Bernardino Sun newspaper also covered Humphrey's death and the death of two others in the crash, saying, "A soldier home on furlough and his girlfriend were instantly killed, the driver of their car was fatally hurt and a second girl seriously injured when a Pacific Electric freight train struck an automobile (Humphrey's) at the Sierra Avenue crossing in Fontana at 3:18 a.m. yesterday." (Parenthetical added) The scene of the accident is now immediately north of the Lewis library where the current fitness trail runs. This writer recalls waiting for trains to pass at the old tracks where the accident occurred while "cruising Sierra" hundreds of times during my early years of prowling the streets here in Fontana.

ARMY Pvt. John C. Humphrey

Continuing, The Sun article said, "The soldier, PFC John C. Humphrey, 20, and his companion, Miss Josie Skubic, 19, both of Fontana, were crushed to death in the rear seat of the car. The driver, Richard E. Black, 20, died at the county hospital three hours later." Although Humphreys died after the war ended, he was still considered a casualty of WWII because he was still serving in his original WWII enlistment time.

Approximately two years later, The Sun reported that all three parents of the deceased sued Pacific Electric and five other individuals, all of whom were associated with Pacific Electric. Private Humphrey joined the Army Air Force Reserve on August 23, 1944, and was called to active duty at the Presidio of Monterey and sent to Randolph Field, Texas. After receiving specialized training at other locations, he served as a ground crewman.

Prior to being shipped overseas, Humphrey was given the furlough mentioned above and returned to spend it in Fontana where he was killed. Funeral services and Rosary for Humphrey were recited at the Ingold Chapel on November 8, 1945. Mass was then celebrated at the Precious Blood church of Los Angeles. He was survived by his mother Mrs. Eloise Humphrey and his sister Mary who lived at 231 North Emerald Avenue here in Fontana, He is buried in the Holy Cross Cemetery in Los Angeles.



Army Good Conduct



WWII Victory



Army Presidential Unit Citation



American Campaign

Army Private
John C. Humphrey Jr.



This 1950's era north-looking Sierra Ave. and Arrow Blvd. photo shows where Private Humphrey and 3 others in his car, including his girlfriend, died in 1945 when his car was hit by a Pacific Electric train on Sierra Ave., north of the new Lewis Library and south of City Hall. The train tracks are now a fitness trail. Pvt. Humphrey was home on leave at the time.

1945 Pacific Electric Train Crossing

Sierra Ave. and Arrow Blvd.

ARMY Pvt. John C. Humphrey

JOHN C. HUMPHREY Jr.

John Charles Humphrey Jr., 19, a native Californian and a Fontana resident for eight years was killed in an accident Sunday. The young man, an Army private, was on a 15-day furlough. His mother, Mrs. Eloise Humphrey; a brother, Cyrus and a sister, Mary, live at 231 North Emerald, Fontana. A grandmother, Mrs. C. F. Humphrey, is a Berkeley resident. Funeral arrangements are pending with the Ingold mortuary.

Train Strikes Car at Fontana; Three Killed

Soldier Home on Furlough and Girl Friend Among Victims

A soldier home on furlough and his girl friend were instantly killed, the driver of their car was fatally hurt and a second girl seriously injured when a Pacific Electric freight train struck an automobile at the Sierra avenue crossing in Fontana at 3:18 a.m. yesterday.

The soldier, Pfc. John C. Humphrey, 20, and his companion, Miss Josie Skubic, 19, both of Fontana, were crushed to death in the rear seat of the car.

The driver, Richard E. Black, 20, died at the county hospital three hours later. At the hospital seriously hurt is his companion, Miss Virginia Wassner, 20, Fontana.

The motorman of the train, W. C. Roberts of Los Angeles, told Deputy Coroner P. H. Evans that he saw the automobile approaching the crossing but was unable to stop his heavy eastbound train. The train shoved the car along the track 55 feet and wedged it against a trolley post.

116

killed in county traffic accidents since Jan. 1, 1945

95 same date last year

The bodies of Humphrey, son of Mrs. Eloise Humphrey, 231 North Eureka street, Fontana, and Miss Skubic were removed from the wreckage only after the twisted steel body was cut by welders.

Miss Wassner was in the front seat of the car with Black.

Investigating with Deputy Coroner Evans were Sgt. Barney Schallenberg and Louis Kronmeyer, state highway patrolman. The bodies of the victims were removed to the Ingold Funeral home.

$340,000 Death Claims Made

A night railroad accident which took the lives of three Fontana young people Nov. 4 was the basis for four suits filed yesterday in San Bernardino superior court, asking $340,000 damages from the Pacific Electric Railway and five of its employees.

In separate suits Mrs. Eloise P. Humphrey, Mrs. Betty H. Black, and Joseph Skubic asked $100,000 apiece for the death of their children: Pfc. John C. Humphrey, 20; Richard E. Black, 20; and Mary Skubic, 19. Virginia Wassner, 20, the sole survivor of the accident, seeks $40,000 damages for injuries including a fractured neck and a broken hip.

The accident occurred at 3:18 a. m. at the Sierra avenue crossing in Fontana. Richard Black was driving the automobile in which the two other victims were passengers. Pacific Electric motorman W. C. Black, one of the defendants told officers that he saw Black's sedan approaching, but was unable to stop the train.

Other defendants named are N. D. Collins, G. M. Osman, R. M. Jones and R. E. Clary, all Pacific Electric employees. The suit was filed by Curtis and Curtis of San Bernardino.

United States Army Private First Class Leland Doyle Inklebarger



A photo is not available

United States Army Private First Class Leland Doyle Inklebarger



ARMY COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



Army Good Conduct



American Campaign





ARMY Marksmanship Medal



Army Presidential Unit Citation



WWII Victory

United States Army Private First Class Leland Doyle Inklebarger was killed in action in France on January 3, 1945, a mere four months from the end of WWII in the European theatre of war. PFC Inklebarger was attached to the 141st Infantry Regiment, 36th Infantry Division and is buried in the Epinal Cemetery and Memorial in Vosges, France. PFC Inklebarger's medical records indicated he was a "battle casualty" who received multiple wounds to the abdomen and pelvis, lower back and lower extremities as the result of "Artillery Shell, Fragments, or unspecified."





United States Army Private First Class Leland Doyle Inklebarger

PFC Inklebarger's medical records indicated he *was a "battle casualty" who received multiple wounds to the abdomen and pelvis, lower back and lower extremities as the result of "Artillery Shell, Fragments, a foot or unspecified." In addition to his* ***three Purple Hearts,*** *PFC Inklebarger was also awarded* the **Combat Infantryman's Badge, Marksmanship Badge, WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**

Prior to serving in WWII, the 1940 census shows PFC Inklebarger lived on a farm in Arkansas and was a truck driver, working 48 hours a week and that he had completed one year of high school. He was the son of Henry B. and Esther Owens.

Birth and marriage records for PFC Inklebarger all indicate roots in Arkansas, having been born there in 1919 and also having married the former Josephine Inez Howie of Charleston, Franklin County, Arkansas. At the time of his death, a San Bernardino County Sun newspaper article reported he was married to "Mrs. Inez Inklebarger of 1235 Palmetto street, Fontana." They were married on January 17, 1941, in Franklin County, Arkansas, prior to the United States' entry into WWII.

Records do not indicate whether PFC Inklebarger enlisted or was drafted, however, in any event, he began his service on January 4, 1944. He died on January 3rd, 1945, the eve of his one-year anniversary as a soldier. In that short time as an infantryman serving in the European theatre of war, PFC Inklebarger was wounded three times, earning a Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. On February 11, 1945, The SB Sun reported PFC Inklebarger was one of 2,374 men identified as wounded in Europe. The time frame for when those wounds were inflicted was not part of the story, however, eleven days later, in a subsequent news article titled, "Three S.B. County Men Reported Killed," PFC Inklebarger was listed as one of "1,478 American soldiers killed in the European area…" In addition to his wife, records show Inklebarger was survived by a younger sister, Clara, four years his junior. It is unknown if either of his parents survived him.

United States Army Private First Class Eraclio Robles Manzo



A photo of PFC Manzo is not available





Army Good Conduct



American Campaign



Army Presidential Unit Citation



WWII Victory

Very little is known about Private Eraclio Manzo. Research produced no photos, education information or Fontana history. We do know however, that he was a native of Etiwanda, lived in the west end his entire life and was survived by Fontana sister Cani Manzo, brother Trinidad, also of Fontana and a brother named Eduardo who lived in Kansas.

Militarily, Private Manzo was listed as an "enlistee" who most likely was ordered by the President, as were all WWII servicemen, to serve in the Army until the cessation of hostilities plus six months. PFC Manzo died of non-battle-related causes when, according to news articles in the Van Nuys Valley News, PFC Manzo was "crushed underneath an overturned army truck one and one-tenths (sic) miles east of Coldwater Canyon on Mulholland Dr.… at 5:30 p.m. on Friday September 1, 1944." At the time, PFC Manzo was assigned to Squadron A- 410th Army Air Force BU (?), Hollywood, CA. Police determined Manzo "failed to negotiate a right turn in the highway and swung up on a soft shoulder. The vehicle then crossed the road to the South side where it plunged into an embankment and turned over, pinning the victim (Manzo) underneath." Another private on the truck "escaped with only shock and a wrenched shoulder." Services for PFC Manzo were held at the D'Asti Catholic church a few days after his death.

Although PFC Manzo was not killed in combat or while in a theatre of war, he is considered a casualty of WWII because he died while serving during the war. **He was awarded the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.** No records were found listing his place of internment.

ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
ERACLIO MANZO

Funeral Planned for Pvt. Eraclio Manzo

(Special Staff Correspondence)

GUASTI, Sept. 4—Services at San Secondo D'Asti Catholic church, will be held Wednesday, 10 a.m., for Pvt. Eraclio Manzo, 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Heraclio Manzo, who was fatally injured Friday in an automobile accident in Hollywood. A native of Etiwanda, Pvt. Manzo had spent his entire life in the West End.

Besides his parents, he is survived by a sister, Cani Manzo of Fontana, and two brothers, Trinidad of Fontana and Eduardo with the Army in Kansas. The Rev. Louis Conti will officiate at the services and J. B. Draper Co. is in charge of arrangements.

Soldier Killed

When the Army truck he was driving overturned on Mulholland High Way one mile east of Coldwater Canyon, Pfc. Eraclio R. Manzo, 22, was thrown out of the truck and killed.

charge.

Eraclio R. Manzo Jr., aged 26, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eraclio Manzo of Etiwanda who was in the air service, was killed in a truck accident while on duty Friday. Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 10 a.m. with J. B. Draper and Co. of Ontario in charge. Eraclio was a native son of Etiwanda and went through grammar school here. He was a nephew of Mrs. C. Mena and Mrs. Mary Dorame.

Soldier Dies in Accident

VAN NUYS — Crushed underneath an overturned army truck one and three-tenths miles east of Coldwater Canyon ave. on Mulholland dr., Pfc. Eraclio R. Manzo, Squadron A—410th AAF BU, Hollywood, was killed Friday at 5:30 p.m., police reported.

Pvt. Troy D. Jones of the same military unit and a passenger on the truck, escaped with only shock and a wrenched shoulder.

Police said Manzo failed to negotiate a right turn in the highway and swung up on a soft shoulder. The vehicle then crossed the road to the South side where it plunged into an embankment turned over, pinning the victim underneath. The body was removed to Birmingham General hospital. Names of surviving relatives were not disclosed.

Pvt. Albert Marin - POW



Records of Albert's Ribbons, awards or medals were not found, however assuming he was Army, he most likely received the same awards as other WWII Army veterans, including, but not limited, to the following:



WWII POW MEDAL



American Campaign



WWII Victory Medal



European-African-Mid-Eastern Campaign



Combat Infantry Badge





Marksmanship Badge

We know Albert Marin is an infantryman Private. What we don't know is in what branch he served; however, he was either Marines or Army. Because news reports usually list casualties as a Marine if they actually are such, and because no such identification was found, we will assume Albert was Army. Additionally, his uniform appears to be Army.

Private Marin was reported to be the first Fontanan taken prisoner by Nazi Germany on or about March 30, 1943. He was serving in Tunisia in the North African theatre when seized. He was held captive in Stalag 38, Furstenberg Brandenburg, Prussia. He was "Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated" in or about June 1945.

Albert was raised by his sister, Mrs. Albert Romero, who lived on Redwood Avenue in Fontana. His parents lived in Beaumont. Albert attended Fontana schools, which most likely included Fontana Junior High and then Chaffey High School, since Fontana did not yet have a high school.

Albert ended up living a long life, not passing away until March 6, 2003, at the age of 82. He is buried in the Riverside National Cemetery.

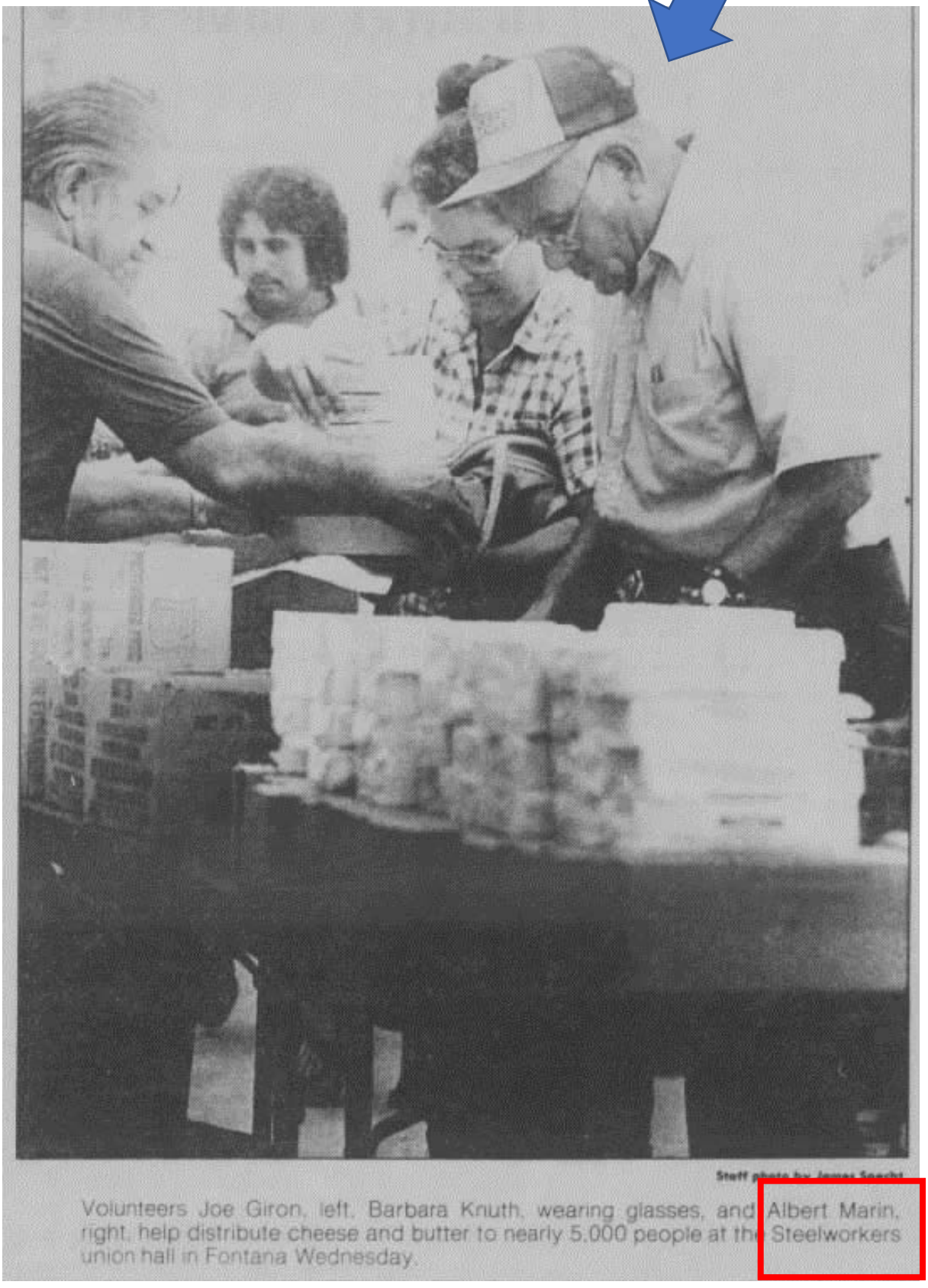
Albert G Marin- Military Records

in the U.S., World War II American and Allied Prisoners of War, 1941-1946



Name:	Albert G Marin
Race:	White
Residence Place:	California, USA
Report Date:	30 Mar 1943
Latest Report Date:	Jun 1945
Grade:	Private
Grade Notes:	Cadet, USMA or Chief Warrant Officer or Private or Apprentice, Seaman
Arm or Service:	Infantry
Arm or Service Code:	Infantry
Organization Type:	Rifle
Parent Unit Type:	Group/Regiment/Commands/System
Area Served:	North African Theatre: Tunisia
Detaining Country:	Germany
Camp:	Stalag 3B Furstenberg Brandenburg, Prussia (Also KDOS [USA] #1-5; ARB BTNS 225-255) 52-14
Status:	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
Report Source:	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.

Albert is shown distributing food at the USWA Hall on Sierra Avenue in this circa 1998 photo.



Volunteers Joe Giron, left, Barbara Knuth, wearing glasses, and Albert Marin, right, help distribute cheese and butter to nearly 5,000 people at the Steelworkers union hall in Fontana Wednesday.

Various war-related articles about POW Albert Marin

November.

First of Fontana's men in the armed forces to be listed among prisoners of war in Germany is Albert G. Marin, who is reported captured during the fight in the African war theater.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Capriano Marin of Beaumont, he was raised by his sister, Mrs. Florence Romero of Redwood avenue, and attended the Fontana schools.

Beaumont Soldier Prisoner of Italians

The war department announced last night that Pvt. Albert G. Marin, son of Cepriano Marin, box 181, Beaumont, is being held a prisoner of war by Italy. The announcement came over the United Press wires.

Wide Interest in War Prisoners Shown to Parents

(Special Staff Correspondence)

BEAUMONT, June 21. — National sympathy and interest in war prisoners was demonstrated this week in mail received by Mr. and Mrs. Cipriano Marin, parents of Pvt. Albert G. Marin, now a prisoner of war in Germany.

Shortly after they had received tidings from him, he was among the prisoners to broadcast over shortwave to America. Fourteen letters were received within the week, with others coming in later from people who had listened in. These included citizens in Michigan, Ohio, Arkansas, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Massachusetts.

Today's HONOR ROLL

Two San Bernardino county men were listed as dead and one wounded, all in Pacific regions, on the Army casualty report released for publication today. Five additional county men were listed on the same report as freed from prisoner-of-war camps in Germany.

Dead were:

Pvt. Frank G. Morales, son of Mrs. Felicitas G. Morales, 397 O street, Colton.

Pvt. Paul M. Willis, husband of Juanita M. Willis, 1174 Barton street, San Bernardino.

Wounded is:

Sgt. Carl J. McEntee, husband of Juanita McEntee, 892 Second street, San Bernardino.

The liberated prisoners are:

Pvt. Cecilio G. Abrego, husband of Tomie H. Abrego, 833 South Taylor street, Ontario.

Sgt. Fredrick S. Braniger, son of Mrs. Grace H. Braniger, 345; Base Line, San Bernardino.

S/Sgt. Lyle Evans, nephew of William R. Carty, 4 Crestview drive, Needles.

Second Lt. Robert L. Mason, husband of Elizabeth M. Mason, box 613, Fontana.

Second Lt. William K. Redmon Jr., son of Mrs. William K. Redmon, 993 Third street, Stauffer house, San Bernardino.

Also listed among those liberated from prison camps is Pvt. Albert G. Marin, son of Cepria Marin, box 181, Beaumont.

Florence M. Cervantes

FONTANA — Florence M. Cervantes, 77, died Oct. 9, 1988, in Fontana. She was born Jan. 22, 1911.

Survivors include five daughters, Hope Pacheco of Dinuba, Inez Gomez of Fontana, Lupe Alvarez of Huachua, Ariz., Julia Lavaley of Fontana and Josephine Tolleson of Fontana; three sons, Henry Romero of Amarillo, Texas, and Dario and Albert Romero of Bloomington; four brothers, Albert Marin of Rialto, Joe Marin of Fontana, Angel Marin of McKinney, Texas, and Ben Marin of Los Angeles; and a sister, Petra Pidero.

For service information call Pierce Bros. Ingold Chapel, (714) 822-8083.

Interment at Green Acres Memorial Park.



Albert Garcia Marin
BIRTH 8 Apr 1920
DEATH 6 Mar 2003 (aged 82)
BURIAL Riverside National Cemetery

1974 **The wedding of his daughter**



The engagement of Christy Marin and Clark M. Smith is announced and plans for a September wedding have been made.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Marin of Rialto and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Smith of Ferndale, Mich.

Miss Marin is a graduate of Eisenhower High School and is employed at Phototron.

Her fiance is a graduate of Ferndale High School, Mallory Tech in Indianapolis and Oakland Community College, Oakland, Mich. He also is employed at Phototron.

ARMY AIR CORPS 2nd Lt. Robert L. Mason



United States ARMY AIR CORPS 2nd Lt. Robert L. Mason was first reported to be killed in action towards the end of WWII, however; he was unexpectedly found in a Nazi P.O.W. camp and repatriated back to U.S. military control a few months after Germany surrendered in April 1945. He most likely received, among others, the same medals as other WWII Army Air Corps P.O.W. veterans: the WWII P.O.W., WWII Victory, American Campaign and the Army Good Conduct medals.







Army Aviator

United States Army Air Corps Flight Officer Raymond D. McCurdy Jr.



U.S. Army Air Corps Flight Officer Raymond D. McCurdy Jr., 24, married Margery Ray Clark in his bride's parent's home in Phoenix on December 27, 1945. The couple then honeymooned in Salt Lake City, UT. A short 2 months later he was killed in a plane crash in South Korea on February 28, 1946. Although WWII ended 6 months earlier, his untimely death was considered a WWII casualty.

McCurdy, who enlisted on December 14, 1943, at Shepherd Field, Wichita Falls, TX, was born in Long Beach but lived in Fontana for twenty years and attended local schools where he graduated from Chaffey High School. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps and received his preflight training at Coe College, Iowa. Prior to deployment to Japan in January 1946, he was stationed in Santa Ana, CA and then Phoenix, AZ, followed by Kearns, UT, where he awaited his deployment orders. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McCurdy Sr. of Fontana. He was also survived by Fontanans Mrs. Jean Ritchfield, (sister), Mrs. Josephine Ritter (sister) and younger brother Kenneth McCurdy. Officer McCurdy is buried in the Hawaii Punchbowl WWII Cemetery.

A list of his commendations was not available, however he likely received the same ribbons as did other WWII veterans, including, but not limited, to the ribbons on the right.



American Campaign



WWII Victory Ribbon



American Defense

Army Air Corps Flight Officer McCurdy married Margery Ray Clark in his bride's home in Phoenix just two months before his death.





Better days



Headstone in Hawaii's National Memorial Cemetery (Punchbowl)

Four Named on Death List

Ten Southlanders Wounded and Eight More Are Missing

War and Navy departments' casualty lists yesterday included the names of four Southland men dead, 10 wounded, eight missing and five prisoners of war.

DEAD

Staff Sgt. Lewis C. Alger, Wilmar.

Staff Sgt. Abelardo L. Rodrigues, 2320 Wall St.

Lt. (jg) Edward Draper Curtis, San Bernardino.

Arnold Junior Hovland, pharmacist's mate 3rd class, 2218½ S. Toberman St.

MISSING

Staff Sgt. John C. Ballard, 1330 Albany St.

Staff Sgt. Sidney E. Bennett, 2514 Plata St.

Staff Sgt. John B. Nelson, Ocean Park.

2nd Lt. Paul R. Parent, San Bernardino.

Staff Sgt. Bonifacio P. Salmon, 180 S. Utah St.

2nd Lt. Gerald C. Scott, San Bernardino.

2nd Lt. Andrew R. Stauss, 750 N. Ridgewood Place.

Tech. Sgt. Donald V. Banta, 1330 Albany St.

WOUNDED

Sgt. Joe Ramirez, San Fernando.

Pvt. Lemuel M. Crumpton, Riverside.

Cpl. Eugene E. Hoffman, Santa Ana.

Tech. 4th Grade Stanley L. Nemec, 1807 Winmar Drive.

Pfc. Michael G. Palaisa, 318 Crocker St.

Pfc. Julio R. Perez, 2018 Pasadena Ave.

Pvt. Ralph R. Yoho, 115 W. 41st Place.

2nd Lt. James E. Hood, Compton.

Donald Rathman Eddy, seaman 2nd class, 6128 Selma Ave.

Robert Charles Hewitt, seaman 1st class, Pasadena.

PRISONERS

2nd Lt. Clifford J. Bender, 777 [illegible] Place 49.

Sgt. George Momcilovich, Fon-

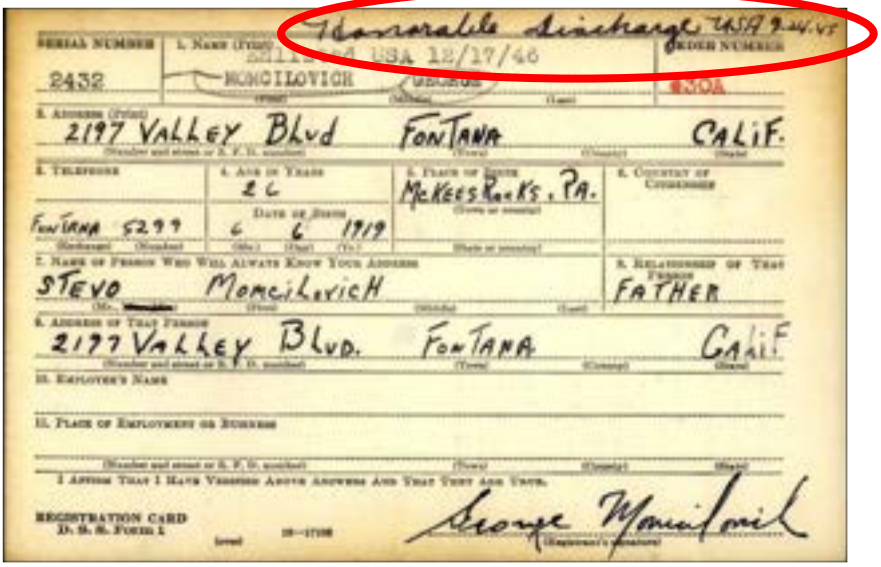
UNITED STATES ARMY AIR CORPS SGT. AND PRISONER OF WARD GEORGE MOMCILOVICH





WWII POW Medal

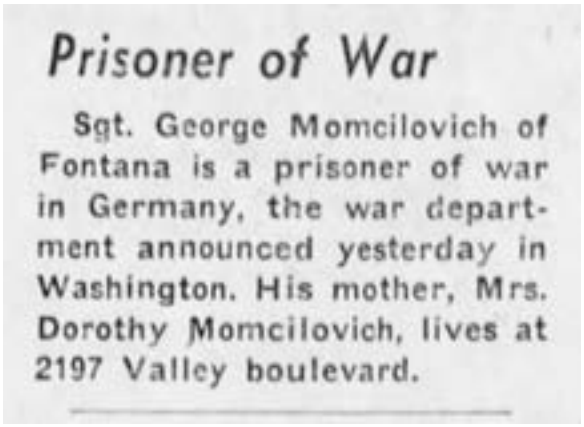
Draft Registration Card



Sgt. George Momcilovich is taken Prisoner of War by Nazi Germany







Prisoner of War

Sgt. George Momcilovich of Fontana is a prisoner of war in Germany, the war department announced yesterday in Washington. His mother, Mrs. Dorothy Momcilovich, lives at 2197 Valley boulevard.

George Momcilovich was a not a resident of Fontana, however his mother was, hence, his inclusion as a FONTANA HONOR ROLL HONOREE.

George was a Sergeant In the Army Air Corps and was assigned to either a B-17 or a B-24 heavy bomber when taken prisoner by Nazi Germany on or about February 25, 1944. He was held captive until on or about July 30, 1945, when he was either repatriated or liberated from Stalag Luft 4 Gross-Tychow (formerly Heydekrug) Pomerania, Prussia or Wobbelin Bei Ludwigslust.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES FILE INFORMATION: (parentheticals added)

Field Title	Value	Meaning	
SERIAL NUMBER	16011408	16011408	
NAME	MOMCILOVICH GEORGE		MOMCILOVICH GEORGE
GRADE, ALPHA	SGT	Sergeant	
GRADE CODE	5	Captain or Asst. superintendent of nurses or Asst. director of nurses or Chief dietitian or Chief physical therapy aides or Sergeant or Technician 4th Grade or Lieutenant or Petty Officer, 3rd Class	
SERVICE CODE	1	ARMY	
ARM OR SERVICE	AC	Air Corps	
ARM OR SERVICE CODE		20	AC: AIR CORPS
DATE REPORT: DAY (DD)		25	25
DATE REPORT: MONTH (MM)		02	02
DATE REPORT: YEAR (Y)		4	1944
RACIAL GROUP CODE		1	WHITE
STATE OF RESIDENCE		62	Michigan **(mother lived in Fontana; George resided here before enlistment)**
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION		K15	Heavy Bomber (B17, B24)
PARENT UNIT NUMBER		0301	0301
PARENT UNIT TYPE		06	Group/Regiment/Commands/System
AREA	72	European Theatre: Germany	
LATEST REPORT DATE: DAY (DD)		30	30
LATEST REPORT DATE: MONTH (MM)			07 07
LATEST REPORT DATE: YEAR (Y)		5	1945
SOURCE OF REPORT		1	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.
STATUS	8	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated	
DETAINING POWER		1	GERMANY
CAMP	091	Stalag Luft 4 Gross-Tychow (formerly Heydekrug) Pomerania, Prussia (moved to Wobbelin Bei Ludwigslust) (To Usedom Bei Savenmunde) 54-16	
REP			

POW TRANSPORT SHIPS

Army Names 125 More Liberated Southlanders

Names of 125 more Southlanders liberated from German prison camps were released yesterday by the War Department. They were:

Bradford, 2nd Lt. Robert A., 5319 Berkshire Drive.

Bridges, Pfc. Roy G., 4160 Clinton St.

Brinkhaus, Pvt. Norman P., 4641 Pickford Drive.

Burns, 2nd Lt. Herbert W. Jr., 3332 Perlita Ave.

Button, 2nd Lt. Billie J. Jr., 2940 Van Buren Place.

Coulter, Capt. William E., 2218 N. Figueroa St.

Cutchall, Sgt. Raymond C., 543½ S. Curson Ave.

Dabney, 2nd Lt. James B. Jr., 1818¾ Westmoreland Blvd.

Dutton, 2nd Lt. Frederick G. Jr., 671 S. Coronado St.

Evans, 1st Lt. Wayne, 3273 Tilden Ave.

Felix, Pfc. Leonardo G., 1213 Boston St.

Gordon, Pvt. Herbert, 409 N. Genesee Ave.

Gordon, 2nd Lt. Robert J., 4016 Riverton Ave.

Hale, 1st Lt. Arthur P., 3663 Hughes Ave.

Hamilton, Lt. Jesse R., 6346 W. Warner Drive.

Haney, 2nd Lt. John W., 8806 Plevka Ave.

Hastings, Pvt. Lewis H. Jr., 1235 E. 65th St.

Ingles, Pfc. William, 327 W. 57th St.

Kurn, Tech. Sgt. Henry C., 1311 Helen Drive.

Kyriakopoulos, 2nd Lt. George, 631 N. Benton Way.

Leahy, Lt. Wilson, 3650 Revere Ave.

Leichtman, 2nd Lt. Jerome C., 3273 Country Club Drive.

Lopez, Tech. Sgt. 5th Grade Oscar A., 8758 Wilshire Blvd.

Madsen, Pvt. William H., 617 W. 23rd St.

Malloy, Pvt. Edward T., 3015 Shrine Place.

Marshank, Lt. Norman J., 3355 Wilshire Blvd.

Michie, Tech. Sgt. George C., 1186 N. Edgemont St.

Norton, 2nd Lt. Edgar D., 3568 N. Figueroa St.

O'Mullane, Pfc. Allan D., 1815 Venice Blvd.

Orozco, Pvt. Roy, 4746 Brooklyn

Dallas, Staff-Sgt. Jack R., Box 663, Coronado.

Deleeuw, Lt. Samuel, 734 Flower Ave., Bellflower.

Doherty, Tech. Sgt. Thomas F., 903 Muscatel, Rosemead.

Duran, Pvt. Baltazar L., Box 217, Coachella.

Fest, Pvt. Paul H., 107 S. Chapel St., Alhambra.

Fishbaugh, Sgt. Frank E., 1072 Roswell St., Long Beach.

Fittinger, Staff-Sgt. James L., 2518 Harriman Lane, Redondo Beach.

Goff, Pvt. Ennis R., 933 W. 165th Place, Gardena.

Gray, Pfc. Otis L., Route 1, Wasco.

Griffin, Staff-Sgt. Douglas L., 3228 San Rafael St., Compton.

Hamer, 2nd Lt. James W., 1423 14th St., Santa Monica.

Handy, Sgt. Walter M., 1147 Broad Ave., Wilmington.

Hardin, Staff-Sgt. Robert C., 554 Athens St., Altadena.

Hart, 2nd Lt. Robert M., 2291 Genevieve St., San Bernardino.

Harter, Flight Officer William R., 2915 Eleanor St., Hynes.

Holzer, Sgt. William P., 209 S. Montebello Blvd., Montebello.

Hornidge, Pfc. Robert H. Jr., 1475 Millar Drive, Glendale.

Isaacs, Lt. Norman F., 1293 Cameron St., Long Beach.

Karr, Tech. Sgt. Jack E., 3213 Olive St., Huntington Park.

Kroells, Carl J. Jr., Route 1, Box 294, Lindsay.

Kuhn, Tech. Sgt. Elmer C., 224 W. 13th St., Escondido.

Lashelle, Cpl. Harold M., 1809 Sonoma Drive, Altadena.

Lindsay, Staff-Sgt. Fred, 990 E. Walnut St., Pasadena.

Longley, Cpl. Klemme O. Jr., 4596 Palm St., La Mesa.

McGowan, Lt. John P., 2127 Castillo, Santa Barbara.

McKesson, Lt. Lewis R., 996 E. Claremont St., Pasadena.

McVeigh, Staff-Sgt. Robert J., 427 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach.

Momcilovich, Sgt. George, 2197 Valley Blvd., Fontana.

Morales, Staff-Sgt. Joseph J., 501 El Monte St., San Gabriel.

Southland War Prisoners in Germany Named

The following Southern Californians yesterday were reported by the War Department held prisoners of war in Germany:

Capt. Carl E. Jackson, 146 W. 112th St.

Capt. Alexander J. Kisselburgh Jr., 846 S. Bronson Ave.

1st Lt. Albert B. Austin, Long Beach.

1st Lt. James V. Vitale, West Hollywood.

2nd Lt. Clifford J. Bender, 777 Terrace 49.

2nd Lt. Stanley Corrington, 1301 W. 49th St.

2nd Lt. Vyrle W. Darnold, Lomita.

2nd Lt. Robert L. Dean, 635 S. Fraser Ave.

2nd Lt. Jack D. Dazebeer, Long Beach.

2nd Lt. Jack A. Laforge, 3611 Mentone Ave.

2nd Lt. Charles E. Nicklett, 5433 Fernwood Ave.

2nd Lt. Ralph H. Palmer, Burbank.

2nd Lt. Patrick P. Reams, 5932 N. Figueroa St.

2nd Lt. Robert M. Hart, San Bernardino.

2nd Lt. Frank B. Thompson, Pacific Palisades.

2nd Lt. Donald H. Widmark, 2273 Fox Hills Drive.

Flight Officer Robert L. Burke, 1401 S. Hope St.

Staff-Sgt. Sidney E. Bennett, 2514 Plata St.

Staff-Sgt. Jackson T. Bryan, Santa Monica.

Staff-Sgt. Richard P. Gibson, Inglewood.

Staff-Sgt. Joseph V. Lovely, Bellflower.

Tech. Sgt. Robert H. Bentley, Long Beach.

Tech. Sgt. Arthur A. Cooper, 1221 N. Hazard St.

Sgt. George Momcilovich, Fontana.



American Campaign



WWII Victory Medal



European-African-Mid-Eastern Campaign

Records of George's ribbons, awards or medals were not found, however assuming he was Army, he most likely received the same awards as other WWII Army veterans, including, but not limited to, those on this page.



American Defense



WWII POW MEDAL

NATIONAL ARCHIVES FILE INFORMATION: (parentheticals added)

Field Title	Value	Meaning
SERIAL NUMBER	16011408	16011408
NAME MOMCILOVICH GEORGE		MOMCILOVICH GEORGE
GRADE, ALPHA	SGT	Sergeant
GRADE CODE	5	Captain or Asst. superintendent of nurses or Asst. director of nurses or Chief dietitian or Chief physical therapy aides or Sergeant or Technician 4th Grade or Lieutenant or Petty Officer, 3rd Class
SERVICE CODE	1	ARMY
ARM OR SERVICE	AC	Air Corps
ARM OR SERVICE CODE	20	AC: AIR CORPS
DATE REPORT: DAY (DD)	25	25
DATE REPORT: MONTH (MM)	02	02
DATE REPORT: YEAR (Y)	4	1944
RACIAL GROUP CODE	1	WHITE
STATE OF RESIDENCE	62	Michigan **(mother lived in Fontana; George resided here before enlistment)**
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	K15	Heavy Bomber (B17, B24)
PARENT UNIT NUMBER	0301	0301
PARENT UNIT TYPE	06	Group/Regiment/Commands/System
AREA	72	European Theatre: Germany
LATEST REPORT DATE: DAY (DD)	30	30
LATEST REPORT DATE: MONTH (MM)	07	07
LATEST REPORT DATE: YEAR (Y)	5	1945
SOURCE OF REPORT	1	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.
STATUS	8	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
DETAINING POWER	1	GERMANY
CAMP	091	Stalag Luft 4 Gross-Tychow (formerly Heydekrug) Pomerania, Prussia (moved to Wobbelin Bei Ludwigslust) (To Usedom Bei Savenmunde) 54-16
REP		
POW TRANSPORT SHIPS		

WWII War Department POW Records

Field Title	Value	Meaning
SERIAL NUMBER	16011408	16011408
NAME	MOMCILOVICH GEORGE	MOMCILOVICH GEORGE
GRADE, ALPHA	SGT	Sergeant
GRADE CODE	5	Captain or Asst. superintendent of nurses or Asst. director of nurses or Chief dietitian or Chief physical therapy aides or Sergeant or Technician 4th Grade or Lieutenant or Petty Officer, 3rd Class
SERVICE CODE	1	ARMY
ARM OR SERVICE	AC	Air Corps
ARM OR SERVICE CODE	20	AC: AIR CORPS
DATE REPORT: DAY (DD)	25	25
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REP		
POW TRANSPORT SHIPS		

Defense Department WWII POW List

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

First Lieutenant John J. Simon	Mr. Frank J. Simon, (Father) 128 North Lake Avenue, Albany, New York.
Second Lieutenant Hughes H. Livingood	Mrs. [illegible]a H. Livingood, (Mother) General Delivery, Belleville, Kansas.
Second Lieutenant Gilbert G. Lawson, Jr.	Mr. Gilbert G. Lawson, (Father) 716 Oak Street, Hot Springs, Arkansas.
Second Lieutenant Charles A. Kent, Jr.	Mrs. Mary Elsie Kent, (Mother) 7704 Oak Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.
Staff Sergeant Edsol P. Inlow	Mrs. Annie L. Inlow, (Mother) Diffee, Georgia.
Staff Sergeant Donald L. Murray	Miss Mary C. Murray, (Sister) 12 Grove Street, South River, New Jersey.
Sergeant George Momcilovich	Mrs. Dorothy Momcilovich, (Mother) 2197 Valley Boulevard. Fontana, California.
Technical Sergeant Charles O. Cole	Mrs. Myrl R. Cole, (Mother) Midland, Indiana.
Staff Sergeant Joseph T. Stech	Mrs. Mary Bolwin, (Mother) 241 West Allen Street, Winooski, Vermont.
Sergeant Marion W. Hazard	Mr. Eli S. Hazard, (Father) 1608 East Culberson Street, San Angelo, Texas.

As did many returning WWII veterans, George participated in charitable activities upon returning from war

Vista/Oceanside Meals-on-Wheels provides valuable community service

LYNNE BOGGS
Staff Writer

Since 1981, Vista/Oceanside Meals-on-Wheels has been delivering meals to adults in Vista and Oceanside who are unable to prepare adequate meals for themselves.

Area churches and the Vista Golden "K" Kiwanis Club started the program, which depends entirely on private donations for its financial support.

Meals-on-Wheels helps the people it serves remain in their homes when they are unable to cook and often is a contributing factor in keeping the elderly and disabled from entering nursing homes at an early age.

"Our organization has grown from providing meals to 20 clients a day when it began to serving over 100 clients today, five days a week, as well as weekend meals when needed," said Director Ursula Lukefahr of Oceanside who has been involved with the program since 1985.

Vista/Oceanside Meals-on-Wheels serves two meals a day to their clients, one hot dinner and one cold supper at a cost of $5 a day, which is adjusted if there is a financial hardship. Special diets are provided on request.

"Hot meals are prepared and cooked fresh daily by professional dietitians at the



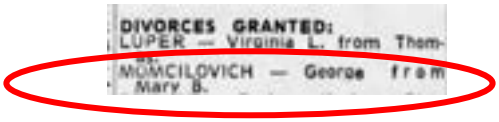
Jan Burroughs, left, and Anne Strancke clean up the kitchen at All Saints Episcopal Church in Vista after preparing food for the Meals-on-Wheels program.



Photos by DAVID CARLSON / Staff Photographer

Meals-on-Wheels Board of Directors are, from left, front row, Ursula Lukefahr, Mary Wendell, Sister Avis Schons and Fred Yeager; back row, Bill Fields, Oscar Wylie, Father Dick Wagner, George Momcilovich and Jim Slocum. Not pictured is Chairman of the Board Leiah Spencer.

Not everything worked out for George



DIVORCES GRANTED:
LUPER — Virginia L. from Thom-
MOMCILOVICH — George from Mary B.

Social Security Death Records

INDEX RECORD FOR

George Momcilovich (1919)
Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File

Full Name
George Momcilovich
Gender
Male
Social Security Number
***-**-2905
Birth Date
6 Jun 1919
Death Date
11 May 2008
Cause of Death
Other
Organization Code
AF
Organization Code
AF
Organization Code
ARMY
Organization
Air Force
Organization
Air Force
Organization
Army

INDEX RECORD FOR

George Momcilovich
Social Security Death Index

Full Name
George Momcilovich
Birth Date
6 Jun 1919
Death Date
11 May 2008
Last Residence
Vista, CA
Social Security Card Issued
California
Social Security Number
***-**-2905
Views:
1







Army Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud

Excerpts from various San Bernardino Sun News reported the following regarding Master Sgt. Mortrud:

"SOLDIER BURNED (May 2, 1943) Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud has been seriously burned about the face in an accident at Camp Adair, Ore., according to an official telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Mounsey."

"BURNS FATAL TO FONTANA SOLDIER AT OREGON CAMP (4 days later, May 6, 1943) *Defective Artillery Fuse Blamed in Death of Master Sergeant.* Word was received in Fontana that Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mounsey (stepfather) of San Bernardino Avenue and the late Axel Rose Mortrund (Sgt. Mortrud lost his father when he was just 5), died from burns received in an accident at Camp Adair, Oregon. Mrs. Mounsey was notified of the tragedy by wire which stated only that the fire was caused by a defective mine fuse on the artillery field. Mrs. Mounsey left late Saturday evening by plane for Camp Adair, but her son died before she reached him. The body was shipped to the Ingold Funeral Home in Rialto."

Army
Master Sgt.
Robert Mortrud



Army Good Conduct



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Army Marksmanship Medal



American Campaign



WWII Victory

Excerpts from various San Bernardino Sun News reported the following regarding Master Sgt. Mortrud:

"SOLDIER BURNED (May 2, 1943) Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud has been seriously burned about the face in an accident at Camp Adair, Ore., according to an official telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Mounsey."

"BURNS FATAL TO FONTANA SOLDIER AT OREGON CAMP (4 days later, May 6, 1943) *Defective Artillery Fuse Blamed in Death of Master Sergeant.* Word was received in Fontana that Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mounsey (stepfather) of San Bernardino Avenue and the late Axel Rose Mortrund (Sgt. Mortrud lost his father when he was just 5), died from burns received in an accident at Camp Adair, Oregon. Mrs. Mounsey was notified of the tragedy by wire which stated only that the fire was caused by a defective mine fuse on the artillery field. Mrs. Mounsey left late Saturday evening by plane for Camp Adair, but her son died before she reached him. The body was shipped to the Ingold Funeral Home in Rialto."



Master Sgt. Robert Mortrud

Sgt. Mortrud voluntarily joined the service on August 19, 1941, at the young age of 20, just 4 months before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He had completed one year of college and listed his civilian vocation as “actor.” The official reason for his death said Sgt. Mortrud “experienced a critical situation which resulted in the loss of life. Recorded circumstances attributed to DNB, Died Non-Battle.”

Sgt. Mortrud earned the WWII Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Sgt. Mortrud advanced quickly in the Army, rising from Private to Master Sgt, a most unusual progression in the span of just 2 years. (NOTE: The author still suspects records found online are incorrect, however absent evidence to the contrary, he will be referred to Master Sgt.) Military funeral services were conducted for Master Sgt. Mortrud on Friday, May 7, 1943, at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel of Ingold Funeral Home, Rialto. Guy Hepner of Plymouth Brethren Church of Pasadena officiated, assisted by members of the Fontana Post of the American Legion and officers from San Bernardino Army Air Feld.

Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Donald M. Murray







The WWII Murray family story is one of honorable service to country and much heartbreak. This writer believes, based on 1940's era news reports, that Lt. Donald Murray is related by marriage to former Fontana City Clerk and Councilwoman Patricia Murray with whom the author served while a Fontana City Councilman from 1980-85. Donald Murray was also the brother of long-time Fontana resident and WWII pilot, Leo V. Murray.

On or about October 23-25, 1941, with the U.S. in a pre-war footing, Fontanan Donald M. Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice J. Murray who lived at 529 Boyle Avenue was classified 1A by the Colton draft board and notified to report for military duty on November 7, 1941, exactly one month to the day prior to the December 7th Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Records indicate Murray enlisted voluntarily in October 1941, two months before the attack on Pearl Harbor and the beginning of the United State's involvement in World War II. News reports regarding his training are sketchy at best, however it appears he took basic training at Shaw Field and advanced training at Turner Field (states unknown.) He was also a cadet at Hendricks Field, FL, took primary pilot training at Maxwell Field, AL and was commissioned a 2nd Lt., on November 10, 1942, followed by promotion to 1st Lt. in the Army Air Corps, where he piloted a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber assigned to the 379th Bomb Group, 526th Squadron out of Great Britain.

Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Donald M. Murray



Based on dress, Lt. Murray is believed to be top row, 1st or 2nd on left, unverified. Photo and story source: American Air Museum in Britain website.

Sometime in February 1944, The San Bernardino County Sun newspaper reported that Lt. Murray was missing in action after a raid on September 16, 1943, in France. Upon receiving such notice, Murray's father was quoted in the paper as saying:

A B-17 Flying Fortress similar to Lt. Murray's



> "We received the official announcement that our son is missing, but we have faith that he is still alive and became a prisoner in France."

Unfortunately, very soon after earning his Oak Leaf Cluster Air Medal for participating in 15 raids over enemy territory, and unbeknownst to the Murray family, on September 16, 1943, Lt. Murray and 9 other crewman were killed in action while piloting their Flying Fortress over France when **their B-17 was struck by a bomb dropped from another B-17 in the formation. There were no survivors and Lt. Murray's body was never recovered.**

Murray was killed by what we now call "friendly fire." Other websites also list this as the cause of death, citing Missing Air Crew Report (MACR) 1348. Confusingly though, some sites list both an errant bomb AND enemy AAA fire (anti-aircraft fire), and it is possible both contributed to the loss of Lt. Murray's bomber and its gallant crew. Further research is needed.

Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Donald M. Murray





PURPLE HEART



Distinguished Flying Cross



WWII Victory



Army Presidential Unit Citation



American Campaign



Army Good Conduct



Army European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign



Army Air medal w/TWO Oak Leaf Clusters

Lt. Murray was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The San Bernardino Sun ran a headline on March 5, 1944, declaring, **"RITES HONOR FONTANA WAR HERO."** The story announced that Lt. Murray's father, Maurice J. Murray, would stand in for his deceased son as **the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters were presented to the Murray family. Lt. Murray was also posthumously awarded the WWII Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Army Good Conduct medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign ribbon.**

Meanwhile, his younger brother Leo was in Corpus Christi, Texas completing his training as an Ensign in the US Navy. Leo eventually became a Navy dive bomber pilot and participated in the Palau and Philippine Islands campaign. Although Leo survived the war, shortly after Donald's death, tragedy and heartbreak again struck the Murray family when Donald and Leo's father was killed instantly when the car in which he was riding was struck by a Southern Pacific train.

For more airplane/mission details, see http://www.8thafhs.org and search for mission: date1943-09-16.

Note: Several Find-a-Grave entries for crew members note a death date of Aug. 12, 1945, however, that was the date they were declared dead for legal and insurance reasons, and the cause of death is given as "an aerial bomb from an enemy fighter," an act some call an "omission/whitewashing of the fact they were killed by American bombs dropped out of formation."

Army Pvt. Kenton B. Nicholas







ARMY Private (or Sergeant, see below) **Kenton Bernard Nicholas** was drafted into the Army on March 29,1944 and was killed in action a short eight months later, on November 26, 1944 in Hurtgenwald, Kreis Duren, Nordrheine-Westfalen, Germany. (Note: contemporary news articles said Kenton was a Sergeant, however, his military burial information said he was a Private. Due to his short time in the service, the author believes he most likely was a Private.) He was attached to the 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Homer Nicholas. Their family moved to Fontana in 1940. They were notified of their son's death by Secretary of War Henry L. Stinson.

A light complected, tall and thin Kenton (5'11", 135 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes,- source: draft registration card) took basic training at Fort Ord, in Monterey, California. He then underwent advanced training at Fort Mead, Maryland. Prior to leaving for Fort Mead, his wife visited him at Fort Ord for what turned out to probably be their last visit together.

Prior to entering the Army, Kenton worked for his father as a chicken rancher, while his wife, also a Fontana schools' product, worked in the purchasing department at Kaiser Steel.

Private Nicholas was born in Miller, MO., on October 5, 1924-25. He was one of 165 graduates of Colton High School in May, 1942. In March of 1944, he married Laura Alexander, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Alexander, who lived at 136 Wheeler Street (now Avenue). The wedding took place in his wife's home on Saturday evening, March 11, 1944. Their marriage was solemnized by the Reverend Horace Cushing of the Fontana Community Church (who also performed the wedding of this writer in 1974). After their wedding, they lived at 602 Laurel Street, in Fontana. Kenton was well known in town for his civic activities prior to joining the Army.

Army Pvt. Kenton B. Nicholas

Kenton's mother posthumously accepted the following commendations and awards earned by her son:

- ★ World War II Victory Medal
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Combat Infantryman Badge
- ★ Marksmanship Badge
- ★ American Campaign Medal
- ★ Army Presidential Unit Citation
- ★ Army Good Conduct Medal



PURPLE HEART



ARMY COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



WWII Victory



Army Presidential Unit Citation



ARMY Marksmanship Medal









American Campaign Medal



Army Good Conduct



A Few Members of the WWII 26th Infantry Division

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPORAL HASKELL LEE OWENS



A photo of Corporal Owens is not available

United States ARMY Corporal HASKELL LEE OWENS was born in 1916 in Booneville, Arkansas and later migrated to Fontana with his parents in 1935. He took two years of high school, after which he was employed by Fontana Farms Co. until he enlisted in the Army. Records do not indicate if he graduated from high school. The 1940 census indicates he lived in Fontana in 1940 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Owens, at 238 Banana St. Military enlistment records state that he was a white male, 6'1", weighing 144 pounds. A San Bernardino County Sun article states he enlisted in the Army in December 1940, a full year before Pearl Harbor. A short month later, he left San Francisco for duty in the Philippine Islands and was immediately assigned to Fort Drum, one of the forts guarding Manilla Bay. Ten months later, Private First Class Owens was promoted to Corporal. He would later die in this assignment, faithfully guarding Manilla Bay.



World War II Victory Medal

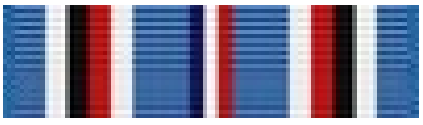




Army Presidential Unit Citation



Army Good Conduct Medal



American Campaign Medal





UNITED STATES ARMY
CORPORAL
HASKELL LEE OWENS

Six Youths Enlisted For Service in Army

Six young men were enlisted in the army yesterday and assigned to military posts in the Philippine islands and California, Recruiting Sgt. William J. Mairs announced.

Assigned to the Philippines were Haskell Lee Owens, Fontana; Nicholas R. Ortego, 260 Second street, San Bernardino; J. G. Arroya, Upland, and Daniel R. Sanchez, 1155

FONTANA SOLDIER, SERVING IN PHILIPPINES, PROMOTED

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Dec. 5.—Private First Class Haskell L. Owens, coast artillery, Fort Mills, Corregidor, Philippines, has been promoted to the rank of corporal. He is the son of H. B. Owens, 605 North Maple street.

John Marx, all of Fontana, and Mrs. G. B. Hiatt of Pomona.

Honoring J. S. McClelland at his home, a group of friends gathered in celebration of his birthday recently. Many gifts were received. Singing and dancing were enjoyed until a late hour. Mrs. Earl, daughher of the honoree, gave banjo selections and songs

One of the men of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's army in the Philippines is Corp. Haskell L. Owens at Fort Drum.

AT MANILA BAY

He enlisted with the army in December, 1940. He left San Francisco in January, 1941, for the Philippine islands and since then has been stationed at Fort Drum, one of the forts guarding the mouth of Manila bay. In his last letter sent to his parents on Nov. 19, and received on Dec. 22, he told of his promotion to corporal on Nov. 10.

Corporal Owens came to Fontana with his parents from Boonemen, Ark., in 1935, and was employed by the Fontana Farms Co. until he enlisted in the army. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Owens, reside at 238 Banana street.

Cpl. Haskell Owens Listed as Killed

Cpl. Haskell L. Owens, son of Henry B. Owens, Rt. 3, Box 266, Fontana, has been listed as dead, according to Army casualty list released Wednesday by the war department. Corporal Owens lost his life in the Pacific theater of war.

U.S. Army Sgt. And P.O.W. John L. Petric



VFW POST 6563
Memorial Plaque





Airborne







WWII Prisoner of War Medal

United States Army Sgt. and veteran John L. Petric was born in 1916 in Ravnace, Yugoslavia and was a resident of Fontana since 1951.

Sgt. Petric served as an Army Infantry Paratrooper during WWII and participated in the Normandy invasion and fought in Holland. He was a P.O.W. in Germany and received two Purple Hearts. While a P.O.W., he was detained by the Nazis in Stalag 3C, Alt Drewitz Brandenburg, Prussia.

Little is known about John other than what was found in official government WWII records of American WWII P.O.W.'s in Germany and his 2008 San Bernardino Sun obituary. Government records show that he was either returned to military control or liberated or expatriated.

John survived WWII and died at the age of 92 on Wednesday, July 30th, 2008, in the Loma Linda Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Loma Linda, CA. He was a crane operator for thirty years at Kaiser Steel in Fontana. He retired in 1978, thirty-three years after serving in WWII. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars (most likely the Ralph Broiles Post 6563 in Fontana), the American Legion, Knights of Columbus, St Joseph Catholic Church, the Fontana Walking Club and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). John was survived by his wife of 63 years, Polly Petric, and son, John, both of Fontana; his brother, Joseph of KY; and sister, Mary Gregorich of IL. He had three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Viewing for John was held on Wednesday, August 6th, from 5-9pm at Dickey Mortuary in Fontana. A scripture service was held at 6:00pm. Sgt. Petric was buried in a private ceremony at Riverside National Cemetery.

Official records of Sgt. Petric's awards and medals were not found, however it is likely he received the medals awarded to all WWII European theatre veterans including but not limited to, **the World War II Victory medal, Prisoner of War Medal, two Purple Hearts, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Army Marksmanship Badge, the American Campaign Medal and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**

JOHN PETRIC'S PRISONER OF WAR MILITARY RECORDS



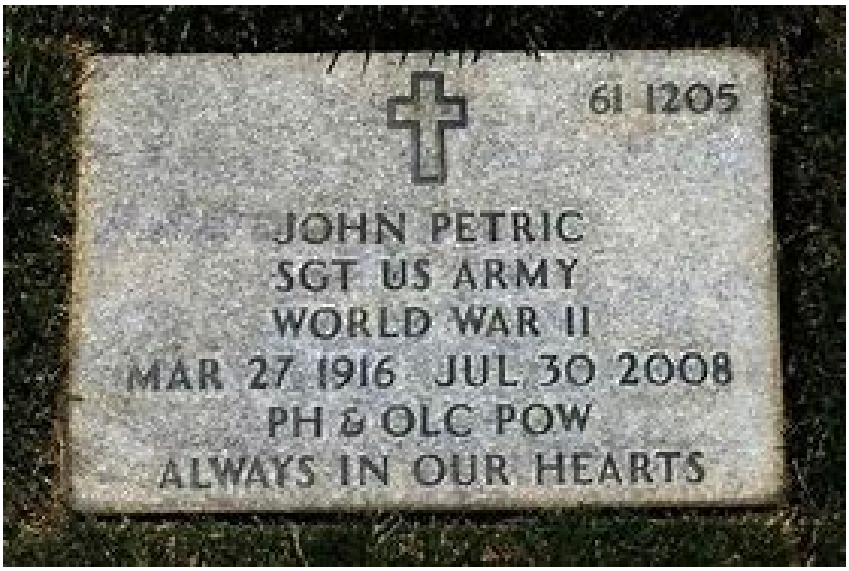


Combat Infantry Badge

U.S. World War II American and Allied Prisoners of War, 1941-1946 Excerpt

Name:	John Petric
Race:	White
Residence Place:	USA
Report Date:	17 Sep 1944
Latest Report Date:	31 1945
Grade:	Sergeant
Grade Notes:	Captain or Asst. superintendent of nurses or Asst. director of nurses or Chief dietitian or Chief physical therapy aides or Sergeant or Technician 4th Grade or Lieutenant or Petty Officer, 3rd Class
Arm or Service:	Infantry
Arm or Service Code:	Infantry
Organization Type:	Parachute Infantry
Parent Unit Type:	Group/Regiment/Commands/System
Area Served:	European Theatre: Holland
Detaining Country:	Germany
Camp:	Stalag 3C Alt Drewitz Brandenburg, Prussia 52-14
Status:	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
Report Source:	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.

Field Title	Value	Meaning
SERIAL NUMBER	36028021	36028021
NAME	PETRIC JOHN	PETRIC JOHN
GRADE, ALPHA	SGT	Sergeant
GRADE CODE	5	Captain or Asst. superintendent of nurses or Asst. director of nurses or Chief dietitian or Chief physical therapy aides or Sergeant or Technician 4th Grade or Lieutenant or Petty Officer, 3rd Class
SERVICE CODE	1	ARMY
ARM OR SERVICE	INF	Infantry
ARM OR SERVICE CODE	10	INF: INFANTRY
DATE REPORT: DAY (DD)	17	17
DATE REPORT: MONTH (MM)	09	09
DATE REPORT: YEAR (Y)	4	1944
RACIAL GROUP CODE	1	WHITE
STATE OF RESIDENCE		
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	787	Parachute Infantry
PARENT UNIT NUMBER	0508	0508
PARENT UNIT TYPE	06	Group/Regiment/Commands/System
AREA	74	European Theatre: Holland
LATEST REPORT DATE: DAY (DD)	31	31
LATEST REPORT DATE: MONTH (MM)	13	13
LATEST REPORT DATE: YEAR (Y)	5	1945
SOURCE OF REPORT	1	Individual has been reported through sources considered official.
STATUS	8	Returned to Military Control, Liberated or Repatriated
DETAINING POWER	1	GERMANY
CAMP	005	Stalag 3C Alt Drewitz Brandenburg, Prussia 52-14
REP		
POW TRANSPORT SHIPS		


61 1205
JOHN PETRIC
SGT US ARMY
WORLD WAR II
MAR 27 1916 JUL 30 2008
PH & OLC POW
ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS


RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY





ARMY AIR CORPS SECOND LT. JOE J. PLESE



US Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Joseph J. Plese
(This photo was found at "findagrave.org" with the caption "Lieut Joe 'Joey' Plese)

Joe ***J.*** Plese (Croation, pronounced Plesha) was one of the most difficult WWII casualties to research. Military records confused him with Joe ***Matt*** Plese, a relative of his, and each record contained conflicting and/or confusing information. Fortunately, Fontanan Joanna Farrage, a second cousin to Joe J., responded to a request in the Herald News for help in providing information about any of the then-44 Fontana men killed in wars, clearing up the confusion. Joe Matt Plese was her father and did not serve in WWII. leaving Joe J. Plese as our veteran KIA.



PURPLE HEART



ASIATIC PACIFIC CAMPAIGN



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL



ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

US Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Joe J. Plese was born in Gallup, New Mexico or in one of the nearby mining towns in 1915, however, he lived in Fontana at 16389 Randall Avenue when WWII started for the U.S. in December 1941. His parents, Matt and Marcia Plese were immigrants from the former Yugoslavia. He had 3 brothers and one sister. Joe was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church here in Fontana. He was also a member of the SNPJ Lodge 723, commonly known as Slovene Hall.

ARMY AIR CORPS SECOND LT. JOE J. PLESE

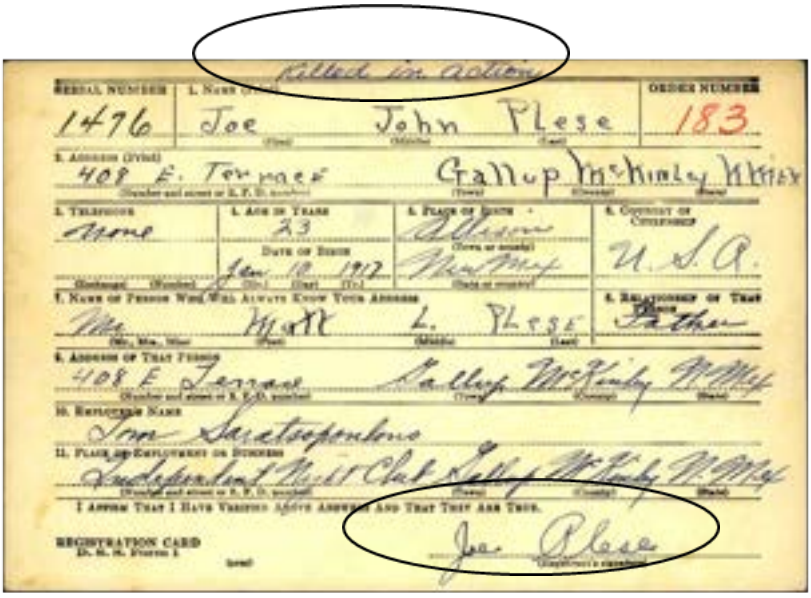




2ND Lt. Bar

Lt. Plese served as a tail gunner in the Army Air Corps. He lost his life on a mission on November 8, 1942. His body was lost at sea and never recovered. **Lt. Plese was awarded the Purple Heart, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, an Army Presidential Unit Citation, the Army Good Conduct Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.** Lt. Plese is memorialized at the Tablets of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial in Hawaii and with a memorial plaque in the historical room at the SNPJ Lodge.

Draft registration card with post-KIA notation



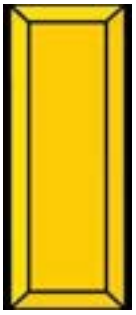
Funeral services for Anthony Didmar were conducted at 10 a.m. yesterday from the Ingold Funeral chapel in Rialto, with the Rev. John A. Macdonald of the Fontana Community church officiating. Mrs. Ronald Ingold, accompanied by Mrs. Evelyn Ryan Kircher, sang "No Night There" and "Abide With Me."

Pallbearers were Robert Hochevar, Joseph Richtar, Stephen Richtar, Gunnar Kallgren, Joseph Plese and Anton Resner. Private cremation followed at Montecito Memorial park.

July 16, 1941, SB Sun

Four well-known Fontanans, Joe Plese, Robert Hochevar, Steve Richtar and Joe Richtar serve as pallbearers at a local funeral







Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Richard P. Poe

Unlike many other Fontanans included in the FONTANA HONOR ROLL, historical information about Lt. Poe was plentiful.

Born on May 23, 1920, in Wilburton, Oklahoma, Lt. Poe enlisted in the Army in 1939, about the time WWII began in Europe but two years before the United States would enter the war. Poe was an enlisted man (Private) stationed in Honolulu when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. He served previously in the Army at Fort Armstrong, Honolulu. Fort Armstrong was a coast artillery fort built in Honolulu in 1907. On November 15, 1941, just three weeks before Pearl Harbor was attacked, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin newspaper, published a short story along with then-corporal Poe's photo, with the heading "Up The Golden Ladder," in which it said:

(next page)



Up The Golden Ladder

Corporal Richard P. Poe, company clerk for the depot detachment, has upon recommendation of his organization commander, Capt. Joseph F. Hunt, been appointed sergeant. Private W. C. Reeves of the 32nd separate quartermaster company has upon recommendation of his organization commander, Lt. Harold V. Allen, been promoted to the grade of sergeant.

Sgt. Poe



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL



Army Air Corps
1st Lt. Richard P. Poe



"Corporal Richard P. Poe, Company Clerk for the depot detachment, has upon the recommendation of his organization, Capt. Joseph F. Hunt, been appointed to sergeant."

Sgt. Poe later transferred to the Army Air Corps as a gunner. He returned to the U.S. in 1943 and underwent Army Air Corps basic training at the Army Air Field in Ontario, California where he was commissioned as an officer (2nd Lt.) bombardier in June 1944. He was later assigned to the Army Air Field in Gulfport, Miss.

In August 1943, the Reno Gazette-Journal included a short announcement of Lt. Poe's marriage in Reno, NV to Imogene Flossie Howell of Ada, OK. At that time, Lt. Poe listed his hometown as Reno.

Little is known of Lt. Poe's activities from that time on until his death on January 17th, 1945. Contemporary news reports in the San Bernardino Sun on January 25, 1945, headlined "FINAL RITES CONDUCTED FOR LT. RICHARD POE" stated:

"Full Military honors were paid yesterday to Lt. Richard P. Poe, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dewitt Poe, Sr., and brother of Mrs. Elizabeth Turner of Fontana, who died in the crash of an Army B-17 Flying Fortress January 17 at Minette, Mississippi. His widow, Mrs. Imogene F. Howell, also resides in Fontana." (NOTE: other news articles indicated the crash was in Bay Minette, Alabama.)

The news article also described the military funeral held on January 24, including a military color guard, escort and firing squad. All pall bearers were Army officers.

The crash of the training mission flight claimed Lt. Poe's life and killed all 11 crew members. It also started a serious forest fire when the plane crashed in a wooded section and burst into flames. Wreckage and bodies were scattered over a five-acre area. Final rites were conducted at Mark B. Shaw Funeral Home with burial at Mt. View Cemetery on Highland Ave. in San Bernardino.

Lt. Poe earned the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal

Up The Golden Ladder

Corporal Richard P. Poe, company clerk for the depot detachment, has upon recommendation of his organization commander, Capt. Joseph F. Hunt, been appointed sergeant. Private W. C. Reeves of the 32nd separate quartermaster company has upon recommendation of his organization commander, Lt. Harold V. Allen, been promoted to the grade of sergeant.



Sgt. Poe

LT. RICHARD P. POE

Military funeral services for Lt. Richard P. Poe will be conducted from the Mark B. Shaw Memorial chapel Wednesday at 2 p.m. Interment to follow in Mountain View cemetery.

Fliers Who Died In Crash Are Now Identified

GULFPORT, Miss. — (AP) — The commanding officer of the Army air field here released Thursday night the names of 11 crew members killed when a Flying Fortress crashed near Bay Minette, Ala., during a combat training flight Wednesday.

The victims were 1st Lt. Sydney Abramson, Dorchester, Mass.; 2nd Lt. Richard P. Poe, Ada, Okla.; 2nd Lt. Ivan P. Richey, Braymer, Mo.; 2nd Lt. Douglas W. Mallory, Baytown, Texas; 2nd Lt. Randall A. Weaver, Nashville, Tenn.; Pfc. Clayton E. Plopper, Yakima, Wash.; Corp. James B. Fleming, Shady Gap, Penn.; Pfc. George H. Smith, Porterville, Calif.; Corp. Thomas M. Rutledge, Nashville, Tenn.; Pfc. James C. White, Wichita Falls, Texas and Pfc. John R. Makfei, San Francisco.

Patterson, Dale M., Colton
Patton, Charles Aaron, San Bdno.
Pazder, Richard, Redlands
Pedroza, Jose, San Bernardino
Peters, Charles E., Chino
Pierce, James B., San Bernardino
Piper, Kenneth R., Ontario
Poe, Richard P., Fontana
Ponsler, Frank, Ontario
Quetu, Alfred L., San Bernardino
Quinn, Clarence, San Bernardino
Rangel, Joe U., San Bernardino
Ransberger, Edward H., San Bdno.
Reed, Purrine C., San Bernardino

SB SUN ARTICLE
LISTING WAR DEAD

their deeds.

NAMES ON PLAQUE

Names thus commemorated are B. Ralph Broiles, Robert Von Lehe, Paul L. Harvey, Emmet E. Smith, Donand M. Murray, Edgar C. Feaster, Robert Mortrud, Haskell Owens, Raymond D. McCurdy, Cecil D. Sansome, Manuel Vega, Kenton B. Nicholas, Richard P. Poe, Joseph Plese, Eugene K. Horn, Walter Crosslin, Fred Stewart, Paul G. Garcia, Billy B. D. Dobbs, James D. Pow, Albert Harder and John C. Humphrey.

FIGHTER Command Flights

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence)

FIGHTER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, April 23.—Recent promotions in the Dandy Lions squadron have been announced.

To be staff: John B. Hall Jr., Paul S. Craig, Burnett Bentley, Robert E. Elwood, Wilmer F. Bailey, Julius G. Teglas, Theodore P. Van Arsdale, Earl E. Dixon, John J. Bates, Joseph L. Schiffbauer, Vincent L. Carnella and Edward Harder.

To be sergeants: Alphonse W. Luciano, Samuel B. Edwards, Arthur L. Puffle, Edward S. Bolyn, George J. Boufreau, Vincent J. Millenbacher, Paul Aime R. Levrassuer, Charley Popejoy, Paul Sampedro, Frederick S. Sewell, Philip J. Strowther, Frank M. Cassels, Charles P. O'Malley, Lawrence R. Foster, Raymond C. Hurtte, Harvey B. Terry, Brodie B. Cagle, George A. Loomis, Ernest L. Thomas, Richard P. Poe, Marian K. Travis, Clarence J. Mairose, Bernt C. Dreyer and Carl G. Mills.

To be corporal: Michael P. Sekarth, Byron J. Purvine, Emil G. Starlabs, Joe C. Cuppage, Joseph W. Sheppard, Thomas D. Hatan, Herbert M. Elbert, Dionisio E. Hurtado, William H. Ragan, John A. Karasouly, Harold C. Oetter, Nicholas J. La Greca, Lee L. Hardwick, Andrew Baranik Jr., John Mulvaney, Marvin R. Erickson, Michael Papas, Clifford W. Stanley, James G. Murray, Frank A. Kerbas, Raymond L. Siebert, Arnold A. Martorano, William L. Martin, Clifford A. Berry, George A. Tillery, Ervel L. Keller, Michael Kerwe, John H. Guthrie, Walter E. Claxton, Marcel C. Fentress, Thomas H. Hampton, Jack Cunningham, William S. Greer, Roy Nielsen and Walter H. Rogers.

The Peruvian government is sponsoring a new tourist hotel at Huancayo.

Only one public-carrier railway is operating in Haiti.

Promotions to corporals: Private Winfred G. Westlake of the 32nd separate quartermaster company; Private First Class Richard P. Poe of depot detachment, QMC, and Private First Class Harold W. Bradley of company A, 11th quartermaster regiment.

FINAL RITES CONDUCTED FOR LT. RICHARD POE

Full military honors were paid yesterday to Lt. Richard P. Poe, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dewitt Poe Sr., and brother of Mrs. Elizabeth Turner of Fontana, who died in the crash of an Army B-17 Flying Fortress Jan. 17 at Bay Minette, Miss. His widow, Mrs. Imogene F. Howell, also resides in Fontana.

The military funeral was held at the Mark B. Shaw Memorial chapel with Chaplain John W. New officiating. A military escort, color guard and firing squad took part in the funeral service. Pallbearers, all Army officers, included Capt. Ray W. Allen, Lts. Arnold Luciano, Paul A. Golden, Walter H. Poppe Jr., Leonard E. Rinkes and Edward C. Pozan.

Lieutenant Poe was 25 years old and a native of Oklahoma. He enlisted in the Army in 1939 and was in Honolulu when war was declared. He served in the south Pacific and later was transferred to the Air Force as a gunner.

He returned to this country in 1943 and took basic training at the Army air field in Ontario. He was commissioned as a bombardier in June, 1944, and assigned to the Army air field in Gulfport, Miss.

The fatal crash, in which 11 men aboard the Fortress lost their lives while on a training mission, started a serious forest fire when the plane landed in a wooded section and burst into flames. Wreckage and bodies were scattered over a five acre area.

In addition to his parents and sister, Mrs. Turner, Lieutenant Poe is survived by another sister, Mrs. Dorothy Sanborn of Houston, Texas ;two brothers, Warrant Officer John D. Poe of San Diego and Ens. W. A. Poe of Fort Pierce, Fla., a grandmother, Mrs. Mary Crabtree, resides in Reno, Nev.

11 FLIERS KILLED IN CRASH IN MISS. ARE IDENTIFIED

Gulfport, Miss., Jan. 18 (AP)—The commanding officer of the army air field here announced tonight that eleven crew members were killed Wednesday night when a Flying Fortress crashed near Bay Minette, Ala., about 20 miles northeast of Mobile.

The announcement said that the bomber, on a combat training flight, burned after the crash.

The dead were identified as First Lt. Sydney Abramson, Dorchester, Mass.; Second Lt. Richard P. Poe, Ada, Okla.; Second Lt. Ivan F. Richey, Braymer, Mo.; Second Lt. Douglas W. Mallory, Baytown, Texas; Second Lt. Randall A. Weaver, Nashville, Tenn.; Pfc. Clayton E. Flopper, Yakima, Wash.; Corporal James B. Fleming, Shaft Gap, Penn; Pfc. George E. Smith, Porterville, Calif.; Cpl. Thomas M. Rutledge, Nashville, Tenn.; Pfc. James C. White, Wichita Falls, Texas, and Pfc. John E. Maikel, San Fran-

Mr. and Mrs. E.S. Sanford of Valley Blvd, Fontana, were notified in the second week of October, 1944, that their son, Marine Private First Class Eugene W. Sanford, was killed in action in World War II.

Marine Lieutenant General Commandant A.A. Vandergrift's letter to the Sanfords said:

"Deeply regret to inform you that your son, Marine Private First Class Eugene W. Sanford, died of wounds received in action in the performance of his duty and service to the country. No information available at present regarding disposition of remains. Temporary burial in locality where death occurred probable. You will be promptly furnished any additional information received. To prevent possible aid to our enemies do not divulge the name of his ship or station. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy."

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS PRIVATE FIRST CLASS EUGENE W. SANFORD



It was later determined that Sanford was lost at sea and his body was never recovered.

PFC Sanford was raised in and attended schools in Billings, Montana and from there enlisted in the Marines in December 1941, immediately after the Dec. 7 Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Upon completion of his training in 1942 in San Diego and before deployment, he spent his furlough with his aunt and uncle in Fontana, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fisher of Ceres Street. At the same time, his parents moved to Fontana from Montana and established their home here. His parents then took over the management of Everybody's Café on Valley Boulevard.

PFC Sanford was sent to the South Pacific and took part in the battles of Guadalcanal and the Gilbert Islands and was then sent to Australia, where he met his future wife, Janet Leonard of Melbourne. They were married on April 24, 1943, and shortly thereafter he left Australia and was sent back into the Pacific theater of war, where he met his demise.

In one of the many letters to his parents, he expressed optimism that he would be home by Christmas, 1944 and that his new wife would soon be coming to Fontana to stay with them until he returned. Unfortunately, Sanford was killed in action not long thereafter. His body was never recovered, and he was officially declared dead on Sept. 7, 1944.

For his service, Sanford was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon Badge, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal.



PURPLE HEART



MARINE CORPS COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



MARINE CORPS GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ASIATIC PACIFIC MEDAL



MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

COUNTY NEWS
The Sun
Page 14 Sunday, October 15, 1944

OCTOBER 15, 1944 SAN BERNARDINO SUN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ANNOUNCING USMC PRIVATE FIRST CLASS EUGENE SANFORD'S DEATH





EUGENE SANFORD, MARINE OF FONTANA, DIES FROM WOUNDS

O.E.S. Matron Receives Courtesy On Special Night

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Oct. 14.—Mr. and Mrs E. S. Sanford of Valley boulevard received the sad news from the war department that their son, Pfc. Eugene W. Sanford of the U. S. Marine Corps died of wounds received in action in the south Pacific war theater.

The wire, signed by A. A. Vandegrift, lieutenant general commandant of Marine Corps, reads as follows:

"Deeply regret to inform you that your son, Pfc. Eugene W. Sanford, U.S.M.C., died of wounds received in action in the performance of his duty and service to his country. No information available at present regarding disposition of remains. Temporary burial in locality where death occurred probable. You will be promptly furnished any additional information received. To prevent possible aid to our enemies do not divulge the name of his ship or station. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy. Letter follows."

MARRIES AUSTRALIAN

A graduate of Kansas schools, Sanford enlisted in the Marines in December, 1941, at Billings, Mont. He received his training at San Diego. Before he was sent overseas in October, 1942, he spent a furlough with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fisher of Ceres street in Fontana. At the same time his parents came to Fontana from Large Grass, Mont., to meet their son and remained in the community when they took over the management of Everybody's cafe on Valley boulevard.

Private Sanford was sent to the south Pacific and took part in the battles of Guadalcanal and Gilbert islands; then he was sent to Australia. There he met Miss Janet Leonard who worked in an airplane plant at Melbourne and they married on April 24, 1943. Shortly thereafter he left Australia and went back to combat zones.

WIDOW MAY ARRIVE

He wrote letters to his parents quite often and the last letter from him arrived on Sept. 23 in which he said that he hoped he would be home by Christmas and his wife would leave Australia to stay with his parents at Fontana for the duration. As yet Mr. and Mrs. Sanford have not received any information that the Australian wife of their late son is on her way here.

In the form of a birthday and going-away party, Miss Blanche Carlson, worthy matron of Orange Blossom chapter, O.E.S., was honored by the chapter on matrons and patrons courtesy night.



KILLED—Pfc. Eugene Sanford of the Marines died of wounds in the south Pacific.

The worthy matron is a delegate to represent the chapter at the grand chapter of California, in San Francisco beginning Monday.

The evening also serving as matrons and patrons courtesy night, matrons and patrons of other chapters were present to fill the stations as courtesy to Miss Carlson, worthy matron, and Henry Kabot, worthy patron.

GIFT TO LODGE OFFICER

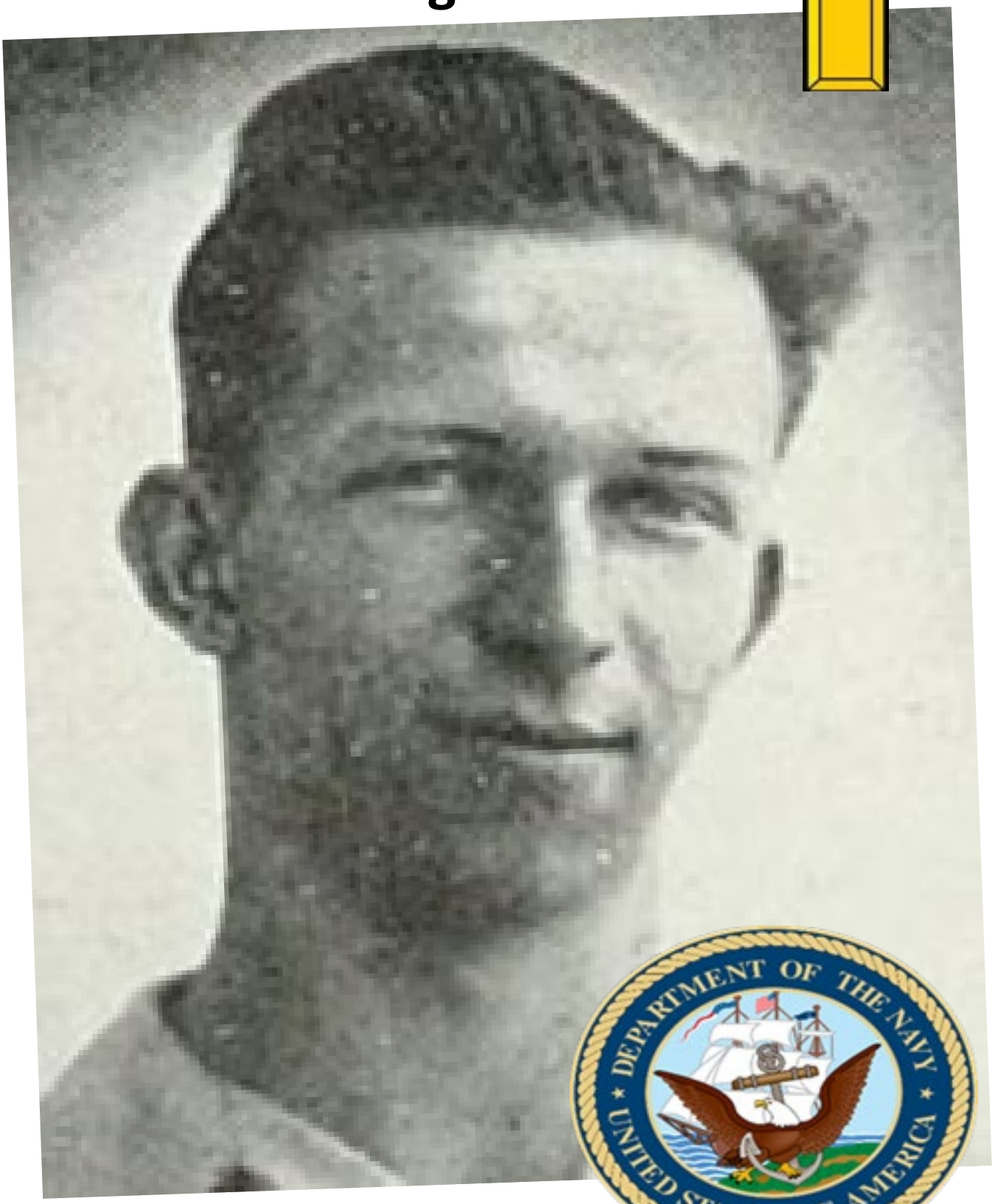
During the course of the evening the officers and members formed two circles around the altar as two bonds; one circle being the officers and the other members, Chairman of the evening, Mrs. Hazelle Helms, escorted the worthy matron into the circle and presented her with a small traveling bag as a going-away gift. On opening the traveling bag Miss Carlson found it to hold war stamps for a $50 bond and an envelope containing money to be used on her trip to San Francisco. Under each stamp was the name of an officer or member.

Pumpkin pie was served during the social hour. Miniature birthday cakes topped with pink candles were presented as favors.

Those leaving Fontana Saturday for the grand chapter at San Francisco were Miss Blanche Carlson, worthy matron; Mrs. Edith Mahen, associate matron, delegates; Mrs. Hazelle Helms and Mrs. Hazel Tate, deputy grand matron of the seventy-third district.

John Allen Fitz, superintendent of schools, left Fontana this week on a business trip to Chicago, Ill.

United States Navy Ensign
Cecil George Sansome



Killed on September 21, 1945, a little more than two weeks after Japan formally surrendered in September 1945.



United States Navy Ensign
Cecil George Sansome

Navy Ensign Cecil George Sansome's public history is somewhat baffling in that research found at least a dozen short newspaper articles about his high school leadership abilities and awards, yet very little is found about his military experience.

What we DO know is that Ensign Sansome was born in Long Beach on April 28, 1924, and lived in Fontana for 20 years at 548 So. Date Street.

He was a leader of the local high school 4H Club, a member of the Fontana Boy's Band, a graduate of Chaffey High School, and was attending Chaffey College when he entered the service.

The San Bernardino Sun reported that he last visited his parents on June 7, 1944. He was killed on Sept. 21, 1945, a little more than a month after Japan surrendered in August 1945. Army brass reported he was in a plane crash in Beaufort, South Carolina while "in the line of duty in an area familiarization flight." He is considered a World War II casualty.

One can only imagine the grief suffered by his family members, who believed their son was a WWII survivor, only to later learn he was killed after the war ended.

Ensign Sansome was survived by his parents, George David Sansome and Hazel Marie Comstock, and sisters Betty and Corrine (who were also active in the local 4H Club) as well as grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Comstock of Fontana and Mrs. Sarah Sansome of Compton.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Sept. 27, 1945, at Fontana Community Church. Ensign Sansome is buried in Colton in the Montecito Memorial Park Cemetery. His mother's name, Comstock, is familiar to this writer as a long-time Fontana family name.

Coincidentally, Sansome was inducted on the same day as Fontanan Eugene K. Horn, who was also killed in the war. Further, other Fontana inductees listed on that day in a San Bernardino Sun article on Dec. 20, 1942 included familiar Fontana names such as Ray Micallef, Jose Lugo, Fred Willis Jr. and a man whom this writer believes is his all-time favorite teacher, from Fontana Jr. High School, Earl S. Davis.

(On a personal note, Earl Davis was my ninth-grade history teacher, baseball coach and eighth grade student council advisor at Fontana Jr. High. When I began teaching in 1974, also at Fontana Jr. High, Mr. Davis was such a great influence on me that I also became a ninth-grade history teacher, baseball coach and student council advisor.)

San Bernardino Sun October 10, 1942, article showing the Japanese bombing of Midway. Also, Cecil Sansome's 4H Club demonstration prior to being drafted is mentioned in the San Bernardino Sun Newspaper



County's 4-H Club Members Will Gather at Junior College Meeting

PRESENTING OF ACHIEVEMENT PRIZES SLATED

JAPS' BOMBS DAMAGE MIDWAY

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED BY BANNING POST

OLD GLORY RAISED IN BATTLE

SONS, HUSBAND IN NAVY, ARMY

PRIZE WINNER

ONTARIO BRIDE AGAIN IN JAIL

PRESENTING OF ACHIEVEMENT PRIZES SLATED

Bankers' Association to Give Pins; Cecil Sansome to Act As Program Chairman

A 4-H club achievement program will be held at the San Bernardino Valley Junior college tomorrow night at which awards will be made to 122 members of clubs throughout San Bernardino county. The program will begin at 7:30.

The San Bernardino County Bankers' association will present 4-H club pins to members. Bryson Amos will award the pins in behalf of the organization. J. P. Hertel, assistant county farm adviser, will present special awards.

WILL BE REVIEWED

Achievements of the clubs in the past year will be reviewed by the president of each of the 15 organizations in the county.

Glen Waterhouse of Berkeley, assistant state club leader, will present club charters and seals, and Erma Ruth Wildermuth, also of Berkeley and an assistant state club agent, will speak on "My Experience as a Club Member, Student and Extension Agent."

Cecil Sansome of Fontana, senior 4-H club member, will preside over the program.

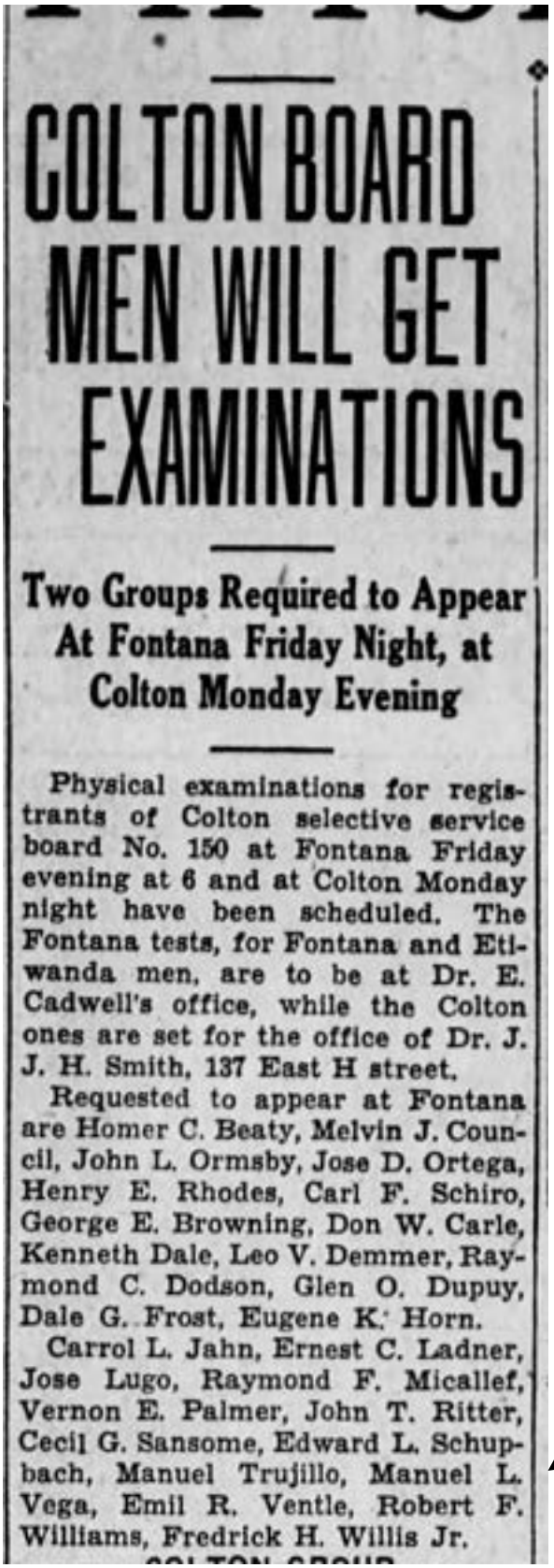
Fontana 4-H Cloverleaf club held a field day Friday, Nov. 27, for their own members and members from surrounding communities who gathered at the Rabbit Experiment station. A. E. Suitor, leader of the Fontana group, showed the group around the station, demonstrating the skinning of rabbits.

GIVES DEMONSTRATION

Cecil Sansome gave a demonstration on the technique of killing and dressing rabbits. From the rabbit station the club visited John Allen Suitor and his projects.

Led by J. P. Hertel, assistant county farm adviser, the group made an inspection tour of the Swift & Co. plant, where they saw chickens being prepared for market, the gathering of eggs, and the duck farm.

After eating lunch in the Community park, the club visited several ranches where chickens and rabbits are raised.



COLTON BOARD MEN WILL GET EXAMINATIONS

Two Groups Required to Appear At Fontana Friday Night, at Colton Monday Evening

Physical examinations for registrants of Colton selective service board No. 150 at Fontana Friday evening at 6 and at Colton Monday night have been scheduled. The Fontana tests, for Fontana and Etiwanda men, are to be at Dr. E. Cadwell's office, while the Colton ones are set for the office of Dr. J. J. H. Smith, 137 East H street.

Requested to appear at Fontana are Homer C. Beaty, Melvin J. Council, John L. Ormsby, Jose D. Ortega, Henry E. Rhodes, Carl F. Schiro, George E. Browning, Don W. Carle, Kenneth Dale, Leo V. Demmer, Raymond C. Dodson, Glen O. Dupuy, Dale G. Frost, Eugene K. Horn.

Carrol L. Jahn, Ernest C. Ladner, Jose Lugo, Raymond F. Micallef, Vernon E. Palmer, John T. Ritter, Cecil G. Sansome, Edward L. Schupbach, Manuel Trujillo, Manuel L. Vega, Emil R. Ventle, Robert F. Williams, Fredrick H. Willis Jr.

Future casualties Cecil Sansome, Eugene Horn and Manuel Vega are drafted together, as is the future role model and all-time favorite teacher of author Bill Freeman

INDUCTEES LISTED

Wilfred C. Brower, Bloomington; John R. Mojeske, Bloomington; Jose A. Lugo, Fontana; Phillip Karas, Bloomington; Frank L. Gifford, Colton; Raymond C. Dodson, Fontana; David F. Newberry, Colton; Don W. Carle, Fontana; Vernon E. Palmer, Fontana; George H. DeArmond, Colton; Socorro A. Rosales, Colton; Ralph J. Wagoner, Colton; Salvador L. Cardoza, Colton.

Theodore Ramirez, Bloomington; Ysidro O. Gonzalez, Colton; Raymond F. Micallef, Fontana; Lloyd E. Lockabey, Rialto; Jesus R. Medina, Colton; Andres G. Chavez, Colton; Dale G. Frost, Etiwanda; Richard S. Miller, Colton; Cecil G. Sansome, Fontana; Raul B. Torres, Colton; Ival W. Webster, Colton; Paul W. Brown, Colton; Pete R. Hernandez, Colton; Reynaldo M. Camarena, Colton.

Fredrik H. Willis Jr., Fontana; LeRoy Harness, Bloomington; Edward L. Schupback, Fontana; David R. Doney, Bloomington; Eugene K. Horn, Fontana; Cecil Eaton, Rialto; Antoni L. Marquez, Rialto; Louis A. Pate, Colton; Noel L. Roberts, Colton; Richard B. Mills, Ontario; Antonio V. Guitron, Colton; Earl S. Davis Jr., Colton; Manuel Trunillo, Etiwanda, and William R. Johnson, Colton.

Future History teacher, baseball coach and student activity director of author Bill Freeman at Fontana Jr. High in 1964-65. Mr. Davis was the prime reason the author also became a 9th grade history teacher, baseball coach, activity director and assistant principal at Fontana Jr. High in the 70's and 80's. Rest in peace, Mr. Davis! And thank you!! Bill Freeman

Ensign Sansome Meets Death in Crash of Airplane

Word of the death of Ensign Cecil George Sansome in a plane crash in South Carolina was received yesterday by the 21-year-old youth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George D. Sansome of Fontana.

Details of the tragedy were not disclosed, although Army officers notified Mr. and Mrs. Sansome by wire that the young officer was killed in line of duty while on an "area familiarization flight." Ensign Sansome was stationed at Beaufort, S. C.

A resident of 548 South Date street, Fontana, the youthful officer was a native of Long Beach but had lived in Fontana 20 years. Surviving besides his parents are two sisters, Betty and Corinne; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Comstock of Fontana and Mrs. Sarah Sansome of Compton.

He was a member of the Fontana Boys' Band and in 1940 received the county 4-H club all-star award. A graduate of Chaffey Union High school, he was attending Chaffey Junior college when he enlisted in the Navy in January, 1942. He received his commission last April 4.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Ingold Funeral Home in Rialto.

CECIL G. SANSOME

Funeral services for Cecil G. Sansome will be held at 2:30 p. m. Thursday from the Fontana Community church with interment in Montecito Memorial park. The Ingold mortouary in is charge.





ARMY AIR CORPS MASTER SERGEANT EMMET E. SMITH





MASTER SERGEANT EMMET E.SMITH



WWII VICTORY MEDAL





AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

Military funeral services for Army Air Corps Master Sgt. Emmet E. Smith were held at 2 p.m. January 20, 1943, at the Fontana Community church. The Rev. John A. MacDonald, pastor of the church, assisted by Chaplain L. F. Milner of March Field, officiated at the services. Mrs. Ronald Ingold, accompanied by Mrs. Katherine Forbes, sang "America the Beautiful" and "Lead Kindly Light." Special services at the graveside in Rialto Park cemetery were conducted by Sergeant Mayo of March Field, who headed the honorary firing squad and salute. The flag covering the casket was folded and presented to the family. A military escort accompanied the body from the church to the cemetery. Officers and enlisted men from March Field conducted graveside services. The firing squad gave a three-volley salute, after which taps were sounded. A color guard representing the Fontana American Legion Post, including E. G. Herber and W. O. Evans, posted colors at both the church and the cemetery. Pallbearers were Leo Theriault, Royce Chambliss (whose son, J.R., was a WWII P.O.W.), J. M. Glines, C. W. Harlow, Charles W. Lindell and S. L. Virene. The Ingold Funeral Home of Rialto was in charge of arrangements.

Master Sgt. Smith was a meteorologist with the Army Air Force. He attended weather forecaster's school at Fort Monmouth NJ, followed by assignment to Fort Patterson, Ohio, in 1937. He was then stationed at March Field in Riverside County before he was sent to San Diego**. Master Sgt. Smith earned the WWII Victory Medal, The American Campaign Medal, an Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**



ARMY MAJOR
FRED. C. STEWART



United States Army Major Frederick Clarence Stewart is the highest-ranking FONTANA HONOR ROLL honoree. He was born on August 20, 1910, in Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. He died one week short of his 34th birthday, on August 12, 1944, at an Army field hospital in Patterson, Ohio following a short illness. He is considered a casualty of WWII. Although he held a high rank in the Army, few records were found of his deployments. Records do indicate however, that on May 1, 1944, he was commissioned a Warrant Officer, but Major is not a rank within warrant officers and numerous death announcements classify him as a Major in the Army. A later news article said he entered the Army in 1931 at March Field with the first wing headquarters. In 1940, he went to Alaska in the Adjutant General's department. In November 1943, he was assigned to Patterson Field where he was chief of the records department for the Adjutant General. This writer finds it ironic that his own records don't match up even though he was a records chief. As my former Army pals would say, "Only in the Army!!"



ARMY MAJOR FRED C. STEWART

Major Stewart was the son of George Stewart, who died in 1923, and Mary Ann Housel Stewart Lily Green who passed away in 1958. One military record said Major Stewart was the husband of *Louise* Ida Guse Stewart who passed away in 1990, while a more contemporary and probably more accurate obituary in the SB Sun said Major Stewart was married to Mrs. *Barbara* Stewart. Both records indicate that Major Stewart had a son, Robert Eugene Stewart, who passed away in 2000 at the age of 67. Robert was 11 when his dad died.

News reports regarding his burial were plentiful, however no photos of Major Stewart were found. One SB Sun article, entitled “In The Shadows,” said “Full military funeral services for Major Fred C. Stewart, U.S. Army of Fontana, will be held at 3 pm today (August 18, 1944) at the Fontana Community Church. Interment will be in Montecito Memorial Park, with the Ingold Funeral Home in charge.” Major Stewart was eventually laid to rest in the “Dreamland” section of Montecito Memorial Park.

Another longer article, entitled “Body of Young Fontana Officer Brought Home With Honor Guard,” said, “Escorted by an Army guard in charge of a captain (sic), the body of Major Fred C. Stewart, prominent Fontana young officer, today was being brought home for a full military funeral.” Continuing, the article said his body would be received by his sister, Mrs. George Tilt of 802 Palmetto Avenue, Fontana. Finally, another news report said all the pall bearers at Major Stewart’s funeral were Army officers

Major Stewart attended Fontana schools and graduated from Chaffey High School where all Fontana youth attended before Fohi was built.

ARMY MAJOR FRED C. STEWART

Body of Young Fontana Officer Brought Home With Honor Guard

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Aug. 12—Escorted by an Army guard in charge of a captain, the body of Major Fred C. Stewart, prominent Fontana young officer, today was being brought home, for a full military funeral.

Major Stewart, who was 34 years old, died at the Patterson, Ohio, Army field hospital Saturday following a short illness, according to advices received by his sister, Mrs. George Tilt, of 802 Palmetto avenue, Fontana.

Following attendance at Chaffey High school and junior college, with Fontana young people, he entered the Army in 1931 at March field, with the first wing headquarters. In charge at that time was Col. H. H. Arnold, now ranking general of the Army Air Forces.

In 1940 he wentt o Alaska in the adjutant general's department, returning last November to the United States. At Patterson Field, Major Stewart was chief of the records department of the adjutant general's department.

Born in Fond du Lac, Wis., Major Stewart 13 years ago came to Fontana, where his wife, Mrs. Barbara Stewart, and their 11-year-old son, Robert, made their home, although recently they had been staying with Mrs. Stewart's family at Piedmont, California. His mother, Mrs. Frank Lilygreen of Huntington Park, also survives.

The body is to be brought to the Ingold Funeral home at Rialto, where arrangements for the funeral services will be completed.



Final Tribute Paid Major Fred Stewart

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Aug. 18.—Military funeral service was held today from the Fontana Community church for Major Fred C. Stewart, of Fontana, who died last week at Patterson field, Ohio.

Chaplain Learned of the San Bernardino Air service command officiated. Several selections on the church organ were played by Mrs. Catherine Forbes.

Pallbearers were Lieutenant Colonel Reddrick, Major Gaudy, Major Frederick, Major Welch, Major Edwards, Captain Todd and Captain Haggard. Honorary pallbearers were Sergeant Quest, Sergeant Levy, Thomas Conway, Jack Leslie, A. E. MacNutt, M. A. Meade, Arthur Waterman, M. A. Milleman. Interment was in Montecito Memorial park. Ingold Funeral home of Rialto was in charge.





AMERICAN DEFENSE RIBBON

Friday, August 18, 1944

IN THE SHADOWS

ELI RUBY PARKER

Funeral services for Eli Ruby Parker will be conducted today at 11 a.m. at Mark B. Shaw Memorial chapel. Burial will be made in Mountain View cemetery.

MAJOR FRED C. STEWART

Full military funeral services for Major Fred C. Stewart, U. S. Army, of Fontana, will be held at 3 p.m. today at the Fontana Community church. Interment will be in Montecito Memorial park, with the Ingold Funeral home in charge.

Ontario before moving to Kelso where he made his home with his wife, Mrs. Daisy B. Yeomans.

Following funeral services tomorrow at 10 a.m. at the Ingold Funeral home in Rialto, the body will be shipped to Greensboro, N. C., where his father, James E. Yeomans, a brother, James E. Yeomans, and a sister, Madalyn Trescher, reside.

Z. FRED OBRI

Funeral services were held at 4 p.m. yesterday for Z. Fred Obri at the Stephens & Bobbitt chapel,



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NO RECORDS OF MAJOR STEWART'S AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE; HOWEVER, IT IS MOST LIKELY HE RECEIVED THE SAME MEDALS AS DID OTHER WWII SOLDIERS

ARMY PRIVATE MANUEL L. VEGA



Army Private Manuel L. Vega (Headstone in Mountain View Cemetery in San Bernardino)



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION





Pfc. Manuel Vega
U. S. Army

Army Private Manuel L. Vega of Pepper Street and a native Fontanan was killed in action on the European front on September 26, 1944, in the province of Lorraine, France and was buried in the American Cemetery there. Later, in 1949, news reports indicate that Private Vega's remains were returned to his parents and a Catholic Mass and Military Burial were conducted for him in 1949, five years after he was killed. Veterans of the **Spanish American War** served as pall bearers.

Private Vega was born on January 28, 1924, and was just 19 years old when killed. He attended Fontana schools and then Chaffey High School. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Constantina Vega who came to Fontana in 1919. Mr. Vega was employed by the Fontana Union Water Company. He also had 4 brothers and 2 sisters: Rudy, Vega, Lalo and Louie Serbin; and two sisters, Maria Lupe Carmillo and Mrs. Carmen Gonzales.

Pvt. Manuel L. Vega

Pvt. Vega was drafted into the Army in January 1943 and trained in Arkansas before being sent overseas in June 1944. In the same SB Sun news article announcing his induction were announcements that Fontana men with the following well-known last names were also being drafted: Ladner, Loza, Jahn, Demmer, Lugo, Dodson, Micallef and Cecil Sansome and Eugene Horn, both of whom were among the Fontanans killed in WWII. In other words, three Fontana boys; Manuel Vega, Cecil Sansone and Eugene Horn, *all drafted on the same day in January 1943,* would die in WWII.

Pvt. Vega was part of the expeditionary force that invaded France and was killed in action a short 4 months after induction. In another eerie coincidence, the San Bernardino Sun news article announcing Vega's death and being awarded the Purple Heart also included a short comment about another well-known fellow Fontanan, Pvt. Anthony (Tony) Rotolo, who received the Purple Heart for injuries he received on January 9, 1945.

Pvt. Vega's brother, Rudy, joined the Army in July 1944 and was a paratrooper stationed at Ft. Benning, GA when Manuel was killed.

Pvt. Vega earned the Purple Heart, the WWII Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Army presidential Unit Citation and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Rosary was conducted at Ingold Chapel on May 5, 1945, and Mass was celebrated the next day at 10 a.m. in St. Joseph's Church in Fontana, with the Rev. Fr. James Prusinski officiating. Ingold Chapel of Fontana was in charge of the arrangements. Military graveside services were also held that day at Mountain View Cemetery

PURPLE HEART AWARDED TO FONTANA MAN KILLED IN WAR

Pfc. Manuel L. Vega's Parents Receive Word; Young Man Is Buried in France

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Feb. 17. — Pfc. Manuel L. Vega, son of Mr. and Mrs. Constantina Vega of Pepper street, who was killed in action on the European front, has been awarded the Purple Heart, according to word received by the parents from the war department.

A letter later from the regimental chaplain from France advised the parents that Private Vega had been killed in the province of Lorraine, France, and was buried in the American cemetery.

Private Vega is a native of Fontana. He was born on Jan. 28, 1924, went through the Fontana schools and entered the Chaffey High school. He was inducted into the Army in January, 1943 and was stationed in Arkansas from where he was sent overseas in July, 1944. He participated in the invasion of France.

His parents came to Fontana in 1919 and since that time Mr. Vega has been employed by the Fontana Union Water Co. Another son, also born in Fontana, Rudi Vega, joined the Army in July, 1944. He is a paratrooper and at present is stationed at Banning Field, Ga.

Before entering the service Private Rotolo was engaged in the produce business with his brothers, Mariano and Joe Rotolo. His mother resides at 680 West Marigold avenue, Bloomington. Private Rotolo's wife also resides in Bloomington.

Private Rotolo's brother, Sgt Joseph Rotolo, is stationed in Italy. He has served 25 months overseas and was wounded in the African campaign.

First Lt. William J. Gardenhire has returned to the Fifth army front in Italy according to dispatches from Italian headquarters. He is battalion supply officer in the Battle Mountain regiment of the Blue Devil division. Lieutenant Gardenhire entered the service in 1941.

Mrs. Gardenhire moved to Fontana with her baby last year and Lieutenant Gardenhire came here in September to spend his 30-days leave with his family. He returned to Italy in November.

Lieutenant Gardenhire has a brother in the Air Force, Pvt. Wilbert Gardenhire, stationed at Barksdale Field, La.

EMPLOYES PRAISED



Pfc. Manuel Vega
U. S. Army

ARMY PRIVATE MANUEL L. VEGA

Mass for Fontana War Hero Will Be Celebrated Friday

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, May 3 — Requiem mass will be celebrated for Pfc. Manuel L. Vega, Fontana war hero, at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph's church in Fontana. He was killed Sept. 26, 1944 while serving with the U. S. Army in the European theater. A native of Fontana he was 19 years old when he was killed.

Military graveside services will be conducted in the veteran's plot at Mountain View cemetery, with officers of the Fontana American Legion post in charge. Spanish American War veterans will serve as pallbearers. Rosary will be recited at 8 Thursday night at the Ingold chapel in Fontana.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Constancio Vega of 406 Pepper avenue, Fontana; three brothers, Rudy Vega, Lalo and Louie Serbin; two sisters, Mrs. Maria Lupe Carmillo and Mrs. Carmen Gonzales.

MANUEL L. VEGA

Mass was celebrated for Pvt. Manuel L. Vega yesterday at 10 a.m. in St. Joseph's Catholic church in Fontana, with the Rev. Fr. James Prusinski officiating.

Military services followed at the [illegible] in Mountain View cemetery. The Ingold mortuary of Fontana was in charge of arrangements.

n Europe, September 26, 1944.
anuel L. Vega, 19, native of
a and resident there all his
osary at 8 p.m. Thursday at
gold chapel in Fontana. The
r the mass Friday morning
t been determined. Military
de services will be conducted
veterans plot at Mountain



PURPLE HEART





WWII VICTORY MEDAL



WWII NAVY COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



ASIATIC PACIFIC CAMPAIGN



NAVY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION



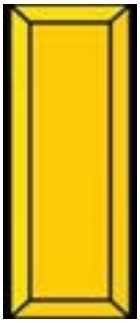
NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL



NAVY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL



UNITED STATES NAVAL AIR CORPS ENSIGN AND DECK OFFICER ROBERT L. VON LEHE





United States Navy Ensign and deck officer Robert Logan Von Lehe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. Von Lehe of Fontana, was officially reported missing when his plane failed to return from a routine training flight on October 2, 1942, somewhere in the Pacific. His parents were notified of his death in a telegram from the Navy Department and in a letter from James Flatley, his commanding officer. Ensign Von Lehe was a member of what Lt. Commander Flatley referred to as "The Grim Reapers, …the most feared squadron of fighting planes in this war." The squadron adopted the motto, "Mow 'em Down" and used the Grim Reaper diving down in flight, his scythe cocked and ready to strike, as its insignia.

Ensign Von Lehe was born in Corvallis, OR in 1921. He came to Fontana with his parents in 1930 and lived at 290 Juniper Street. He graduated from Fontana Junior High, Chaffey High School and Junior College. While in junior college, he was a member of the Engineers Club and he completed the civil aeronautics course, after which he received his private pilot's license. After junior college graduation, he enlisted in the Naval Air Corps.

Ensign Von Lehe first went through elimination training in Long Beach and was then transferred to the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, FL where he received his Navy wings and a commission as an Ensign in the Naval Reserves. Eventually he was activated and deployed overseas.

The San Bernardino County Sun newspaper reported that Von Lehe was:

> "…one of the most popular of the younger set of the community, (and) he was a charter member of the Fontana Boys Band, a member of the Fontana Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts, a leader among 4H club members, a member of the Fontana Community Church and the Young People's Society. He was the winner of the school award by the American Legion upon his graduation from junior high school."

A memorial Service was held for Ensign Von Lehe at the Fontana Community Church on Oct. 19, 1942. His name is also engraved on the monument to the WWII missing at the Honolulu National Memorial Cemetery.

HONORSTATES.ORG OFFICIAL RECORD

SERVICE OVERVIEW
Name Robert L Von Lehe
From California
Death August 2, 1942
War World War II
ID 0114413
Rank Ensign
Specialty Ensign
Branch US Navy
MIA Status Declared Dead while Missing
Cause Missing in action
Awarded
★ Purple Heart
ORIGINS
According to our records California was his home or enlistment state.
SERVICE
He had enlisted in the United States Navy. Served during World War II. Von Lehe had the rank of Ensign. His military occupation or specialty was Ensign. Service number assignment was 0114413.
CASUALTY
During his service in World War II, Navy Ensign Von Lehe was reported missing and ultimately declared dead on August 2, 1942. Recorded circumstances attributed to: Missing in action.
REMEMBERED
Robert L Von Lehe is buried or memorialized at Courts of the Missing, Court 2 Honolulu Memorial National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Honolulu, Hawaii. This is an American Battle Monuments Commission location.
COMMENDATIONS
★ World War II Victory Medal
★ Purple Heart
★ Combat Action Ribbon
★ American Campaign Medal
★ Navy Presidential Unit Citation
★ Navy Good Conduct Medal
★ Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal
★ Navy Expeditionary Medal

Bob von Lehe On Duty With Aerial Corps



BOB VON LEHE

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Dec. 2.—Among Fontana youths serving in the naval air corps is Bob von Lehe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert von Lehe of Juniper avenue. At present he is a second class flying cadet and is in training at the naval air station at Jacksonville, Fla.

Upon completion of the naval aviation school requirements next year he will receive the rank of ensign in the U. S. navy. To date he has made the ground flight training with a splendid record.

Born at Corvallis, Ore., in 1921, he came with his parents to California and settled in Fontana in 1928. He attended Fontana schools, graduating from Chaffey High school and Junior college. While at junior college he was a member of the Engineers' club. During the summer he completed the civil aeronautics course and received a private pilot's license.

Von Lehe left Fontana in July for advanced flight training in the naval air corps at Long Beach for two weeks, and from there was sent for intensive training to Florida.

CLIPPED FROM
The San Bernardino County Sun
San Bernardino, California
03 Dec 1941, Wed • Page 14





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The San Bernardino County Sun
San Bernardino, California
03 Aug 1942, Mon • Page 4

RNARDINO DAILY SUN,

'GRIM REAPERS' SAY THEY WILL MOW 'EM DOWN

Fontana Man Member of Group Of U. S. Airmen Ready for Action Against Foe

(By Associated Press)

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 2. — A navy fighter plane squadron, dubbed the "Grim Reaper" and composed of 26 fliers who have been training together in San Diego for several weeks has been commissioned and is ready for action.

The commissioning took place at a dinner attended by Pat O'Brien and other Hollywood film colony members.

Lieut.-Comdr. J. H. Flatley, of Green Bay, Wis., the squadron's first commanding officer, was master of ceremonies and administered the oath of allegiance.

"We shall be the most feared squadron of fighting planes in this war," said Flatley. "We're going to make the name 'Grim Reapers' more feared than 'Flying Tigers' by our enemies. And the 'Reapers' all will come back from the war, if they do what they've been taught to do."

Flatley downed several Japanese planes—he won't tell how many—in the Coral sea battle. Five others in the new squadron were in the battle, including Lieut. (j.g.) John A. Leppla, of Lima, Ohio, who damaged seven planes.

The squadron has adopted for its motto the battle cry, "Mow 'em down." Its insignia portrays a skeleton, the "Grim Reaper," in a headlong dive, his scythe cocked and ready to strike.

The squadron has been dedicated to the memory of the late Lieut. Henry Bell Twohy, U.S.N., a close friend of Flatley who was killed in a plane crash at Seattle in 1938.

The majority of the squadron's members were commissioned this year.

In a short talk to the fliers, O'Brien, who was an "ordinary gob" in 1916, told the group that the "bluejackets will be responsible for the downing of many Japs."

Members of the squadron include Ensign Robert L. Von Lehe, Fontana.

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The San Bernardino County Sun
San Bernardino, California
18 Oct 1942, Sun • Page 12

MEMORIAL FOR VON LEHE SET BY FONTANANS

Services to Be Conducted Today At Community Church for Missing Naval Flier

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Oct. 17. — Memorial services are to be conducted at the Fontana Community church tomorrow (Sunday) morning for Ensign Robert Logan von Lehe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. von Lehe of Fontana, who was officially reported missing when his plane failed to return from a routine training flight on the evening of Oct. 2, 1942, somewhere in the Pacific.

His parents were notified of his death in a telegram from the navy department at Washington and in a letter from James H. Flatley, his commanding officer.

Ensign von Lehe was born in Corvallis, Ore., March 22, 1921. He came to Fontana with his parents in 1930. He was graduated from the Fontana schools, Chaffey High school and Junior college. After his graduation from junior college in 1941, he enlisted in the naval air corps in July.

POPULAR YOUTH

He went through elimination training at Long Beach, from where he was transferred to the naval air station at Jacksonville, Fla. He successfully completed his work at Miami and was awarded the navy wings and a commission as ensign in the naval reserve.

One of the most popular and outstanding leaders of the younger set of the community, he was a charter members of the Fontana Boys' band, a member of the Fontana Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts, a leader among 4-H club members, a member of the Fontana Community church, and the Young People's society. He was the winner of the school award made by the American Legion on his graduation from junior high school.

Young von Lehe is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert von Lehe, South Juniper avenue; a sister, Dorothy June; his paternal grandmother, Mrs. R. C. von Lehe and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. J. P. Logan; uncles and aunts, Mr. and Mrs. Victor George, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. von Lehe; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Horning, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Woods, Mr. and Mrs. John Logan, Miss A. A. Bergan, and one great-aunt, Miss Marie Schrepel.

CLIPPED FROM
The San Bernardino County Sun
San Bernardino, California
13 Nov 1942, Fri • Page 11

HEAP, VON LEHE AND SNYDER ON CASUALTY LIST

Navy Confirms Deaths of Three Young Officers Previously Reported Killed in Action

The navy department yesterday issued an official casualty list, covering a period from Oct. 16 to Oct. 31, which contained the names of two San Bernardino county navy officers and one marine officer.

County officers on the casualty list are:

Captain Rex M. Heap, U. S. Marine corps, husband of Mrs. Rex M. Heap of Rancho De la Vista, Highland, and son of Deputy Sheriff and Mrs. Harry R. Heap of 574 Seventh street, San Bernardino.

Lieut. (j.g.) Gordon Boyd Snyder, U. S. navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd A. Snyder of 987 Western avenue, San Bernardino.

Ensign Robert Logan Von Lehe, U. S. navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Von Lehe of 290 Juniper street, Fontana.

Families of all three officers already had been notified of their deaths, although Ensign Von Lehe previously had been reported as simply "missing" on a navy casualty list issued Oct. 2.

KILLED IN SOLOMONS

Captain Heap and Lieutenant Snyder both were killed during the fierce October fighting in the Solomon islands. Details of the action in which Ensign Von Lehe, a naval deck officer, lost his life have not been announced.



Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S., National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), for Robert L Von Lehe









United States Marine Corporal Dean Wilson Wallace



MARINE CORPS COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



WWII VICTORY MEDAL



ASIATIC PACIFIC MEDAL



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL



MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

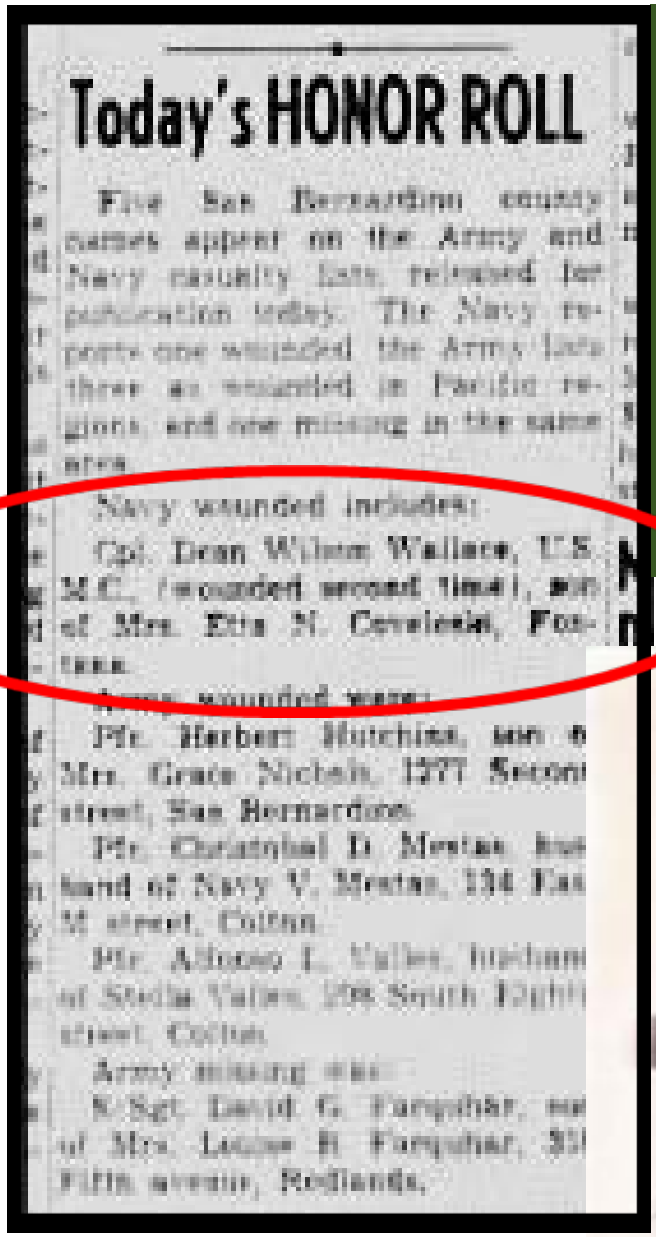
No records, other than earning 2 Purple Hearts, were found about Sgt. Wallace's medals, however, he most likely received the same medals as other Marines killed in the Pacific theatre. (shown here)

United States Marine Corporal Dean Wilson Wallace

United States Marine Corps Corporal Dean Wilson Wallace, 24, was born in Michigan on March 2, 1924, and was killed in action in Okinawa during WWII on May 20, 1945, while serving with 4th Marines, of the 6th Marine Division. Contemporary news reports did not include Corporal Wallace's hometown, and he is not on the list of the then-known 22 known Fontana WWII casualties, however, The San Bernardino County Sun newspaper listed him as a resident of San Bernardino County and the US Navy list of WWII casualties cites his mother's name as Mrs. Etta N. Covelski of Rt. 1, Box 55, Fontana. His survivor's application for a grave marker, however, and the actual headstone both list his home state as Michigan. He is buried in Detroit, Michigan.

Little else is known of Corporal Wallace, although research determined that prior to July 7, 1945, very near the end of the war, he was wounded in battle for the second time, for which he most likely received his second Purple Heart. In a follow-up SB Sun article on August 2nd, 1945, under the caption "Today's HONOR ROLL," The Sun reported that Corporal Wallace was among the reported dead from San Bernardino County, having been killed in the Pacific theatre.

On July 7th, 1945, just one month before the end of the war with Japan, the San Bernardino Sun reported Corporal Dean Wallace was wounded. On August 2nd, just four days before the first atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, The Sun this time reported that Corporal Wallace died.



Today's HONOR ROLL

Five San Bernardino county names appear on the Army and Navy casualty lists, released for publication today. The Navy reports one wounded, the Army lists three as wounded in Pacific regions, and one missing in the same area.

Navy wounded includes:

Cpl. Dean Wilson Wallace, U.S. M.C., (wounded second time), son of Mrs. Etta N. Covelski, Fontana.

Army wounded were:

Pfc. Herbert Hutchins, son of Mrs. Grace Nichols, 1277 Second street, San Bernardino.

Pfc. Christobal D. Mestas, husband of Nancy V. Mestas, 134 East M street, Colton.

Pfc. Alfonso L. Valles, husband of Stella Valles, 208 South Eighth street, Colton.

Army missing was:

S/Sgt. David G. Farquhar, son of Mrs. Louise B. Farquhar, 351 Fifth avenue, Redlands.



Today's HONOR ROLL

Three San Bernardino county names appear on the Army and Navy casualty lists, released for publication today. Two were among the dead in the Pacific and the third is listed as wounded.

The Army listed as dead:

Pfc. Raymond Madrigal, husband of Rosalin F. Madrigal, rural box 88, Eighth street, Cucamonga.

Among the Navy dead was:

Cpl. Dean Wilson Wallace, U.S. M.C., son of Mrs. Etta N. Covelski, Fontana.



Fontana Korean War Combat Casualties

Exact Locations of Death is Unknown For Both of These Men

United States Marine Corps
Private First Class
Robert Leland Viles
Somewhere in North Korea
March 17, 1951

Army Private First Class
James D. Pow
Somewhere in North Korea
February 21, 1953.



Korean War Fontana Non-Combat Casualty in The U.S.



Air Force 1st Lt. William "Billy" B. Dobbs
Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, NV
July, 1952



IMAGES OF THE KOREAN WAR

A Marine Rifle Platoon of the 1st Marine Division

This rifle platoon fought throughout the Pusan Perimeter battles, Inchon, across the Han River to help recapture Seoul, and their survivors went on to fight their way out of the Chosin Reservoir in a series of savage tactical victories in the midst of overwhelming strategic defeat.



Members of the1st Cavalry Division receive medical aid at the 8063rd Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, attached to I Corps in Korea. The men are recovering from a head wound (left), and a wound in the right leg (center) while engaged in action against Communist forces.
4 November 1950

A United States Marine fires an M3A1 Grease Gun with a 30 round magazine to suppress North Korean snipers during street fighting in Seoul. 20 September, 1950





A soldier views the battered remains of the Communist defenders of Hill 268, which was taken by men of the 5th RCT, 1st Cavalry Division in their advance on Waegwan, Korea.
21 September 1950. Korea.
Signal Corps Photo #FEC-50-9327

A machine gun crew fires at fleeing Communist-led North Korean targets during heavy street fighting in the captured city of Waegwan, 21 September 1950. Korea.
Signal Corps Photo #FEC-50-9336



Korean War Medals and Awards Earned by Fontanans



American Defense Ribbon



Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal



PURPLE HEART



Army Good Conduct Medal



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



Army Combat Infantry Badge



United Nations Service Medal



Republic of Korea Presidential Citation



Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation



Marine Corps Good Conduct Ribbon



Air Force Achievement Medal



Air Force Air Medal



Republic of Korea War Service Medal



UN Korean Service Ribbon



Marine Corps Marksmanship Badges

L-R = Highest to lowest



Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross



Army Marksmanship Badges

L-R = Highest to lowest



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE 1ST LIEUTENANT AND KOREAN WAR NEAR-ACE PILOT WILLIAM "BILLY" BRUCE DOBBS



Generally, research into the men killed in World War II and the Korean War is sketchy at best, resulting in hours spent on each individual. In the case of Fontanan and Korean War hero Air Force 1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs, however, resources were so plentiful that the author skipped over news articles that had already been printed in dozens of different newspapers from across the country.

When reading the news accounts, one is reminded of WWII hero and Medal of Honor recipient Audie Murphy, whose battlefield prowess was shared across the country. Additionally, photos of the other Fontana men were difficult to find; however, two Dobbs military photos and one family heirloom picture were easily located.

It would be difficult to write a narrative about Lt. Dobbs without using fifteen or so pages of this publication, hence, the following chronology is offered with some verbiage along the way, which, hopefully, adequately tells the story of this true Fontana hero.

As the reader will soon see, Dobbs survived fierce dogfights with Russian MIG jets, almost qualifying as an ACE pilot, only to be killed in 1952 while on a routine training flight at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, NV after he returned home from the battlefront. Another sad and heartbreaking Fontana story, similar to many other FONTANA HONOR ROLL biographies. However, as the reader will see below, the human being behind the name surfaces.

- Jan. 29, 1929: **William "Billy" Bruce Dobbs** is born in Wilmington, CA, son of Robert I. Thurston and Hazel Elizabeth Nancolas Dobbs
- 1930: (Age 1) Lived in Los Angeles
- 1935: Moved to Arlington, CA (Age 6)
- April, 1940: Moved to Bloomington (Age 10)
- Feb. 13, 1942: (Age 12) Earned Boy Scout Troop 2 Eagle Scout. Honored by the Fontana Rotary Club at the old Fontana Inn, with the award presented by Ronald Ingold. Other notable Fontana Boy Scouts present included Martin Matich, Pat Comstock, Bobby Devries, W. J. Murray and Charles Ladner. 1942-43 (about): News article lists Dobbs as a member of a junior high school operetta chorus. (Age 12-13)





Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross



Air Force Air Medal



Republic of Korea War Service Medal



United Nations Service Medal



UN Korean Service Ribbon

- **1946:** Graduates from Chaffey High School (Age 16)
- **1946-49:** (approximately) Graduates from Chaffey College with a degree in aeronautical engineering (Age 18-19)
- **1949:** Joins the Air Force (age 19)
- **1950:** Commissioned as a 2nd Lt. and pilot after 13 months of training at Perrin Air Force Base in Sherman TX; flies 130 hours in a "T6 Texan" trainer aircraft. Selected for fighter training at Williams Air Force Base, where he flew the "famous F-80 jet fighter, the Shooting Star." (Age 20)
- **1951:** Newspaper article in Redwood City titled "Engaged Couple Feted" announces **Dobb's** engagement to Marci Adair Fitzroy of Fairfax, CA. Dinner and cocktails were served. (Age 21)
- **February 1951**: Marriage license issued in San Anselmo, CA (Age 22)
- **May 24, 1952:** Married in San Bernardino. (Age 22, his wife is 19)
- **1951-52:** Flies twice to Anchorage, AK for further training.
- **THE FOLLOWING CHRONOLOGY** may not be in exact order; however, most of this information was published in a dozen or so newspapers across the country. All events occurred in 1952-53. Some stories may report the same occurrence but were published in different papers nationwide. (Headlines are in quotation marks.)



Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross



“Sabrejets Draw First Blood In Four Days.” “Thirty-six Sabre jets battled 40 Migs between 37,000-45,000 feet over Sinjanu in ‘Mig Alley." The damaged enemy jets were claimed by **1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs of Fontana**, CA and 1st Lt. Robert W. Smith of York, PA.”

“American Sabrejets Damage Two Reds In Renewed Fights.” Two Russian-type Migs were damaged in a fight between 36 U.S. F-86 Sabres and about 40 Migs. The Red jets were hit by **Lt. Billy Dobbs of Fontana,** CA and 1st Lt. Robert W. Smith of York, PA.”

“U.S Airmen Bag Two More Planes.” American Saberjets shot down two Mig-15’s today to bring to seven the number of Communist jets destroyed in the past three days… **First Lt. Billy B Dobbs of Fontana**, Calif., and Capt. Brooks J. Liles of Elizabeth N.J. each shot down a Red jet. Dobbs already had one damaged MIG to his credit…”

“Two Migs Downed; Fontana Pilot Destroys One.” (See above)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

“MIGS Take beating; Fontana, San Bernardino Pilots Each Nail One.” “American Sabrejets destroyed or damaged 23 Communist MIG-15’s today, setting a record for the number of Red jets hit in a single day of dogfighting in the Korean war… Another Mig kill was credited to **1st Lt. Billy Dobbs, Fontana, Calif.”**

“11 Jet Pilots Near Ace Rating." “With April already producing two new jet aces in its first three days, 11 other F-86 Sabrejet pilots are within striking distance of the select circle requiring destruction of five or more enemy planes… Other pilots who are near Ace ranking include **1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs** with three destroyed and two Migs damaged.”

“Valley Pilots Near Ace Rank” “Two San Bernardino valley men, Air Force pilots in Korea, are nearing ace rank… **Dobbs** has three kills, one probable and two damaged Migs to his credit.”

“U.S Bombers Swarm Over North Korea... Californian Scores.” “The fifth (Mig shot down) was credited to **1st lt. Billy B. Dobbs of Fontana, Calif.”** (Parenthetical added)

“Near Record." “U.S. Sabre pilots today shot down 10 Communist Mig-15 fighter planes, the second highest bag for a day in the Korean war… ‘The Migs never saw us, said Colonel Francis S Cabreski. We had a perfect ‘bounce’ and we dived right down their tail pipes…’ Other kills for the day were credited **to Lt. Billy Dobbs of Fontana, Calif.”**

“Aerial Battles Over Korea Are In Fifth Day." “Two of the sweptwing MIGS (crashed) to earth in flames after being riddled with deadly fire from the guns of… **1st lt. Billy B. Dobbs of Fontana, Calif.”**

“U.N Downs Two Migs, Fontana Pilot Gets One.” “The damaged enemy jets were claimed by **1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs and**…”

“Veteran Of Korea Killed In Accident With Jet Trainer." Funeral services were held in Fontana, Calif. July 30 (1952) for **First Lieut. Billy B. Dobbs**, son of Mr. and Mrs. R.T. Dobbs… **Lieut. Dob**bs was killed at Nellis Air Field near Las Vegas, Nev., when a T-33 jet trainer crashed. A student also was killed. **Lieutenant Dobbs** was serving as gunnery instructor at the airfield following his return from Korea on May 15th.” (Dobbs’ death certificate attributed his death to “Injuries, multiple, extreme… in an Aircraft Accident.” Parenthetical added)

Billy Dobbs shows early promise in the arts and by earning his Eagle Scout Badge

Junior High Presents Annual Operetta in Patriotic Theme

"Hats Off," patriotic musical, today will be seen by the public as Redlands Junior High school presents its annual operetta.

The production, which portrays the life of John Paul Jones, will be viewed by a student audience at 1:30 and an evening crowd at 8.

Director of the entertainment is Miss Lucille Harris. Dance directors are Miss Bertha Culross and Miss Eva Stevenson; costumes, Miss Helen Spurrier and Miss Nikki Barger; stage setting, Miss June Yarnell and Alan Van Leuven, Harold Adecock, Harold Dole, Jim Cronholm, Joe Cott, and Grace McNemer; stage construction, Harry Donahue; business manager, Mrs. Margaret Bohler and the student finance board, composed of Wanda Collins, George Blanton, Helen Gardner, Richard Hinckley and Henry Lopez; lighting, Charles Bowen; advertising and publicity, Miss Agnes Nader and the journalism class; posters, Miss Kaye Phillips and the art class; orchestra, Wilbur Schowalter; programs, Miss Sarah Grove; program cover, Jay Hale; ticket manager, Mrs. Lillian Kornder and the honor club; makeup, Pat Bradburn, Nancy Gardner, Patsy Lang, Mary Katherine Smith, Jenny Mo Horton and George Blanton; prompter and dramatic assistant, Eleanor Sather.

Dancers in the operetta who will appear in the Virginia Reel are Marilyn Sather, Barbara Edes, Annelia Derby, Marjorie Winn, Dorothy Durrell, Beulah Clifton, Edna Mae Pierce, Colleen Scott, Cynthia Ditwiler, Bernadine Dolstra and Betty Busch (substitute).

In the Highland Fling will be Betty Anne Gleitsman, Grace McNemer, Ines Kuhn, Berna Dean Hickerson, and Carla Von Tunn Bates, Cordelia Woods, Pauline Hallum and Antoinette Tina. In Tickle Toes are Janet Butler and Patti Smith. Polka dancers are Patty Long, Eleanor Sather, Bettie Morre and Bernice Pride.

In the final Sailor Dance are Doris Gardner, Laurel King, Marie Ferrell, Jean Williamson, Pansy Silva and Anna Adams.

The chorus for the operetta includes Catherine Alvarez, Helen Avila, James Bell, Eris Brown, Mary Jean Barber, Betty Campbell, Rosie Cordoza, George Collins, Joe Croom, Raymond Carbaugh, Jimmy Dugger, Betty Davis, Margaret Field, Bill Francis, Troy Flower, Rose Jean Gardner, Enid George, Shirley Harter, Elaine Hendershot, Carolyn Johns, Lois King, Lois Lay, Doloris McKinley, Stella Monzano, William Powell, Margaret Rameriz, Kieth Roberts, Walter Skinner, Peggy Smith, Glenda Swope, Charles Torris, Lyda Van Horn, Ida Wolfe, Robert Wagner, Adiline Alviyar, Eleanor Ann Bates, Evangiline Beltram, Norma Jean Burns, Barbara Burkhart, Vivian Carbaugh, Margaret Ann Carter, Nellie Castilla, Henry Cortner, Rachel Cunningham, Lily Delgado, Francis De Vries, Nadine De Vries, Filomina Jloriano, Esther Fulbright, Phillip Funstra, Elisa Gomez, Ernest Guerro, Carol Hildreth, Christina Jacques, Annie Lewis, Cenith Neel, Joanne Osdick, Jack Price, Dora Reyes, Eva Romero, Stanley Angorna, Edward Serrano, Herbert Tweedy, Lovina Tingler, Jesse Viramontes, Nelda Worill, Mary Ray, Betty Andrews, Ray Brothers, Wanda Ball, Julian Cardoza, Robert Carpenter, Billy Cates, Nancy Cruickshank, Eula Carter, Robert Delgado, Billy Dobbs, Tommy Funnell, Dorothy Gardner, Evangeline Guerrero,

C. N. Filkins, former scout executive of Washington, D. C., will be the speaker of the evening. Orchestra music is to be furnished by a local organization.

Robert F. Baum, head of scouting for the four western states, is to present Eagle Scout awards to Bill Dobbs and Bill Rogers of Fontana. Presentation of other awards for scouting activities will be made at this time, also.

The meeting is open to the public, with a special invitation to all Scouts and their families.

Miss Irene Olive Bird of Au-

DOBBS COMMISSIONED OFFICER IN AIR FORCE

Billy B. Dobbs, son of Robert T. Dobbs, of Fontana, was recently commissioned a second lieutenant and pilot in the U. S. Air Force.

Dobbs received his gold bars and silver wings at an impressive ceremony at Williams Air Force base, Chandler, Ariz., on Oct. 28, following 13 months of pilot training.

Lieutenant Dobbs graduated from Chaffey Union High school, Ontario, in 1946, and later attended Chaffey college for two years, where he majored in aeronautical engineering and received his AA degree.

He began his flying training at Perrin Air Force base, Sherman, Texas, last year. During a six-month period, he flew a T6 "Texan" for approximately 130 hours. This training included night flying, instrument flying acrobatics, navigation and cross country. In addition to his flying, he followed an intensive course of study in academic subjects related to aviation.

Dobbs was selected for fighter training at Williams Air Force base, where he flew the famous F-80 jet fighter, the "Shooting Star." The new Air Force training that he has received during the last 13 months has prepared him to take over the controls of the giant bombers and transports of the U. S. Air Force and to take his place among grads of the military academies at West Point and Annapolis.



WINS COMMISSION—Billy B. Dobbs of Fontana, who has won a commission as second lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force.

FONTANA CLUB PAYS HONOR TO SCOUTS TROOP

Los Angeles Attorney Gives Address; Takes Patents As Subject of Talk

(Special Staff Correspondence)

FONTANA, Feb. 12.—Observing the thirty-second anniversary of the founding of Boy Scouts of America, the Rotary club entertained Fontana Boy Scout Troop No. 2 at the meeting of the organization held at the Fontana inn.

Each Rotarian had a scout as his guest and Rotarian Ronald Ingold, a scoutmaster, presented a short program.

He introduced H. A. Sanford, chairman of the Boy Scout committee of the American Legion, which has headed the Fontana scout movement for many years.

ARE INTRODUCED

E. R. Raye, scoutmaster of the troop, was introduced; also Bob Wassner, scout leader.

Robert A. Steps, Los Angeles attorney, formerly connected with the federal patent office, was guest speaker. He gave an address on what patents mean to civilization.

President Abe Lerner presided at the business session, and greeted the Boy Scouts on behalf of the club.

Boy Scouts present were Wesley Windsor, Billy Dobbs, John Jarrad, Cyrus Humphrey, Donald Martin, Billy Beeson, W. J. Murray, Martin Matich, Jack Humphrey, Roland Long, Pat Comsock, John Richard Wassner, Clayton Freeman, Frank Dole, Ronald Johns, Bobby De Vries, Charles Ladner, Hugh Johnstone, Alan Mornarich, Arnold Letdman, Albert McCain, Johnny Palmer, Robert Wassner, assistant scoutmaster; E. R. Raye, scoutmaster, and Harold Sanford, Fontana scout director.

Valley Pilots Near Ace Rank

Two San Bernardino valley men, Air Force pilots in Korea, are nearing ace rank.

Entry to the ace rank which requires the destruction of five enemy jet planes, are Capt. Robert J. Love, 1227 30th street, San Bernardino, and 1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs of Fontana.

Love has downed three enemy jets, and Dobbs has three kills, one probable and two damaged Migs to his credit.

MIGs Take Beating; Fontana, San Bernardino Pilots Each Nail One

SEOUL (AP)—American Sabrejets destroyed or damaged 23 Communist MIG-15s today, setting a record for the number of Red jets hit in a single day of dogfighting in the Korean war.

Sabres shot down 10 MIGs, probably destroyed three and crippled 10 others, inflicting the second largest number of "kills" since Dec. 13, when 13 Communist jets were downed.

However, on Dec. 13, only two MIGs were probably destroyed and only one damaged for a total of 16 MIGs hit by U. N. bullets.

American pilots also destroyed 10 MIGs on Jan. 2, but they scored only one "probable" and three damaged.

Jet pilots tangled with MIGs in eight separate battles over North Korea.

In one battle, Col. S. Gabreski, Oil City, Pa., Commander of the 51st fighter wing, became the eighth jet ace in history after shooting down a MIG that boosted his total to five and one-half "kills."

At least 190 Sabrejets tangled with 231 MIGs today, but in three of the dogfights, the Allied jets enjoyed a numerical advantage over the Red planes.

Along the Korean battleground, only light action was reported.

Gabreski, who led a flight of 26 Sabres in the first and biggest scramble of the day, reported "The MIGs never saw us. We dived right down their tail pipes." The destroyed MIG in the last fight on which details were available was credited to Capt. Robert J. Love, 1227 30th St., San Bernardino, Calif., for a total of three destroyed in the war. Another MIG kill was credited to 1st Lt. Billy Dobbs, Fontana, Calif.

Today's bag brought total MIG losses in the 5th Air Force score board to 247 destroyed, 46 probably destroyed and 449 damaged.

SEOUL (AP)—Col. Francis S. Gabreski, who became history's eighth jet ace when he downed a Communist MIG-15 today, called his fifth victory "just part of the business."

During World War II, he was credited with the destruction of 28 planes in the air and three on the ground before he himself was shot down behind enemy lines. He returned to the United States in 1945 after being freed from a prisoner of war camp.

Actress Describes

U.N. Downs Two Migs, Fontana Pilot Gets One

8TH ARMY HEADQUARTERS (AP)—American Sabrejets drew their first blood since Friday by damaging two Communist Mig-15 jet fighters today in a 15-minute dogfight over northwest Korea.

Thirty-six of the Sabres battled 40 Migs between 37,000 and 46,000 feet over Sinanju in "Mig alley." The damaged enemy jets were claimed by 1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs, of Fontana, Calif., and 1st Lt. Robert W. Smith of York, Pa.

The claims boosted the 5th air force's score to 184 Migs destroyed 31 probably destroyed, and 339 damaged.

F-84 Thunderjets blasted a large Communist hand grenade factory near Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, with napalm and 500-pound fire bombs. Explosions shook the building and sent smoke and flames 300 or 400 feet overhead. Pilots estimated the factory was 75 per cent destroyed.

On the ground, U. N. forces beat off a communist probing attack in a four-hour fight on the east-central front.

11 Jet Pilots Near Ace Rating

TOKYO (AP)—With April already producing two new jet aces in its first three days, 11 other F-86 Sabrejet pilots are within striking distance of the select circle requiring destruction of five or more enemy jet planes.

The two new aces are both 51st fighter interceptor wing pilots. They are: Col. Francis S. Gabreski, commander of the 51st and a native of Oil City, Pa., and Capt. Robert H. Moore, Houston, Tex.

Other pilots who are near ace ranking include Capt. Robert J. Love, 1227 30th St., San Bernardino, Calif.; with three destroyed and 1st Lt. Billy B. Dobbs, Fontana, Calif., three destroyed, a type-15 MIG probably destroyed and two MIGs damaged.



And finally, on **Feb. 19, 1953**, the San Bernardino Sun reported, in bold caps: **"SON BORN TO WIFE OF LATE PILOT HERO OF KOREAN WAR."** "Little Billy (Billy Bruce Dobbs II), all eight pounds 11 ounces of him, has a plentiful supply of black hair, eyes of no distinguishable color at present and a very proud and happy mother … While flying with the 5th Air Force, **Lt. Dobbs** shot down four enemy MIGs, received a probable for another and damaged four Communist fighters. **Lt. Dobbs** had flown 100 combat missions prior to his return to this country. He held the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. (Age 24) (Parenthetical added)

PROUD MOTHER—Mrs. Billy B. Dobbs, wife of the late jet hero, smiles happily as she proudly holds her newborn son, Billy Bruce Dobbs II. Little Billy was born Monday at St. Bernardine's Hospital. Both mother and son are doing fine.

Billy Bruce Dobbs II

SON BORN TO WIFE OF LATE PILOT HERO OF KOREAN WAR

Billy Bruce Dobbs II — that's the name given to the bouncing 8 pound 11 ounce boy born Monday morning to Mrs. Billy B. Dobbs, wife of the late, distinguished jet flyer of the Korean War.

Little Billy, all 8 pounds 11 ounces of him, has a plentiful supply of black hair, eyes of no distinguishable color at present, and a very proud and happy mother.

MOTHER DOING WELL

Both Billy II and his mother are doing well at St. Bernardine's Hospital where Billy made his entrance into the world Monday at 6:11 a.m.

Billy's father was killed in a training flight crash last July 23 while stationed at Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, following his return to this country from Korea.

While flying with the 5th Air Force in Korea, Lt. Dobbs shot down four enemy MIGs, received a probable for another, and damaged another four Communist fighters.

Lt. Dobbs had flown 100 combat missions prior to his return to this country. He held the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

GRANDPARENTS LISTED

His son, Billy II, has a full complement of grandparents. On his maternal side are Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Myers, 2935 Serrano Rd., San Bernardino, while on his paternal side are Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Dobbs, Rt. 1, Fontana.

Mrs. Dobbs has been residing at 1266 24th St., San Bernardino, since her husband's death.

TIMES-NEWS, TWI

Killed in Crash



LIEUT. BILLY DOBBS

. . . son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Dobbs, Fontana, Calif., former residents of Magic Valley, was killed in a jet trainer crash at Nellis air field on July 23. He was a gunnery instructor at the time of his death. (Staff engraving)

* * * *

Veteran of Korea Killed in Accident With Jet Trainer

JEROME, Aug. 4—Funeral services were held in Fontana, Calif., July 30 for First Lieut. Billy B. Dobbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Dobbs, former residents of Magic Valley. Lieutenant Dobbs was killed July 23 at Nellis air field, near Las Vegas, Nev., when a T-33 jet trainer crashed. A student also was killed.

Lieutenant Dobbs was serving as gunnery instructor at the air field following his return from Korea on May 15. On May 24 he was married to Shirleyne Ann Myers, San Bernardino. In addition to his widow and parents, he is survived by his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Dobbs, Twin Falls, and Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Nancolas, Jerome, and other relatives in Twin Falls, Buhl, Filer, Jerome and Kimberly.

Relatives attending the services from Idaho were Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Dobbs and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leichliter, Twin Falls; Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Mullins, Kimberly, and Edith Nancolas, Jerome.

UNITED STATES ARMY

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JAMES D. POW,

KILLED IN NORTH KOREA ON FEBRUARY 5TH, 1951





FONTANAN
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
JAMES D. POW, SERVING IN KOREA
NOV. 7, 1934 – FEB. 21, 1953



PFC Pow is buried in Bellevue Cemetery in Ontario, CA.





Fontana Soldier's Body Returned; Services Friday

UPLAND — The body of Pfc. James D. Pow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Pow of Fontana who resided in Upland until a year ago, will arrive here Thursday at noon. Pfc. Pow was killed on Old Baldy in Korea Feb. 21.

Graveside services will be held Friday at 11 a.m. at Bellevue Cemetery with the Stone Mortuary in charge of arrangements. Besides his parents, Pfc. Pow leaves two sisters, Connie Pow and Margaret Ann Pow, both of Fontana. The parents now reside at 1628 W. Arrow Hwy., Fontana.

Although not a native Fontanan, PFC Pow's parents moved to Fontana from Upland in 1952, one year before their son's death in Korea. They resided at 1628 Arrow Highway here in town.

PFC Pow was born on November 7, 1934, the son of Oscar and the Margaret J. Pow. He enlisted in the Army in 1952 during the Korean War, eventually attaining the rank of Private First Class. As can be seen in his photo, PFC Pow was blessed with what this writer's father would describe as "movie star looks." He served as a light weapons assault infantryman in Company C, 38th Infantry, 2nd infantry Division. Military records indicate he was killed on February 21, 1953, and that his remains were "disposed of" in North Korea. However, an obituary in The Pomona Progress Bulletin states that his body was returned here on April 16, 1953, in preparation for his funeral service. Those military records also indicate he was killed by a bullet to the stomach. He was survived by his parents and two Fontana sisters; Connie and Margaret Ann Pow. PFC Pow is buried in Bellevue Cemetery in Ontario, CA.

PFC Pow was awarded the Army Marksmanship Badge, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Citation, Republic of Korea War Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, the Army Presidential Unit Medal and the Army Good Conduct Medal.



ARMY EXPERT MARKSMAN BADGE



UN Korean Service Ribbon



American Defense Ribbon



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Republic of Korea War Service Medal



Republic of Korea Presidential Citation



United Nations Service Medal



Army Good Conduct Medal

United States Marine Corps Private First Class Robert Leland Viles







- **When Robert Leland Viles was born on February 26, 1925, in Fontana, California, his father, Richard, from Iowa, was 22 and his mother, the former Mary Belle Thomasson, from Texas, was 19. He eventually had seven siblings. He died on March 17, 1951, in North Korea at the age of 26. Before being reactivated for Korea (he fought in WWII and was recalled to duty), he lived in Santa Barbara, however his parents lived at 519 North Laurel Street here in Fontana.**

- **PFC Viles was educated in San Bernardino City schools and attended Valley College before enlisting in the Marines, presumably during WWII. Viles fought valiantly in that war, participating in three major engagements in the Pacific Island archipelagos: Gilbert, Marshall and Marianne, only to be recalled to active duty from the inactive reserves six years later to fight in Korea.**

USMC PFC ROBERT LELAND VILES

10 Men Enlist In Marine Corps

Increased interest in enlistments in the marine corps in San Bernardino was reported yesterday by Sgt. Lloyd E. Stevenson, in charge of the marine recruiting office in the Federal building.

Sergeant Stevenson announced that 10 men had been signed for marine duty since Nov. 1. All have been accepted and sent to San Diego for preliminary training.

Ned recruits are as follows: Joseph Newton Cattern, 19, of Arlington; John William Vidnic, 19, of Pomona; Ivan Joe Dunivan, 17, of Pomona; Vernon Leon Smith, 20, of San Diego; Jackson Claude Allison, 20, of 426 Sixth street, San Bernardino; Jack Darrell Dosenberry, 19, of Arlington; Harold Z. Hunt, 17, of 996 Western avenue, San Bernardino; Charles Frederick Herwig, 17, of Jersey City, N. J.; Gerald Wayne Gates, 17, of San Bernardino; and Robert Leland Viles, 17, of Crestline.

Enlistments in the marine corps, which were closed the latter part of October with the completion of monthly quotas, have been reopened, said Sergeant Stevenson.

He was assigned to the 7th Marine Regiment, I Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He arrived in Korea on February 13th, 1951 and entered combat on March 4th. **Thirteen days later he was dead,** dying on March 17th when the 2nd Squad/2nd Platoon was ambushed during Operation Ripper. He was survived by his wife, Ramona Cota of Santa Barbara; his 2 ½ year old son, Richard (shown above, right); his 1 ½ year old daughter Judith Lynne (also shown above, left), his parents and a grandmother. PFC Viles is buried in Cavalry Cemetery in Santa Barbara.

His commendations for Korea include the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Citation, Republic of Korea War Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal. This writer could not find a record of his WWII commendations; however, it is probable he received the usual WWII Marine commendations such as the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.





PURPLE HEART

KIA in Korea on March 17, 1951



KILLED IN ACTION—Pfc. Robert L. Viles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Viles, 519 North Laurel street, Fontana, was killed in action March 17 in Korea while performing his duty with the U. S. Marines. Pfc. Viles is pictured above with his children, Judith Lynne and Richard, just before he went to Korea.

Son of Fontana Residents Killed in Korea March 17

FONTANA, March 31 — Pfc. Robert L. Viles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Viles of 519 North Laurel street, Fontana, was killed in action March 17 in the Korean area while performing his duty in the Marines.

Although he made his home in Santa Barbara, Pfc. Viles was educated in San Bernardino city schools and attended Valley college before he joined the Marines. He was 26 years old and was a native of San Bernardino.

During World war II he participated in three major engagements in the Pacific island archipelagos: Gilbert, Marshall and Marianne islands. He was recalled to duty from the inactive reserves in November, 1950, and left for Korea with the Sixth Marine replacements Feb. 13, 1951. He went into battle with his combat unit March 4 and was killed 13 days thereafter.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ramona Cota of Santa Barbara; a son, Richard, 2½; a daughter, Judith Lynne, 1½; his parents; a sister, Mrs. Richard G. Harber of Fontana; and a grandmother, Mrs. Ella Thomasson of Burbank.

Divorce Actions

Following are the divorce and annulment actions filed and granted in San Bernardino county superior court.

DIVORCES GRANTED

RAMIREZ—Theodore from Virginia.

VILES—Robert Leland from Ramona Victoria.

KOREA VETERAN

PFC VILE'S WWII (assumed but not verified) and Korean War Awards and Medals



MARINE CORPS COMBAT ACTION RIBBON



NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON



REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION



MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION



UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL



MARINE CORPS GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



WWII VICTORY RIBBON



AMERICAN CAMPAIGN RIBBON



ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN RIBBON



MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY RIBBON



REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL



PURPLE HEART

PFC Viles commendations for Korea include the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Citation, Republic of Korea War Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal. A record of his WWII commendations could not be verified; however, it is probable he received the usual WWII Marine commendations such as the World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

USMC PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
ROBERT LELAND VILES
WWII AND KOREAN WAR HONOREE

SCENES FROM VIETNAM



A machine gunner scans for hostiles while his helicopter is on patrol over the Mekong Delta. ***Larry Burrows / Getty Images***



Wounded Marine (center) is led past a stricken comrade after a fierce firefight for control of Hill 484.

Larry Burrows / Getty Images



Half-dressed US soldiers of the 9th Infantry Division fire at enemy troops somewhere along the South Vietnamese–Cambodian border.



Marines recover a fallen comrade while under fire

FINAL RESPECTS BEFORE SENDING BODIES BACK TO GRIEVING FAMILIES



Service members line up respectfully near coffins and military air transport during services for their dead comrades at Tan Son Nhut Air Base.
Larry Burrows / Getty Images



A shell-shocked US Marine has his wounds bandaged during Operation Prairie, a US military sweep of the area just south of the demilitarized zone.

Generally, troops who were wounded three times were sent home, i*f* they survived.

Fontana Vietnam War Combat Casualties

Army
Corporal
Calvin L.
Lewis
Dinh Tuong
Province
January 6, 1969

Army
SILVER STAR Recipient
Private First Class
Richard Allen Noelke
Pleiku Province
Nov. 6, 1965

Army Sergeant
Gary E. Hoadley
Thua Thien Province
August 3rd, 1968

Army Private First Class
Kenneth James Robinson
AKA Kenny Redondo
Da Nang, March 11, 1969

Army Aubrey
Montgomery
JR.
Wounded
unknown
location
Died of PTSD-
related events
in December,
1973



Marine Private First Class
Dominic A. Corona
Da Nang
July 29, 1966

Marine Sgt.
Patrick Lynn Basile
Quang Nam Province
July 11, 1969

Army Specialist 5
Richard Arthur Lane
Binh Son Province
June 16, 1968

Army Spec.
4
James H.
Peters
Wounded
in The
Thuan
Province
Died of his
wounds in
1978

Army Specialist 4
John A. Rodgers
Binh Dinh Province,
April 20, 1968,

Army Corporal
Richard Allen Burns
Binh Thuan Province
February 28, 1968

Army PFC
Paris Montanez
Binh Duong Province
January 27th, 1969,

Army Sgt.
David J. Rideout
January 16, 1969
Tay Ninh Province

Army Spec.4 Gary
Richard Danser
Long An Province
July 20, 1967

Army
1st. Lt. Ronald Ellis Wiltse
Mekong Delta
May 13, 1968

Army PFC Joseph Penn Marek Jr
Mekong Delta
November 15th, 1967.

FONTANA RENAMES STREETS IN HONOR OF OUR FALLEN VIETNAM DEAD

From Viet vets to historical heroes — it's all in a name

By JOE BRIDGMAN
Sun Staff Writer

FONTANA — Spanish explorers, national heros, mountain men — and 15 Fontana residents who died in Vietnam — are among those to have streets named after them in a large new housing development here.

American universities and California place names also are well-represented on a map of more than 100 new streets for the 1,300-acre Heritage Village in Fontana's west end.

The city suggested honoring the soldiers and marines who lost their lives in Vietnam. Patrick Basile, Richard A. Burns, Domenic Anthony Corona, Gary Richard Danser, Gary E. Hoadley and Richard Arthur Lane will have streets named after them.

So will Calvin Lewis, Joseph Penn Marek, Paris W. Montanez, Richard Allen Noelke, James Henry Peters, Kenneth J. Redondo, David J. Rideout, John Arlington Rogers and Ronald Ellis Wiltse.

The rest of the names were submitted by the architects who

The architects sought names that would express a historical theme in the development, as did the Heritage Village name itself.

"What we thought would be appropriate would be to go back to the heritage of California and the nation and pick out the explorers (and) geographical locations . . . ," Harris said.

"We went through our own resources on California history, American history — whatever books you would look through yourself if you were asked to come up with the names."

It then came to "sitting down and brainstorming with a bunch of people and asking what (names) came to mind that most people would recognize," Harris said.

Crockett, Carson, Bowie and Boone all have streets — actually courts — named after them. Anza, La Salle, Balboa, Portola and Cabrillo were honored in the same way.

Only the "best schools" made it onto the map: Harvard, Cornell, Yale, Stanford, Dartmouth, Princeton and Berkeley. (The patriotic theme was set aside long

to Mendocino, Marin, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, Placer, Plumas, Humboldt, Del Norte and Siskiyou.

There's a Betsy Ross Court (and a Fort Ross Court), a Valley Forge Court and a Ticonderoga Court — minus the fort.

Big honors go to Presidents Lincoln and Washington — the roads named after them go on forever. They are loops.

The myriad of new names was necessary, officials explained, because virtually none of the streets in Heritage Village are contiguous with or line up with existing thoroughfares. Rather, the development is full of courts, cul-de-sacs and short avenues.

Before the names become final, they have to win the approval of the City Council. This is expected next month.

Model homes are scheduled to go up in the new development sometime this spring, and its first occupants are expected in the fall.

STREETS RE-NAMED FOR LOCAL 1960'S VIETNAM HEROES

Pat Basile
Richard burns
Dominic Corona
Gary Danser
Gary Hoadley
Richard Lane
Calvin Lewis
Joseph Marek
Paris Montanez
Richard Noelke
Kenneth Robinson (aka Redondo)
John Rodgers
Ron Wiltsie

November 14, 1982, San Bernardino Sun Article Listing County War Dead on The Vietnam Wall

Cedarpines Park

Army: Pfc. Stanley B. Ziegler, 20, March 5, 1969, (killed in action).

Chino

Army: Pfc. Patrick S. Hederman, 20, Aug. 23, 1968; Sgt. Larry Herrera, 19, May 2, 1970; Pfc. Charlie L. Partida, 20, Sept. 22, 1968; Spec. 4 David G. Weber, 22, June 9, 1970, (killed in action).

Spec. 4 Robert A. Kaneski, 30, March 23, 1968, (other causes).

Navy: Petty Officer 3rd Class Arthur D. Esqueda, 21, Sept. 21, 1967, (killed in action).

Colton

Army: Pfc. Porfirio E. Elias, 22, June 16, 1967; Sgt. John Juarez, 22, Dec. 4, 1967; Sgt. Rudy M. Oliveras, 21, June 1, 1968; Pfc. James L. Wehr, 26, April 1, 1967, (killed in action).

1st Lt. Danny A. Cowan, 22, Oct. 22, 1971; Pfc. Lawrence C. Garrett, 21, Nov. 30, 1968; Sgt. 1st Class Bernard L. Gray, 34, Feb. 11, 1963, (other causes).

Marine Corps: Pfc. Gilbert J. Adame, 19, April 7, 1968; Pfc. Robert L. Crites Jr., 19, June 21, 1969; Lance Cpl. Michael C. Darcy, 18, May 14, 1966; Pfc. Reyes C. Hernandez Jr., 18, May 1, 1968, (killed in action).

Maj. Gerard M. Kieswetter, 38, July 25, 1966, (other causes).

Navy: Capt. William D. McGrath, 45, June 2, 1975, (killed in action).

Crestline

Army: Pfc. Dennis L. Hershner, 20, March 27, 1967; Staff Sgt. Charles M. McGovern, 32, Jan. 29, 1969, (other causes).

East Highlands

Army: Cpl. Darwin E. Ray, 20, Jan. 3, 1969, (killed in action).

Fontana

Army: Cpl. Richard A. Burns, 20, Feb. 28, 1969; Spec. 4 Gary R. Danser, 20, July 20, 1967; Sgt. Gary E. Hoadley, 21, Aug. 3, 1968; Spec. 5 Richard A. Lane, 23, June 16, 1968; Cpl. Calvin Lewis, 20, Jan. 6, 1969; Pfc. Joseph P. Marek, 22, Nov. 15, 1967; Pfc. Paris W. Montanez, 18, Jan. 27, 1969; Pfc. Richard A. Noelke, 21, Nov. 6, 1965; Pfc. Kenneth J. Robinson, 18, March 11, 1969; Spec. 4 John A. Rodgers, 25, April 20, 1968; 1st Lt. Ronald E. Wiltse, 24, May 13, 1968, (killed in action).

Marine Corps: Pfc. Dominic A. Corona, 19, July 29, 1966, (killed in action).

Sgt. Patrick L. Basile, 20, July 11, 1969, (other causes).

Helendale

Marine Corps: Staff Sgt. Jimbob Bickle, 33, May 21, 1968, (killed in action).

Hesperia

Army: Pfc. William L. Kinnard, 20, April 11, 1968, (killed in action).

Pfc. Ronald A. Wenzl, 21, June 19, 1972, (other causes).

Highland

Army: Spec. 4 James A. Nicholson, 20, Jan. 27, 1969; Spec. 4 Douglas R. Seavey, 20, Nov. 22, 1968, (killed in action).

Chief Warrant Officer Edward T. Davis Jr., 21, Nov. 26, 1969, (other causes).

Air Force: Staff Sgt. Robert A. Cairns, 34, June 17, 1966, (other causes).

Marine Corps: Lance Cpl. Michael G. Barnard, 20, July 2, 1967; Pfc. William H. Roddick, 20, June 26, 1969; Cpl. Daniel D. Yarnell, 19, Nov. 12, 1966, (killed in action).

Hinkley

Army: Cpl. Richard L. Adcock, 20, March 8, 1969, (killed in action).

Lake Arrowhead

Army: Staff Sgt. Craig A. McDaniel, 21, Sept. 29, 1967, (killed in action).

Loma Linda

Army: Pfc. Brad J. Szutz, 20, Jan. 30, 1968, (killed in action).

Pfc. Galen D. Petersen, 19, June 27, 1966, (other causes).

Montclair

Army: Spec. 4 Johnnie L. Daniel, 20, May 31, 1968; Spec. 4 Donald L. Kipp, 19, Feb. 8, 1969; Cpl. William F. Lease, 19, Nov. 21, 1969; Capt. Frank D. Pina, 28, March 1, 1968; Sgt. Lavern L. Salzman, 21, Oct. 25, 1967, (killed in action).

Pfc. Amedee G. Granelle Jr., 23, Dec. 6, 1968; Spec. 4 Timothy P. Weaver, 19, Oct. 10, 1968, (other causes).

Air Force: Staff Sgt. Ernest J. Halvorson, 38, Oct. 24, 1964, (killed in action).

1st Lt. James R. Hottenroth, 24, Oct. 15, 1967, (other causes).

Marine Corps: Cpl. Ronald P. Petrick, 21, Aug. 20, 1965, (killed in action).

Lance Cpl. Robert W. King, 18, July 10, 1966, (other causes).

From Viet vets to historical heroes — it's all in a name

By JOE BRIDGMAN
Sun Staff Writer

FONTANA — Spanish explorers, national heros, mountain men — and 15 Fontana residents who died in Vietnam — are among those to have streets named after them in a large new housing development here.

American universities and California place names also are well-represented on a map of more than 100 new streets for the 1,300-acre Heritage Village in Fontana's west end.

The city suggested honoring the soldiers and marines who lost their lives in Vietnam. Patrick Basile, Richard A. Burns, Domenic Anthony Corona, Gary Richard Danser, Gary E. Hoadley and Richard Arthur Lane will have streets named after them.

So will Calvin Lewis, Joseph Penn Marek, Paris W. Montanez, Richard Allen Noelke, James Henry Peters, Kenneth J. Redondo, David J. Rideout, John Arlington Rogers and Ronald Ellis Wiltse.

The rest of the names were submitted by the architects who designed the new community, the Newport Beach-based Land-/Plan/Design Group, said Jess Harris, a partner in the firm.

The architects sought names that would express a historical theme in the development, as did the Heritage Village name itself.

"What we thought would be appropriate would be to go back to the heritage of California and the nation and pick out the explorers (and) geographical locations . . . ," Harris said.

"We went through our own resources on California history, American history — whatever books you would look through yourself if you were asked to come up with the names."

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Crockett, Carson, Bowie and Boone all have streets — actually courts — named after them. Anza, La Salle, Balboa, Portola and Cabrillo were honored in the same way.

Only the "best schools" made it onto the map: Harvard, Cornell, Yale, Stanford, Dartmouth, Princeton and Berkeley. (The patriotic theme was set aside long enough to toss in Cambridge and Oxford as well.)

Northern California counties did fine, with pavement awarded to Mendocino, Marin, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare, Placer, Plumas, Humboldt, Del Norte and Siskiyou.

There's a Betsy Ross Court (and a Fort Ross Court), a Valley Forge Court and a Ticonderoga Court — minus the fort.

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Before the names become final, they have to win the approval of the City Council. This is expected next month.

Model homes are scheduled to go up in the new development sometime this spring, and its first occupants are expected in the fall, Harris said. By the time of its completion, projected for 1991, the development is expected to have 3,800 housing units.

San Bernardino Sun
May 1, 1986

VIETNAM WAR MEDALS



MEDAL OF HONOR



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



SILVER STAR



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL



DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS



BRONZE STAR MEDAL



PURPLE HEART



NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL



PRISONER OF WAR MEDAL



AIR MEDAL



VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL



ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL



REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS



REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

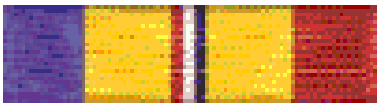


REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CIVIL ACTION CITATION

1967 FOHI GRAD AND MARINE SGT. PATRICK LYNN BASILE, KILLED IN VIETNAM ON JULY 11, 1969



Marine Sgt. and '67 FOHI grad Patrick Basile



Combat Action Ribbon



★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal

3rd Marines Amphib. Force



1st Marine Div.



1st Marines



ORIGINS and HISTORY ***(Source: honorstates.org)***

Patrick Lynn Basile was born on June 29, 1949. According to our records California was Basile's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Marine Corps. Entered via Regular Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was July 17, 1968. Basile had the rank of Sergeant. Occupation or specialty was Rifleman. Service number was 547703757. Served with 3rd Marines Amphibious Force, 1st Marine Division, 2nd Battalion,1st Marines, H S Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Basile experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on July 11, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Quang Nam province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: **"Died through non-hostile action, accidental homicide".**

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 21w, Line 98.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that Sergeant Basile either received or may have been qualified for.

USMC SGT. PAT BASILE



CLASS OF 67

Please allow the author to speak in the first person for a bit. Patrick Lynn Basile was born on June 29, 1949. He was a classmate and friend of mine; he having graduated from FOHI in 1967, I in 1968. Pat enlisted in the Marines on July 17, 1968, one month almost to the day of my graduation, and quickly rose through the ranks, earning his Sergeant stripes in less than a year. His specialty was Rifleman. He served with the 3rd Marines Amphibious Force, 1st Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, H S Company.

Pat died in Vietnam on July 11, 1969, at the young age of 20, in what may best be described as tragic circumstances. I clearly remember hearing of his death. In my era, as in WWII, almost every young man who was not deferred went into the service. Most of us enlisted, as did Pat. When we heard of Pat's death, a story circulated that he was inspecting his troops "in the bush" (combat area), and the rifle of one his fellow Marines discharged, killing him. Rumor among my buddies and I circulated that being shot by this other Marine was intentional. It wasn't until I began this research that at least part of our suspicions were confirmed. Records show "Basile experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on July 11, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Quang Nam province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: 'Died through non-hostile action, accidental homicide.'" ("Accidental homicide:" an oxymoron if ever there was one.) (Source: Honorstates.org)

Pat lived at 9186 Elwood here in town. The San Bernardino Sun newspaper article announcing his death said, "Basile, a native of Fontana, was graduated from Fontana High School in 1967 after winning recognition in both football and baseball. He was also a member of the school's student council and was a class representative in his sophomore, junior and senior years… During his service overseas, Basile participated in several major engagements with the enemy and earned several merit awards**." Those awards included the Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal**

Pat was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Basile; his brother Chris; paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Basile and maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rudd, all of Fontana. Pat's name is memorialized on a plaque outside the FOHI auditorium in the quad area as well as on the Washington D.C. Vietnam Memorial, Panel 21w, Line 98. Pat's funeral services were held on Saturday, July 19, 1969, at The First Methodist Church. I planned to attend; however, I just could not bring myself to do so, knowing that I soon would also most likely be in the service. Arrangements were handled by Ingold Chapel. My friend Pat is buried in Green Acres in Bloomington, where I have paid my respects to him several times.



SGT. PATRICK BASILE
. . . killed in Vietnam

Fontana Marine Dies in Vietnam

Less than a month before he was scheduled to return home, U.S. Marine Sgt. Patrick L. Basile, 20, of 9168 Elwood, Fontana, was killed at Quang Nam, Vietnam.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tony J. Basile were notified of their son's death Monday. He died July 11.

Basile, a native of the area, was graduated from Fontana High School in 1967 after winning recognition in both football and baseball. He was also a member of the school's student council and was a class representative in his sophomore, junior and senior years.

Sgt. Basile entered the service in the spring of 1968 and was assigned to duty in Vietnam the following July.

During his service overseas, Basile participated in several major engagements with the enemy and earned several merit awards.

Obituaries

PATRICK L. BASILE

Sgt. Patrick L. Basile, U.S.M.C., 20, 9186 Elwood Ave., Fontana, died July 11, Vietnam. Native Los Angeles, lifetime resident Fontana.

Survivors: parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Basile; brother, Chris; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank. Basile Sr.; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rudd, all of Fontana.

Services: 9 a.m. Saturday, First Methodist Church, Ingold Chapel, Fontana, in charge; burial, Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.

BASILE — In Vietnam, July 11, 1969, Patrick L. Basile, 20, native Los Angeles, lifetime resident Fontana. Services 9 a.m. Saturday, First Methodist Church, Ingold Chapel, Fontana, in charge. Burial, Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.

Sgt. Patrick L. Basile, 20, July 11, 1969, (other causes).

USMC SGT. PATRICK LYNN BASILE







Corporal
Richard Burns

Class of '67



Spec. 4
Jim Peters

United States Army Corporal Richard Burns and Army Specialist 4 James (Jim) Peters, grew up together, played together, attended FOHI together, were drafted together, trained together, fought in the 101st Airborne together and were both wounded, almost together. Richard died; Jim would later also die from his wounds ten years later.

The next few pages are their stories. Readers are encouraged to read the narrative provided by Jim's Widow, Andrea Clay Peters Blake, immediately following Richard Burn's bio.

Rest in peace, brothers.





CORPORAL RICHARD BURNS



FOHI CLASS OF '67







Richard's FOHI 1967 Graduation Picture

ARMY CORPORAL RICHARD BURNS

KIA IN VIETNAM ON FEBRUARY 7TH, 1969







PURPLE HEART



★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Combat Infantryman Badge
★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal
★ Purple Heart

ORIGINS and HISTORY ***(Source: honorstates.org)***

Richard Allen Burns was born on September 5, 1948. According to our records California was Burn's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Selective Service. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was April 3, 1968. Burns had the rank of Corporal. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 56713501. Served with 101st Airborne Division, 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry, B Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Burns experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on February 27, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Binh Thuan province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died of wounds or effects of action, artillery rocket mortar".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 31w, Line 89.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that Corporal Burns either received or may have been qualified for. *This is probably not a complete accounting. There may be other awards received we do not have records of. (Source: honorstates.org)*



US ARMY-VIETNAM



101ST AIRBORNE



506TH INFANTRY



‘67









United States Amy Corporal Richard Allen Burns
Killed in Action on February 28, 1968, in Binh Thuan, South Vietnam

Again, I ask readers to bear with me as I speak in the first person, because, once again, another Vietnam casualty, Richard Burns, was a friend of mine at Fontana High School. Richard and I came to know each other through sports and generally just being at FOHI together.

Richard was born in Oakland, CA, on September 5, 1948, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald (Bud) Burns, who soon moved to Fontana after Richard’s birth. Richard attended Fontana Junior High and Fontana High School, graduating with the Class of 1967, along with two other Vietnam casualties; Pat Basile and Jim Peters, who were 1967 FOHI classmates of my late brother, Bob Freeman. At FOHI, Richard was a member of Student Council and the water polo team. He was also a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church.

A few years ago, I was watching a Tom Brokaw “1968” documentary, when an Army field nurse who served in Vietnam was introduced. This nurse, Nellie Harness Coakley, talked about seeing a seriously wounded young soldier being brought into the hospital. She told how she watched him die and she was struck with the thought that here she was with this dead young soldier and his mother had no idea that he died. As she said this, an Army photo of Richard appeared on the screen. Twenty years later, after Richard’s death, in 1999 Nurse Coakley added to her original story when she posted the following message online:

“I was present when Richard died. His name tag was the only one I ever read in triage. I believe I was meant to, because we had many men come in from his platoon that day and I helped comfort a friend the first night and his Lt. the next night while I was on night duty. He must have been a wonderful human being because he was obviously highly thought of and deeply loved by the men in his platoon. I have so often wanted to tell his parents what a wonderful son they must have raised, how very sorry I am that he died and that we gave him our very best at our hospital. I always look him up at the Wall when I'm in DC. -- Nellie Harness Coakley, 7th MASH Unit, Wednesday, September 29, 1999.”

Corporal Burns was drafted into the Army for a two-year stint and was trained as an Infantryman, as were most draftees. He arrived in Vietnam on April 3, 1968, and served with the famous 101st Airborne, 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry, B Company. He was ten months into his thirteen months tour of duty when he was killed on February 28, 1968. Seven “Currahees,” as his fellow Airborne were called, were killed when two booby traps exploded. As one of his fellow Airborne soldiers said online many years later, “He nearly got through it.” Richard was posthumously promoted to Corporal, E-4.

I vividly recall reading of Richard’s death in the Fontana Herald News. He was my first friend to be killed in war. I attended his viewing at Ingold Chapel, which left an indelible image in my mind. I was struck by his “lifelessness,” if that’s a word. Richard’s body was not the first deceased person I had seen, having lost my own mom five years earlier and having seen her lying in the exact same spot in the chapel as Richard was now occupying. I saw his Purple Heart, awarded because he was killed in combat, and I thought, “That’s a terrible price to pay for a medal,” although I now have a much greater respect for that recognition.

Richard was survived by his parents and two brothers Michael and Glenn, and a sister, Alice. He is buried in Montecito Memorial Park, Colton. He is remembered on a plaque outside the FOHI auditorium in the quad area as well as on the Washington D.C. Vietnam Memorial, Panel 31 W, Line 89. In recognition of his service and ultimate sacrifice, **Corporal Burns was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, Parachutist Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Army Good Conduct Medal.**





Class of ‘67

ARMY AIRBORNE RANGER JAMES HENRY PETERS JR.

Died on September 29, 1978, as a direct result of the devastating combat wounds he received in Vietnam in 1968

1967 FOHI graduate James Henry Peters Jr. was severely wounded in Vietnam in 1968 while serving in the famed 101st Airborne Army Division. His wounds were so serious as to destine him to spend his remaining ten years as a paraplegic, confined to a wheelchair.

However, the following article, in pertinent part, was written by a friend of his soon after his death. In addition to speaking of Jim's sweet nature, it includes a heartbreaking story at the end of his two young boys' first Christmas without their dad.

- From the Longview Daily News, Longview, Washington, December 23rd, 1978, by Dan Smith, a resident of Kelso, WA.



Reader commentary

Only boys understand

By Dan Smith
Kelso Resident

The very briefest way the story can be written is like this:

James Henry Peters Jr.
May 29, 1949 — Sept. 27, 1978

But there is more. The above named was, and in my heart shall remain, a friend. James H. Peters Jr. was a veteran of the Vietnam conflict. He served proudly and courageously in the United States Army until wounded in action in 1968. Jim Peters did not walk home amongst ticker taped parades or to the beat of a brass band. He returned to his homeland a casualty, to a hospital bed. Jim never walked again.

Jim, left a paraplegic from his wounds, lived to inspire many of his friends and loved ones through his courage in tackling his disability. He never complained of his physical condition nor blamed anyone for it. Those who knew him loved him, and those who did not would have. My friend died in September of this year from the wounds he had sustained in combat 10 years ago. He had been a kidney machine patient for several years and knew his condition had been worsening with time, but he fought and lived for what time remained.

Jim left a beautiful wife and two sons to carry on behind him, James H. Peters III, age 10, and Jon H. Peters, age 3. This will be the first Christmas these beautiful boys will spend without their loving father. Both have now realized and are beginning to accept their father's passing. Knowing that their father would not be with them again gave a special importance to this Holiday. Saturday, the two boys placed a small Christmas tree on the resting place of their father. A tree that they and they alone meticulously decorated and erected. Today the token of their love is gone from the grave. A very special Christmas gift to their father has been taken by an unknown party.

I seems the importance of love is not the gifts bestowed to one but what is felt from the heart. Jimmy and Jon will always have the love for their father as well as knowing their father had loved them. But why is it that someone must remove a tender memory in such a way? The first Christmas without a loved one is often too trying to survive, but one must. I feel the disrespect shown to my friend's family is to the point where I could not forgive such an act of thievery.

Perhaps Jimmy and Jon have reached a state of manhood before I. Whoever has taken this token of love from their father's resting place there is only one thing these boys wish to express to you, "Please have a Merry Christmas."





PURPLE HEART





James (Jim) Peters

A record of Jim's awards, medals and ribbons was not found, however, based on research about his fellow Vietnam HONOREES, one may reasonably assume he received the following similar decorations.



National Defense Service Ribbon



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



AIRBORNE BADGE



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon



James Henry Peters Jr., 29, of 127 Stewart Road, Longview, died Sept. 27, 1978, in the Portland Veteran's Hospital. He was born May 29, 1949, in Spokane. He was an Army Veteran of the Vietnam War where he served with the 101st Airborne Division. He worked for the Longview Police Department as a radio dispatcher six years ago. He had been a resident of the Longview-Kelso area for the past eight years, coming from Fontana, Calif.

Survivors include his wife Andrea, at home; two sons, James H. Peters III, at home, and Jon H. Peters, at home; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Peters Sr. of Spokane; two brothers, Randy Peters of Kelso and Sean Peters of Spokane; two sisters, Jacqui Jimenez of Fontana, Calif., and Joyce Shepherd from North Carolina; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Francis of Hemet, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Homer Trotter from Missouri, and Walter Norris of Sacramento, Calif.; several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews, and great-grandparents.

Services will be 7:30 p.m. Monday at McVicker's Parkview Funeral Chapel, Longview, with Chaplain Willard Barlett officiating. Military graveside services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday at Longview Memorial Park. The casket will remain closed. Interment will follow.

McVicker's Parkview Funeral Chapel of Longview is in charge of arrangements.

The following was written by Jim's wife Andrea Clay Peters Blake, FOHI '67, She was married to Jim for his entire Army career, his wound and recuperation periods from Vietnam and his death ten years after being paralyzed in battle in 1978 Five years after being shot, Jim's kidneys failed and he was on dialysis for the next five years, until his End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD – Kidney Failure), resulted in his death in 1978. This author gives great deference to family members' writings about our FONTANA HONOR ROLL HONOREES and I am honored to include Andrea's heartfelt words in this publication.

By Andrea Clay Peters Blake: "I was with Jim since January 17th, 1965. We met while walking to the school bus and home everyday. We were both sophomores back then. We were going "steady" back then. We lived just a few houses from each other.

Jim volunteered his draft card and when he enlisted, he volunteered to go to Vietnam

We were married on December 23rd, 1967. Jim was home on leave from basic training. We were married in Las Vegas. I was pregnant with our first son. He was born a little over 2 weeks after Jim was shot.

We said goodbye at the Ontario airport to Jim and Richard (Burns) when they were on their way to Fort Lewis, then Vietnam, I was with Jim's mom and his little brother. I held my tears but couldn't hold back when the small airplane started to taxi away. I looked over at Richard's parents and his mother was totally distraught and collapsed. That was so sad. However, here is a funny story. When they both went to Fort Gordon for Advanced Infantry Training, (AIT), they were passengers in a truck whose mission was delivering clean laundry (to the other soldiers). It was just Jim and Richard in the back of the truck. They were warned to make sure it got delivered and take care that nothing happened to it. So they decided to toss some off on the road. They had so much fun and kept tossing more and more off the truck.(Author's note: Sounds like two typical FOHI Steelers, does it not?)

Another incident was in their bunk house when one of them started a shaving cream fight and everyone jumped in and what a mess it was. They all got in trouble for that. This was all at Fort Gordon. (Another Author's note: This writer did the same thing to the trainee sleeping above me in Basic Training at Fort Jackson, So. Carolina, except we put it in his hand while he slept, and then tickled his nose with a pillow feather, after which he suddenly awoke and immediately rubbed his nose with his lotion-laden hand. This resulted in my only fistfight in my Army career. For the record: I won. After all, I played FOHI football. When I played (66-68), we lost most of our games, but we won most of the fights!!)

Another story that Jim loved to share was that when they were out in the jungles in Vietnam, someone was always on point in front of the platoon. Richard frequently volunteered to be point. When Jim would relieve him, he'd say "Beaks eyes were as big as saucers" Richard's nickname was Beak, and Jim's nickname was Pete. Jim liked to say that Richard would scream like an eagle because the 101st Airborne was called The Screaming Eagles.

Jim told me horrific stories of things that happened in battle. Nothing I care to share. Jim was only there for a few days less than 2 months, but he was in so many battles. It was just horrific the things he saw and had to do. He was the youngest man in his company. He turned 19 just two days before he was shot.

When Richard was killed, Jim was beside himself. They both shared letters and they couldn't hardly wait to see each other. At Richard's funeral, he wore his uniform complete with his **101st Airborne patch**.

We were at Richard's funeral. Some officer from the 101st Airborne was there. I remember he took Jim in his wheelchair and pushed him up to the front. I never saw such a long procession to the cemetery. When Richard's body was at the mortuary for viewing, Jim was in his wheelchair with his arms draped over the coffin's glass shield. Jim cried and could hardly stand it. He was broken. He said several times he wished he had died and not Richard. He loved him so much. It was heart breaking.

At Richard's funeral, he wore his uniform complete with his 101st Airborne patch. They got him (his uniform while recuperating at) at Letterman Hospital. One night they took several wounded soldiers out and got drunk and had a good time. Some fancy famously restaurant, but don't remember the name. That is when they all got new dress uniforms. Jim wore that uniform to Richard's funeral in St. Joseph's Church.

Jim was proud of serving his country and said if he could go back, he would. He wanted to make a career in the service. He wanted to go into Special Services. He wanted to be an Airborne Ranger.

After the battle where Jim was shot, each soldier who fought was awarded the Bronze Star. Jim never got one since he was put in for the *Silver Star*." (Author's note: The Silver Star is for bravery beyond the Bronze Star;) however, the recommendation was lost in the bureaucracy and Jim never received it, and that really disappointed him. Oh well, he was alive and that was what I was thankful for.

When Jim was shot, the telegram man came to deliver the telegram . My dad answered the door. He (my dad) was a Captain in WWII. I was 2 weeks from delivering our son.

I was shocked. I felt so frightened as we didn't know if he would live. They kept him in Vietnam for a week. He remembered how an officer came and laid his Purple Heart on his chest. They sent it home to me. It had flakes of his dried blood inside the box and on his Purple Heart.

A week later he was flown to Japan. He stayed another several days, then he was flown to Letterman in San Francisco. His parents drove up as soon as Jim arrived at the hospital. I had to stay home. I went into labor soon after that and had our baby on June 18th. Someone bought Jim a bottle of alcohol and he got wasted. The baby was born, and someone called to let him know. Everyone was congratulating him. Someone made a sign and put it on his circle bed. It said, "It's a Boy." The Dr's made their morning rounds. They looked at the sign, and then at Jim and said, "We hope so". Everyone was cracking up

Jim was 10 when *his* dad died. Our other son Jon had just turned 3. Jim would be so proud of both.

Rick (my current husband) has been an awesome dad to them. I am very lucky to have had both wonderful men as husbands." (parentheticals added by the author)

By Andrea Clay Peters Blake, Jim's widow.







Photos Courtesy of Andrea Clay Peters Blake, Jim's widow.









Photos Courtesy of Andrea Clay Peters Blake, Jim's widow





★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Combat Infantryman Badge
★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal
★ Purple Heart



Jim is shown wearing THREE Expert medals (most likely the M-16 rifle, grenades and machine gun), and one Marksman medal; his Vietnam Service and National Defense ribbons and his well-earned Combat Infantry Badge (CIB), awarded primarily to infantrymen engaged in combat with the enemy for at least thirty days.





USMC PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DOMINC ANTHONY CORONA

Killed in Action in Vietnam on July 29th, 1966

PHOTOS OF 1964 FOHI GRAD AND

MARINE PFC DOMINIC ANTHONY CORONA,

KIA IN VIETNAM ON JULY 29, 1966



- ★ National Defense Service Medal
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
- ★ Vietnam Service Medal
- ★ Combat Action Ribbon





FOHI
CLASS OF ‘64

(Source: honorstates.org) Dominic Anthony Corona was born on August 16, 1946. According to our records
California was Corona's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Marine Corps. Entered via Reserve Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Corona had the rank of Private First Class. Occupation or specialty was Machine Gunner. Service number was 2179816. Served with 3rd Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, H Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Corona experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on JULY 29, 1966. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Quang Nam province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, explosive device".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 09e, Line 86.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that Private First Class Corona either received or may have been qualified for. *This is probably not a complete accounting. There may be other awards received we do not have records of.*

PFC DOMINIC CORONA

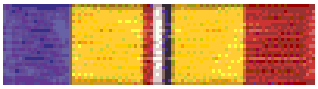
Again, please allow me to tell Dominic's story in the first person.

In 1966, Marine PFC Dominic Corona was a machine gunner in Vietnam. A few years prior to that, I knew and admired PFC Corona, not as a classmate or friend, but as someone I frequently saw when my parents shopped at the old Shopping Bag food store on Foothill Blvd where the U-Haul store is now located. Dominic, (or perhaps "Donnie," see below) as his name tag read, was what then was known as a "box boy," the guy who bagged your groceries when you checked out, a job I later immensely enjoyed in high school at the old Food Giant where Walmart is now located.

As you can see from his photo, PFC Corona was a rugged looking individual. I was in junior high when he worked there, and as a kid "affectionately" known to his parents as "butterball," I yearned to be as fit and manly as he. I was not surprised when I learned he became a United States Marine.

An extensive article by staff writer Mary Collins in The San Bernardino Sun on August 6, 1966, announcing PFC Corona's death is so well written and filled with pertinent information, it is presented here in its entirety. Under his Marine photo in the story is the caption "…***no passport home."***

> "The third time was not a charm for Marine Pfc. Dominic A. Corona, 19, of Fontana. He went to the grave with the third Purple Heart that would have sent him home.
>
> Dominic, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ettore (Arthur) N. Corona of 17354 Upland Ave., Fontana, died July 29 in the vicinity of Danang, South Viet Nam (sic).
>
> A telegram to his parents, signed by Gen. Wallace M. Green Jr, Commandant of the Marine Corps, said Dominic died of multiple fragmentation wounds to the body.
>
> No details are known of the battle in which the combat veteran was blasted by hundreds of pieces of wire shreds of a fragmentation grenade.
>
> He had been in Viet Nam since March 14 and was wounded twice by the time April was over. 'All I need is one more Purple Heart' he wrote his brother-in-law, Jerry L. Cameron of 17839 Seville St. Three Purple Hearts were a passport home.
>
> Dominic was the Corona's only son, born August 16, 1946, in Wheeling, W. VA. He missed his 20th birthday by less than a month."



USMC COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

PFC DOMINIC CORONA

A subsequent SB Sun article announced a Rosary was held for PFC Corona at Ingold Chapel in Fontana with a Catholic Mass held the next day at St. Joseph's. The Reverend John S. Mix officiated.

Not surprisingly, tributes to Donnie continue to this day. The website Wall-of-Faces.org includes the following posts:

From his former wife, **Penny Corona Watkins,** on December 11, 2015

"Although you were taken from me 39 years ago, you will always have a space in my heart. Loved and never forgotten."

From a friend, **Faye Williams,** also on December 11, 2015, whose husband, Charlie, I knew:

"So sorry you didn't come home. Charlie & I used to visit your mom while she was living. I know she enjoyed talking about you to us. I still remember the night you & Charlie left together for Camp Pendleton the night b/4 you guys shipped out to Nam. Marine brothers. Charlie's there now with you. Look for him & tell him I sure miss him! **RIP"**

From his boyhood friend **Bill Lord** (SGT., U.S. Army 1966-68) on July 29, 2019:

"It has been 53 years (today) now since you left us. I still think of you often. Remembering good times we had as young boys growing up together in Fontana, Calif. On Upland Ave. You are still alive deep in my heart."

From another boyhood friend, **Rick Andrews,** on September 19, 2017:

"We were the best servers St. Joseph's ever had, including your bell playing and my Patton handling. Think of you often. Miss you as we all do. You are in my prayers. Rick"

And finally, on May 15, 2017, from fellow Marine, **Master Sgt. Humberto**:

"We were in different companies in the 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines; but we hung together when we were back in the rear; usually bunking in the same hooch. Have never forgotten the day we lost you. Rest in peace, brother… and Semper Fidelis!"

In honor of his service, **PFC Corona was awarded Three Purple Hearts, The Combat Action Ribbon, The National Defense Service Medal, The Vietnam Campaign Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal, The Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, The Vietnam Gallantry Cross, The Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal. Rest in peace Donnie!**



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon



ARMY SPEC. 4 GARY RICHARD DANSER,

KIA IN VIETNAM ON JULY 20, 1967



ORIGINS and HISTORY ***(Source: honorstates.org)***

Gary Richard Danser was born on January 26, 1947. According to our records California was Danser's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.



SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Selective Service. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was January 10, 1967. Danser had the rank of Specialist Four. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 56686178. Served with 9th Infantry Division, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, A Company.



CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Danser experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on July 20, 1967. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Long An province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, small arms fire".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 23e, Line 93.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that Specialist Four Danser either received or may have been qualified for.

'64 FOHI GRAD





- ★ National Defense Service Medal
- ★ Combat Infantryman Badge
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
- ★ Vietnam Service Medal



US ARMY VIETNAM



9TH INFANTRY DIVISION



47TH INFANTRY

UNITED STATES ARMY SPEC. 4
GARY RICHARD DANSER

CLASS OF ‘64



Prior to his military service, Gary worked for the Santa Fe Railroad. His interests were primarily in automobiles. He planned to resume his education after being discharged.

On May 28, 1990, The San Bernardino Sun ran an extensive article detailing how the City of Fontana, under the direction of Maintenance Worker and thrice wounded Vietnam veteran Mike Wagnon, named streets after the then-14 Fontana men killed in Vietnam in the newly built Village of Heritage. Spec.4 Danser was one of the two men featured in that story, along with Army Sgt. Gary Hoadley. One excerpt said:

“Wanda McGee, 43, was surprised to hear that the street she has lived on for nearly a year –Danser Court—is named for soldier Gary R. Danser. ‘I thought it was named for a reindeer,’ she says.”… Memorial plaques hang from the streetlamps, bearing the full name of the soldiers and the dates of their death.–Sun Staff writer Tony Saavedra.



Spec.4 Gary Richard Danser, son of Arte Russell and Alice Elizabeth Danser, was born in Star City (or Morgantown, per another source), W. VA on January 26, 1947. He lived in Fontana at 8876 Pepper Ave. (just a short walk from this writer's home at the time of his death) for seven years prior to being drafted into the United States Army on January 10th, 1967. Gary graduated from FOHI, Class of '64. He died in action on July 20, 1967, from small arms fire in the Long An Province, South Vietnam. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was 11B10/Infantryman. He had been in South Vietnam for seven months of the usual 13-month tour when he died at age 20. He expected to be discharged eight months later. He was assigned to the 9th Infantry Division, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, "A" Company.

U.S. ARMY SPEC. 4
GARY RICHARD DANSER

SPEC. 4 GARY RICHARD DANSER





Gary is buried at Crestlawn Memorial Park in Riverside, CA.

Spec.4 Danser came from a large family. At the time of his death, in addition to his parents, he was survived by four brothers; Arthur, Thomas, Ralph and Darrel, and six sisters; Mrs. Betty Burch, Mrs. Shirley Miller, Mrs. Janet Wilson, Mrs. Mary Hancock, Mrs. Connie Wilhelm and the sole Fontana sister, Mrs. Rita Ryan.

Spec.4 Danser received a military funeral and is buried in Crestlawn Memorial Cemetery in Riverside. In honor of his service and supreme sacrifice, Spec.4 Danser was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and The Army Good Conduct Medal. He is memorialized on a plaque in the FOHI quad area and on the Vietnam Wall in Washington, DC at Panel 23e, Line 93.



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon





- SERVED FOR
- United States of America
- BATTALION
- 3rd Bn
- CONFLICT PERIOD
- Vietnam War
- RANK
- Specialist Fourth Class
- SERVICE START DATE
- 10 Jan 1967
- COMPANY
- A Co
- BRANCH
- Army
- GRADE
- E4
- REGIMENT
- 47th Infantry
- SPECIALTY
- Light Weapons Infantry (ARMY)
- MAJOR COMMAND
- 9th Inf Div
- YEARS SERVED 1







GOLD STAR
CASUALTY - 20 Jul 1967 - Age: 20 years
Gun, Small Arms Fire
Body Recovered, Hostile, Died

ENLISTMENT
Selective Service (draftee)

DEATH - 20 Jul 1967 - Age: 20 years

RACE OR ETHNICITY
Caucasian

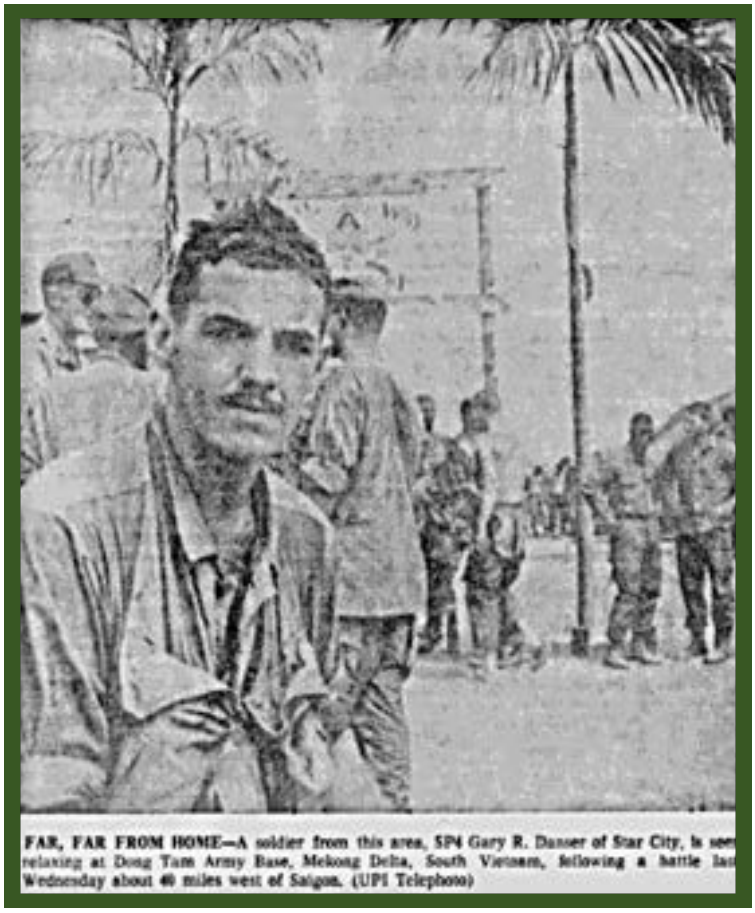
MEMORIAL WALL LOCATION: LINE 93
MEMORIAL WALL LOCATION: PANEL 23E

HOMETOWN
Fontana, CA

GENDER
Male

MARRIAGE
Single

FULL NAME
Gary Richard Danser



FAR, FAR FROM HOME—A soldier from this area, SP4 Gary R. Danser of Star City, is seen relaxing at Dong Tam Army Base, Mekong Delta, South Vietnam, following a battle last Wednesday about 40 miles west of Saigon. (UPI Telephoto)

Vietnam Casualties

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Defense Department has identified 34 more U.S. servicemen killed in action in Vietnam, including these California Army men:

Spec. 4 Gary R. Danser of Fontana.

Pfc. Ralph M. Stacey Jr. of Richmond Annex.

Pfc. Frank D. Leal of Chino.

Pfc. Thomas P. Brady of Bakersfield.

Gary was in the news in his former hometown in West Virginia

Army Dead List Bared

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Defense Department has identified 34 more U.S. servicemen killed in action in Vietnam, including these Western Army men:

PFC Ronald B. Hamblin, husband of Mrs. Mickey A. Hamblin, c-o Mr. and Mrs. Amasa L. Hamblin, 5146½ South Central Ave., Phoenix, Ariz.

Spec. 4 Gary R. Danser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Artis R. Danser, 8876 Pepper, Fontana, Calif.

Fontana streets named for those killed in Vietnam

By TONY SAAVEDRA
The Sun's Fontana Bureau

FONTANA — Hoadley Court is a small dead-end street, but it goes a long way in the heart of a 72-year-old mother who lost her youngest son to the Vietnam War.

Mary Hoadley struggles not to cry as she walks along the unfinished street named after "her baby," Army Sgt. Gary E. Hoadley. She steps gingerly around the construction debris and beer bottles littering the fresh asphalt.

"If Gary is looking down on this, he'll be right thrilled," says Mary, with a saw buzzing in the background and a radio blaring the Rolling Stones' "Tumbling Dice."

Stylish houses soon will rise from the cul-de-sac. Young families will bring their children to Hoadley Court — a piece of the American Dream dedicated to a fallen patriot.

It is a living memorial, one that Mary considers as sacred as her son's grave.

"It's going to be beautiful."

Fourteen streets in the palm tree-lined Village of Heritage development are named after Fontana men killed more than two decades ago in the jungles of Vietnam. Many were barely in their 20s, and away from home for the first time.

Their names adorn street signs throughout a new community that pays tribute to famous Americans, with streets such as Betsy Ross Court and McKinley Drive. But the names of the Fontana soldiers are not so well known.

Wanda McRee, 43, was surprised to hear that the street she has lived on for nearly a year — Danser Court — is named for soldier Gary R. Danser.

"I thought it was named for a reindeer," she says.

Mike Wagnon, a Vietnam veteran and city maintenance worker, led the crusade in 1986 to persuade developer Fontana Heritage West End Associates to name some streets after the slain soldiers. In addition to the street signs,

See FONTANA/A4



GINA FERAZZI/The Sun

Ralph and Kay Danser of Fontana remember Ralph's brother, Gary Richard Danser, who died in Vietnam and had a street named after him.

Fontana: Numerous streets named after soldiers killed in Vietnam War

Continued from/A1

Fontana recently gave Wagnon $840 to hang memorial plaques from the street lamps, bearing the full names of the soldiers and the dates of their deaths.

Wagnon is hoping the plaques will erase the mystery surrounding the unfamiliar street names.

"I want to let the people know that the street they live on is something special. I want them to be proud to live there," says Wagnon, who was wounded three times during his tour of duty. "Here's 14 guys who grew up in Fontana, went to Fontana schools and gave it up for Fontana."

• • •

Gary Hoadley, 21, wrote beautiful letters from the jungles of Vietnam, telling of his love for the exotic landscape and his sympathy for the impoverished villagers.

A sniper's bullet put an end to the letters on Aug. 3, 1968. The next message Mary Hoadley received was from two grim-faced soldiers standing on her doorstep.

"I felt such a tug in my heart, I couldn't speak. He was my baby," says the mother of three. "It . . . made my whole world fall apart."

Packed away in a trunk are Gary's paratrooper wings, his jump boots and a watch —keepsakes that Mary rarely looks at. The memories alone are hard enough.



Gary Hoadley
Killed Aug. 3, 1968



Gary Danser
Killed on July 20, 1967

The family came to Fontana from New York when Gary was 17. He quit school months before graduation because he didn't like his classes, and later enlisted in the Army to join the famous 101st Airborne Division.

"He had no fear and no thoughts of dying. . . . He thought he was destined to go there and do something about the poor," says Mary.

Childhood friend Sharon Carrasco, 40, of Rialto drove Gary to the airport the day he left for Vietnam.

"He was cool, maybe a little naive about what the war was all about," Carrasco says. "I think we all were."

• • •

Gary Danser was swept into a brutal war based on a troubled theory — if South Vietnam fell to communist powers, the rest of Indochina would tumble like dominoes.

International relations were the last thing on Gary's mind when the draft notice arrived. Life was just budding for the 19-year-old youth with the great-looking '64 Ford.

Danser was the youngest of 11 children and had never ventured from home. His family, including four brothers who served in World War 11 and the Korean War, were more than willing to buy Gary a one-way ticket to Canada.

"My parents thought that four sons going off to war was enough," said brother Ralph Danser, 57, of Fontana. "It wasn't as if we didn't try to talk him out of going. Like a lot of people, we thought it was a worthless, senseless war that no one won. But a lot of people lost. We lost.

"Mom told (Gary) to be a good boy and do what they tell you. I guess that's what he did."

Barely a month in combat, Spec. 4 Gary Danser bled to death July 20, 1967, after being shot in the thigh while walking point, leading the other soldiers as a scout.

His parents couldn't handle the heartbreak.

"Mom just about pulled all her hair out and my dad kind of hibernated," said Ralph Danser. "Dad didn't want any part of the government. He stopped voting and would have stopped paying taxes" if it weren't a crime.

"He died bitter."

Years later, Ralph Danser, a U.S. postal worker, was installing group mailboxes in the Village of Heritage when he looked up and saw the street sign, "Danser Court." He later learned the street was dedicated to Gary.

• • •

It is on Danser Court that Jose and Gigi Abinoja bought their first home and are raising their three young children. The unusual street name has made it easier for 5-year-old Jouie Abinoja to memorize his address: He's a little dancer who lives on Danser.

Josephine Munoz, 41, is impressed to learn that Richard Burns Court was named after an Army corporal instead of an artist, as she had thought.

"It makes me feel good, because he died a patriot for the people," says Munoz.

Ian MacDonald, 31, plans to start flying Old Glory on Memorial Day now that he knows his street — Lane Court — is named after Army Spec. 5 Richard Lane.

"It brings more meaning to the street, it's not just something they pulled out of the sky," says MacDonald, a textbook salesman who lives with his wife and 19-month-old son.

Patriotic sentiments inspired by young martyrs.

Other street signs pay tribute to Pfc. Joseph P. Marek; Pfc. Calvin Lewis; Lt. Ronald Wiltse; Pfc. Richard A. Noelke; Sgt. David J. Rideout; Pfc. Paris W. Montanez; Pfc. Kenneth J. Redondo; and Spec. 4 John A. Rogers. All of them served in the Army.

Marine Sgt. Patrick Basile and Pfc. Domenic A. Corona also are honored.

They've left their mark on Fontana, on streets lined with green belts and Mediterranean-style homes. Some streets, like Hoadley Court, are still under construction.

But Mary Hoadley uses her imagination to fill in the blanks.

"To think that people will be getting letters on Hoadley Court and kids will be growing up. It'll be lovely," says Mary. "And I'll come up here and haunt it."



Veterans approve of summit coincidence

GET FREE

U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Ranger and P.O.W. Steve Featherstone







SILVER STAR







BRONZE STAR

Medal information on this page provided by Sue Featherstone, Steve's wife.

Sgt. Steve Featherstone







(Writer's note: Steve Featherstone was a friend of mine for over twenty-five years. His death in January 2021, in the middle of the pandemic, prevented me from visiting him while he was in a stroke rehabilitation unit in Grand Terrace, CA. I shall forever regret that. I miss you, buddy!)

If ever there is one man who personifies the term "war hero," it would be the late Army Sgt., Vietnam POW and 82nd Airborne Ranger Steve Featherstone. After decades of service to country and community, Steve passed away in January 2021 after suffering a major stoke.

Very little is known about Steve's combat experiences because, as with many combat veterans, he would not discuss it. Hence, his FONTANA HONOR ROLL recognition will talk primarily about his life experiences.

Above all, Steve Featherstone was a patriot. He loved America and he showed his love for country by serving in the Army from 1968-72, fighting in Vietnam and earning THREE Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star and the Silver Star. **The Silver Star is the fifth-highest award for bravery in combat given by the United States military.** It honors service personnel who display exceptional valor while engaged in military combat operations against an enemy force for gallantry in action. In a nutshell, that describes Steve.

As with most combat veterans, Steve suffered from major PTSD that affected him for a good portion of his post-war life, until, in the 1990's, a fortuitous fall upon his head wiped out all of his PTSD demons. Unfortunately, his newly caused amnesia also wiped out the memory of his family, friends, and all other memories. He often said that he "fell back in love with his wife, daughters and other family members."

However, Steve's amnesia also had a silver lining. It wiped out all of his memories as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam, his combat experiences, losing his buddies in battle and serving as a "tunnel rat," searching out the enemy in tunnels so small that only smaller men like Steve could fit.

After serving in the Army, Steve spent a brief time as a Deputy Sheriff for the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. It was while on duty one day, he pulled over an attractive young lady, allegedly for a minor vehicle code violation. Years later, Steve admitted he pulled her over to get her phone number and take her out on a date. That attractive young lady, Sue, would eventually become Mrs. Steve Featherstone.

Steve was highly active in veterans' issues. He served in many leadership positions in Fontana American Legion Post 262, Rialto Post 422 and Highland Post 421. He was also active in leadership roles in District 25 of the American Legion. The 25th District is the largest District in California. He also served as Chairman for many years of District 25's POW/MIA committee. The POW/MIA assignment was the most important one he undertook in his American Legion career. Steve was also a member of the 40 and 8 (40/8), The Sons of the American Legion, the Disabled Vets of America and the Fontana Veterans Club.

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't reiterate that Steve was a war hero AND a peacetime hero, always helping others whenever his physical limitations so allowed. It is this writer's pleasure and honor to write this FONTANA HONOR ROLL recognition of my good friend, the late Army Sgt. and Army Ranger Steven C. Featherstone. **At ease, Steve. You've earned it!**



Airborne Badge



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Expert Marksman



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon

United States Army
Sgt. Gary Ellis
Hoadley
Killed in Action
August 3, 1968



ARMY SGT GARY E. HOADLEY

KIA IN VIETNAM ON AUGUST 3RD, 1968













Soldier Killed In Viet Fighting

Sgt. Gary Ellis Hoadley, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hoadley, 18209 Arrow Route, Fontana, Cal., and grandson of Mrs. Mary Wozniak, 112 First St., Peckville, and the late John Wozniak, was killed in action in Vietnam Aug. 3, according to word received here. His mother is the former Mary Wozniak of Peckville.

Sgt. Hoadley was born in Johnson City, N.Y., and resided there until the family moved to California four years ago.

He enlisted in the Army in February 1965, and was a paratrooper in Co. C, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, in Vietnam since last December.

Also surviving are a brother, Lawrence; a sister, Mrs. Sheerea Joines, and four nieces, all of Fontana.

Military rites were conducted Aug. 14 with the Rev. John S. Mix, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Fontana, officiating. Interment, Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, Cal.

(Source: honorstates.org) Gary Ellis Hoadley was born on November 29, 1946. According to our records California was Hoadley's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Regular Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was December 15, 1967. Hoadley had the rank of Sergeant. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 19890654. Served with 101st Airborne Division, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, C Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Hoadley experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on August 3, 1968. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Thua Thien province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, small arms fire".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 49w, Line 5.

Army Good Conduct Medal





US ARMY VIETNAM



501ST INFANTRY



101ST AIRBORNE

- ★ National Defense Service Medal
- ★ Combat Infantryman Badge
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
- ★ Vietnam Service Medal
- ★ Army Presidential Unit Citation







United States Army Airborne Sergeant Gary Ellis Hoadley
Killed in Vietnam on August 3rd, 1968

Sergeant Hoadley was born in Johnson City, New York on November 29, 1946. He died at the age of 21 on August 3rd, 1968, while serving in Vietnam as a member of the elite 101st Airborne Division, 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, "C" Company. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hoadley, who resided at 18209 Arrow Route in Fontana. He attended Fontana High School, circa 1964. He was also a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fontana.

"Sgt. Hoadley wrote beautiful letters from the jungles of Vietnam, telling of his love for the exotic landscape and his sympathy for the impoverished villagers", according to a 1990 San Bernardino Sun news story about a street being named after him in Fontana. "A sniper's bullet put an end to the letters on August 3rd, 1968.

The next message Mary Hoadley, (Gary's mom), received was from "two grim faced soldiers standing on her front doorstep." The article continued, "I felt such a big tug in my heart. He was my baby… my whole world fell apart," said his mom. "He had no fear and no thoughts of dying… He thought he was destined to go there and do something about the poor."

Hoadley arrived "in country," (Vietnam) on December 15, 1967. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was 11B4P (Airborne Qualified), or Infantryman. Typically, Vietnam tours were thirteen months. Hoadley was killed by small arms fire eight months into his tour, on August 3, 1968, in the Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam. Records indicate he died outright.

An online post on May 27, 2019, from Melody Wells Petras paid honor to six men with whom she was acquainted and who died in Vietnam. Adjacent to Sergeant Hoadley's name was the comment, "My best buddy… May you rest in peace."

A 1966 news article in the Scranton PA Times-Tribune listed his family as follows: "Sgt. Gary Ellis Hoadley, 21… was the grandson of Mrs. Mary Wozniak and the late John Wozniak…His mother is the former Mary Wozniak of Peckvile (PA)…Sgt. Hoadley was born in Johnson City, NY and resided there until the family moved to California four years ago… Also surviving are a brother, Lawrence, a sister Mrs. Sheera Joines and four nieces, all of Fontana. Military rites were conducted August 14, (1966) with the Reverend John S. Mix, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Fontana, officiating. Interment, Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego."

In honor of his service and ultimate sacrifice, Sgt. Hoadley was awarded The Purple Heart (wounded or killed in combat), Combat Infantryman Badge (signifying a minimum of 30 days in combat against hostiles while assigned to an Infantry or similar unit), The Marksmanship Badge. The Parachutist Badge, The National Defense Service Medal, The Vietnam Campaign Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal, The Army Presidential Unit Citation, The Vietnam Gallantry Cross and The Army Good Conduct Medal. Sgt. Hoadley is remembered on a plaque in the FOHI quad area and on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., at Panel W49 Line 5. (all parentheticals added)







Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Army Presidential Unit Citation



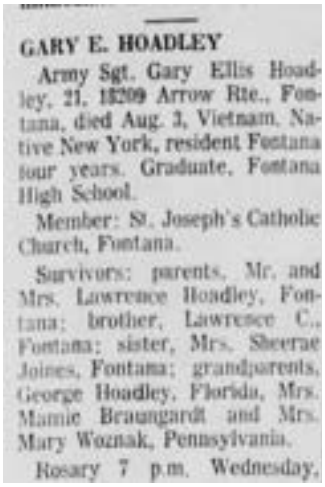
Army Good Conduct Medal



MARKSMANSHIP BADGE



PARACHUTIST BADGE



GARY E. HOADLEY

Army Sgt. Gary Ellis Hoadley, 21, 15209 Arrow Rte., Fontana, died Aug. 3, Vietnam. Native New York, resident Fontana four years. Graduate, Fontana High School.

Member: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Fontana.

Survivors: parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hoadley, Fontana; brother, Lawrence C., Fontana; sister, Mrs. Sheerae Joines, Fontana; grandparents, George Hoadley, Florida, Mrs. Mamie Braungardt and Mrs. Mary Woznak, Pennsylvania.

Rosary 7 p.m. Wednesday,

★ **Purple Heart**
★ **Combat Infantryman Badge**
★ **Marksmanship Badge**
★ **Parachutist Badge**
★ **National Defense Service Medal**
★ **Vietnam Campaign Medal**
★ **Vietnam Service Medal**
★ **Army Presidential Unit Citation**
★ **Vietnam Gallantry Cross**
★ **Army Good Conduct Medal**

City of Fontana Honors Vietnam War Dead

Fontana: Numerous streets named after soldiers killed in Vietnam War

Continued from A1

Fontana recently gave Wagner $840 to hang memorial plaques from the street lamps, bearing the full names of the soldiers and the dates of their deaths.

Wagner is hoping the plaques will erase the mystery surrounding the unfamiliar street names.

"I want to let the people know that the street they live on is something special. I want them to be proud to live there," says Wagner, who was wounded three times during his tour of duty. "Here's 14 guys who grew up in Fontana, went to Fontana schools and gave it up for Fontana."

• • •

Gary Hoadley, 21, wrote beautiful letters from the jungles of Vietnam, telling of his love for the exotic landscape and his sympathy for the impoverished villagers.

A sniper's bullet put an end to the letters on Aug. 3, 1968. The next message Mary Hoadley received was from two grim-faced soldiers standing on her doorstep.

"I felt such a tug in my heart. I couldn't speak. He was my baby," says the mother of three. "It ... made my whole world fall apart."

Packed away in a trunk are Gary's paratrooper wings, his jump boots and a watch —keep-



Gary Hoadley
Killed Aug. 3, 1968



Gary Danser
Killed on July 20, 1967

sakes that Mary rarely looks at. The memories alone are hurt enough.

The family came to Fontana from New York when Gary was 17. He quit school months before graduation because he didn't like his classes, and later enlisted in the Army to join the famous 101st Airborne Division.

"He had no fear and no thoughts of dying ... He thought he was destined to go there and do something about the poor," says Mary.

Childhood friend Sharon Car-

rasco, 40, of Rialto drove Gary to the airport the day he left for Vietnam.

"He was cool, maybe a little naive about what the war was all about," Carrasco says. "I think we all were."

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Gary Danser was swept into a brutal war based on a troubled theory — if South Vietnam fell to communist powers, the rest of Southeast Asia would tumble like dominoes.

International relations were the last thing on Gary's mind when the draft notice arrived. Life was just budding for the 19-year-old youth with the great-looking '64 Ford.

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"My parents thought that four sons going off to war was enough," said brother Ralph Danser, 57, of Fontana. "It wasn't as if we didn't try to talk him out of going. Like a lot of people, we thought it was a worthless, senseless war that no one won. But a lot of people lost. We lost.

"Mom told (Gary) to be a good boy and do what they tell you. I guess that's what he did."

Barely a month in combat, Spec. 4 Gary Danser died to death July 20, 1967, after being shot in the thigh while walking point, leading the other soldiers on a patrol.

His parents couldn't handle the heartbreak.

"Mom just about pulled all her hair out and my dad kind of introverted," said Ralph Danser. "Dad didn't want any part of the government. He stopped voting and would have stopped paying taxes" (if it weren't a crime.

"He died bitter."

Years later, Ralph Danser, a U.S. postal worker, was installing group mailboxes in the Village of Heritage when he looked up and saw the street sign, "Danser Court." He later learned the street was dedicated in Gary.

• • •

It is on Danser Court that Jose and Gigi Arizaga bought their first home and are raising their three young children. The unusual street name has made it easier for 5-year-old Josie Arizaga to memorize his address: He's a little dancer who lives on Danser.

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Ian MacDonald, 31, plans to start flying Old Glory on Memorial Day now that he knows his street — Lane Court — is named after Army Spec. 5 Richard Lane.

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Patriotic sentiments inspired by young martyrs.

Other street signs pay tribute to Pfc. Joseph P. Marek; Pfc. Calvin Lewis; Lt. Ronald White; Pfc. Richard A. Nosiha; Sgt. David J. Rideout; Pfc. Paris W. Montanez; Pfc. Kenneth J. Redondo; and Spec. 4 John A. Rogers. All of them served in the Army.

Marine Sgt. Patrick Smith and Pfc. Domenic A. Corona also are honored.

They've left their mark on Fontana, on streets lined with green bells and Mediterranean-style homes. Some streets, like Hoadley Court, are still under construction.

But Mary Hoadley uses her imagination to fill in the blanks.

"To think that people will be getting letters on Hoadley Court and kids will be growing up. It'll be lovely," says Mary. "And I'll come up here and haunt it."



VIETNAM SERVICE RIBBON



VIETNAM CAMPAIGN RIBBON

5 Southland Men Killed in Vietnam

Five Southern Californians were listed Monday in the Defense Department's latest report of servicemen killed in action in Vietnam. They were:

Army Sgt. Allan G. Swaim, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Swaim, 18071 Kirk Ave., Tustin.

Sgt. Gary E. Hoadley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence C. Hoadley, Fontana.

Cpl. Russell G. Hofer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. Hofer, 6758 Julie Lane, Canoga Park.

Marine Corps Cpl. Billy J. Taylor, husband of Mrs. Mary K. Taylor, 7601 Wyoming St., Westminster.

Lance Cpl. Richard D. Sullivan Jr., son of Richard D. Sullivan, 604 Susana Ave., Redondo Beach.

Ex-Area GI Killed In Vietnam

A former Westover resident died Saturday of wounds suffered in Vietnam combat Thursday.

He was First Sergeant Gary E. Hoadley of the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division.

He was the 21-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hoadley who lived in 233 End-



GARY E. HOADLEY

well Street until about three years ago when they moved to Fontana, Cal.

He was a former Evening and Sunday Press carrier in the Westover area and attended Johnson City High School for three years before his family moved to California, according to an aunt, Mrs. Rexford Wescott of Endicott.

She said that he visited Westover last November, shortly before he went to Vietnam.

ARMY SPEC. 5 RICHARD ARTHUR LANE

KIA IN VIETNAM ON JUNE 16, 1968











AMERICAL DIV.



11TH INFANTRY BG.



3RD INFANTRY



- ★ National Defense Service Medal
- ★ Combat Infantryman Badge
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
- ★ Vietnam Service Medal

Lane, Richard Arthur: Army Scout Dogs

ORIGINS and HISTORY ***(Source: honorstates.org)***

Richard Arthur Lane was born on August 13, 1944. According to our records California was Lane's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Regular Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was December 5, 1967. Lane had the rank of Specialist Five. Occupation or specialty was Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist. Service number was 18836457. Served with 11th Light Infantry Brigade, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, E Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Lane experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on June 16, 1968. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Quang Ngai province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 56w, Line 5.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that Specialist Five Lane either received or may have been qualified for. *This is probably not a complete accounting. There may be other awards received we do not have records of*

.

ARMY SPECIALIST 5 RICHARD ARTHUR LANE
KILLED IN ACTION ON JUNE 16, 1968



Combat Infantry Badge



NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON



EXPERT MARKSMANSHIP BADGE





VIETNAM SERVICE RIBBON



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



VIETNAM CAMPAIGN RIBBON

The **FONTANA HONOR ROLL** produced many heart-breaking stories and continues to do so. Spec.5 Richard Lane's story ranks among them. Additionally, Spec. 5 died on what this writer remembers to be his high school graduation baccalaureate service: Sunday, June 6, 1968

Initially, all was well. Spec.5 Lane was born August 16, 1944, in Compton; however, he grew up in the Fontana area, attending Colton schools and graduating from Colton High School in 1962. He then attended and graduated from the University of Redlands in 1966, earning his Bachelor's degree in what appears to be social work. He was president of the Chi Sigma Chi fraternity. An engagement announcement in the San Bernardino Sun told of his pending marriage to Miss Anne Louise Johnson of Victorville. His fiancé also attended U of R where she was treasurer of the Alpha Sigma Pi sorority. They were married at Armstrong Methodist Church in Victorville in December 1966, the same month Richard enlisted in the Army. They then honeymooned in Lake Arrowhead.

Fast forward to Vietnam where Richard was not only a soldier; he also endeavored to help the South Vietnamese people. A news article of Spec.5 Lane's tragic death appeared in the SB Sun on June 28th, 1968, and is deserving of reproduction here:

> "**An accidental explosion of ammunition captured from the Viet Cong** caused the death of Sp. 5 Richard A. Lane, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lane, 8254 Tokay Ave., Fontana.
>
> According to official notification from the War Department, Lane was serving in the Chu Lai area at the time of the fatal explosion.
>
> He left for Vietnam last December after serving six months in Hawaii and would have been eligible for discharge in August. Surviving the young soldier, besides his parents are his widow, Anne J. Lane of Victorville and two sisters, Judy Wagner in Minnesota and Lynette Hopkins of Pomona.
>
> **After studying the Vietnamese language, Lane was assigned to act as interpreter and social worker among the villagers near Chu Lai. In addition to distributing rice and assisting with the establishment of medical clinics,** his duties included collection of captured ammunition.
>
> Apparently, it was while engaged in that work that Lane lost his life (when the captured Viet Cong munitions exploded)…. **Lane was preparing to devote his life to a career in social work** at the time he enlisted in the Army in August 1966. Funeral arrangements are pending." (Parenthetical added; **Bold is** added for emphasis)

Official Army records list Lane's cause of death as "misadventure." (This writer was unable to harmonize this term with the given facts of his death.) He was serving near LZ (Landing Zone) Dottie in the area of Binh Son in South/Southeast Vietnam. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was "Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist." One news article said he was in Officer Candidate School before deploying, however his rank of E-5 indicated he had not yet been promoted to officer. He participated in the Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase III and IV campaigns and the Tet Counteroffensive campaign. He was assigned to the 11th Light Infantry Brigade, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, "E" Company. **Spec. 5 Lane was awarded The Combat Infantryman Badge, The Purple Heart, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Army Good Conduct Medal** (An award that somehow eluded this writer.)

Spec.5 Lane is memorialized on The Vietnam Veteran's Wall in Washington, DC on Panel 56W, Line 5. He is buried in Green Acres Memorial Park and Cemetery in Bloomington, CA.



Photo by Neale Adair

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD A. LANE
. . . ceremony in Victorville

Victorville Rites Unite Lane-Johnson Couple

Armstrong Memorial Methodist Church in Victorville was the setting for the exchanging of nuptial vows of Anne Louise Johnson and Richard Arthur Lane. The double ring ceremony was performed at 8 p.m. by the Rev. Arthur Huckaby.

Sister-in-law of the bride, Mrs. Henry R. Johnson, attended the rites as matron of honor while Misses Mary Ransom, cousin of the bride, Lucy Vawter and Jeannette Sharman were bridesmaids.

Henry Johnson, brother of the bride, stood with the bridegroom as best man and ushering duties were shared by Edward Johnson, brother of the bride, Don Hopkins, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Ronald Smith, cousin of the bridegroom.

Completing the bridal party were Terri Courchesne, flower girl, and Richard Johnson, a nephew of the bride.

Following the ceremonies, guests greeted the newlyweds at a reception in the church where Miss Martha Johnson circulated the guest book and Miss Phyllis Rogers accepted gifts.

The new Mrs. Lane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Johnson, 15150 Redondo Drive, Victorville, is a junior at the University of Redlands and member of Alpha Sigma Pi sorority.

The bridegroom, a 1966 graduate of UR and member of Chi Sigma Chi fraternity, is currently attending Officer Candidate School in the U.S. Army. He will soon leave for Ft. Benning, Ga. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Lane, reside at 8254 Tokay Ave., Fontana.

The newlyweds honeymooned at Lake Arrowhead.



BETROTHED — Miss Anne Louise Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Johnson, 15150 Redondo Dr., Victorville, will wed Richard Arthur Lane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Lane, 8254 Tokay Ave., Fontana, in June. Miss Johnson, a graduate of Victorville High School, is a junior student at University of Redlands, where she is treasurer of her sorority, Alpha Sigma Pi. The bridegroom-to-be, who is now at Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., is a graduate of Colton Union High School, 1962, and University of Redlands where he was president of Chi Sigma Chi fraternity.

Captured Viet Cong Ammunition

Explosion Fatal for Fontana Soldier



RICHARD A. LANE
. . . Vietnam victim

An accidental explosion of ammunition captured from the Viet Cong caused the death of Sp. 5 Richard A. Lane, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lane, 8254 Tokay Ave., Fontana.

According to the official notification from the War Department, Lane was serving in the Chu Lai area at the time of the fatal explosion.

He left for Viet Nam last December after serving for six months in Hawaii and would have been eligible for discharge in August. Surviving the young soldier, besides his parents, are his widow, Anne J. Lane of Victorville, and two sisters, Judy Wagner in Minnesota and Lynette Hopkins of Pomona.

After studying the Vietnamese language, Lane was assigned to act as interpreter and social worker among the villagers near Chu Lai. In addition to distributing rice and assisting with the establishment of medical clinics, his duties included collection of captured ammunition.

Apparently, it was while engaged in this work that Lane lost his life. Born in Compton, he attended elementary school in Bloomington, later completing his education at Colton Union High School and the University of Redlands. Here he served as president of Chi Sigma Chi fraternity.

Lane was preparing to devote his life to a career in social work at the time he enlisted in the Army in August, 1966, shortly after being graduated from Redlands.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

1966 UR grad killed in Vietnam war

SP 5 Richard A. Lane, a 1966 graduate of the University of Redlands, was killed in Vietnam recently as the result of an accidental explosion of captured Viet Cong ammunition, the War Department announced this week.

Lane, 23, of Fontana, was serving in the Chu Lai area at the time of the accident. He was assigned to act as interpreter and social worker among villagers near Chu Lai. His duties included collecting captured ammunition.

Lane was preparing to devote his life to a career in social work at the time he enlisted in the Army in August, 1966, shortly after being graduated from the University of Redlands. He served as president of Chi Sigma Chi fraternity at the U.R.

dale Cemetery, Glendora.
LANE—In Vietnam, June 16, 1968, Richard A. Lane, 23, native Compton, former resident Bloomington. Services 10 a.m. Tuesday, Ingold Chapel, Fontana. Burial, Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.



Senior Year Photo



Junior Year Photo



9th Grade Photo

United States Army Corporal
Calvin L. Lewis



United States Army Corporal Calvin L. Lewis
Killed in Action on January 6, 1969, near Dinh Tuong Province, South Vietnam

Please allow the author to speak in the first person once again. I knew of future Corporal Calvin Lewis in high school although he graduated from FOHI in 1966, two years before me. However, in junior high and high school, I was a classmate of and friends with two of his brothers, identical twins Charlie and Charles Lewis, both of whom are now deceased. Charlie and Charles were the only two identical twins I have ever known whom I could not tell apart. When compared to their older brother Calvin, one would think they were identical triplets.

Army Corporal Calvin L. Lewis

Fohi
‘66

Calvin was born on February 12, 1948, in Fontana, He lived at 6641 Jacaranda Street. Records conflict as to whether he was drafted or enlisted in the Army in March 1968. He was sent to Vietnam on August 18, 1968. He was killed five months later on January 6, 1969. His MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) was 11B10, Infantryman, (known as 11 Bravo, one of the toughest assignments in the Army). In other words, he was sent into the jungles of Vietnam where he engaged in combat with the enemy. PFC Lewis served with 9th Infantry Division, 39th Infantry, 4th Battalion. The website “TOGETHER WE SERVED.com” states Lewis was killed in action by a “booby-trapped 105mm shell, 9 km northwest of Dong Tam Base.”

A San Bernardino Sun article stated that Corporal Lewis was originally reported as MIA, (Missing in Action), however the Army subsequently determined that he was actually *killed* in action. He was survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Lewis; two sisters, Mary Lucille Lewis and Lezoria Thomas, and four brothers: Alfred, Charlie, Charles, Eddie, all in Fontana, and a fifth brother, Alvin Lewis, of Los Angeles. Palm Chapel in Fontana handled Corporal Lewis’ full military funeral arrangements. Calvin is buried in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego. He is remembered on a plaque outside the FOHI auditorium in the quad area as well as on the Washington D.C. Vietnam Memorial, Panel 35 W, Line 43. In recognition of his service and ultimate sacrifice, **Corporal Lewis was awarded The Bronze Star, The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal.**



Army Corporal Calvin L. Lewis





Bronze Star



Infantry



National Defense Service Ribbon



9th Infantry Division



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



C Company, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry



Vietnam Service Ribbon

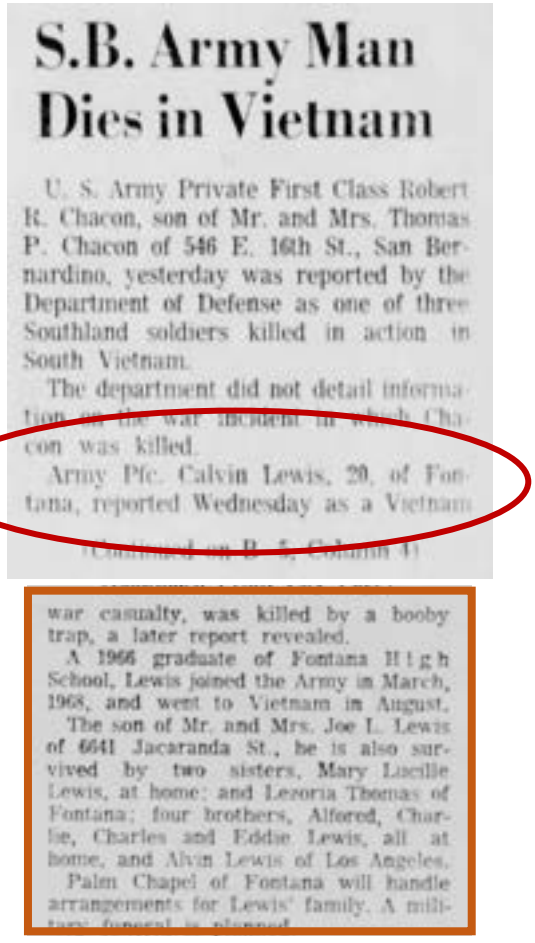


Combat Infantry Badge



ARMY CORPORAL CALVIN LEWIS

KIA IN VIETNAM ON JANUARY 6, 1969



S.B. Army Man Dies in Vietnam

U. S. Army Private First Class Robert R. Chacon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Chacon of 546 E. 16th St., San Bernardino, yesterday was reported by the Department of Defense as one of three Southland soldiers killed in action in South Vietnam.

The department did not detail information on the war incident in which Chacon was killed.

Army Pfc. Calvin Lewis, 20, of Fontana, reported Wednesday as a Vietnam

war casualty, was killed by a booby trap, a later report revealed.

A 1966 graduate of Fontana High School, Lewis joined the Army in March, 1968, and went to Vietnam in August.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Lewis of 6641 Jacaranda St., he is also survived by two sisters, Mary Lucille Lewis, at home; and Lezoria Thomas of Fontana; four brothers, Alfored, Charlie, Charles and Eddie Lewis, all at home, and Alvin Lewis of Los Angeles.

Palm Chapel of Fontana will handle arrangements for Lewis' family. A mili-

(Source: honorstates.org) Calvin Lewis was born on February 12, 1948. According to military records California was Lewis's home or enlistment state. Fontana was listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

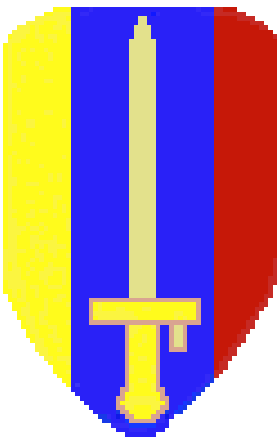
Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Selective Service. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was August 18, 1968. Lewis had the rank of Corporal. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 56722012. Served with 9th Infantry Division, 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry, C Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Lewis experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on January 6, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Dinh Tuong province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, explosive device".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 35w, Line 43.



U.S. Army Vietnam

ARMY PFC JOSEPH PENN MAREK JR.

KIA IN VIETNAM ON NOVEMBER 15th, 1967



ARMY PFC JOSEPH PENN MAREK









U.S. ARMY VIETNAM



199TH INFANTRY BRIGADE



12TH INFANTRY



★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal
★ Purple Heart

(Source: honorstates.org) **Joseph Penn Marek** was born on August 23, 1945. According to our records California was Marek's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Selective Service. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was October 31, 1967. Marek had the rank of Private First Class. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 56706409. Served with 199th Light Infantry Brigade, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry, B Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Marek experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on November 15, 1967. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Gia Dinh province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Hostile Died of Wounds, Multiple Fragmentation Wounds, Ground Casualty".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Buried or memorialized at Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, California. Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 29e, Line 101.

ARMY PFC JOSEPH PENN MAREK JR.

KIA IN VIETNAM ON NOVEMBER 15th, 1967



Combat Infantry Badge



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Vietnam Gallantry Cross Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Expert Marksman

The heartbreaks just keep coming. United States Army Private First Class Joseph Penn Marek's death on his *very first patrol* ranks at or near the top of such stories.

Joseph was born on August 23, 1945, in Pennsylvania, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Marek Sr. The family later moved to Glendora, CA and eventually to Fontana in April 1967, residing at 17872 Miller Ave. Joseph attended high school in Glendora after which he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in electronics.

After college he was drafted and sent to battle as an Army Infantryman. Joseph was assigned to the 199th Infantry Brigade, 12th Infantry, 4th Battalion, "B" Company. **A San Bernardino Sun news article said, "He was in Vietnam for less than two weeks when he caught a bullet to the chest on his very first patrol."** The Sun article described the patrol as "routine." (Note: Other sources indicated he died of "multiple fragmentation wounds.") Joseph was 22 when he died on November 15th, 1967.

A few weeks earlier, PFC Marek wrote his family, saying, "Well Mom, I guess I'm not going to be able to have any of your Thanksgiving dinner this year. Dinner for me will probably be out of a tin can in the swamps."

ARMY PFC JOSEPH PENN MAREK JR.

KIA IN VIETNAM ON NOVEMBER 15th, 1967

In that same letter, as related in The SB Sun article, Joseph wrote, "'Don't worry. I'll be here in the Mekong Delta for at least 30 days. We don't believe there are any Viet Cong in the area. I'll patrol tomorrow." While telling this story, Mrs. Marek wiped a tear from her cheek and said, "He was the kind who always worried about everyone else before he worried about himself."

On September 29, 1967, Joseph began his 30-day pre-deployment leave with his family here in town, after which he was sent to and arrived in Vietnam, Gia Dinh Province, on November 2. On November 15, on his first patrol, he was dead. The initial word from the Army said he was wounded. The next day, his family was told he died.

The Sun article continued: "Mrs. Marek was bitter and hurt about her son's death. 'The whole thing is such a needless slaughter. Joe didn't approve of the war, and we didn't either.'" This writer recalls the emergence of this sentiment with many of my buddies who deployed to 'Nam. Like Joe, they answered their country's call to duty. Most of them came home. Some did not.

A final comment in the SB Sun article told how the Army was going to allow Joe's close friend, PFC Gary Barnett, to accompany Joe's body on his final journey home. Unfortunately, the Army couldn't locate PFC Barnett. Said a sobbing Mrs. Marek, "My Lord, maybe he's dead too."

A final note: A 2013 online post from one of Joe's friends and fellow veteran, Ralph Stone, said, "Joe was one of my best friends in the early 60's at Citrus College. He had a bitchin' 55 chevy red and white. My mom cried when she heard he was killed. I lost two buddies in one letter (from home) in 1967. Glendora wasn't the same when I got out of the army with my lost friends." (parenthetical added)

For his service, PFC Marek was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and The Army Good Conduct Medal. He is memorialized at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Washington, DC, Panel 29E, Line 101. Joe is buried at Oakdale Memorial Park in Glendora, CA.


JOSEPH PENN MAREK JR
PENNSYLVANIA
PFC US ARMY
VIETNAM PH
AUG 23 1945 NOV 15 1967


R.I.P
REST IN PEACE



United States
Army Private
First Class
PARIS
MONTANEZ







CLASS OF 68



ARMY PFC PARIS MONTANEZ

KIA IN VIETNAM ON JANUARY 27TH, 1969



1st Inf. Div.



U.S. Army Vietnam



28th Inf.

Source: honorstates.org: Paris William Montanez was born on March 25, 1950. According to our records California was Montanez's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Regular Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was November 15, 1968. Montanez had the rank of Private First Class. Occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantry. Service number was 18865257. Served with 1st Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, A Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Montanez experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on January 27, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Binh Duong province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Hostile Died of Wounds, Misadventure, Ground Casualty".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 33w, Line **3 and at the FOHI '68 50th Class Reunion 9/29/2018**





PURPLE HEART

FOHI Jr. Year Photo



United States Army Private First Class PARIS MONTANEZ

Army PFC Paris Montanez was a friend of this writer while at Fontana High School, Class of 1968. He enlisted either during or immediately after our senior year, because, a mere six months later, he was in Vietnam. Two months after that he was killed in action.

Paris was born on March 5, 1950, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paris A. Montanez, who lived at 8165 Alder Avenue here in town.

He died in the Binh Duong Province in South Vietnam on Jan. 27, 1969, just 10 weeks into his 13-month combat tour of duty.

PFC Montanez was a member of the elite “Big Red One,” (1st Infantry) Division, 28th Infantry, 1st Battalion, “B” Company. His MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) was 11B10, Infantryman.

Circumstances surrounding his death are unclear and seemingly contradictory. One record indicated he was a “ground casualty…Misadventure (Friendly Fire).” A San Bernardino Sun news article announcing his death reported “Montanez was killed… as a result of enemy fire while on ambush patrol.” A third record simply listed “small arms fire” as the cause of death.

A final S.B. Sun article stated, “The Fontana soldier was originally declared missing, but the Army later announced Montanez died as the result of hostile action.”

Extensive research into Paris’ Infantry Unit’s history to ascertain the correct information was not successful, nor could a search of myriad dictionaries (college, medical, legal, etc.) reach consensus on the definition of “misadventure,” particularly as it applies to deaths in the military.

Army PFC Paris Montanez



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Expert Marksman



Combat Infantry Badge



Good Conduct Ribbon



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Vietnam Gallantry Cross Ribbon

In any event, Paris is remembered on a number of online sites. One remembrance in 2013 from Sue Payne states, simply, “NEVER FORGOTTEN. Friends and family do not forget.”

Another, by this writer in 2018, says, “We remembered you at our 50th Class Reunion --Paris, we only knew each other casually in high school. I was class president, and you were my friend. On Sept. 29, 2018, at our 50th reunion, we observed a moment of silence for you and 103 other lost classmates of 1968. At ease, my friend. Bill Freeman, Army 69-72. **FOHI '68.”**

In 2001, friend Rick Lynch wrote, “A friend I still remember. If he could see us now.”

Finally, in 2006, Fontana teacher and coach Steve Marlatt wrote, “Paris, you are not forgotten. Every Memorial Day students from your former high school still honor your service. We will never forget.”

For his service, PFC Montanez was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

At the time of his death, in addition to his parents, Montanez was survived by two sisters, Carolyn and Susan; and three brothers, Roger, Ricky and John, all of whom were living at home. He was also survived by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kinsler of Los Angeles and Mrs. Lucille Mespelt of North Carolina. Military funeral services and burial were held at Fort Rosecrans National Memorial Cemetery in San Diego.

Montanez is memorialized at the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., Panel 33W, Line 003 and on a plaque in the FOHI quad. Soon, he and 54 other men with Fontana ties who died while in service to their country or who were P.O.W.;s will be permanently remembered i=on their individual monuments in downtown Fontana.



Vietnam Service Ribbon



National Defense Service Ribbon



Bronze Star Medal



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



Army Distinguished Service Ribbon



1st Infantry Division

"THE BIG RED ONE!"



Vietnam Gallantry Cross Ribbon



Combat Infantry Badge



PURPLE HEART



Five Southlanders Killed in Viet Action

Five Southland servicemen were listed Monday by the Defense Department as killed in action in Vietnam. They were:

Army Spec. 4 Dennis M. Keith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Keith, North Santa Paula.

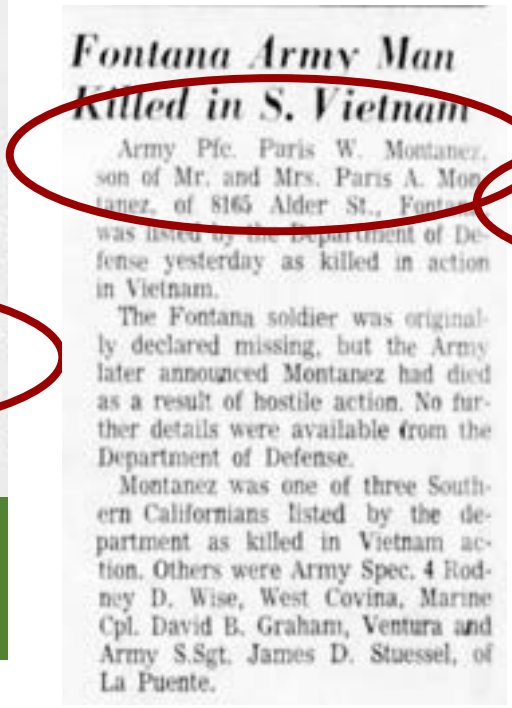
Spec. 4 Rodney D. Wise, son of Rhea E. Kaser, of 213 Mockingbird St., West Covina.

S. Sgt. James D. Stuessel, son of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Stuessel, 321 Colleen Ave., La Puente.

Pfc. Paris W. Montanez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paris A. Montanez, Fontana.

Marine Cpl. David B. Graham, son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Graham, Ventura.

PFC PARIS MONTANEZ

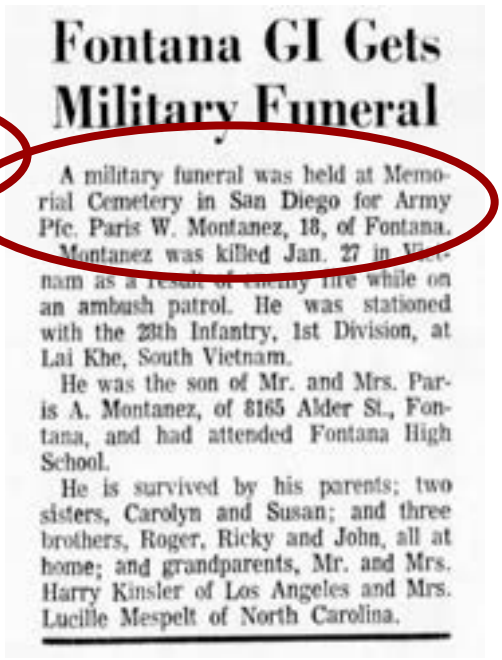


Fontana Army Man Killed in S. Vietnam

Army Pfc. Paris W. Montanez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paris A. Montanez, of 8165 Alder St., Fontana, was listed by the Department of Defense yesterday as killed in action in Vietnam.

The Fontana soldier was originally declared missing, but the Army later announced Montanez had died as a result of hostile action. No further details were available from the Department of Defense.

Montanez was one of three Southern Californians listed by the department as killed in Vietnam action. Others were Army Spec. 4 Rodney D. Wise, West Covina, Marine Cpl. David B. Graham, Ventura and Army S.Sgt. James D. Stuessel, of La Puente.



Fontana GI Gets Military Funeral

A military funeral was held at Memorial Cemetery in San Diego for Army Pfc. Paris W. Montanez, 18, of Fontana.

Montanez was killed Jan. 27 in Vietnam as a result of enemy fire while on an ambush patrol. He was stationed with the 28th Infantry, 1st Division, at Lai Khe, South Vietnam.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paris A. Montanez, of 8165 Alder St., Fontana, and had attended Fontana High School.

He is survived by his parents; two sisters, Carolyn and Susan; and three brothers, Roger, Ricky and John, all at home; and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kinsler of Los Angeles and Mrs. Lucille Mespelt of North Carolina.



PURPLE HEART



Class of ’68

AUBREY EUDELL MONTGOMERY, JR.
UNITED STATES ARMY
POST-VIETNAM CASUALTY

Wounded in combat and haunted by memories occasioned by PTSD, Aubrey took his own life after returning home from the war.

Of all the men included in this book, Aubrey was this writer’s closest friend to have died and he was almost his step-brother-in-law. He died just nine months before his step-sister, Judy Darlene Tate, married this writer in August of 1974.

AUBREY EUDELL MONTGOMERY JR.
ARMY POST-VIETNAM CASUALTY

Aubrey was drafted in 1968/69 and served in the Army infantry, where he was wounded and earned a Purple Heart. When he came home, he suffered from PTSD and tried, unsuccessfully, to deal with his demons. When his long-term relationship with his girlfriend ended, coupled with his combat-related PTSD, Aubrey committed suicide in December 1973.

I clearly recalls sitting downstairs in my future wife's apartment (Judy Tate – FOHI '70) when the phone rang. It was Judy's mom and Aubrey's stepmom, Dorothy Montgomery. She said Aubrey shot himself and they were at the Kaiser Fontana emergency room. The E.R. was just 2 miles away. Unfortunately, Aubrey died about the same time we arrived.

Another Gold Star family. This time however, it touched home.





Combat Infantry Badge



National Defense Service Ribbon





Army Infantry



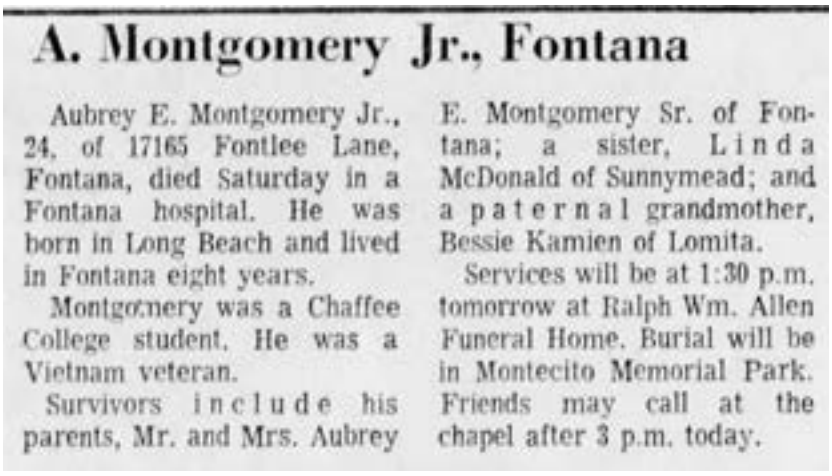
Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon



PURPLE HEART



A. Montgomery Jr., Fontana

Aubrey E. Montgomery Jr., 24, of 17165 Fontlee Lane, Fontana, died Saturday in a Fontana hospital. He was born in Long Beach and lived in Fontana eight years.

Montgomery was a Chaffee College student. He was a Vietnam veteran.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey E. Montgomery Sr. of Fontana; a sister, Linda McDonald of Sunnymead; and a paternal grandmother, Bessie Kamien of Lomita.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow at Ralph Wm. Allen Funeral Home. Burial will be in Montecito Memorial Park. Friends may call at the chapel after 3 p.m. today.

San Bernardino Sun, Monday, Dec. 3, 1973



SILVER STAR

Class of ‘63



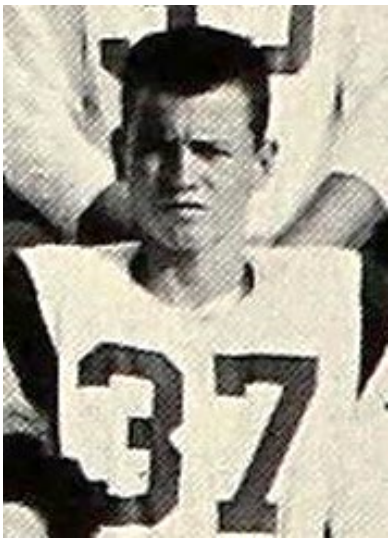
SILVER STAR RECIPIENT
ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
RICHARD ALLEN NOELKE



1963 FOHI Graduation Photo



1961 FOHI Sophomore Photo



FOHI "B" Football – circa 1961



1st Air Cavalry







Combat Air Medic



Silver Star



PURPLE HEART

PFC RICHARD A. NOELKE

When Richard Allen Noelke was born on February 7, 1944, in Evansville, Indiana, his father, Anton, was 35 and his mother, Lennas, was 32. He had two brothers and two sisters. He died a hero on November 6, 1965, in Pleiku Province, South Vietnam, at the age of 21.

Army PFC and Combat Medic Richard A. Noelke was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for bravery. It is the United States Armed Forces' fifth-highest personal decoration for valor in combat. The Silver Star is awarded to a person who, while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Army, is cited for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force.

In presenting the Silver Star to PFC Noelke's mother, Mrs. Lenas Wolfington of Fontana, Colonel Edward J. Cockard said,

> **"With complete disregard for his own personal safety, (PFC Noelke) pulled other soldiers to a covered position and administered first aid. Later, in rescuing his platoon leader, he was mortally wounded by Viet Cong fire. His courage and actions reflect great credit on himself, his unit and the United States Army."**

Richard's family made their home at 9974 Almeria Ave. here in town. A San Bernardino Sun article in 1967 said the Noelkes lived in Fontana for three years (64-67), however Richard's photo appears three years earlier in the 1961-63 FOHI yearbooks, including a team photo of the FOHI "B" (most likely sophomore) football team, for which Richard played quarterback. (And where this writer also played five years later.) The Pomona Progress-Bulletin listed him as a 1960 "graduate" of Fremont Junior High.

Richard enlisted in the Army in December 31, 1964 or immediately thereafter (records differ), and reported to Vietnam eight and a half months later on August 20th of that same year. The seemingly delayed entry into 'Nam was most likely attributable to his time in basic training, advanced individual training (AIT-Infantry) and combat medic school. In AIT he was trained as a Light Weapons-Infantryman, however at the time of his death he was serving in his medic capacity. He was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, Headquarters Company.

ARMY PFC RICHARD ALLEN NOELKE

One account of PFC Noelke's last day, the day on which he earned the Silver Star, was as follows:

> "One… engagement took place on the west bank of the La Meur River on 06 Nov. 1965, when two companies of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry (Richard's Unit) took on the NVA (North Vietnamese Army). Twenty-six Americans were killed in the action, which formed a prelude to the engagements at LZ (Landing Zone) X-ray and LZ Albany… **The men (who were killed included) PFC Richard A. Noelke, Fontana, CA (medic)"** The aforementioned LZ battles served as the basis for the book and movie, "We Were Soldiers Once." (Parentheticals added)

Online posts in tribute to PFC Noelke include:

> By Sheila Cole Deinhart on 10 Dec 2019: "I am a cousin that you never got to know. God Bless you...You are listed on our Vietnam Nam Memorial here in Evansville, In." (Sic)
>
> By Susan Gray Woodward on December 17, 2015: "IN HONOR OF DICKIE. In remembrance of my Uncle Dickie, I'm your niece Susie and unfortunately, I never had the honor of meeting you, as I was born just a few weeks after your death. However, my mother has kept your memory alive in our family, and she speaks of you often. I would like to express my gratitude, to you and all those who paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy today. Uncle Dickie has 2 siblings alive, one in Evansville, IN, and the other in Monahans, TX, along with many niece's and nephews. We love you!!!! (Sic)
>
> By Terry White, childhood friend, on October 25, 2013: "A FRIEND I REMEMBER FROM MY CHILDHOOD GROWING UP IN BLOOMINGTON ILLINOIS... I am now 67 and he was a few years older than me... I always remembered how nice they all were to us back then...A real shame he died so young, he was a good person and I have never forgotten him even after all these years...RIP my friend and thank you for the good memories... Hope to see you again someday....Terry White (if Dick's (Richard's) sister is still alive, it would be great to hear from you.)"

ARMY PFC RICHARD ALLEN NOELKE

Rosary for **PFC Noelke,** who was 21 when he died, was recited at Ingold Chapel on November 19, 1965. Mass was celebrated the next day on Saturday, November 20th. In addition to his mother, survivors included his stepfather, Charles Wolfington, two brothers, Jimmy and Ronald Noelke; and two sisters, Judy Gray and Marlene Jones. Richard is buried in Green Acres Memorial Cemetery in Bloomington, CA.

For his service, in addition to the Silver Star, PFC Noelke was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Richard is memorialized with his name on a plaque in the quad area at FOHI and on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall in Washington DC, Panel 3E, Line 26.



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



Expert Marksman



National Defense Service Ribbon



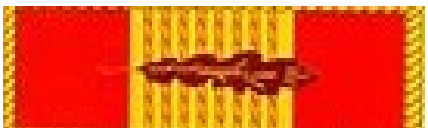
Army Presidential Unit Citation



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Combat Air Medic



Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



PFC. RICHARD A. NOELKE
. . ."Gallantry in action"

Mother Given Fontana Boy's Heroism Award

A Fontana mother, Mrs. Lennas Wolfington, has received the Silver Star awarded posthumously to her son, Pfc. Richard A. Noelke, 21.

In ceremonies at Ft. McArthur, Lt. Col. Edmund J. Cockard presented the award and an accompanying certificate giving details of the Fontana youth's death on Nov. 6, 1965.

The award was for "gallantry in action during heavy enemy fire. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he pulled other soldiers to a covered position and administered first aid. Later, in rescuing his platoon leader, he was mortally wounded by Viet Cong fire."

"His courage and actions reflect great credit on himself, his unit and the United States Army," Col. Cockard said in making the presentation.

Attending the ceremonies with Mrs. Wolfington were young Noelke's stepfather, Charles Wolfington, and his brother, Ronald A. Noelke. The family home is at 9974 Almera, Fontana.

Pfc. Noelke was a graduate of Fontana High School. He enlisted for military duty Dec. 31, 1964. He was assigned to the First Cavalry Division and was killed near Plei Me in Viet Nam.

Tues., Nov. 9, 1965 THE DAILY SUN—B-3
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

Fontana Man Killed in Action In Viet Nam

A Fontana man has been killed in action in Viet Nam.

Pfc. Richard A. Noelke, 21, 9974 Almeria Court, Fontana, was among a list of 31 servicemen killed in action released yesterday by the Defense Department.

One of the longest casualty lists of the Viet Nam war, it also listed nine servicemen who died from other causes.

Officials said the list covered deaths that had occurred over a period of several days. Additional long lists were expected from heavy weekend fighting.

Noelke apparently lost his life during the week-long Viet Cong siege of a Special Forces camp at Plei Me, which ended Oct. 27. His stepfather, Charles B. Wolfington of the Fontana address, said he had been stationed in Viet Nam about six weeks and was at Plei Me.

A 1963 graduate of Fontana High School, Noelke worked in San Juan Capistrano and for the Santa Fe Railway in San Bernardino before joining the Army last January.

He was a quarterback for the "B" football team at Fontana High.

Immediate survivors include his mother, Mrs. Lannas P. Wolfington; two brothers, Jimmy Noelke of Las Cruces, N.M., and Ronald Noelke of Rialto; and two sisters, Mrs. Judy Gray of Evansville, Ind., and Mrs. Marlene Jones of Bloomington, Ill.

Services are pending at Ingold Chapel, Fontana.

5 THE DAILY SUN—B-3
NO, CALIFORNIA

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He was a quarterback for the "B" football team at Fontana High.

Immediate survivors include his mother, Mrs. Lannas P. Wolfington; two brothers, Jimmy Noelke of Las Cruces, N.M., and Ronald Noelke of Rialto; and two sisters, Mrs. Judy Gray of Evansville, Ind., and Mrs. Marlene Jones of Bloomington, Ill.

Services are pending at Ingold Chapel, Fontana.

The only other Californian in the two lists released yesterday was WO3 Ronald W. Macklin, husband of Mrs. Margaret F. Macklin, 806-B E. Harvard St., Glendale. Previously listed as missing, he too was killed in action.



Services Set for Fontana Soldier Slain in Viet Nam

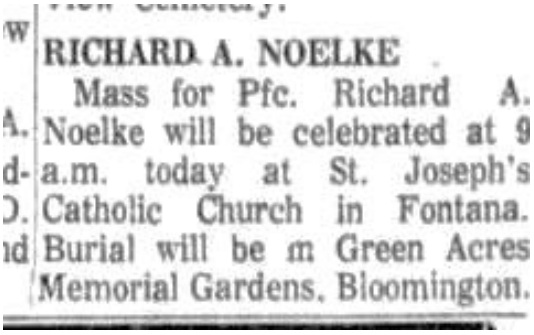
Rosary for Pfc. Richard A. Noelke, 21, of Fontana, will be recited at 7 p.m. tomorrow at Ingold Chapel, Fontana.

Pfc. Noelke, son of Mrs. Lennas Wolfington of Fontana, was killed in action Nov. 4 in South Viet Nam.

Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Fontana. Burial will be in Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.

Born in Evansville, Ind., Pfc. Noelke had lived in Fontana three years and in California four years. He was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airborne), U.S. Army, was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Fontana and a 1963 graduate of Fontana High School.

Survivors in addition to his mother include two brothers, Ronald Noelke of Rialto and James Noelke of Las Cruces, N.M.; two sisters, Mrs. Judith Grey of Evansville, Ind., and Mrs. Marlene Jones of Bloomington, Ill.; and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pyott of Harriman, Tenn.



RICHARD A. NOELKE

Mass for Pfc. Richard A. Noelke will be celebrated at 9 a.m. today at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Fontana. Burial will be in Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.



Green Acres Memorial Cemetery in Bloomington, CA.





ARMY SGT. DAVID JAMES RIDEOUT





COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

FONTANA RESIDENT - AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE



AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL,
SAN BERNARDINO, CA
CLASS OF '64

United States Army Sergeant David James Rideout, age 23, was killed in action in the Tay Ninh Province of South Vietnam on January 16, 1969. He lived at 16125 Foothill Blvd in Fontana. He was born on March 25, 1945, in Highland Park, Michigan and lived in Fontana for 17 years. He was the son of George W. and Isabelle Black Morrill Rideout. He was a member of the Catholic faith and graduated from Aquinas Catholic Boys High School in San Bernardino where he was a member of the Kiwanis-sponsored boy's service club, the Key Club.

A San Bernardino Sun news article on February 11, 1966, reported that David attended the State Young GOP (Republican Party) convention in 1965 at which the Fontana Young Republicans Club received an award for their Toys for Tots project participation. (This writer recalls also being a member of that club in 1964. Although I don't recall meeting David, I'm sure our paths crossed.) The keynote speaker at the next monthly meeting of the club was the Rev. Howard Chipchase who showed the film *"Burn, Baby, Burn,"* the story of the Los Angeles Watts' riots. The meeting was held at the old Security First National Bank in Fontana. Rev. Chipchase's subject was *"Communism or Americanism."* Little did anyone know who attended that meeting that one of its members, future U.S. Army Infantry Sergeant David J. Rideout would give his life fighting communism in Southeast Asia.

Military records indicate David was drafted and started his thirteen-month Vietnam tour as a light infantryman (MOS 11B20) on October 24, 1968. Less than 2 months later he was killed by small arms fire on January 16, 1969. Records also indicate that initially, his body was not recovered, however his remains were eventually sent home for entombment in Green Acres Memorial Park in Bloomington. (This writer had the honor of visiting his crypt in July 2020 and rendering a military hand salute in recognition of his sacrifice.)

Records also show that Sgt. Rideout married Mary Olga Frank, age 19 of Hesperia on September 22, 1968, a month before deployment to 'Nam.

ARMY SGT DAVID RIDEOUT

Sgt. Rideout was a member of the 25th Infantry, 4th Cavalry, 3rd Squadron, “B” Troop where he earned that Unit’s “Order of the Spur.” The Order of the Spur is a Cavalry tradition within the United States Army. Soldiers serving with Cavalry units (referred to as "Troopers") are inducted into the Order of the Spur after successfully completing a "Spur Ride" or for having served during combat as a member of or with a Cavalry unit. Sgt. Rideout participated in the Counteroffensive Phase V and Phase VI campaigns while in Vietnam.

In honor and recognition of his service, Sgt. Rideout is remembered on the Vietnam Veteran’s Wall in Washington, DC., Panel W34, Line 17**. He was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and The Army Good Conduct Medal.**



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



PURPLE HEART



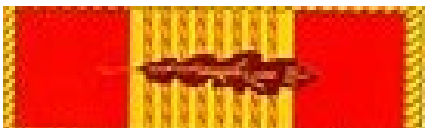
National Defense Service Ribbon



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Marksmanship Badge



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



Source Information
U.S., Vietnam War Military Casualties, 1956-1998 [database on-line].
Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2005.
Original data: National Archives and Records Administration.

Name:	David James Rideout
Birth Date:	25 Mar 1945
Death Date:	16 Jan 1969
Gender:	Male
Age:	23
Race:	Caucasian (White)
Home City:	San Bernardino
Home State:	California
Religion:	Roman Catholic
Marital status:	Married (Spouse Listed) (Married)
SSN/Service #:	56716740
Citizen Status:	U.S.
Death Date:	16 Jan 1969
Processed Date:	Jan 1969
Casualty Country:	Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam)
Casualty Type:	Hostile - Killed
Casualty Reason:	Gunshot or Small Arms Fire
Casualty Air:	Ground Casualty
Body Status:	Body Recovered
Service Branch:	Department of the Army
Component:	Selective Service
Military Grade:	Sergeant
Province:	Military Region 3 - Tay Ninh
Length of Service :	01
Service Occupation:	Light Weapons Infantry (ARMY)
Data Source:	Combat Area Casualties Current File

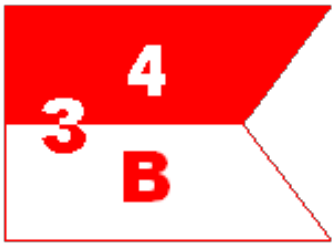
Name:	David J Rideout
Birth Date:	1945
Gender:	Male
Race:	Caucasian (White)
Home State:	California
Casualty Country:	Vietnam, Republic of
Casualty Category:	Battle Dead
Casualty Status:	Hostile Dead: Died While Missing In Action (previous)
Casualty Date:	16 Jan 1969
Cause of Death:	Not Booby Trap Connected: None Of The Above; Small Arms Fire
Report Date:	16 Jan 1969
Military Occupation:	Light Weapons Infantry (army)
Division:	25th Inf Div
Personnel Category:	Active Duty Army
Military Class:	Enlisted Personnel
Rank:	Sergeant

- Rideout, David James, SGT (Fallen)
- SERVICE
- 1968 - 1969
- MOS
- 11B10-Infantryman
- PRIMARY UNIT (Also There 2551)
- 1968-1969, 11B10, 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning)
- Infantry



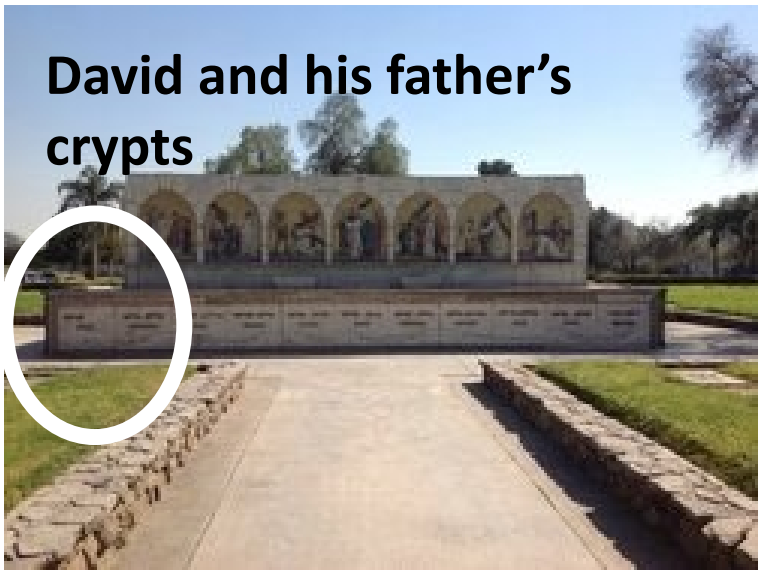


Aquinas Yearbook Photo

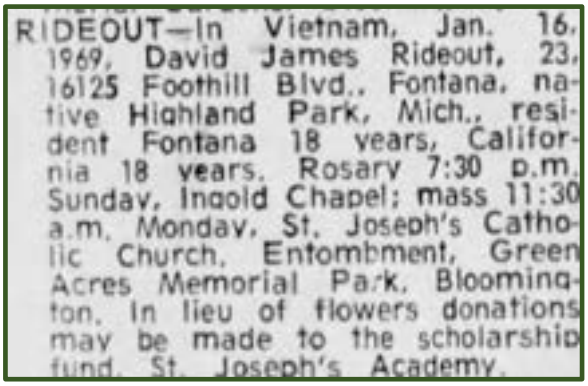


Basic Info

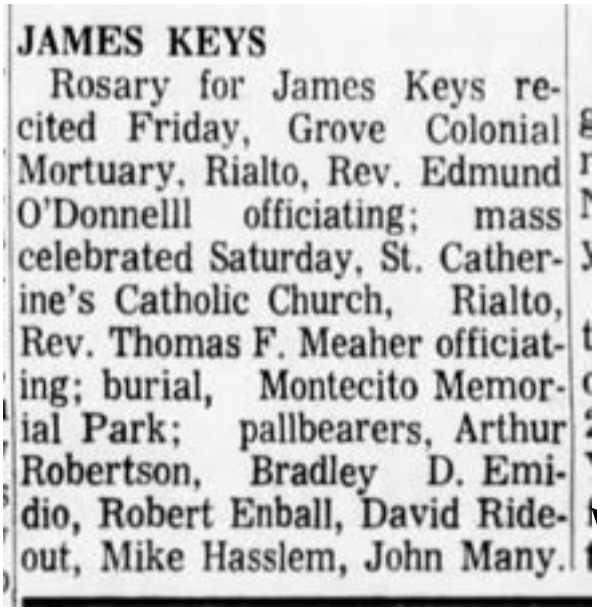
- STATE OF BIRTH
- California
- YEAR OF BIRTH
- 1945
- HOMETOWN
- Fontana/Bloomington
- Combat Infantryman 1st Award
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- **<u>Rideout, David James, SGT</u>** (Fallen)
- **SERVICE**
- 1968 - 1969
- **MOS**
- 11B10-Infantryman
- **PRIMARY UNIT <u>(ALSO THERE 2551)</u>**
- <u>1968-1969, 11B10, 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning)</u>



Green Acres Catholic Area Crypts –near this writer's parents' gravesites on the hill

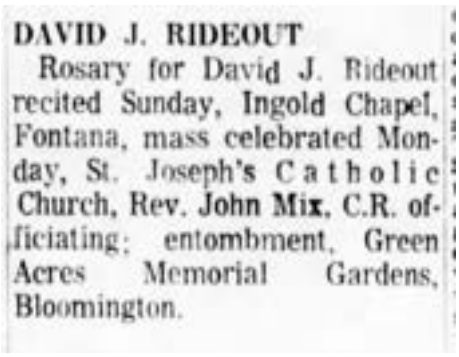


RIDEOUT—In Vietnam, Jan. 16, 1969, David James Rideout, 23, 16125 Foothill Blvd., Fontana, native Highland Park, Mich., resident Fontana 18 years, California 18 years. Rosary 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Ingold Chapel; mass 11:30 a.m. Monday, St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Entombment, Green Acres Memorial Park, Bloomington. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the scholarship fund, St. Joseph's Academy.



JAMES KEYS

Rosary for James Keys recited Friday, Grove Colonial Mortuary, Rialto, Rev. Edmund O'Donnelll officiating; mass celebrated Saturday, St. Catherine's Catholic Church, Rialto, Rev. Thomas F. Meaher officiating; burial, Montecito Memorial Park; pallbearers, Arthur Robertson, Bradley D. Emidio, Robert Enball, David Rideout, Mike Hasslem, John Many.



DAVID J. RIDEOUT

Rosary for David J. Rideout recited Sunday, Ingold Chapel, Fontana, mass celebrated Monday, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Rev. John Mix, C.R. officiating; entombment, Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington.

David serves as a pallbearer just 18 months before his own death.

ARMY PFC KENNETH JAMES ROBINSON (AKA REDONDO)



Pfc. Kenneth James Robinson 18, son, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Robinson, 275 W. Center, Spanish Fork; foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phil (Wilma) Redondo, Fontana, Calif.; killed Mar. 13, 1969 while in combat near Da Nang, Vietnam.







FOHI 68

United States Army Private First Class
Kenneth James Robinson, AKA Kenny Redondo
Killed in Action near Da Nang, Vietnam March 11, 1969

Private Kenneth James Robinson was known to me and my classmates in high school as Kenny Redondo and was an acquaintance of mine. The name difference (Robinson in military records and in his obituary; Redondo in high school) is most likely related to the fact that his foster parents here in town were Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Redondo, again, folks who were then-acquaintances of mine through our mutual membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

PFC Redondo was born Dragerton, Carbon County, UT on June 14, 1950, the son of Gilbert Albert Robinson and Bessie Gertrude Woolary. Ancestry.com records show his mom and dad were 47 and 51 years of age, respectively, when Kenny was born. He lost his mom when he was just 4 years old.

Military records indicate Kenny was of the Baptist faith and not married. He was only 18 years old when he met his untimely death in the Kon Tum region of Vietnam and had been "in country" for less than two months. He was a heavy vehicle driver assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, 69th Armor, D Company.

An article in The Salt Lake Tribune on March 16, 1969, titled *"Spanish Fork GI, 18, Dies in Viet Red Mortar Attack,"* said, "His father, Gilbert Robinson of Spanish Fork, was notified Saturday that his son was killed when his jeep patrol was hit by a hostile mortar outside of Da Nang. Pvt. (sic) Robinson had been in Vietnam since January 22, 1969. He entered the Army two months after graduating from Fontana, Calif., High School (sic), last June. … Survivors include his father; foster parents; eight brothers and sisters… " FindaGrave.org says Kenny was killed by hostile action, died outright; that his body was recovered; he was a ground casualty and was hit by "Artillery, rocket or mortar."

For his service, he was awarded The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and the Army Good Conduct Medal

Kenny is buried in the Westminster, CA Memorial Park. He is remembered on a plaque outside the FOHI auditorium in the quad area as well as on the Washington D.C. Vietnam Memorial, "ON THE WALL Panel W29 Line 13."

ARMY PFC KENNETH JAMES ROBINSON

KIA IN VIETNAM ON MARCH 11TH, 1969



Source: honorstates.org









★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Purple Heart
★ Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal
★ Good Conduct Medal



Pfc. Kenneth James Robinson 18, son, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Robinson, 275 W. Center, Spanish Fork; foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phil (Wilma) Redondo, Fontana, Calif.; killed Mar. 13, 1969 while in combat near Da Nang, Vietnam.



My Brother Kenneth J. Robinson
POSTED ON 11/8/01 - BY BETTE ROBINSON WILLHITE

ARMY PFC & FOHI '68 GRAD
KENNETH JAMES ROBINSON

Kenneth James Robinson was born on June 14, 1950. According to our records California was Robinson's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Entered via Regular Military. Served during the Vietnam War. Start of tour or enlistment date was January 21, 1969. Robinson had the rank of Private First Class. Occupation or specialty was Heavy Vehicle Driver. Service number was 67179892. Served with 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, D Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

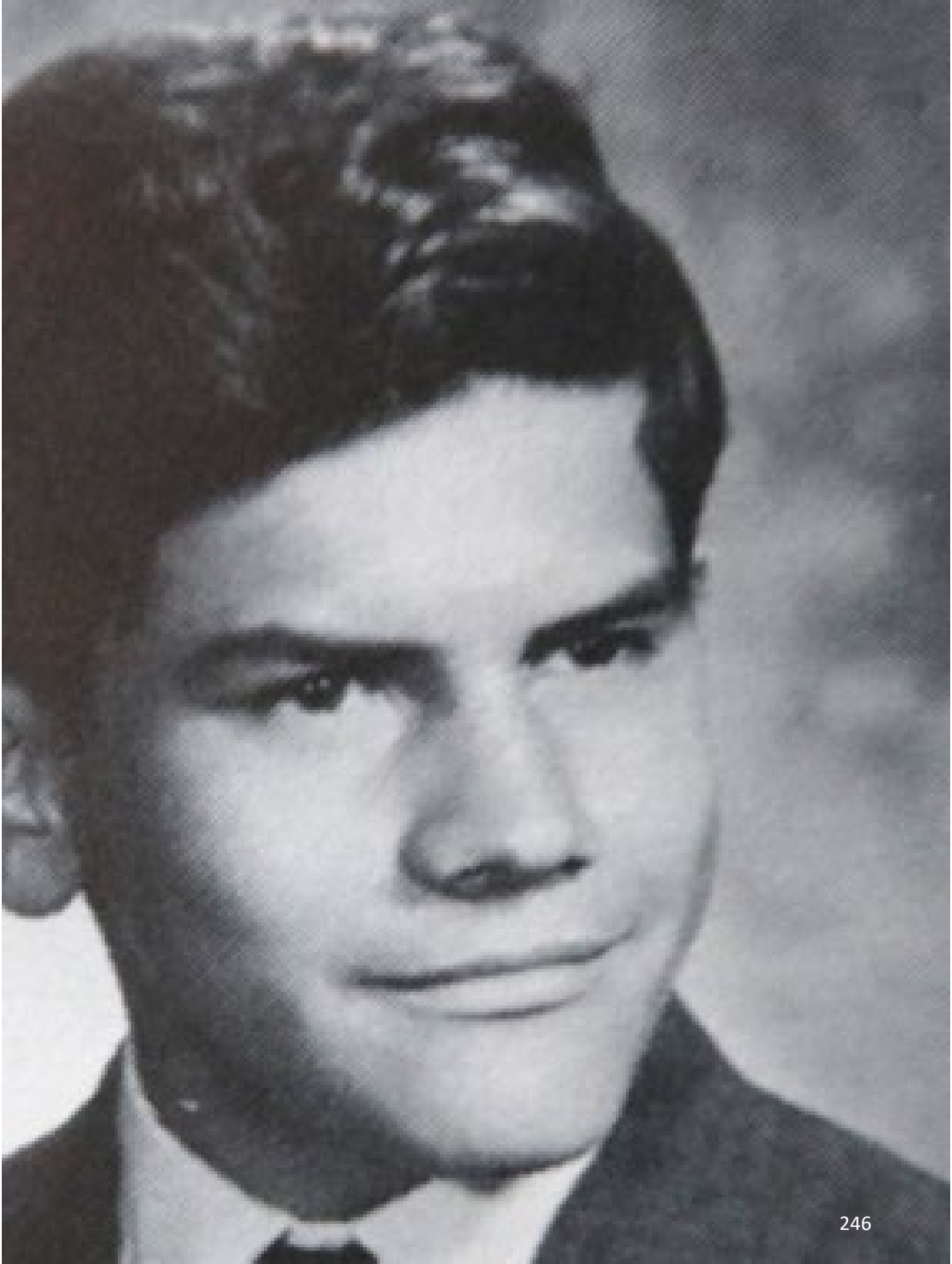
Robinson experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on March 11, 1969. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Kontum province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, artillery rocket mortar".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 29w, Line 13 **and the FOHI '68 50th High School Class Reunion on 9/28/18 at the Riverside Mission Inn.**

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards, medals and commendations that Private First Class Robinson either received or may have been qualified for.★ Purple Heart ★ Combat Infantryman Badge ★ Good Conduct Medal ★ National Defense Service Medal ★Vietnam Campaign Medal ★ Vietnam Service Medal



PFC KENNETH ROBINSON

AKA KENNY REDONDO



PURPLE HEART



Marksmanship Badge



National Defense Service Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



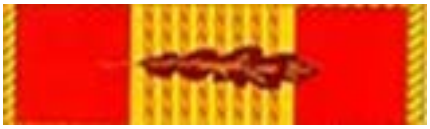
COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



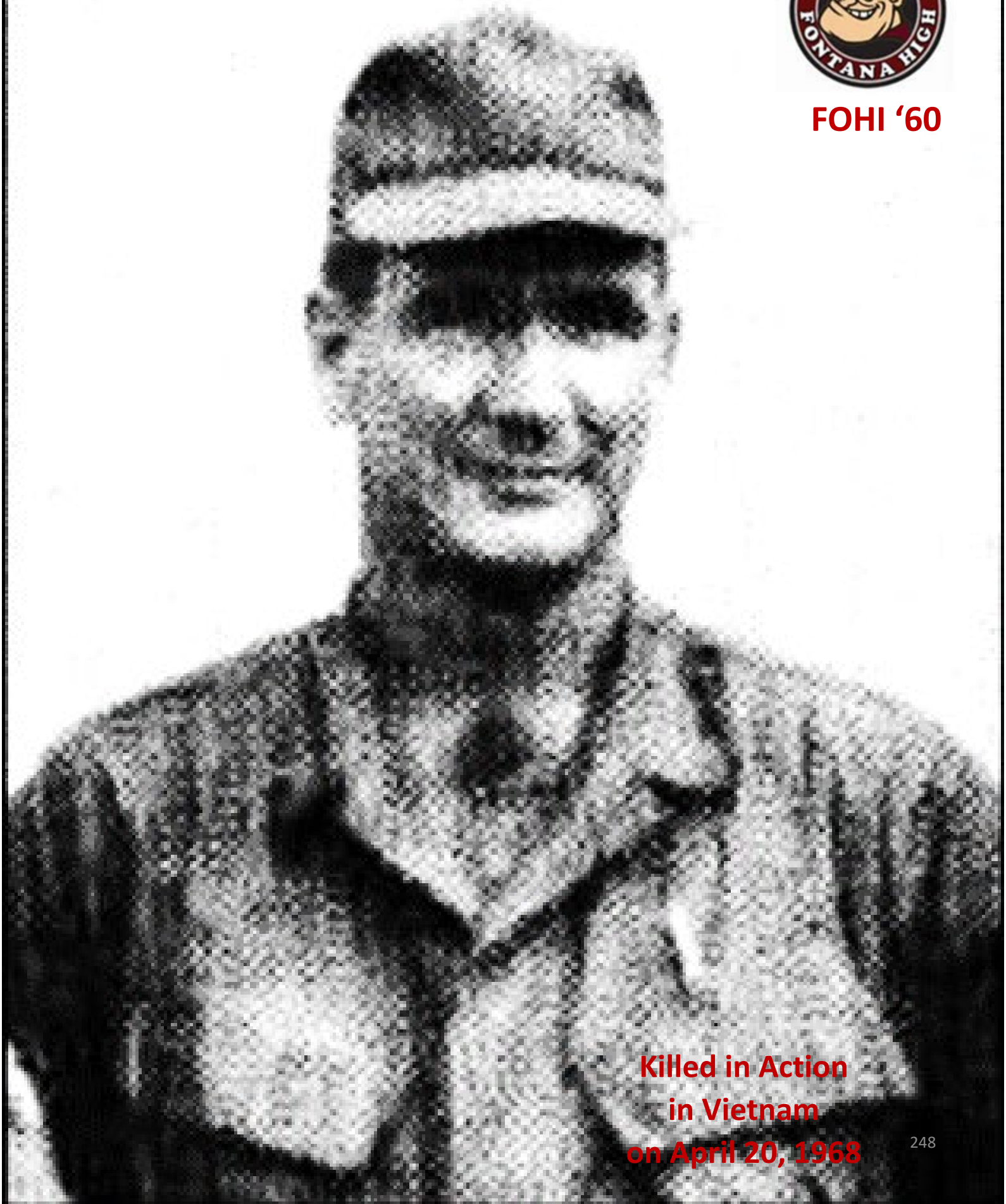
Vietnam Gallantry Cross





Army Presidential Unit Citation





FOHI ‘60

Killed in Action
in Vietnam
on April 20, 1968

1960 FOHI GRAD AND

ARMY SPEC. 4 JOHN RODGERS

KIA IN VIETNAM ON APRIL 20TH, 1968







ARMY AIR CREW





FOHI CLASS OF '60







3 Southland Men Killed in Viet War

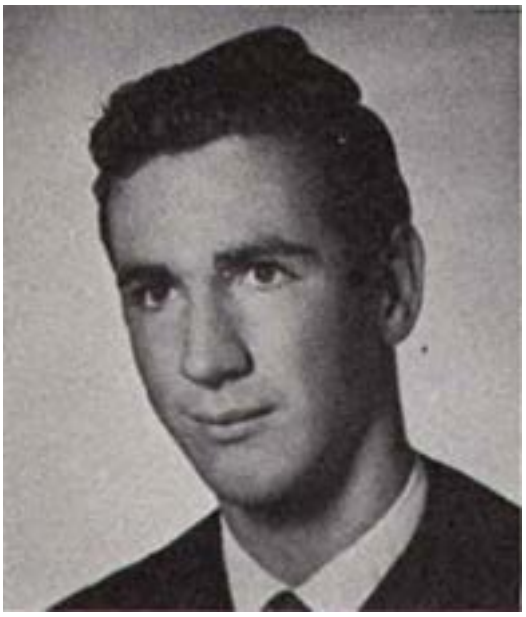
WASHINGTON (AP) — The names of Southern Californians killed in action in Vietnam, according to the latest Defense Department casualty list, included:

Army — Sgt. Lour De Lesma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Julio De Lesma, Visalia; Spec. 4 John A. Rodgers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde A. Rogers, 17223 Manzanita St., Fontana.

Marine Corps —Maj. William J. Walker, husband of Mrs. Virginia Walker, Costa Mesa.



★ National Defense Service Medal
★ Purple Heart
★Vietnam Campaign Medal
★ Vietnam Service Medal



FOHI '60 GRADUATION PHOTO

SPEC. 4 JOHN A. RODGERS



COLLEGE PHOTO

Army Specialist 4 John A. Rodgers, 25 years old, was killed instantly in the Binh Dinh Province, Vietnam on April 20, 1968, when a booby-trapped aircraft detonated. Rogers was a member of the 71st Assault Helicopter Company, 14th Aviation Battalion, 16th Aviation Group, Americal Division based at Chu Lai, Vietnam. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was 67N20, Helicopter Repairman. He was drafted into the Army in December 1966 and deployed to Vietnam on October 12, 1967. Six months later he died there. He was the son Mr. and Mrs. Clyde A. Rodgers, 17228 Manzanita Ave. in Fontana. At the time of his death, his father worked at Kaiser Steel while his sister, Elizabeth Ann Rodgers, ironically, served in the Peace Corps.

Spec4 Rodgers graduated from Fontana High School in 1960. He completed his Bachelor's Degree at Cal State, San Jose, prior to serving in the Army. He had also completed a year towards his Master's Degree. In a poignant and prophetic May 10, 1968 San Bernardino Sun Letter to the Editor, Rialto resident Marilyn Hlebo offered the following comments about Spec.4 Rodgers' death in Vietnam: (The Vietnam War divided this country in so many ways. **Ms. Hlebo's letter is included here simply to demonstrate that divisiveness is not a new condition in the U.S.)**

> "What a loss! What a terrible waste for him to have to spill his life's blood on that faraway shore! It sounds so fine and noble to think that he cared enough to go, that he believed he was fighting the good fight, but his span was too short, the ending so final. Will the senseless death of that noble young warrior in that steaming jungle be justified by the halt of communism, ***or will we go on to fight endlessly in other jungles or rice paddies killing and being killed, ending the hopes and dreams of thousands of John Rodgers?"*** (emphasis added)

Specialist 4 John A. Rodgers is buried in the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery in San Diego. CA. He is also remembered with his name on a plaque in the quad area of FOHI and on the Vietnam Memorial Wall, Panel 51E, Line 12. In honor of his supreme sacrifice, Spec.4 Rodgers was **awarded The Purple Heart, National Defense, Vietnam Campaign, Vietnam Service and the Army Good Conduct Medals, as well as The Army Presidential Unit Citation and The Vietnam Gallantry Cross**.



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Marksmanship Medal



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Aviation Badge



Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Specialist 4th Class E-4



Class of '60



PURPLE HEART



SP. 4 JOHN A. RODGERS
. . . killed in Vietnam

Booby-Trapped Aircraft Blast Kills Fontanan

A 25-year-old Fontana soldier, Sp. 4 John Arlington Rodgers, has been killed in action in Vietnam.

Rodgers, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Rodgers, was killed April 20 when working on a booby-trapped aircraft.

The soldier was a member of the 71st Assault Helicopter Co. in Vietnam, based at Chu Lai.

The parents were notified late Wednesday by an Army representative that their son had been killed. They received the official telegram yesterday morning.

Rodgers was a 1960 graduate of Fontana High School and received his bachelor's degree from San Jose State College. He had also done a year of graduate work toward a master's degree.

He entered the Army in Dec., 1966 and went to Vietnam last October.

He was a native of Fontana. His father is employed at Kaiser Steel's Fontana plant.

The family had no information yesterday on funeral services.

Survivors, besides the parents, include a sister, Elizabeth Ann Rodgers, who is serving with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia.



FOHI ‘62

ARMY 1ST lt. Ronald Ellis Wiltsie
FOHI Class of ‘62
Sr. Class President and Valedictorian



Sophomore Photo



Junior Year Photo



Fohi '62 Graduation Photo

United States Army First Lieutenant Ronald Ellis Wiltse Killed in Action in Vietnam on May 13, 1968

Ronald Ellis Wiltse was destined for greatness until "multiple fragmentation wounds" took his life on May 13, 1968, deep in the heart of the Mekong Delta in South Vietnam, less than three months after he arrived "in country." (Vietnam)

Ron was born on March 2, 1944, in Newport News, VA, the son of Ellis Wiltse and Thelma Wheat Leonard. (Another record shows his mother's name as Ortensia Schweiger, who is likely his step-mother. It appears Ron's father and mother eventually divorced, and Dad may have remarried. However, it is clear Thelma Wiltse was cited as his mother in news accounts of his death.) After moving to Fontana, Ron lived at 16608 Valencia Ave. Ron attended Fontana High School where he excelled academically and in leadership roles. In 1962, he graduated at the top of his FOHI class as Valedictorian where he also served as senior class president. Additionally, he was a lifetime member of the academic-based California Scholastic Society (CSF). Long-time Fontanan and retired FOJAY and A.B. Miller English teacher Cheryl Heath was one of his classmates and friends in high school. Said Cheryl, "Ron was our senior class president. He was just the nicest guy. Both of our names start with "W" so we got to know each other quite well because we always seemed to be sitting next to each other."

After high school, Ron married Cory M. Robins, however that marriage was dissolved in 1966. When Ron died in May of '68, news articles listed his wife as Susan, from Rineyville, KY. Ron had a son named David, however records do not indicate from which marriage he was born.

Prior to his time in the Army, Ron was a pre-med student at UCLA. Two years later he would be a Commander of a tank company in the Mekong Delta. While in either basic or advanced training, Ron was recruited for Officer Candidate School (OCS), which he accepted, graduating third in his class of 89 at the Fort Knox, KY OCS program. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He shipped out to Vietnam at the end of February 1968, where he served with the 9th Infantry Division, 60th Infantry, "B" Company. Official military records recorded the following 9th Division information:

ARMY 1ST lt.
Ronald Ellis Wiltsie



TANK COMMANDER



> "The 9th Division… arrived in South Vietnam on 16 December 1966 from Fort Riley, Kansas. On deployment the Division was assigned to the III Corps Tactical Zone of Vietnam where it commenced operations in Dinh Tuong and Long An Provinces (6 January-31 May 1967) in Operation Palm Beach. Its area of operations was in the rivers and canals of the Mekong Delta from 1967 to 1972. Operating deep within the Viet Cong (VC)–controlled Delta, the Division was charged with protecting the area and its population against VC insurgents and ensuring the success of the South Vietnamese government's pacification program. Faced with unrelenting physical hardships, a tenacious enemy and the region's rugged terrain, the Division established strategies and quantifiable goals for completing their mission."

Ron's mother, Thelma, said Ron was involved in "a sweep around Saigon" and that prior to his death, he was wounded by a bullet to the knee. He only recently returned to duty when he died. He was promoted from 2nd Lt. to 1st Lt. just two weeks prior to being mortally wounded.

In an online post by a soldier who served with Lt. Wiltse, Robert N. Tibbetts said:

> "SETTING RECORD STRAIGHT— (I) Arrived at firebase Yeager on April Fools Day 1968 as a New Man and had a little green off (this writer is not familiar with this term) when my Platoon Leader snapped a picture of me which I have today and have over time looked at often. Lt Wiltse as others **that** day, gave their lives to save a brother. This needs to be recorded and I am sorry it has taken so long." (Parenthetical and emphasis added)

Another post in 2001 by Nancy Heeren Davis said,

> "HE WAS NICE AND EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT -- A fellow high school classmate of mine, Ronald E Wiltse, Panel # 60-E, Line # 6 on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial… was an only child, and his parents were 'older' parents. They were probably passed away before the (Vietnam Veteran's Memorial) Wall was even built. That is why I felt like someone who knew him had a duty to have him remembered. He was our Sr. class President at Fontana High School in Fontana, California. He was nice and extremely intelligent…"

ARMY 1ST lt.
Ronald Ellis Wiltsie

Posted by Steve Wilmeth: “GOODBYE TO AN OLD FRIEND -- Ron had desire, character, ideas, intellect, and was always willing to stand up for what was right. He was my bunk mate in OCS, and I miss my friend.”

Thursday, May 30th, was Memorial Day in 1968. The next day, Friday, May 31st, 1st Lt. Ronald Ellis Wiltse was laid to rest with military honors at Green Acres Memorial Gardens in Bloomington, CA. Army Chaplain Alfred W. VanSelow officiated. Stanley L. Dickey Mortuary handled the details. Lt. Wiltse was survived by his mother and father, his wife, Susan, a son, David; his sister, Winnifred Lang and a brother, Roy Akers, also a high school friend of this writer’s. For his service, Lt. Wiltse was awarded **The Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksmanship Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross and The Army Good Conduct Medal**. Ron is memorialized with his name on a plaque in the FOHI quad area, as well as on the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Wall in Washington, DC, Panel 60 East, Line 6.



PURPLE HEART



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE



Marksmanship Badge



National Defense Service Ribbon



Vietnam Campaign Ribbon



Vietnam Service Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Army Presidential Unit Citation

Lt. Ronald Wiltse, Fontana, Killed in Action in Vietnam

Less than three months after arriving in Vietnam, Lt. Ronald Ellis Wiltse, 24, son of Mrs. Thelma Wiltse, 16608 Valencia Ave., Fontana, lost his life, according to word received by the family Thursday night.

Although the official telegram did not give details, Mrs. Wiltse said she understood his infantry unit was one of those engaged in a sweep around Saigon. Lt. Wiltse arrived in the war zone the last of February only a few days before his 24th birthday on March 2.

A few weeks later, he was wounded by a bullet in the knee and only recently returned to field duty after being hospitalized. Two weeks ago, he was promoted in rank from second to first lieutenant.

A native of Newport News, Va., Lt. Wiltse had been a Fontana resident since 1955 and was graduated from Fontana High School where he served as president of his class and earned life membership in the California Scholarship Federation.

At the time he entered the service in 1966 he was enrolled in a pre-medical course at the University of California, Los Angeles. When he was graduated from Officer Candidates School at Fort Knox, Ky., the first of the year, Lt. Wiltse was rated third in a class of 89.

Besides his mother; he is survived by his widow, Susan, in Rineyville, Ky.; his father, Ellis Wiltse of Duluth, Minn.; and a sister Mrs. Winifred June Lang, Newport News. A brother, Roy Akers, is returning to Fontana from Oregon where he was vacationing when word of Lt. Wiltse's death was received.

Final rites will be arranged following return of the body to Kentucky.



LT. RONALD E. WILTSE
. . . killed in Vietnam action



RONALD E. WILTSE

Graveside services for Ronald E. Wiltse 11 a.m. today, Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Bloomington; Stanley L. Dickey Mortuary, Fontana directing.

PHOTOS OF 1962 FOHI GRAD AND

ARMY 1ST LT. RONALD WILTSE

KIA IN VIETNAM ON MAY 13, 1968



U.S. Armor Flag



U.S. Army Armor Collar Buttons

ORIGINS and HISTORY **Source: honorstates.org**

Ronald Ellis Wiltse was born on March 2, 1944. According to our records California was Wiltse's home or enlistment state. Furthermore, we have Fontana listed as the city and San Bernardino County included within the archival record.

SERVICE DETAILS

Enlisted in the Army. Served during the Vietnam War. Wiltse had the rank of First Lieutenant. Service number was 5247988. Served with 9th Infantry Division, 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, B Company.

CASUALTY CIRCUMSTANCES

Wiltse experienced a traumatic event which resulted in loss of life on May 13, 1968. This occurred in or around South Vietnam, Long An province. Recorded circumstances attributed to: "Died through hostile action, multiple fragmentation wounds".

REMEMBERED and MEMORIALS

Honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, VVM Wall, Panel 60e, Line 6.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS

Listed are some of the awards and medals that First Lieutenant Wiltse either received or may have been qualified for. *This is probably not a complete accounting. There may be other awards received we do not have records of*

Continued on next page



TRIBUTE AT FINDAGRAVE.COM:
"Ronald was a graduate of Armor Officer Candidate School class 13-67 at Fort Knox, KY and is remembered by his friends and classmates. Rest in peace Ronald.
Left by YOUR FELLOW OCS OFFICERS on 10 Aug 2012"

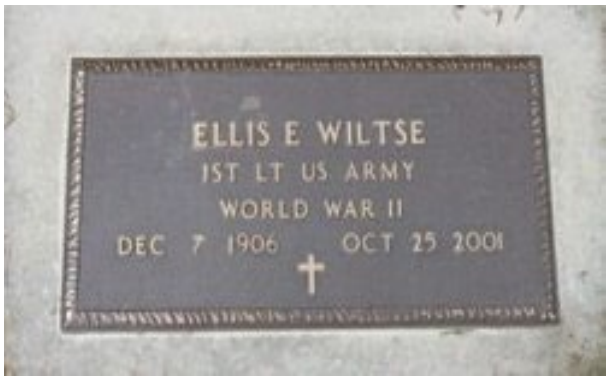
ARMY 1ST LT. RONALD WILTSE

BORN MARCH 2, 1944 IN NEWPORT NEWS VA.
DIED MAY 13TH, 1968 IN VIETNAM, AGE 24
BURIED IN GREEN ACRES IN BLOOMINGTON, CA.
PLOT: GARDEN OF THE CROSS (VERY NEAR THIS AUTHOR'S MOM AND DAD)
MEMORIAL ID: 35664685
SOURCE: FINDAGRAVE.COM

"Ron was our Senior Class President. He was just the nicest guy. Both of our names started with W, so we got to know each other quite well because we always seemed to sitting next to each other."

-Cheryl Weitzel Heath, Fellow FOHI Class of '62 grad

RON'S FATHER ELLIS E. WILTSE. LEADERSHIP RUNS IN THE FAMILY: ***Served during WWII as a lieutenant in charge of a German prisoner of war*** **camp.** Immigration agent at Duluth, MN. Retired to Edmonton, Canada











The Global War On Terror Medal (GWOT)

THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TO AUGUST 30, 2021

UNITED STATES MARINES:

- SALEM BACHAR
- PHILLIP BAUCUS
- FERNANDO TAMAYO
- JOSHUA WHITTLE

UNITED STATES NAVY:

- JOSHUA SHOWALTER

UNITED STATES ARMY:

- BRYAN BREWSTER
- LUIS SANTOS

After thousands of U.S. deaths, JUSTICE IS FINALLY SERVED






Los Angeles Times
U.S. KILLS BIN LADEN
Al Qaeda leader dies in a firefight near Pakistan capital. 'Justice has been done,' Obama says.
CRIES OF TRIUMPH RESOUND
Pakistan faces new suspicion
Born to privilege, he died a pariah
In Alabama's churches, faith weathers a storm
'Signals' led to Libya strike
Press-Telegram
Fuel costs straining LB Transit
1.5 MILLION
DEAL OF THE DAY
Users are unfazed by data theft
Bin Laden dead
President Obama: 'Justice has been done'
Daily News
NEARING SAINTHOOD
DAILYNEWS.COM
GET THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY ONLINE
BODY IN U.S. CUSTODY
'JUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE'
Bin Laden killed
U.S. raid surprises 9-11 mastermind in Pakistan compound

Scenes From America's Longest War















Fontana War on Terror Combat Casualties

AFGHANISTAN



Army Sgt. Bryan Brewster
Kunar Province
May 5, 2006

Marine Lance Corporal Joshua Ray Whittle
Helmand Province
June 6, 2009.

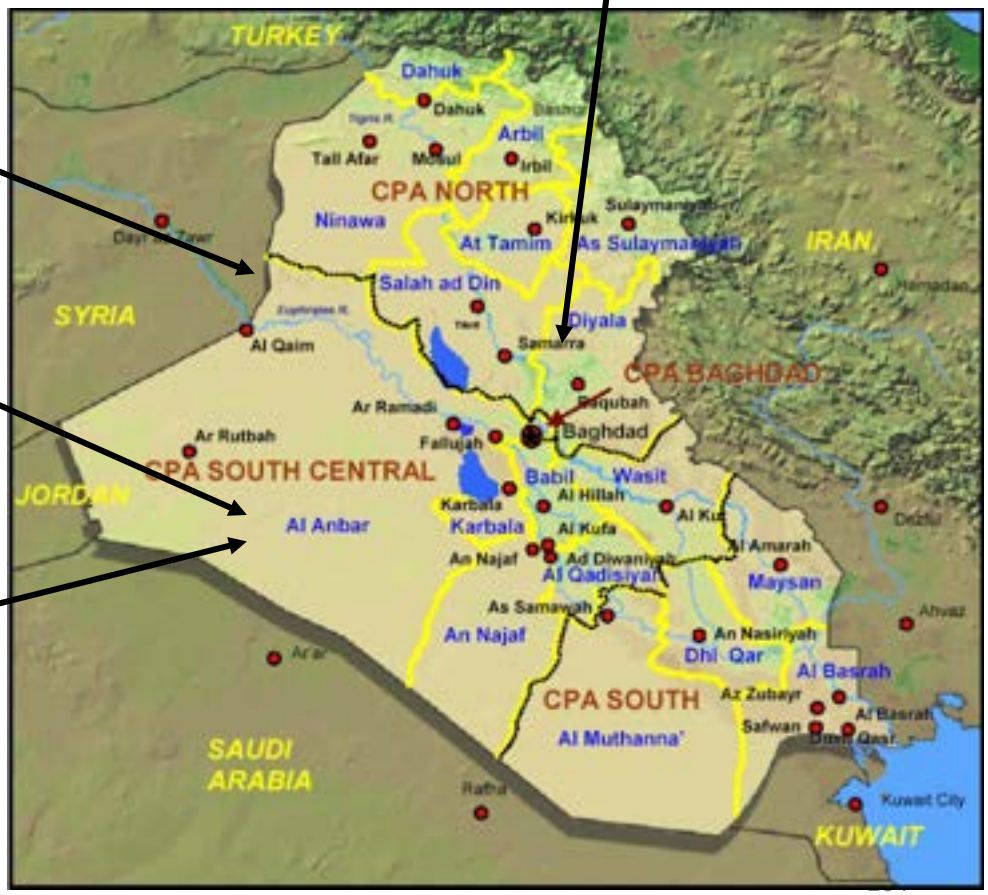
Army Specialist 4 Luis Santos
Buhriz, Iraq
Operation Iraqi Freedom
June 8, 2006

IRAQ

Marine Lance Corporal and Bronze Star Recipient Phillip Baucus
Somewhere in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom
July 29, 2006

Marine Lance Corporal Salem Bachar
Al Anbar Province of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom
April 13, 2006.

Marine Lance Corporal Fernando (Fernie) Tamayo
Al Anbar Province during Operation Iraqi Freedom
December 21, 2007



Fontana War on Terror Combat Casualties

U.S. Navy Petty Officer Second Class Josh Showalter

Somewhere off the coast of Iwo Jima in the Sea of Japan, while in flight, August 10, 2004



OUR NEW EXTREMIST THREATS

Who's who in Taliban leadership

The Taliban are not monolithic. After capturing Kabul on Aug. 15, 2021, the Islamic fundamentalist group took three weeks to announce an interim government, exposing internal disagreements. Eventually, hardliners succeeded in taking key posts.



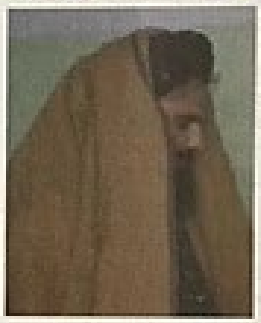
Mohammad Hasan Akhund, acting prime minister Akhund is the Taliban head of state (Raees-e Jamhoor) and head of its powerful decision-making body, the Leadership Council (Rehbari Shura). He has been on a U.N. terrorism blacklist since 2003.



Mohammad Yaqoob, acting defense minister As the eldest son of Taliban founder and former leader Mullah Omar, Yaqoob has a significant amount of respect among the Taliban's rank and file.



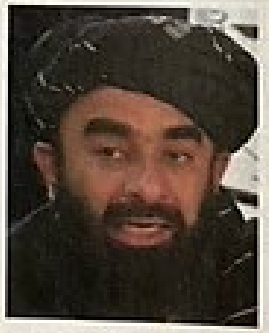
Hibatullah Akhundzada, leader of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan The group's supreme commander, Akhundzada has yet to be seen in public since the Taliban swept to power, as rumors persist about his health. He has the role of commander of the faithful (amir al-mu'minin). Akhundzada joined the Taliban in 1994 and was an original member.



Sirajuddin Haqqani, acting interior minister The leader of the Haqqani Network, Haqqani took over for his father, Jalaluddin Haqqani. As the proclaimed deputy leader of the Taliban, he oversaw armed combat against U.S. and coalition forces from bases in Pakistan. As interior minister, Haqqani is regarded as the most powerful figure in Afghanistan.



Abdul Ghani Baradar, acting deputy prime minister One of the Taliban's co-founders and a key figure in the Taliban's negotiations with the United States in Doha, Qatar, Baradar was seen by the international community as one of the group's more moderate faces. However, he ended up on the losing side of a violent struggle for power with the Haqqanis and has been unable to impose his influence.



Zabihullah Mujahid, acting information minister As the Taliban's main spokesman following the fall of Kabul, Mujahid has been the public face of the group.



Amir Khan Muttaqi, acting foreign minister A member of the negotiation team in Qatar, Muttaqi has led the Taliban's diplomatic engagement with the West since its return to power.

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

War on Terror Medals and Awards Earned by Fontanans



Army Combat Infantry Badge



Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



National Defense Ribbon



Army Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon



Army Commendation Ribbon



Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation



Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal



PURPLE HEART



Army Good Conduct Medal



Army Presidential Unit Citation



Army Air Medal



Army Achievement Ribbon



Marine Corps Good Conduct Ribbon



Army Good Conduct Ribbon



Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal



BRONZE STAR



Iraq Campaign Medal



Marine Corps Marksmanship Badges
L-R = Highest to lowest



Global War on Terror Service Medal



Afghan Campaign Medal



Army Marksmanship Badges
L-R = Highest to lowest



Navy and Marine Sea Service Ribbon

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
CORPORAL SALEM BACHAR



Salem and wife Kristine



High School graduation picture





USMC CORPORAL SALEM BACHAR







Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



Iraq Campaign Medal



Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal



Global War on Terror Service Medal



Navy and Marine Sea Service Ribbon



National Defense Ribbon

Lance Corporal Bachar was awarded **the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.**

USMC CORPORAL SALEM BACHAR



Where do we start? This young man was destined for great things before a roadside bomb in Iraq cut short his promising future. Would he be a career Marine? A Congressman? Perhaps even the first Arab/American President? Sadly, we will never know.

U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Salem Bachar was born in Chula Vista, CA on June 24th, 1985, the son of Faoud and Martha Bachar. He grew up there and was active in sports, participating in wrestling, track and tennis. He also played several musical instruments and enjoyed magic, entertaining both students and faculty at school. He was also good academically and studied physics in high school.

He graduated from Chula Vista High School in June 2003. A few months later, on October 14th, Salem joined the Marines. At some point in his Marine career, he attended the Military Defense Language School where he studied Arabic. His training enabled him to become a translator and intelligence analyst for the Corps. In addition to English and Arabic, he also spoke Spanish.



Twelve days before his deployment, he married the love of his life, Kristine, who lived in Fontana, during a small backyard ceremony, attended by immediate family members. He and Kristine were trying to save money to buy a home in south Orange County, close to Camp Pendleton. Reports show he was a man deeply in love with his wife and someone who went out of his way to help others.

Bachar served two tours in Iraq. During his first deployment, in August 2004, he was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C. His second deployment began in January of 2006. At the time of his death, he was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Prior to deploying, he told Kristine, "…to hope for the best, but expect the worst." An online post by a fellow Marine who trained with him in language school confirmed Salem's foreboding premonition, writing this:



"…We were putting together a puzzle and talking and you said you didn't think you were gonna make it back. Last time was too close of a call. I remember you shaking your head and saying you had a bad feeling as all of us do before we leave… we both shrugged it off…"
On April 17th, 2006, a memorial was held at Camp Fallujah Chapel of Hope, for Salem and the other Marines killed in the April 12th roadside attack that took his life while operating in Al Anbar Province

Approximately 200 Marines, sailors and soldiers attended the memorial. Before the service, many lined up to hand-write messages to Bachar. "Cpl. Bachar, you always had a smile and a joke even at the worst of times," one message read. Bachar's death was especially hard and unexpected for the Marines and sailors who worked closely with him. "He chose to make a difference with his life, first by becoming a Marine, second by putting himself in danger, and finally by becoming a memory to those that knew him," said Cpl. Adam G. Wanjon, a friend of Bachar and fellow intelligence analyst. "I will carry the memory of him in my heart until the day we meet again."

Col. Peter H. Devlin, assistant chief of staff for Bachar's battalion, never expected to lose one of his intelligence Marines. "Today is very difficult for me," said Devlin. "He was an absolute pleasure to work with, and it was an honor to get to know him and to serve with him."

And finally, a post from his wife Kristine:

> "My Dearest Salem, I am so thankful that we had the opportunity to share our lives together. It's been SO difficult without you baby. I miss everything about you. Like I told you many times, I'm so proud of you. There has been a hole left in my heart and will be filled when we meet again. Like you always told me, this is not goodbye.... but see you later. I love you honey. Kristine"

At the time of his death, in addition to Kristine, who lived in Fontana, Salem was survived by his parents, Fouad and Martha, and two twin sisters. He was buried at Rosehill Memorial Park in Whittier on April 22, 2006. In his honor, the City of Chula Vista named a street after him, as Fontana did with Vietnam casualties**.**



USMC Lance Corporal Phillip Baucus

L.Cpl. Baucus died on July 29th, 2006 while fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom, as the result of a roadside suicide bomber

A Nation Takes Notice!!

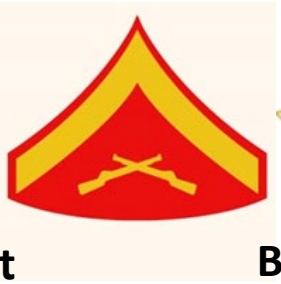
WHEN BRONZE STAR RECIPENT AND USMC LANCE CORPORAL PHILLIP BAUCUS WAS KILLED BY A SUICIDE BOMBER DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM ON JULY 29, 2006, THE COUNTRY TOOK NOTICE! L.CPL. BAUCUS WAS THE NEPHEW OF MONTANA'S LONGEST SERVING UNITED STATES SENATOR (36 YEARS), SENATOR MAX BAUCUS, AND FUTURE AMBASSADOR TO CHINA UNDER PRESIDENT OBAMA. IN HONOR OF L.CPL. BAUCUS, THE UNITED STATES SENATE OBSERVED A MOMENT OF SILENCE. HIS DEATH WAS COVERED BY DOZENS OF NATIONWIDE NEWSPAPERS. HIS WIFE, KATHY, WAS, AND REMAINS, A TEACHER AT FONTANA MIDDLE SCHOOL, WHERE MANY OF THE MEN IN THIS BOOK ATTENDED, AND WHERE SHE SPONSORS AN ANNUAL VETERANS DAY EVENT BY BRINGING VETERANS INTO THE CLASSROOMS TO SPEAK WITH THE STUDENTS.







Purple Heart





BRONZE STAR

When Marine Lance Corporal and Bronze Star recipient Phillip Baucus was killed by a suicide bomber during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2006, this country took notice.

Baucus was the nephew of the longest serving, (36 years) U.S Senator in Montana history, Democrat Max Baucus. Ironically, and sadly, Senator Baucus voted to authorize the war in Iraq four years earlier. However, in 2006, a few months before his nephew died, he also joined other Democrats in voting to begin a phased redeployment of troops from the war-torn country by the end of the year. Upon hearing of Phillip's death, the Senator "was devastated," according to various news reports. Then-Senate Majority leader Harry Reid (D-Nevada) said, "The boy was like a son to him."

Perhaps because of his relationship with the Senator, Phillip's death was covered by the NY Times, Houston Chronicle, Washington Post, CBS Online and other broadcast networks, Associated Press, Military Times, Helena Independent Record, USA Today, The National Review, The San Bernardino Sun, The Palm Springs Desert Sun and a myriad of other media outlets too numerous to mention.

Phillip was born in Helena, Montana on September 24, 1977, son of John F. and Nina (Craig) Baucus. He attended schools in Helena, graduating from Capital High School in 1995. He attended Arizona and Montana State Universities. He joined the Marines in November, 2002 and took Boot Camp in San Diego.

Prior to deployment, L.Cpl. Baucus married Katharine Taylor, also of Helena, Montana. The couple made their home in Rancho Cucamonga; however, Phillip's Fontana connection is based upon Katharine's employment as a teacher in Fontana, at both Poplar Elementary School and at last report, Fontana Middle School.

L.Cpl. Baucus died on July 29th, 2006, as the result of a roadside suicide bomber. A number of other marines died and/or were also wounded. He was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor as a result of his service and actions that day. The Bronze Star Medal may be awarded to individuals who, while serving in any capacity with the Armed Forces of the United States in a combat theater, distinguish themselves by heroism, outstanding achievement, or by meritorious service not involving aerial flight. Phillip Baucus met his definition of "heroism," as indicated by many of the **"HERO DIES" headlines** reporting his death.

Phillip's funeral was unlike those of many other fallen soldiers. A host of distinguished guests sat quietly in the audience, including Sen. Conrad Burns, Lt. Gov. John Bohlinger and U.S. Senate candidate Jon Tester, (all of Montana) among others. Two U.S. Army generals sat in the front row.

Under a grove of willow trees planted by his great-grandfather more than a century ago, Phillip Baucus, was laid to rest on a Sunday in a powerful ceremony that included a 21-gun salute and the release of 12 white doves. The ceremony, which lasted nearly two hours, saw friends and family remember Baucus as a dedicated husband and caring member of a family with deep Montana roots.

A Marine Corps burial team opened the service by removing Baucus' flag-draped casket from a silver hearse. Marching in step, they placed the coffin before a somber crowd, estimated at 400, before lifting their white gloves in salute.

"He was a brave Marine who willingly gave his life as a sacrifice that we all might live in freedom, and those in Iraq might someday enjoy democracy," said Pastor Ed Warwick, a family friend.

His brother John stood at the podium and said, "To my brother, I'm going to miss you. You're an excellent man. An excellent soldier. An excellent husband to a great lady. I never saluted my brother. I'm (now) saluting my brother and my friend."

Cpl. Chris Charles, who served as Baucus' fire-team leader during their first tour in Iraq, remembered his best friend. "When I heard the news I cried a lot, and I still do cry," said Charles. "Phillip was my brother and I considered him part of my family. "Standing before the audience, Cpl. Charles placed his hands on the podium and paused to maintain his composure. "The word friend in the Marine Corps goes much farther than in everyday use," he said. "There are no friends in the Marines - everyone is a brother. Phillip and I treated each other like brothers. We fought next to each other like brothers."

Hummingbirds flittered around the bouquets of flowers and a breeze whispered through the trees when Tim Schneider, a family friend, told his story about the willow grove and its lasting significance.

It was under these trees, Schneider said, that Baucus shared his plans to join the Marine Corps. He married his wife Katherine here last summer.

"In my mind's eye, I will remember Phillip Baucus under these willow trees, which his great-grandfather brought from St. Louis and planted 100 years ago," Schneider said.

John and Nina Baucus sat side by side in the front row along with Montana Sen. Max Baucus and Jean Baucus, the family matriarch.

Sen. Baucus spoke directly to the casket. He told a story about how he brought his wife, Wanda, home to meet the family, and how Phillip Baucus handed her a single wildflower and welcomed her to the ranch.

Last week, when their nephew's coffin arrived at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, Sen. Baucus and his wife were there to greet it. They kissed the casket and tucked a single wildflower under the flag.

"We're here to tell you how much we love you - how much you mean to us," Sen. Baucus said. "We love you and miss you. You'll always be with us. God bless."

What appeared to be a media helicopter circled overhead for several minutes during the ceremony, which opened with a fly-over from a National Guard helicopter supporting a giant American flag.

A Marine Corps honor guard fired a 21-gun salute after taps was played with echoing bugles. A bagpiper played "Amazing Grace" and a stirring rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance was broadcast over loudspeakers.

Finally, as the burial detail carried the coffin back to the hearse, the "Marine Corps Hymn" sounded across the grove. Marines in dress blue uniforms released a dozen white doves. The birds flew off into the hills where Baucus grew up.

In tribute, a 2-pound charge of gunpowder blasted a steel anvil 300 feet into the sky. It was a game Baucus and his brother liked to play as boys.

And it was Phillip Baucus who convinced his brother John to make the powder charge even bigger.

Sometime after his death, when Kathy returned to Fontana, her 4th grade class at Poplar Elementary dedicated a more than 6-foot-tall tree donated by Mabel Garza, a fellow teacher, in memory of Phillip, who fought for his country with courage and determination.

“He sacrificed his life to ensure freedom for our children. He was a great man and we will never forget what he did for his family, community and country,” said Katharine.

Lance Corporal Phillip Baucus was awarded The Purple Heart, The Bronze Star for Valor, The Combat Action Ribbon, The National Defense Service Medal, The Iraqi Campaign Medal, The Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, The Navy Sea Service Deployment Medal, The Iraqi Campaign Medal and The Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal.



USMC L.CPL.
Phillip Baucus





BRONZE STAR
With "V"
For
VALOR



Iraq
Campaign
Medal



National Defense
Ribbon



Global War on
Terror
Service Medal



Global War on
Terror
Expeditionary
Medal



Iraq
Campaign
Medal



Marine Corps Combat
Action Ribbon



Navy and Marine Sea Service
Ribbon



Marine Corps
Good Conduct Ribbon





Former United States Senator Max Baucus (D-Montana) plays a board game with his son, Zeno Baucus, and nephew and future Marine Lance Corporal Phillip Baucus.

WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMEI

Taylor and Baucus

Katharine Taylor and Phillip Baucus were married Aug. 19 at Sieben Ranch.

The wedding party included: maid of honor Laura Taylor, bridesmaid Anne Sherwood, best man John H. Baucus, groomsman Christopher Charles, flowergirl Gabi Baucus and ringbearer Mitch Baucus.

Katharine is the daughter of Art and Diane Taylor of Helena. She graduated from Capital High School in 1995 and Montana State University in 2000. She works for Fontana Unified School District in California.

Phillip is the son of Nina and John F. Baucus of Helena. He graduated from Capital High School in 1995 and is in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The couple honeymooned on the Oregon Coast and will live in Southern California.



Katharine Taylor and Phillip Baucus

Although Phillip and Katherine lived in Rancho Cucamonga, Katherine was a teacher at Fontana Middle School when he was killed. Katherine now sponsors extensive annual Veteran Day's activities at the school.

Baucus family lays a Marine to rest

By Martin J. Kidston
of Montana Lee Newspapers

SIEBEN RANCH — Under a grove of willow trees planted by a Baucus family forefather more than a century ago, Cpl. Phillip Baucus, a 28-year-old Marine killed last week in Iraq, was laid to rest in a powerful ceremony that included a 21-gun salute and the release of 12 white doves.



Phillip Baucus

The ceremony, which lasted nearly two hours, saw speakers remember Baucus as a brave Marine, a dedicated husband and a caring member of a proud family with deep Montana roots.

A Marine Corps burial team opened the service by removing Baucus' flag-draped casket from a silver hearse. Marching in step, they placed the coffin before a somber crowd, estimated at 400, before lifting their white gloves in salute.

"He was a brave Marine who willingly gave his life as a sacrifice that we all might live in freedom, and those in Iraq might someday enjoy democracy," said the Rev. Ed Warwick, a family friend.

John Baucus, Phillip Baucus' only brother, sat with family in the front row. He stood slowly and made his way to the podium where he remembered the morning that he learned of his brother's death.

"The day I found out about Phillip's passing, I was devastated," he said. "We got along well. We saw eye to eye."

After he received the news, it was his wife who suggested that he take a walk and think things over. He made his way down to the ranch house and this very grove of giant willows, which cast a pool of deep, grassy shade across the yard.

The two brothers played there as boys building tree houses in the sturdy limbs and engaging here in water fights with squirt guns.

As John walked that day, he carried a tune in his head — a jingle from a cartoon about super heroes. The meaning, while elusive at first, caught up to him when he reached the grove of willows.

"It made perfect sense to me why I had that song in my head," John said. "I thought of my brother. He was one of my four personal heroes. He was a hero of a different kind. He had the power of courage, honor and commitment."

John gave thanks that he had the opportunity to tell his brother how he felt before he deployed to Iraq for his second and fatal tour of duty. He then called himself lucky and thanked his brother's fellow Marines, who stood in formation off to the side at parade rest.

John pursed his lips and paused. He turned to the coffin, which sat fully in the sun.

"To my brother, I'm going to miss you," he said. "You're an excellent man. An excellent soldier. An excellent husband to a great lady. I never saluted my brother. I'm saluting my brother and my friend."

Cpl. Chris Charles, who served as Baucus' fire-team leader during their first tour in Iraq, remembered his best friend.

"When I heard the news I cried a lot, and I still do cry," said Charles. "Phillip was my brother and I considered him part of my family." He collected his words and looked away from the coffin that sat beside him.

"The word friend in the Marine Corps goes much farther than in everyday use," he said. "There are no friends in the Marines — everyone is a brother. Phillip and I treated each other like brothers. We fought next to each other like brothers."

Other Marines followed, painting Baucus as a joker with a sense of humor who often did things his way until duty demanded compliance. Others remembered him as a steadfast and brave Marine. Some found themselves at a loss for words.

"Every shadow, the shining sun, the trees blowing, he'll always be there with us," said Sgt. Raymond Rios.

Hummingbirds flittered around the bouquets of flowers and a breeze whispered through the trees when Tim Schneider, a family friend, told his story about the willow grove and its lasting significance.

It was under those trees, Schneider said, that Baucus shared his plans to join the Marine Corps. He married his wife here, played here as a boy with his brother, and recounted stories of his first tour in Iraq.

"In my mind's eye, I will remember Phillip Baucus under these willow trees, which his great grandfather brought from St. Louis and planted 100 years ago," Schneider said.

John and Nina Baucus sat side by side in the front row along with Sen. Max Baucus and Jean Baucus, the family matriarch.

Sen. Baucus spoke directly to the casket. He told a story about how he brought his wife, Wanda, home to meet the family, and how Phillip Baucus handed her a single wildflower and welcomed her to the ranch.

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A host of distinguished guests sat quietly in the audience, including Sen. Conrad Burns, Lt. Gov. John Bohlinger and U.S. senate candidate Jon Tester, among others. Two U.S. Army generals sat in the front row.

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A Marine Corps honor guard fired a 21-gun salute after taps was played with echoing bugles. A bagpiper played "Amazing Grace" and a stirring rendition of the Pledge of Allegiance was broadcast over the loud speakers.

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And it was Phillip Baucus who convinced his brother John to make the powder charge even bigger.

Martin Kidston writes for the Helena Independent Record and may be reached at 447-4086, or via e-mail at ***mkidston@helenair.com.***

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER



Cpl. Chris Fabick grieves the death of his friend Cpl. Phillip E. Baucus alongside Katherine Baucus, widow of Baucus, on Thursday during a memorial at Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center held for eight servicemen who died in Iraq

Phillip's wife, Katherine and a fellow Marine friend of his, grieve at Phillip's funeral

AreaDeaths

Cpl. Phillip Ellison Baucus

Cpl. Phillip Ellison Baucus, USMC, age 28, of Wolf Creek, died July 29, 2006, while serving his country in Al Anbar, Province, Iraq.

Phillip was born in Helena Sept. 24, 1977, to John F. and Nina (Craig) Baucus. He attended schools in Helena, graduating from Capital High School in 1995. He attended Arizona State and Montana State University. He joined the United States Marine Corps in November 2002. His first deployment to Iraq was Aug. 18, 2004. After he returned home, Phillip and Katharine Taylor were married Aug. 19, 2005, at the Sieben Ranch at Wolf Creek. Phillip's second deployment began in March 2006.



Baucus

He joined the Marines to protect the freedoms our country upholds. He often said, "If I do this maybe someone in the next generation will not have to." Phillip carried with him to the Marines, and everywhere he went, his wonderful sense of humor and love of life.

Phillip enjoyed exploring the world around him, reading, computers and model trains.

Phillip was preceded in death by his grandfather, John J. Baucus; grandfather, Bill Craig and grandmother, Byllee Craig.

He is survived by his wife, Katharine Taylor Baucus of California; parents, John F. and Nina (Craig) Baucus of Wolf Creek; brother, John (Cathy) Baucus and their children Mitchell and Gabrielle Baucus, all of Wolf Creek; sister, Laura (Jeff) Miller and their daughter Danielle, all of Parker, Colo.; grandmother, Jean Baucus of Helena; sister-in-law, Laura Taylor of Missoula; brother-in-law, Arthur Taylor of Helena; mother and father-in-law, Art and Diane Taylor of Helena and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

Funeral services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6, at the Sieben Ranch at Wolf Creek. A reception will follow at the ranch. Memorials in Phillip's name are suggested to the Lewis and Clark County Veterans Memorial Fund, C/O First Interstate Bank, 3401 North Montana Ave.; Helena, MT 59602; Liberty House Foundation, P.O. Box 81, Fort Harrison, MT 59636 or to an organization or charity of the donor's choice.

Express condolences at ***http://www.legacy.com/HelenaIR/.***



Senator's nephew killed in Iraq was 'free spirit'



WOLF CREEK, Mont. — A nephew of U.S. Sen. Max Baucus who was killed in combat in Iraq was remembered as an outstanding man, soldier and husband Sunday in a funeral at his family's ranch.

Hundreds of people gathered in remembrance of Marine Cpl. Phillip E. Baucus, 28, including Republican Sen. Conrad Burns and Burns' Democratic challenger, Jon Tester. The Democratic senator's nephew died July 29.

The senator remembered his nephew's "free spirit, almost irreverence." Marine basic training forged him into a man, the senator said.

Members of the fundamentalist Westboro Baptist Church from Kansas held up signs in protest outside the ranch entrance as mourners arrived. The group has protested at military funerals nationwide, saying the military deaths are God's punishment for American tolerance of homosexuality.

United States Army Sergeant Bryan Allen Brewster







BRONZE STAR



ARMY AIR MEDAL



UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT BRYAN ALLEN BREWSTER, KILLED IN ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN DURING OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM ON MAY 5, 2006











UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT BRYAN ALLEN BREWSTER, KILLED IN ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN DURING OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM ON MAY 5, 2006

Brewster. A name with which most old time Fontanans are thoroughly familiar. The late Louie Brewster, Sergeant Bryan Brewster's dad, graduated from **FOHI in 1967** and went on to become the sports editor of the Herald News, the San Bernardino Sun and the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, to name just a few of his accomplishments. If you or a family member played sports in town, you knew Louie. He was also a good friend of this writer since our days in high school starting in 1965. Louie passed away in about 2019 from kidney failure.

Sadly, the Brewster name is now also familiar to Fontanans for another reason: On May 5, 2006, United States Army Sergeant Bryan Brewster, son of Louie and Linda Brewster, was killed in action along with nine other soldiers when his CH-47 Chinook chopper crashed in the Kunar Province of Afghanistan. Bryan's helicopter went down in a remote area of the Afghan mountains, where soldiers were searching for Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters, a U.S. military official said. It wasn't believed that enemy fire caused the crash.

Six days before his death, on April 30, he celebrated his 24th birthday.

Bryan grew up here in town on Tangelo Avenue, near Veteran's Park, where he forged lifelong friendships with the other boys who lived in the neighborhood. He joined the Army out of high school at age 18. Bryan earned a quick rise through the ranks with promotion to Sergeant in just three years. When Sgt. Brewster was transferred from the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, Ky., to Ft. Drum, he was so well-liked and respected that 30 of his helicopter mechanics volunteered to transfer with him. Bryan is remembered for his chipper personality, smiling, horsing around with fellow soldiers, puckering his lips playfully and rappelling down jagged cliffs. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

As with every military death, notification of kin is a delicate and heartbreaking event. In Bryan's case, Louie and Linda knew something was wrong when they heard of a Chinook chopper crash in Afghanistan and Bryan did not call to say he was okay. According to his dad, "Whenever there was a [helicopter] crash, he would call us," said Louie. "He knew that we would be worried. He always called to tell us he was fine." On May 7, military envoys arrived at the Brewster home in Victorville to tell them Bryan was killed two days earlier along with nine other soldiers from the Ft. Drum, N.Y.-based 10th Mountain Division.

Bryan married his high school sweetheart, Kati, the love of his life, as he was the love of her life. An online post by Kati says it all:

> "February 11, 2010 - Bryan, You are missed more than words can express. I wonder often what our life would have been like if you were still around. However, I don't dwell on it. I know you would never want me to. I look back on the day we lost you and I remember how lost and alone I felt. I wondered how my life would go on. But through the strength I gained from you I began to put one foot in front of the other and I began to see the light at the end of the tunnel. You may no longer walk this earth with us, but you are and will never be forgotten. The stories, pictures and memories are always with me. I wish we had had more time together but i am so thankful for the time we did have. I would never take back a moment. I love and miss you dearly! You will forever and always have a piece of me. P.S Give "Marie" a big hug and kiss for me. See you both again one day. **Kati"**

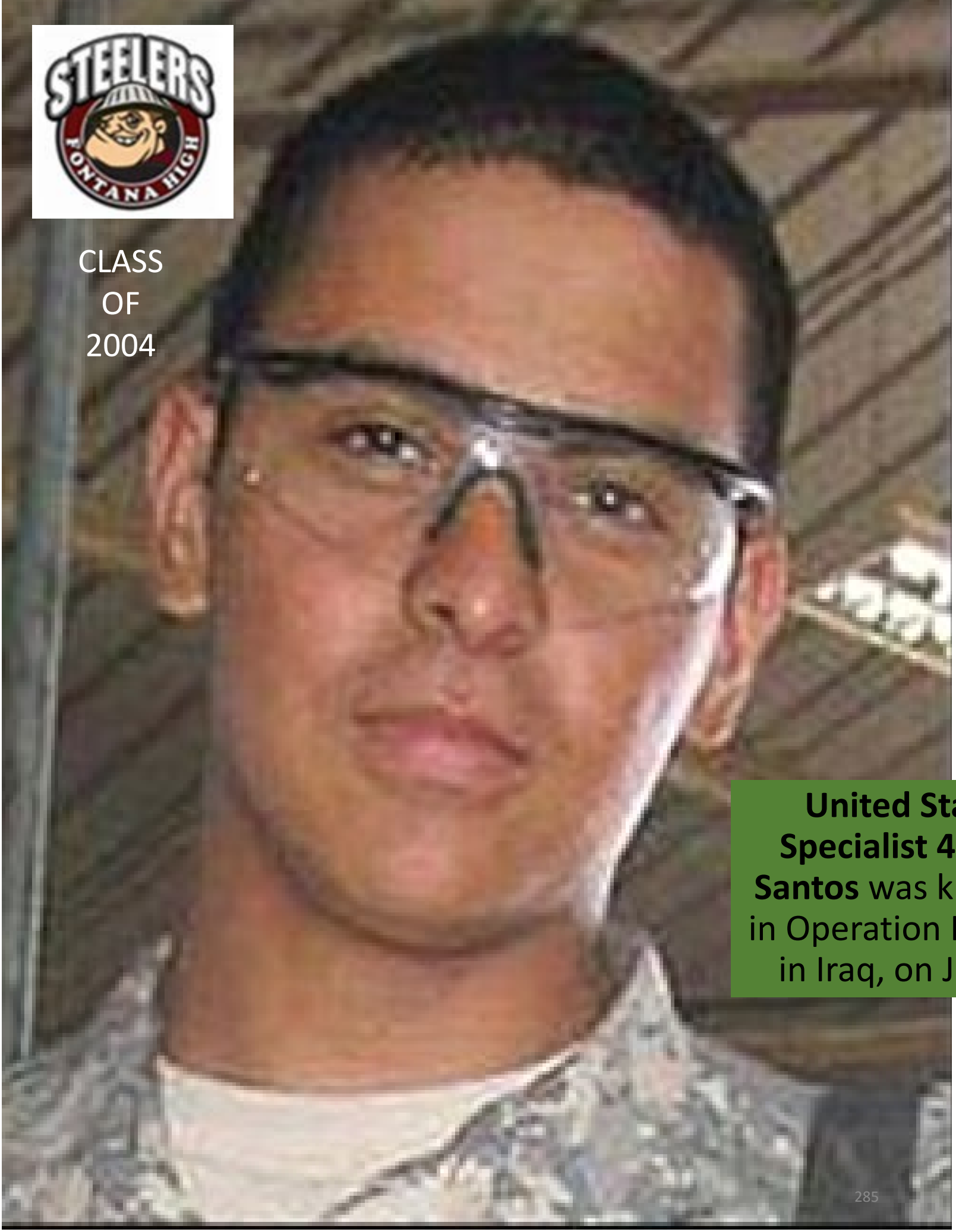
Sergeant Brewster served previous tours during the War on Terror, including in Afghanistan in 2003 and Iraq in 2004. After his death, he was posthumously awarded **the Bronze Star and Air Medal**. The Air Medal is awarded for "single acts of achievement to any member of the U.S. Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by heroism, outstanding achievement, or by meritorious service while participating in an aerial flight." The Bronze Star Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces "who, while serving in any capacity in or with the military of the United States after 6 December 1941, distinguished himself or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States."

Bryan also earned the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Purple Heart.

At the time of his death, Bryan was survived by his parents, brother Scott, paternal grandparents Louis C. and Sara Brewster; maternal grandmother Marie Anderson, Uncle Bob Brewster and Aunt Sara (if my memory serves me correctly, and sometimes it does). Bryan also had numerous relatives in Pharr and Garland, TX. Sgt. Brewster was honored by then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who flew the Capitol flag at half-staff on the Day of Bryan's Celebration of Life. He also said, "Sgt. Brewster went beyond the call of duty and put his patriotism to work for the good of Americans. My family and I join all Californians in extending our heartfelt sympathies to Bryan's family. His bravery, compassion and commitment to duty will live in our hearts." More than 1,000 people attended Bryan's Life Celebration at the Fontana Performing Arts Center. He is buried in the Riverside National Cemetery.

A final note from author Bill Freeman: My heart still aches for the entire Brewster family. I recall the day when I heard of Bryan's death. All I could think of was the Brewster families' anguish. May God grant them peace and love.




STEELERS
FONTANA HIGH
CLASS
OF
2004
United Sta
Specialist 4
Santos was ki
in Operation I
in Iraq, on J

United States Army Specialist 4 Luis Daniel Santos

Doonesbury Chimes In…



Jamie D. Weeks • Robert H. West • Matthew W. Worrel • Shane Mahaffee Jose S. Marin-Dominguez Jr. • Hatak Yuka Keyu M. Yearby • Grant Allen Dampier • Marion Flint Jr. • Santiago M. Halsel • Leo Hamilton Deal • Lonnie Calvin Allen Jr. • Nicholas Coumoyer • Daniel E. Holland • Robert Seidel III • William B. Fulks • Benito A. Ramirez David Christoff Jr. • William J. Lousink • Michael L. Hermanson • Steven Freund • Robert G. Poslvio III • Robert E. Blair • Douglas A. DiCenzo • Caleb A. Lufkin • Adam Lucas J. Adan Garcia • Richard A. Bennett • Nathanael J. Doring • James A. Funkhouser Jeremy M. Loveless • Brock L. Bucklin • Bobby R. West • Alexander J. Kolasa • Benjamin E. Mejia • Brett L. Tribble • Darren Harmon • Ryan J. Cummings • Michael D. Stover • Issac S. Lawson • Jamie Jaenke • Gary Rovinski • Andy D. Anderson • Daniel Gionet • Carlos E. Pemell • Ryan T. Sanders • Richard A. Blakley • Mark T. Smykowski • David N. Crombie Scott M. Love • John Shaw Vaughan • Clarence D. McSwain • Luis D. Santos • Daniel Crabtree • Ben Slaven • Jose M. Velez • Salvador Guerrero • Brent Zoucha • Zachary M. Alday • Michael A. Estrella • Jeremiah S. Santos • David J. Babineau • Kristian Menchaca Thomas Lowell Tucker • Brent W. Koch • Robert L. Jones • Reyes Ramirez • Christopher D. Leon • Brandon J. Webb • Christopher N. White • Benjamin D. Williams • Jason J. Buzzard • Sirlou C. Cuaresma • Nicholas J. Whyte • Riley E. Baker • Paul A. Beyer • Mario J. Bievre • Ryan J. Buckley • Devon J. Gibbons • Channing G. Singletary • Benjamin J. Laymon • Justin Dean Norton • Virrueta A. Sanchez • Paul N. King • Terry Lisk • Michael J. Potocki • Raymond J. Plouhar • Jeremy Jones • Terry O.P. Wallace • Jason W. Morrow Rex A. Page • Ryan J. Clark • Bryan C. Luckey • James P. Muldoon • Christopher D. Rose • Kyle Miller • Carl Jerome Ware Jr. • Collin T. Mason • Justin Noyes • Paul Pabla Omar Flores • Troy Carlin Linden • Joseph P. Micks • Damien M. Montoya • Duane J. Dreasky • Irving Hernandez Jr. • Jerry A. Tharp • Al'Kaila Floyd • Thomas B. Turner Jr.

United States Army Specialist 4 Luis Daniel Santos was killed In action In Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq on June 8, 200. He was a **2004 graduate of FOHI** and was engaged to be married when he deployed. He was in Iraq for seven months when he was killed and was scheduled for a two-week leave to come home and plan his wedding. Spec. 4 Santos was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado, as a cavalry scout. Soldiers assigned to cavalry scout duties traditionally proceed ahead of their unit's main force on reconnaissance missions. Santos died while a passenger in a Humvee when an improvised explosive device detonated near the vehicle during combat operations in Buritz. **Corporal Santos received the Bronze Star for bravery. No record of other awards was found, however Corporal Santos most likely would have received the Purple Heart, The Combat Infantryman Badge, The National Defense Medal, Operation Iraqi Freedom Medal and the War on Terror Medal.** in addition to others not reported. Apologies to the Santos family for not publishing his full record of awards and medals. Corporal Luis Santos is buried in the Riverside National Cemetery.

Last Rank
Corporal

Last Service Branch
Armor

Last Primary MOS
19D10-Cavalry Scout

Last MOS Group
Armor (Enlisted)

Primary Unit
2005-2006, 19D10, HHC, 1st Battalion, 68th Armored Regiment

2005-2006	HHC, 1st Battalion, 68th Armored Regiment - Unit Page	127

Combat and Non-Combat Operations

Year	Battle	
2005-2005	OIF/Iraqi Governance (2004-05)	2592
2005-2006	OIF/National Resolution (2005-07)	2036

Previously Held MOS
Not Specified

Service Years
2004 - 2006

Foreign Language(s)
Not Specified



Corporal Santos' Graveside Service at Riverside National Cemetery



AN ONLINE POST FROM Sp.4 SANTOS' COMMANDING OFFICER. A TRIBUTE TO A FONTANA HERO

"CPL Santos and I crossed paths a little later, this time during PT. I was relatively new to HHC, 1-68 AR and this particular morning I fell in with one of the scout sections for a morning run. While we were stretching, one of the young cav scouts looked over his shoulder and said, Sir, I really hope you can keep up because we don't want to have to carry you. This reprimand was so unexpected I couldn't help but start laughing. But his boldness definitely impressed me. And that was the start of some informal trash-talking between myself and young CPL Santos about who was faster on the 2-mile run. The bottom line is that CPL Santos was a tremendous soldier, and not just at PT. Some months later, my battalion commander issued guidance that he wanted the size of the sniper section, considered the most elite unit in the battalion, doubled. I immediately told my 1SG that I wanted CPL Santos reassigned to fill one of these new slots because of his maturity, discipline, and physical fitness, among many other attributes. I considered him one of the best soldiers in the 228-man company and a perfect fit for the snipers. Literally only a few minutes later, a highly irate scout platoon sergeant and platoon leader burst into my office complaining about how I was robbing them of their youngest brightest studs and how the loss of CPL Santos would cripple the Scouts. My point is that CPL Santos was a highly trained warrior, someone who his leaders would fall on their sword to keep around.

CPL Santos has left an indelible mark on the Silver Lions. He died defending his country and I am extremely proud to have known and served with him in the profession of arms. Luis, I will always call you a brother, as do the rest of the Silver Lions. You have now joined an elite few that lead the way on our path in combat. You have joined the few that we will never forget. We will always raise a glass to your honor and sacrifice."

MAJ Daniel Holland of 1-68 Armor, FT Carson, CO

Specialist 4 Luis Santos



BRONZE STAR



Combat Action First Award



Army Combat Infantry Badge



National Defense Ribbon





Global War on Terror Service Medal



Iraqi Campaign Medal



Marksmanship Badge

Corporal Santos received the **Bronze Star for bravery. No record of other awards was found, however Corporal Santos most likely would have received the Purple Heart, The Combat Infantryman Badge, The National Defense Medal, Operation Iraqi Freedom Medal and the War on Terror Medal.**



Class of '98

Navy Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Joshua Brent Showalter

Navy Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Joshua Brent Showalter, known to his dad as Bud, died August 10, 2004, in the crash of a Navy S3B Viking into the volcanic Island off Kita, Iwo Jima, in the sea of Japan. **A 1998 FOHI Graduate**, Josh attended Navy boot camp in Great Lakes, IL., where his Grampa Showalter also took boot in the early 1940's. On one mission, Josh once helped fly President George W. Bush to the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln at the beginning of the Iraqi War. At the time of his death, he was assigned to the USS John Stennis.



AT2(AW) Joshua Brent Showalter

Petty Office Second Class Aviation Electronics Technician (AT2) J
Showalter was a native of Whittier, California. After graduating
Fontana High School in 1998 he immediately enlisted in the Navy. Ar
ors graduate from AT "A" and "C" schools, he reported to the VS-41 S
rocks in August 1999. After a very successful first tour where he
Plane Captain in only five months and advanced to Third Class Petty
cer, he reported to the Blue Wolves of VS-35 in Oct 2001.

In 2002, he advanced to Second Class Petty Officer, re-enlisted, and e
his Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist insignia. He deployed aboard
ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72) for the 2002-2003 deployment su
ing combat operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He again dep

Missing airmen identified

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CORONADO — The Navy on Friday identified the four airmen killed earlier this week when their plane crashed into an uninhabited Japanese island during training.

Lt. Patrick Sean Myrick, 31, of Santa Monica; Lt. James Joseph Pupplo, 34, of Selden, N.Y.; Lt. Cmdr. Scott Allen Zellem, 35, of Indiana, Penn.; and Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Joshua Brent Showalter, 24, of Fontana were killed in Tuesday's crash, according to the Navy's Seventh Fleet.

The four were members of the Blue Wolves squadron based at Naval Air Station North Island on Coronado.

Their S-3B Viking failed to return to the aircraft carrier USS Stennis Tuesday. The carrier was taking part in U.S. military exercises in the western Pacific.

The plane's wreckage was found on Kito Iwo Jima, an uninhabited island about 625 miles southeast of mainland Japan, the Navy said.

President Bush landed on the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln last year in a S-3B Viking flown by two other members of the Blue Wolves squadron.

The Viking is a four-seat, $27 million aircraft originally built to hunt and sink Soviet submarines during the Cold War. It also serves as an aerial refueler and can carry Harpoon and Maverick air-to-surface missiles.

The Stennis is also based on North Island. It left San Diego in May and is expected to return this fall.

A memorial service for the four airmen is scheduled for Aug. 15 aboard the USS Stennis.

An investigation into the crash was under way.

SAN DIEGO

4 Navy Crew Members Dead in Warplane Crash

Four crew members aboard a Navy warplane on a training flight in the western Pacific are dead after the plane crashed on the island of Iwo Jima, officials announced Friday. The S-3B Viking was assigned to the aircraft carrier John C. Stennis.

The four were part of a squadron based at North Island Naval Air Station in nearby Coronado. No cause is known for the crash, which occurred Monday.

The crew members were identified as Lt. Patrick Sean Myrick, 31; Lt. James Joseph Pupplo, 34; Lt. Cmdr. Scott Allen Zellem, 35; and Technician 2nd Class Joshua Brent Showalter, 24.



Josh Standing in front of BLUE WOLF 1 upon which he helped fly President George W. Bush to an aircraft carrier.





Navy and Marine Sea Service Ribbon



National Defense Ribbon



Iraq Campaign Medal



Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal



Global War on Terror Service Medal





Navy identifies four airmen killed in plane crash off Japan

CORONADO, Calif. (AP) — The Navy on Friday identified the four airmen killed earlier this week when their plane crashed into an uninhabited Japanese island during training.

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Younger, Better Days



Josh's Dad, Dave Showalter, Remembers His Son's Life and Death

(Verbatim "Remembrances,' penned soon after Josh's death, by Dave Showalter, Josh's dad)

"Joshua Brent Showalter, known to me as "Bud", died August 10, 2004 in the crash of a Navy S3B Viking into the volcanic island of Kita Iwo Jima in the Sea of Japan. Born on March 18, 1980 in Whittier, California. Josh was the 3rd of four children (Erica, Matthew, Josh and Jared), we would have. We would also raise my niece, Darby, who became like a little sister.

Josh was always full of energy and curious about how everything worked. Every bike or scooter we ever brought home, he would disassemble. He loved to play in the backyard when he was very young, with his Springer Spaniel named Teddy. Of course, we always knew when he was in the backyard, because Teddy would go running by with Josh's diaper in his mouth and Josh in pursuit, bear naked. It was great fun to watch.

As Josh grew older he loved to ride his skateboard. One time he put on his sister's white headband, like a ninja. He barreled down the sidewalk and ran smack into a brick wall. Thus the scare on his head that showed so prominently in his Navy photo.

Josh always was willing to do whatever his sister and cousins talked him into, one time even eating dog biscuits with his cousin Dana. He also proved adapt at training his grandfather's dog to use the doggie door, demonstrating by going in and out of it until the dog caught on.

He also loved getting up before everyone in the house on the weekends. His adventures with cooking breakfast took on a whole new meaning, when he set the kitchen cabinets on fire trying to make Pop Tarts. Never one to panic, he calmly walked down the hall to our bedroom and announced in a quiet voice that the kitchen was on fire.

When Josh started playing sports he was probably the hardest working player I ever coached. Never one to give less than everything he had. He loved playing soccer and baseball. I think soccer was his love and he only tolerated baseball to please me. His other love of sport involved Trap Shooting with his Grandpa John. He stayed with this sport well into his teen years and was the California State Juniors Champion in 1997.

Josh also loved to go to Lockheed aircraft plant where Grandpa worked, so he could see the airplanes. He always wanted to fly. He talked about joining the service when he graduated from high school, but only if he got a job with planes.

During Josh's senior year in high school, I was changing careers from accounting to teaching. I was home most of the time and it was great to sit every morning and afternoon with him in our family room, just talking and playing on the computer. They were some of my best times ever with him.

He graduated from Fontana High School in 1998 with a silver certificate in Engineering. After a few months, he decided that he was going to enlist in the Navy. They had offered him the opportunity to work in the Aviation field. He would get his chance to work with planes. He attended boot camp in Great Lakes, IL. The same place his Grandpa Showalter had gone in the early 1940's. Ricka and I attended his graduation in February of 1999. After that, he was off to Pensacola, Florida for aviation electronics training. You could see just how happy he was.

Upon completion, he was stationed at North Island Naval Air Station in San Diego. His first squadron was the Shamrocks.

It was during this time that he met his future wife Jennifer. He was growing into a strong young man. On October 28, 2000, Jennifer and Josh welcomed into this world a daughter, Mikayla Marie Showalter. You could see just how proud he was to be a father. He took on a whole new responsibility in being a dad. Whenever he was out to sea, he now had something pulling him back. He missed his wife and daughter so much. I would email him pictures of our visits to San Diego and he was always so happy to receive those pictures.

Josh eventually was transferred to the VS35 Blue Wolves. He deployed for 9 months aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln during the beginning of the Iraq War. It was a tough time for Josh, not only because of his job. At home, many hard times befell the family. His mother developed breast cancer and had to have surgery and his Grandpa John passed away two weeks later. This followed deaths of grandparents from his wife's side and an aunt from his mother's side. The Navy sent him home early because of all the distractions.

Josh arrived home unannounced on March 29, 2003. Josh and his wife had not told us he was on his way, so as to surprise us. I was home when they arrived unannounced at our house on that afternoon. It was so good to have him home. His mother was not home, so they hid their car down the street. When she drove up, they hid in the bedroom. She walked in the door and I told her she was about to receive the best birthday present ever. Yes, it was her birthday. Josh comes springing down the hall and says, "I'm home!" She screamed so loud, I'm sure it contributed to my hearing loss. It was a great day in the Showalter household.

When he reported back to North Island, he was there when the Blue Wolves flew off the aircraft carrier to North Island to prepare to take President Bush to the USS Abraham Lincoln. He was a great Navy man. He would not even tell his dad what was going on. When I asked him about it when it was over, he just shrugged his shoulders and said it was just part of his job. Just part of his job! Five years after graduating from high school and he's involved in flying the President of the United States to an aircraft carrier. Sure sounds better than my job of working Toys For Tots in the Marine Corp.

In June of 2003, he calls and asks if I would like to go out on the USS John C Stennis for a day. I jump at the chance and have a great day with my son. I meet Cmdr Skip Lussier who had flown the plane with President Bush on it. I recognized him from the newscast. He is Josh's Commanding Officer. Later that day we go to his squadron headquarters and he takes me in the back to see Navy 1. I get a few pictures of Josh, not realizing they would be treasured more than I ever thought a little more than a year later.

During the next year, Josh enjoyed his time at home. Babysitting Mikayla during the day, they enjoyed lots of Daddy/Baby naptime. He also loved to come up and spend time with his sister, Erica and brother, Jared. Going to lunch and a movie with Erica or to a Drop Kick Murphy concert with Jared, he was the big brother to the max. The three musketeers were together again. On his last visit, he went to Disneyland with his mother and Erica, after we picked up a new puppy named Gus. He was leaving on deployment this time aboard the USS John C Stennis. Jennifer was pregnant with their second child.

We always worry about him going out, but I exchange emails with him regularly and that helps. He leaves in May and we know Jennifer is having some troubles with the pregnancy but hope for the best. Josh is sent home the end of June because of the pregnancy and it is a difficult time. He tells me it is a boy, but that the troubles are serious. We can only pray for the best. When he arrives back at the Stennis he starts emailing me again and I try to cheer him up with pictures and support.

On August 10, he boards a flight with Lt Cmdr Scott Zellum, Lt Patrick Myrick and Lt James Pupplo. Josh's last email to me was sent just before they left. He is upbeat and talking about things we will do when he gets home. I know he is with his brother Matthew, Grandpa John, my parents and all our loved ones who have passed. They are all helping Josh take care of his son, Jonathan, who followed his dad on September 30, 2004. They will take care of my "Bud", until we all meet again.

Josh touched many lives and everyone misses him terribly.

To the Crew of Blue Wolves 704, you are all of our heroes. Your families are in our prayers constantly.

God Bless everyone who has helped our families in this great time of loss”





Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego



UNITED STATES MARINE LANCE CORPORAL FERNANDO (FERNIE) TAMAYO

KILLED IN ACTION IN IRAQ DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM ON DECEMBER 21, 2007





Recruiting Photo

LANCE CORPORAL FERNANDO (FERNIE) TAMAYO

KILLED IN ACTION IN IRAQ DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM ON DECEMBER 21, 2007

The Riverside Press Enterprise's December 27, 2006, edition reported Marine Lance Corporal Fernando (Fernie) Tamayo's death as follows:

> "Growing up in Fontana, Fernando S. Tamayo never had an enemy but had many friends. Now, his family and friends are mourning his loss.
>
> Tamayo, a 19-year-old Marine Corps Lance Corporal, was one of three Marines and a sailor to die Thursday while conducting combat operations in Iraq's Al Anbar Province, the Pentagon announced.... 'It is very tragic for his family,' said Marine 1st Sgt. Bill Toves, a family spokesman. 'He was well loved. He never had an enemy growing up.'"

Most of the following information is from a January 7, 2007, L.A. Times article:

> "A few days before Christmas, a neighbor noticed two men in military uniforms knocking repeatedly at the Tamayo family's darkened front door in Fontana. She told them that the family was at a wedding in Mexico and asked if something was wrong. They said they needed to speak to the parents of Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Fernando Tamayo, 19, as soon as possible. The neighbor phoned the Tamayos at once.
>
> The call 'gave us an awful gut feeling that something was wrong with our brother,' said Tamayo's sister Adriana Zamayoa, 34, of Las Vegas. 'We thought, we have to get back home.'
>
> … Shortly afterward (returning home), they received the news: Their youngest son was among four troops killed Dec. 21 when a roadside bomb exploded near their Humvee in Iraq's Anbar Province, west of Baghdad. Tamayo was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force out of Twentynine Palms, Calif. (His military occupational specialty (MOS) was rifleman.)

FERNANDO (FERNIE) TAMAYO



… On Christmas day, Tamayo's sister said she and her brother Alejandro flew home into an airport 'with all these people having these cheerful moments of reunion, and we had just this feeling of utter sadness.'

Born February 26, 1987, in Los Angeles, Fernando Tamayo graduated from Bloomington High School… in 2005 and promptly enrolled in the Young Marines program, designed to give potential recruits a taste of what it would be like. 'He had fun with it and he decided to enlist,' Zamoyoa said… In letters and phone calls, he told his family and a special girl named Sonia not to worry, that he was safe. 'He never gave us anything but a feeling of security,' Zamoyoa said. 'He would always tell us; I'm going to be fine…I'm doing okay.'

On December 18, (three days before he died), he wrote Sonia a letter saying that he was halfway through his (7 month) stint in Iraq, and that he couldn't wait to get home to see 'his queen.' Days later, his parents received the awful news.

'Right now, they (Fernando's parents), want to bring their baby home,' his sister said. 'He was the light of this house."

An Ontario Daily Bulletin article shared the scene at the Tamayo's on the day of his funeral:

> "On Tuesday morning, family members filled the home. Fernando's mother, Martha, stayed upstairs getting dressed in black. Tamayo Sr. watered plants out front. He contemplated what awaited his family before the 2 p.m. funeral at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Covina. 'It's the last time we can see his body,' Tamayo Sr. lamented. Zamayoa added, 'It's the last time to say goodbye.' The Tamayos are thankful that their son's body was at least able to be viewed in an open casket. The other three Marines who died in the same attack were less fortunate, Tamayo Sr. said."



Fellow Marines Conduct a Memorial Service for Fontanan L.Cpl. Fernando Tamayo and Three Others Killed on December 21, 2007 in the Anba Province of Iraq.

‘Lance Cpl. Fernando S. Tamayo, 21, of Fontana; Seaman Kyle A. Nolen, 21, of Ennis, Texas; Lance Cpl. Ryan J. Burgess, 21, of Sanford, Mich.; Lance Cpl. Ryan L. Mayhan, 25, of Hawthorne, Calif.; and Fathel Rahman Omar Abdel, known as "Mike," were all killed Dec. 21, 2006, during combat operations in northwestern Anbar Province, several miles away from the Iraq-Syria border.

The service members and interpreter were serving with India Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, a Twentynine Palms-based battalion. The four service members were four months into a seven-month deployment when they died.

The three Marines and Navy corpsman were represented with Kevlar helmets set atop rifles stuck bayonet-first into sandbags. Their combat boots were placed in front of their memorials; dog tags hung from the rifles. Even though Abdel did not have a rifle and helmet memorial, he was honored by the battalion during the service. Marines recognized him for his dedicated and "brave service."

"In a time of war, we lost them, but in a coming season of peace their legacy will be evident in a world that is a better and safer place because they passed through it," said Navy Lt. Alan Rogers, the battalion's chaplain, during the ceremony.

1st Sgt. Ryan F. Blue, the senior enlisted man of India Company, said saying goodbye to "four heroes who gave their lives by simply doing their jobs" was one of the hardest things he's ever done.

"There is surely one word to describe each of these Marines and one sailor, and that is 'courageous,'" said Blue, an Omaha, Neb., native. "They sacrificed themselves in protection of us."

LANCE CORPORAL FERNANDO (FERNIE) TAMAYO



An official list of L.Cpl. Tamayo's awards was not available, however it reasonable to assume he earned the following ;



Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



Global War on Terror Ribbon



National Defense Ribbon



It is not known at what marksmanship level of achievement Fernando qualified



Iraq Campaign

"I have no regrets. When you have children, you let them be free to choose whatever they want in life.... For me, I think I'll never be able to recover," said Fernando's dad.

A military newspaper reporting on Iraqi casualties said: "Tamayo, a Bloomington High School graduate, was remembered by Marines he served alongside with as a quiet person. A few days before his death, Tamayo said he was happy to be getting the combat operational experience he was getting in Iraq."

Tamayo was given a full military funeral and Mass… at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Covina Hills. His parents were given a U.S. flag and his Purple Heart. Afterward, his favorite mariachi band played. Tamayo was cremated and his ashes were spread at 'a sacred place'… selected by his parents.

A few online posts (all verbatim with no corrections):

"There isn't a day that goes by since your passing that we do not think of you. Tears? I don't we have any left in us. Our family has struggled since your loss, but we take solace in the memories that are embedded in us. Mom and Dad miss you so much as do I. You are always and forever will be in our hearts. Descansa en Paz, hermanito." — Alejandro Tamayo, Brother

"It's been almost three years since your death little brother. It feels like it was just yesterday when I felt your last hug as you said goodbye to me, your last smile to me as you said, 'don't worry I'll come home again.' I didn't want to let go of that moment, never thinking that it would be our last goodbye. I want you to know that i am very proud of all that you did, you proved to all of us that you are a true marine. I want to take this time to thank you for loving me unconditionally and giving me the courage to continue on with my life after your passing. You are my hero and will forever be in my heart. Que dios bendiga tu camino por siempre querido fernie!" — Adriana Zamoyoa

"I will always remember Fernie as a very happy kid who always walked to elementary school with my kids and my mother-in-law. My heart aches to think that he is gone and that he died for us, he should be having fun with his friends, maybe planning a wedding, but God had other plans for him--to watch over us from heaven." — Silvia Gonzalez

"…I hope to see u again one day, I know God wanted u to protect the gates of heaven, and that's why you left..." SEMPER FI, "MARINES"- From a fellow soldier, former SPC Garcia.

USMC LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA RAY WHITTLE THE LAST FONTANAN KILLED IN THE FOUR WARS

United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Joshua Ray Whittle was killed in action in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan, on June 6, 2009. His desire to serve in the Marines sprang from the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. He was sent to Afghanistan in May of 2009 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Afghanistan's Helmand province was an opium-producing region and the scene of fierce fighting with the Taliban. Three weeks after arriving in Afghanistan he was dead, killed by a landmine while supporting combat operations. Lance Corporal Whittle was buried in Riverside National Cemetery with full military honors**. An extensive search produced no official record of his military awards. One source said he received the National Defense and the Global War on Terrorism Medal. Although unsaid, L.Cpl. Whittle most likely was also awarded the Purple Heart for being killed in action while engaged in operations against an enemy of the United States. Apologies to the Whittle family for not having a full compilation of his awards.**





UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
LANCE CORPORAL
JOSHUA RAY WHITTLE
KILLED IN ACTION IN HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN, ON JUNE 6, 2009



Fellow Marines remove Joshua's casket upon his body returning to the U.S.



Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon



National Defense Ribbon



Navy and Marine Sea Service Ribbon



Afghan Campaign Medal







Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal

“Hi, I’m Joshua Whittle but call me MD! (because his friends thought he looked like Matt Damon). My family and friends mean the world to me and I would give anything for them. I love going to shows and having fun. I love my job! I am a UNITED STATES MARINE! — Joshua Whittle”

This circa 2009 MYSPACE post by USMC Lance Corporal Joshua R. Whittle demonstrates how much he enjoyed being a Marine. Whittle's mother, Fontanan Crystal Matson, said his desire to serve in the Marines sprang from the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. "I always wanted him to be a fireman," said Matson, but she said he became a "true-blue Marine."

On orders from his USMC recruiter, Whittle received his high school diploma from Columbus Continuation School in Downey and then enlisted as a Marine. He lived in Downey, California most of his life. His mom and stepdad moved to Fontana from Downey when Joshua was near the end of high school. He chose to stay in Downey and finish school there, living with another family.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA RAY WHITTLE

Whittle was based at Kaneohe Bay in Hawaii with the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division. He was sent to Afghanistan in May of 2009 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Afghanistan's Helmand province was an opium-producing region and the scene of fierce fighting with the Taliban.

Three weeks later he was dead, killed by a landmine while supporting combat operations.

Friends and family said Whittle enjoyed skateboarding, listening to music, dancing, drawing, being with friends, and writing poems about his feelings. "He was kind-hearted, inspiring, brave, determined, and had a great spirit," friends and family of Whittle said in a statement.

Joshua's mom said she was out buying a new Marine flag and star for her window when her stepdaughter called to say there was a military man at the door. She knew immediately what had happened.

"I just begged them not to tell me he was dead," Matson said.

"He was an American," said Carl Matson, Whittle's stepfather, who helped raise him. Matson had been in the Army, and when he asked Whittle why he chose the Marines, Whittle responded, "I want the toughest branch." Matson remembers Whittle as a tough young man, but even as a child he was classy and respectful.

"All he wanted to do was be a Marine," said his mom, "and he didn't even get to be one for long… He was here on leave before he left for Afghanistan. He was ready. He'd tell me, 'don't cry Mom, I'll be okay.' … I was worried but I was also so proud of him. He loved his country."

Whittle was survived by his mother, Crystal; stepfather, Carl; and grandmother, Shirley. A viewing was held at Miller-Mies Mortuary in Downey. Funeral services took place at Downey First Baptist Church where Whittle was a member. He was buried in Riverside National Cemetery with full military honors.

Lance Corporal Whittle was awarded **The Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terror Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon**.



1944 **FONTANA HERALD** SPECIAL EDITION

"Souvenir Magazine Honoring Fontana Men and Women In The United States Armed Forces"

A HUGE THANK YOU to Kathy Logan for giving this paper to the author so he cold complete his research.





Henry J. Kaiser



Kaiser Steel Admin office on Cherry Ave

Stater Bros. Market on Sierra and Arrow s/w corner

Gazvoda Chevrolet at the n/w corner of Sierra and Foothill



"Air Conditioned" Fontana Movie Theatre at the n/e corner of Sierra and Arrow

Fontana Citrus Packing House, now the FUSD warehouse north of St. Joseph's Church

Fontana Jr. High Auditorium

All FOUR of the Stater Brothers served in WWII, including Stater Bros. Markets founders twin brothers Leo and Cleo Stater (both in the Army Air Corps), while their two other brothers, Lavoy and Virgil, served in the Army and Navy, respectively. It isn't known if they actually lived in Fontana since they started their stores in Yucaipa, however, the FONTANA HERALD included them in their Special Salute to the Men and Women of Fontana who served in WWII, so, that works for this author!



Ralph Broiles' brother, Roy Broiles, Navy



Lavoy, Army; Leo and Cleo, Army Air Corps; and Virgil Stater, Navy



Fontana's 1st City Attorney, Louie Olio?



Rudy Gazvoda, Selective Service Board and Fontana's future First Mayor and Dedicatee Mike Bacor's "Uncle Rudy."



Leo Murray, Navy, brother of FHR HONOREE Donald Murray



Lt. Raymond Ingold, NAVY; father of Herald News Editor Russell Ingold



H.V. Videgar, Navy, of the Videgar Family



Henry Downing, Army Air Corps, father/uncle of the author's FOHI classmate Richard Downing?



Norman Downing, Army, Henry's brother? and father/uncle of the author's FOHI classmate Richard Downing?

A NAVY FAMILY AFFAIR?

James Modesitt, Navy, Father or MUCH older brother of the other 3 Modesitts?



Lucille Modesitt WAVES

Robert Modesitt, Navy

Samuel Allan Modesitt, Navy

Other Notable Fontanans Who Served in and Returned From WWII

661 Men and Women from Fontana Were Serving in 1944



HONOR ROLL

Six hundred and sixty-one Fontana men and women are fighting in Uncle Sam's armed forces. It seems but yesterday that they were with us, but one by one they've joined the colors, adding their strength to the rising might of Uncle Sam's striking forces on far-flung fronts.

Here we are presenting their names. We tried our best to gather all the names from every possible source and deeply regret if we omitted someone. You will find a star before the names of those who are reported missing, two stars of the prisoners of war and three stars for those killed.

We hope and pray that we may welcome all of you back again, but until that time comes we wish you good luck. We are with you in our heart and in our thoughts and we are very proud of you.



The Jahn brothers, Leo and Carroll, Army



Ed Husted, Army, who MUST be Larry and Laura Husted's dad, FOHI 67/68



Paul Henry, Navy, the author's future long-time neighbor and Thrifty Drug manager?



Joe Cherpin of the famous Fontana Cherpin families?



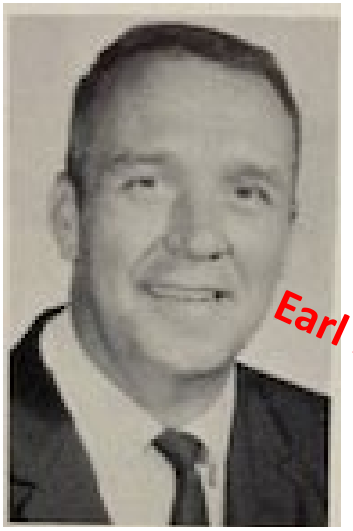
John Hansen, Army, Hansen Floors and/or Lumber?



Paul Zimmerman, 1944, Marines, and the author's future neighbor and colleague



Paul Zimmerman, 1967, 23 years later, teaching at Fontana Jr. High



Earl Davis

Earl Davis, Army, the author's all-time favorite History teacher, Student Council Advisor and baseball coach at Fontana Junior High in the mid-60's. He was such a great influence that the author's first teaching job was History teacher, Student Council Advisor and baseball coach at Fontana Jr. High, just nine years after being in Earl Davis' classes.

SOURCES:

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Cheryl Heath FOHI 62 grad (classmate of Ron Wiltse)
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Virtualwall.org (Excellent source)
Fontana High School Yearbooks (Various years)
Fontana Jr. High Yearbooks (Various years)
Bill Freeman, this researcher and 1968 FOHI grad (classmate of Pat Basile, Richard Burns, Paris Montanez, Jim Peters, Calvin Lewis, Aubrey Montgomery and Ken Robinson, aka Redondo)

What Does the Future Hold for America?



2022 U.S. Department of State Annual Threat Assessment

(Bold emphasis added throughout by the author.) This annual report of worldwide threats to the national security of the United States responds to Section 617 of the FY21 Intelligence Authorization Act (P.L. 116-260). This report reflects the collective insights of the Intelligence Community (IC), which is committed every day to providing the nuanced, independent, and unvarnished intelligence that policymakers, warfighters, and domestic law enforcement personnel need to protect American lives and America's interests anywhere in the world. This assessment focuses on the most direct, serious threats to the United States during the next year. The order of the topics presented in this assessment does not necessarily indicate their relative importance or the magnitude of the threats in the view of the IC. All require a robust intelligence response, including those where a near-term focus may help head off greater threats in the future, such as climate change and environmental degradation. As required by the law, this report will be provided to the congressional intelligence committees as well as the committees on the Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Information available as of 21 January 2022 was used in the preparation of this assessment.



2022 THREAT ASSESSMENT cont.

Competition and potential conflict between nation-states remains a critical national security threat. Beijing, Moscow, Tehran, and Pyongyang have demonstrated the capability and intent to advance their interests at the expense of the United States and its allies. China increasingly is a near-peer competitor, challenging the United States in multiple arenas—especially economically, militarily, and technologically—and is pushing to change global norms and potentially threatening its neighbors. Russia is pushing back against Washington where it can—locally and globally—employing techniques up to and including the use of force. In Ukraine, we can see the results of Russia's increased willingness to use military threats and force to impose its will on neighbors. Iran will remain a regional menace with broader malign influence activities, and North Korea will expand its WMD capabilities while being a disruptive player on the regional and world stages. Major adversaries and competitors are enhancing and exercising their military, cyber, and other capabilities, raising the risks to U.S. and allied forces, weakening our conventional deterrence, and worsening the longstanding threat from weapons of mass destruction. As states such as China and Russia increasingly see space as a warfighting domain, multilateral space security discussions have taken on greater importance as a way to reduce the risk of a confrontation that would affect every state's ability to safely operate in space.

CHINA

REGIONAL AND GLOBAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) will continue efforts to achieve President's Xi Jinping's vision of making China the preeminent power in East Asia and a major power on the world stage. The CCP will work to press Taiwan on unification, undercut U.S. influence, drive wedges between Washington and its partners, and foster some norms that favor its authoritarian system. China's leaders probably will, however, seek opportunities to reduce tensions with Washington when it suits their interests. China will maintain its statist economic policies because China's leaders see state direction as necessary to reduce dependence on foreign technologies, enable military modernization, and sustain growth—ensuring CCP rule and the realization of its vision for national rejuvenation. • Beijing sees increasingly competitive U.S.–China relations as part of an epochal geopolitical shift and views Washington's diplomatic, economic, and military measures against Beijing as part of a broader U.S. effort to prevent China's rise and undermine CCP rule. • **The CCP is increasing its criticism of perceived U.S. failures and hypocrisy, including the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and racial tensions in the United States.**

China also will promote new international norms for technology and human rights, [7] emphasizing state sovereignty and political stability over individual rights. It will continue to erode the vestiges of freedom in Hong Kong. China will remain the top threat to U.S. technological competitiveness as Beijing targets key sectors and proprietary commercial and military technology from U.S. and allied companies and institutions. Beijing uses a variety of tools, from public investment to espionage to advance its technological capabilities. Beijing's willingness to use espionage, subsidies, and trade policy to give its firms a competitive advantage represents not just an ongoing challenge for the U.S. economy and its workers, but also advances Beijing's ability to assume leadership of the world's technological advancement and standards. China will continue deepening diplomatic, defense, and technology cooperation with Russia to challenge the United States.

CHINA cont.

MILITARY CAPABILITIES **China will continue pursuing its goal of building a world-class military that will enable it to secure what it views as its sovereign territory, establish its preeminence in regional affairs, and project power globally while offsetting perceived U.S. military superiority**. • Beijing is accelerating the development of key capabilities it believes the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) needs **to confront the United States in a large-scale, sustained conflict. The PLA Navy and Air Force are the largest in the region and continue to field advanced platforms that improve China's ability to establish air superiority and project power.. In 2020, the PLARF fielded its first operational hypersonic weapons system, the DF-17 hypersonic glide vehicle-capable medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM), which could challenge U.S. missile defense systems. The PLA Rocket Force's (PLARF) short-, medium-, and intermediate-range conventional systems can hold U.S. forces and bases in the region at risk. We expect the PLA to continue to pursue the establishment of overseas military installations and access agreements to enhance its ability to project power and protect China's interests abroad. WMD Beijing will continue the largest ever nuclear force expansion and arsenal diversification in its history**. Beijing is not interested in agreements that restrict its plans and will not agree to negotiations that lock in U.S. or Russian advantages**. China is building a larger and increasingly capable nuclear missile and bomber force that is more survivable, more diverse, and on higher alert than in the past, including nuclear missile systems designed to manage regional escalation and ensure an intercontinental strike capability in any scenario**. • **China is building hundreds of new intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) silos.** • As of 2020, the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) had operationally fielded the nuclear capable H-6N bomber, providing a platform for the air component of the PRC's nascent nuclear triad. • **China conducted a hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV) flight test that flew completely around the world and impacted inside China.**

SPACE **Beijing is working to match or exceed U.S. capabilities in space to gain the military, economic, and prestige benefits that Washington has accrued from space leadership. • China's space station began assembly and crewed missions in 2021, with full operational capability expected between 2022 and 2024. China also plans to conduct additional lunar exploration missions, and it intends to establish a robotic research station on the Moon.**

RUSSIA **We expect Moscow will remain an influential power and a formidable challenge to the United States amidst the changing geopolitical landscape during the next decade. It will continue to pursue its interests in competitive and sometimes confrontational and provocative ways, including pressing to dominate Ukraine and other countries in its "near-abroad," while exploring possibilities to achieve a more stable relationship with Washington. We assess that Russia does not want a direct conflict with U.S. forces. Russia seeks an accommodation with the United States on mutual noninterference in both countries' domestic affairs and U.S. recognition of Russia's claimed sphere of influence over much of the former Soviet Union. Russia's officials have long believed that the United States is trying to undermine Russia, weaken President Vladimir Putin, and install Western-friendly regimes in the former Soviet states and elsewhere, which they conclude gives Russia leeway to retaliate. Russia continues to prepare for a military attack against Ukraine, with well over 100,000 troops massed near the Ukraine border, including Russian military forces in Belarus, occupied-Crimea, and the separatist forces in Eastern Ukraine. Moscow is sending more forces.** In mid-December 2021, Russia issued a statement demanding that NATO provide formal security guarantees, including putting an end to the possibility that Ukraine might join the Alliance. We assess that Moscow will continue to employ an array of tools to advance its own interests or undermine the interests of the United States and its allies. These will be primarily military, security, and intelligence tools, with economic cooperation playing a smaller role. We expect Moscow to insert itself into crises when Russia's interests are at stake, the anticipated costs of action are low, or it sees an opportunity to capitalize on a power vacuum. Russia probably will continue to expand its global military, intelligence, security, commercial, and energy footprint and build partnerships aimed at undermining U.S. influence and boosting its own.

RUSSIA cont. **In the Middle East and North Africa, Moscow is using its involvement in Syria, Libya, and Sudan to increase its clout, undercut U.S. leadership, present itself as an indispensable mediator, and gain military access rights and economic opportunities. In the Western Hemisphere, Russia has expanded its engagement with Venezuela, supported Cuba, and used arms sales and energy agreements to try to expand access to markets and natural resources in Latin America, in part to offset some of the effects of sanctions.** In the former Soviet republics, Moscow is well positioned to increase its role in the Caucasus and, if it deems necessary, intervene in Belarus and Central Asia to halt instability after widespread antigovernment protests, as it did in Belarus after the fraudulent 2020 election and early this year in Kazakhstan. **We expect Russia to continue to use energy as a foreign policy tool to coerce cooperation and force states to the negotiating table, as it recently did in 2021, when Russia stopped coal and electricity.**

MILITARY CAPABILITIES We expect Moscow to sustain military modernization and enhance its armed forces, enabling it to defend Russia's national security while projecting influence globally and challenging the interests of the United States and its allies. Despite slow growth in defense spending, Russia will emphasize the development and acquisition of new weapons that present increased threats to the United States and regional actors while continuing its foreign military engagements, conducting training exercises, and incorporating lessons from its involvement in conflicts in Syria and Ukraine. Moscow has the wherewithal to deploy forces in strategically important regions, but the farther it deploys from Russia, the less able it probably will be to sustain intensive combat operations. Vagner group and other private security companies managed by Russian oligarchs close to the Kremlin extend Moscow's military reach at low cost in areas ranging from Syria to the Central African Republic and Mali, allowing Russia to disavow its involvement and distance itself from battlefield casualties.

WMD **We assess that Russia will remain the largest and most capable WMD rival to the United States for the foreseeable future as it expands and modernizes its nuclear weapons capabilities and increases the capabilities of its strategic and nonstrategic weapons.** Russia also remains a nuclear-material security concern, despite improvements to material protection, control, and accounting at Russia's nuclear sites since the 1990s. Moscow views its nuclear capabilities as necessary for maintaining deterrence and achieving its goals in a potential conflict against the United States and NATO, and it sees a credible nuclear weapons deterrent as the ultimate guarantor of the Russian Federation. Moscow continues to develop long-range nuclear-capable missile and underwater delivery systems meant to penetrate or bypass U.S. missile defenses. **Russia is expanding and modernizing its large, diverse, and modern set of nonstrategic systems, which are capable of delivering nuclear or conventional warheads, because Moscow believes such systems offer options to deter adversaries.**

SPACE Russia will remain a key space competitor, maintaining a large network of reconnaissance, communications, and navigation satellites. **Moscow will focus on integrating space services—such as communications; positioning, navigation, and timing; geolocation; and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance—into its weapons and command-and-control systems, allowing Moscow to more quickly identify, track, and target U.S. satellites during a conflict.**

IRAN

REGIONAL AND GLOBAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES **Iran will continue to threaten U.S. interests as it tries to erode U.S. influence in the Middle East, entrench its influence and project power in neighboring states, and minimize threats to regime stability. Tehran will try to leverage its expanding nuclear program, proxy and partner forces, diplomacy, and military sales and acquisitions to advance its goals. The Iranian regime sees itself as locked in an existential struggle with the United States and its regional allies, while it pursues its longstanding ambitions for regional leadership.** The election of President Ebrahim Raisi in 2021 has invigorated Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei to try to make progress toward his long-term vision of molding Iran into a pan-Islamic power capable of defending global Muslim causes while tightening its theocratic rule at home… Iran's hardline officials deeply distrust Washington and do not believe the United States can deliver or sustain any benefits a renewed JCPOA might offer. **We assess that Iran will threaten U.S. persons directly and via proxy attacks, particularly in the Middle East. Iran also remains committed to developing networks inside the United States—an objective it has pursued for more than a decade. Iranian-supported proxies will launch attacks against U.S. forces and persons in Iraq and Syria, and perhaps on other countries and regions. Iran has threatened to retaliate against former and current U.S. officials for the killing of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) Commander Qasem Soleimani in January 2020, and has previously attempted to conduct lethal operations in the United States**. Iran remains a threat to Israel, both directly through its missile forces and indirectly through its support of Lebanese Hizballah and other terrorist groups. Iran will remain a problematic actor across the region with its backing of Iraqi Shia militias, which is the primary threat to U.S. personnel in Iraq. Iran's economically and militarily propping up of a rogue Syrian regime, and spreading instability across Yemen through its support to the Huthis—including a range of advanced military systems—also pose a threat to U.S. partners and interests, including Saudi Arabia.

MILITARY CAPABILITIES Iran's hybrid approach to warfare—using both conventional and unconventional capabilities—will pose a threat to U.S. interests in the region for the foreseeable future. **… Despite Iran's economic challenges, Tehran will seek to improve and acquire new conventional weaponry. Iran's unconventional warfare operations and network of militant partners and proxies enable Tehran to advance its interests in the region and maintain strategic depth.**
Iran's ballistic missile programs, which include the largest inventory of ballistic missiles in the region, continue to pose a threat to countries across the Middle East. Iran's work on a space launch vehicle (SLV)—including its Simorgh—shortens the timeline to an ICBM because SLVs and ICBMs use similar technologies, if it decided to develop one.

NUCLEAR ISSUES We continue to assess that Iran is not currently undertaking the key nuclear weapons-development activities that we judge would be necessary to produce a nuclear device… **If Tehran does not receive sanctions relief, Iranian officials probably will consider further enriching uranium up to 90 percent**. Iran has consistently cast its resumption of nuclear activities as a reversible response to the U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA and messaged that it would return to full compliance if the United States lifted sanctions and also fulfilled its JCPOA commitments. **Iran continues to increase the size and enrichment level of its uranium stockpile beyond JCPOA limits.** Iran continues to ignore restrictions on advanced centrifuge research and development and continues uranium enrichment operations at the deeply buried Fordow facility. Iran has been enriching uranium hexafluoride (UF6) up to 60 percent U-235 since April 2021, and continues to accumulate UF6 enriched up to 20 percent.

NORTH KOREA

REGIONAL AND GLOBAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES **North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will continue efforts to steadily expand and enhance Pyongyang's nuclear and conventional capabilities targeting the United States and its allies, periodically using aggressive and potentially destabilizing actions to reshape the regional security environment in his favor.** These actions will include developing and demonstrating capabilities up to and possibly including the resumption of nuclear weapons and ICBM testing. **We assess that Kim views nuclear weapons and ICBMs as the ultimate guarantor of his totalitarian and autocratic rule of North Korea and believes that over time he will gain international acceptance as a nuclear power.** He probably does not view the current level of pressure on his regime, the economic hardships resulting from sanctions and his domestic COVID-19 countermeasures as enough to require a fundamental change in approach. **Kim also aims to achieve prestige as a nuclear power as well as strategic dominance over South Korea. Kim probably will continue to try to undermine the U.S.–South Korea alliance by vacillating between periods of escalatory behavior and symbolic gestures toward the South to exploit differences between Washington's and Seoul's approach to solving the Korea problem**. We assess that North Korea continues to engage in illicit activities, including cyber theft and the export of UN-proscribed commodities to fund regime priorities, including Kim's WMD program.

MILITARY CAPABILITIES **North Korea will pose a serious threat to the United States and its allies by continuing to invest in niche capabilities that will provide Kim with a range of options to deter outside intervention, offset enduring deficiencies in the country's conventional forces, and coercively advance his political objectives.** In early 2021, in a public report to the Eighth Party Congress, Kim identified priorities for developing new weapon systems, such as **a nuclear-powered submarine, hypersonic glide vehicles, long-range solid-propellant missiles, and multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles (MIRV).** Although some of these capabilities are longer-term projects, we assess that they represent Kim's commitment to expanding and diversifying his arsenal over time. **Kim is continuing to prioritize efforts to build an increasingly capable missile force designed to evade U.S. and regional missile defenses**. Kim probably will continue to order missile tests—including of short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs), cruise missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and HGVs—to validate technical objectives, reinforce deterrence, and normalize Pyongyang's missile testing. **In September 2021, North Korea claimed for the first time to have tested an HGV that probably would be capable of reaching regional targets. North Korea followed with two more claimed hypersonic missile flight tests in January 2022, demonstrating its commitment to continued development of hypersonic weapons**.

WMD Kim remains strongly committed to expanding the country's nuclear weapons arsenal and continuing ballistic missile research and development. **North Korea's continued development of ICBMs, IRBMs, and SLBMs demonstrates its intention to bolster its nuclear delivery capability**. Fissile material production continues in North Korea, which maintains its plutonium program and probably is expanding it uranium enrichment program. In January, North Korea began laying the groundwork for an increase in tensions that could include ICBM or possibly a nuclear test this year—actions that Pyongyang has not taken since 2017. Flight tests are part of North Korea's effort to expand the number and type of missile systems capable of delivering nuclear warheads to the entire United States**. North Korea continues to seek a sea-based nuclear-strike capability. In October 2021, North Korea flight tested a new SLBM. North Korea's chemical and biological weapons (CBW) capabilities remain a threat, and the IC is concerned that Pyongyang may use such weapons during a conflict or in an unconventional or clandestine attack**.



About The Author

Author Bill Freeman was born in Hartford, CT in 1950. His family moved to the small community of Stafford Springs CT in 1954, until they pulled up stakes and moved to Fontana, CA in 1958. He has resided there ever since. His background includes working as a junior high history teacher, activity director, club advisor, coach, site teacher of the year and high school economics and government instructor. His administrative experience includes serving as an assistant principal, summer school principal, Director of Employee Relations, Director of Personnel, Deputy Superintendent HR/In House Counsel, and Dean of Human Resources at a local community college, as well as eight years as an adjunct professor of Personnel and school law in a University graduate program. He also served as a private practice attorney after going to law school in his mid-thirties. Further, he became an expert in Interest Based Bargaining and trained thousands of school labor negotiators as well as serving as a neutral facilitator at scores of negotiating tables.

Community service includes serving three terms as a City Councilman in Fontana as well as membership on numerous city and county advisory committees and commissions. He is a part of Fontana Trivia in that he is the only councilperson who has served three separate times on the Council but was only elected once, having twice been appointed to serve the unexpired terms of a councilperson who was convicted of felony embezzlement from her employer and, again, to replace a councilperson who resigned for health reasons. One of the primary reasons he was appointed was because of his vow to not run for Council at the end of the unexpired terms. The prevailing wisdom was that in serving short terms, the Council was able to limit the amount of damage he could inflict on the City. Actually, he did in fact promise not to run and the Council then did not have to worry about him running against the very persons who appointed him.

His past publications include an academic paper comparing the USSR and the United State's nuclear capabilities in "The Journal of Foreign Policy Affairs" (1974); *The Ayes Have It*, a how-to manual for student activity directors (1979); and *Stay Out of the Headlines,* a short booklet for school employees, (1998-2004).

After reading about all these tragedies, let's end with some dumb humor (synonym: Dad jokes)

Here's what readers have to say after reading Bill's *FONTANA HONOR ROLL book*:

"*Riveting!* It needs to be riveted inside a new high rise building and hidden therein for the ages!"

"Our family has waited *years* for this book and now that we've run out of toilet paper, these 318 pages should last quite a while!"

"*Fortunately,* Bill's new book is a quick read. *Unfortunately,* those are three hours I'll never get back!"

"Bill was ***ready and willing to write*** this book for years. Now, if only he was ***able…"***

"Mr. Freeman always said he was going to write a great American, patriotic missive. Better luck next time!"