

The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the
106th INFANTRY
DIVISION*

of the
GOLDEN LION

Vol. 81 – No. 2

April – June 2025

***Our Reunion is Fast Approaching ...
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***Make your plans
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to attend the
106th Infantry Division
Association's

78th Annual Reunion

at the
**Columbus Marriott
Downtown
Columbus, Georgia**

September 17–21, 2025

For reunion information and registration form, please see page 24.

The CUB

A tri-annual publication of the 106th Infantry Division Association, Inc.

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Editor's Message . . .



Whenever we have a new edition of *The CUB* to publish, I am always struck by the fact that this publication

has been ongoing for more than 80 years, with the first issue being published February 4, 1944. The first copy of *The CUB* that we have available to us online is Volume 3, No. 4 from November, 1946, which can be found on our website. The 18-page publication listed a President, Vice-President and Editor. It contained a few articles that covered very specific details about the actions of the 106th in various operations. Nine of the 18 pages were dedicated to those who were lost in battle, or those who hadn't been heard from with family and friends seeking information, or just updates on the current status of others (like addresses when they made it back home). That is ½ of the entire publication dedicated to disseminating information about loved ones. It must have been such a harsh reality for families to have to report death notices or be looking for information because they hadn't heard from their son/brother/family member and didn't know where they were or if they were alive at all. Aptly, this section was called "The Agony Grapevine*" and became the

message center for those who wanted to find some information about their lost loved ones. Overall, the tone of the publication was one of pride. The first article itself, "We Fought Back," exemplifies the actions of the 106th by ending with the following:

"No, stunned and depleted though we were in the Schnee Eifel, the Division was in there fighting, the Golden Lion alive, snarling and clawing every inch of the way forward and back, until every last living German was a prisoner or had been driven back beyond the line he started from on 16 December 1944.

"Colonel Dupuy, a noted military author and analyst, writing our History objectively and dispassionately, says we have every reason to be proud of what we did and the official History when published next spring will tell the glorious story of the 106th, which could not be told under the censorship blackout of the Bulge."

In addition, that edition of *The CUB* included the lyrics to the 106th Division song called ***Onward Lions of the 106 to Victory***, which began:

"On to victory. We will fight with all our might, for the land of the free. Like a roaring lion we'll pounce upon our enemy. To fight for liberty. (Fight! Fight! Fight!) On to victory."

Reading those words about how "History" would remember the Lions, and the lyrics of the Division song,

Editor's Message . . .

in conjunction with putting together this edition of *The CUB*, makes me stop and take stock once more. Not only do the stories submitted present-day paint the picture of these amazing brave Golden Lions “snarling and clawing” through impossible conditions, but each notice we print when we learn of the death of one of these Veterans deepens the colors and broadens the scope of the overall picture which allows us to experience a little of what it meant to be part of that esteemed group. The sadness and somberness I feel when reading about what happened during the war dissipates a little when I read happy endings for those who made it home, though admittedly, the happy endings didn't always come easy.

These are reasons to take advantage of opportunities we have **now** to meet some of the Veterans still with us and some of their family members — to share stories and pay our respect. You have that opportunity with our annual reunion being held September 17–21 this year. Read more about it in the Adjutant's report and find the registration form in this edition of *The CUB* or online. I hope to see you there!

Lisa Dunn, *Editor*
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*To read the amazing story about *The Agony Grapevine*: <https://106thinfdivassn.org/agony.html>

Just a reminder . . .

If you have pictures, an article, or some other form of information you would like included in a future issue of *The CUB*, the due dates are as follows:

October 1, 2025 — mail date: late November, 2025 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

January 31, 2026 — mail date: late March, 2026 (issue may include reunion paperwork)

April 20, 2026 — mail date: mid-June, 2026 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:

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President's View . . .

Greetings 106th Veterans, families, and friends. I hope you've all had a good spring. During these spring months, I've been reflecting on a few things regarding the 106th and I'd like to share some of it with you.

As most of you know, many of the 106th men were taken prisoner by the Germans. Their captivity lasted through the Spring of 1945. I'm very blessed to have a POW diary kept by my dad, S/Sgt Jack D. Smith, and his letters to his parents. Each spring, I like to reread Dad's words. Recently I read the last entry he made on Good Friday 1945, the day of liberation from Stalag 9A:

"Friday March 30th, fighting in Ziegenhain. Everyone's sweating it out. No one allowed outside. May have to make 10-mile forced march — Liberated by 6th Armored Division at 3:30 o'clock. Everyone happy. Saw first G.I. and Jeep. Cried."

The sight of a good old American G.I. and Jeep made dad cry. I bet all the boys cried. Can you imagine the bittersweet elation felt by those very young men? Here is dad in his own words in a letter to his parents after liberation, 2 April 1945:

"Dearest mother and daddy,

Well here I am again and I guess about the happiest man alive. I am a free man!

We were liberated... and boy does it feel good to be free again!... I expect to be home pretty soon and boy will we make up for lost time.



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I am in good hands, in good health, and happy... The Lord sure has been good to me and I'll never forget it... Prepare for some big celebrations when we all get home, boy that will be a great day!"

I can hear Dad's voice while reading his words. I know my grandparents were overjoyed when they found out that he was free. And it's even more poignant considering that Dad was an only child. I can only imagine the agony my grandparents must have felt when their only son was missing in action. Then when they received the telegram that he was a POW, were they

President's View . . .

relieved? Or frightened? Probably a mixture of both.

(Thousands of 106th families went through this. If you have any letters from liberation, please send copies of them in. They can be digitized for all to read on our website, or we can post excerpts in future CUBs.)

Less than a year earlier, the men were spending Mother's Day at Camp Atterbury. For many of the men it might have been the first time in their lives that they were away from their mothers at just 18 or 19 years old. As tough as they were, they were still boys who loved and missed their mamas.

Thousands of them were probably sending cards or letters to their mothers. Here's an excerpt of my dad's Mother's Day letter to his mom, 14 May 1944:

"I would give anything if I could be home and see you. I don't think I ever realized before what Mother's

Day really meant, but I do now. For mothers like you, one day a year isn't enough to express our thanks for all you have done for us. I can look back now and realize what sacrifices you made and hardships you went through to bring me up right. I want to tell you again how much I appreciate it and what a wonderful mother you are."

Poignant words. I bet there were thousands of letters like this. All the more poignant when you consider the soldier's baptism by fire wasn't far away.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind everyone to come to the reunion in Columbus, Georgia, September 17–21. We are very hopeful that we will have at least three Veterans in attendance! It's always an honor and a privilege to be around these men, so try to take this opportunity to thank these Veterans in person while you can. To me, they are celebrities!

See you all in September!

Want to learn about the battlefields of the Battle of the Bulge?

**Watch the lecture-series presentation created by
Carl Wouters, Association Belgian Liaison**

presented at the 77th Annual Reunion in Dallas, TX

A Tour of the Battlefields of the Golden Lions

View this informative video at

https://youtu.be/C64SsGyf2_A?si=1TKTgp8sGYpUIUFF

Share this link with family and friends, schools and organizations.

Chaplain's Message . . .

“The mission of this Allied Force was fulfilled at 0241 local time, May 7, 1945”

With those words, General Dwight David Eisenhower informed the Allied high command that Nazi Germany had surrendered. After years of fighting, bloodshed, and destruction, World War II in Europe was finally over.

The next day on May 8, British radios crackled with the voice of Prime Minister Winston Churchill who announced the war in Europe had finally come to an end. Celebrations broke out in the streets. The fighting had stopped — everyone was happy. And many people attended church to thank God for victory.

That same day, Mr. Churchill emerged from the balcony of Buckingham Palace alongside King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to greet jubilant crowds. Then, outside Whitehall, he addressed an endless sea of Britons with words that conveyed both humility and victory: “God bless you all. This is your victory. In our long history, we have never seen a greater day than this. Everyone, man or woman, has done their best.”

Then the conservative Churchill asked Labour leader Ernest Bevin to share in the applause and glory. Bevin said — “No, Winston, this is



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your day” — and he led the crowd in singing “*For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow*.” It was a joyous moment celebrating the resolve and hope of Mr. Churchill and the British people.

In the U.S., early on the morning of May 8, President Truman held a news conference telling reporters, “...that any and all information given you here is for release at 9 a.m. this morning, eastern war time.”

The President shared, “This is a solemn but glorious hour. General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations. The flags of freedom fly all over Europe.” Then he smiled and said, “It’s celebrating my

Chaplain's Message . . .

birthday — today, too.” In laughter the reporters proclaimed, “Happy birthday, Mr. President!”

President Truman continued, “For this victory, we join in offering our thanks to the Providence which has guided and sustained us through the dark days of adversity. Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by a supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band. Let us not forget, my fellow Americans, the sorrow and the heartache which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbors — neighbors whose most priceless possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to redeem our liberty.”

America was overjoyed. The darkness was gone, and liberty reigned. Front pages in every town announced the glorious news that the “Nazis Quit.” Massive parties and parades erupted in city squares. There seemed to be no end to hugs, kisses, dancing, jumping, and shouts of jubilation.

Mr. Truman would later call the nation to prayer, “For the triumph of spirit and of arms which we have won, and for its promise to peoples everywhere who join us in the love of freedom, it is fitting that we, as a nation, give thanks to Almighty God, who has strengthened us and given us the victory. Now, therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States

of America, do hereby appoint Sunday, May 13, 1945, to be a day of prayer.”

All the world rejoiced. It still does. Eighty years later we lift praise to the Almighty for His deliverance from those evil days.

WWII qualifies as perhaps the most hellish war in history. In all, three-fourths of the world's population took part. That's sixty-one countries with 1.7 billion people. In terms of money spent, it has been estimated at more than \$1 trillion dollars, which makes it the most expensive war ever.

Then there's the irreplaceable cost of human lives. Not including the six million Jews brutally murdered by the Nazis in the Holocaust, nearly 55 million died — 25 million soldiers and 30 million civilians. World War II was hell on earth.

We praise God for giving us the victory. We acknowledge Isaiah 26:12... *Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us.* NIV

And with eternal gratitude we praise God for our beloved family members of the 106th who fought the enemies of freedom and won the day. Because of their singular and common sacrifices our lives are better, brighter, bountiful, more beautiful and best of all free.

Let us celebrate the freedoms our soldiers secured.

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Chaplain's Message . . .

"It is the Soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of
religion.

It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of
the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of
speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus
organizer

Who has given us freedom to
protest.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a
fair trial.

It is the Soldier, not the politician
Who has given us the right to vote.

It is the Soldier who salutes
the flag,

Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by
the flag,

Who allows the protester to burn
the flag."

— by Charles M. Province

Let us imitate the love our heroes
gave.

O beautiful for heroes proved

In liberating strife

*Who more than self their country
loved*

And mercy more than life!

America! America!

May God thy gold refine

Till all success be nobleness

And every gain divine!

— from *America the Beautiful*

by Katharine Lee Bates

106th Infantry Division's Online "Message Board"

Looking for information about a 106th Veteran?

Do you have information about one you'd like to share?

The 106th Infantry Division has their own online "message board" (set up by Jim West) for people to write an inquiry looking for comrades or for people who might have known a relative who is now gone. Sign up is free and easy!

Association member Connie Pratt Baseman, daughter of Lt. Gerald Pratt (Field Artillery) has been one of three people helping to manage the message board. Sadly, some inquiries sit unanswered when the answers may be out there with a reader of *The CUB* who doesn't use a computer. Maybe you can take the time to read the board and reach out to a Veteran that you know to try and get the requested information.

You can find messages and other search requests on the 106th Message Board

at: 106thdivision.proboards.com

The Adjutant's Message . . .

It's time to begin your planning for the 78th 106th Infantry Division Association Reunion. The reunion, scheduled for September 17 through 21, 2025, will be held in Columbus, Georgia. We will be next door to Fort Moore, previously Fort Benning. We will visit the The National Infantry Museum which has state-of-the art exhibits, artifacts and memorials that cover wars from Revolutionary times to our present day infantry. We will visit the Andersonville National Cemetery which began as a burial ground for Union soldiers during the Civil War, and the National Prisoner of War Museum that provides the story of POWs throughout American history.

We have secured rooms at the Marriott Hotel Downtown, Columbus. You will find all of the details later in this *CUB* or online at the 106th website: 106thInfDivAssn.org. The registration form is included in this *CUB*, as well. We hope to have multiple 106th Veterans attend and many descendants of all of our Veterans. Our intention as always is to honor their efforts and sacrifices.

Why should we participate every chance we get? I recently found an article written in 2003 meant to explain to a group of senior citizens what a POW was and the ordeal they endured and it explains why we are going to Andersonville.



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Found Article:

A couple years ago we [the writer and her husband] visited the POW Museum at Andersonville, Georgia which was the site of the infamous Confederate POW Camp. We learned of POWs from every war since the Revolutionary War. We have the video of the “Echoes of Captivity”* which is an introduction to the museum. I wish I could show it to you.

My dad was a veteran of WWI and I do not remember him ever talking about any POWs from that

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war, but there were about 4,000 of them. In WWII, there were more than 130,000; Korean War, 7,000; Vietnam had 766 and the Persian Gulf War had 23. I do not have any figures for the Iraq War, but wouldn't it be something if all those thousands from previous wars had gotten a million-dollar movie book or movie deal.

But I am more familiar with WWII and specifically the Battle of the Bulge. To the Germans, that battle was "Watch on the Rhine" and to the Belgians it was "the Battle of the Ardennes." The 106th Infantry Division had been on the continent only 15 days and were the youngest troops (average age 22) of any American Division in WWII. They had been on the front line 5 days when they suffered more losses than any American Division in WWII, 671 men killed in action, 1,246 wounded and more than 7,000 MIA. Most of those missing in action were actually POWs. Bob [writer's husband] was one of those 7,000.

Many of these soldiers, when they returned, spoke very little of their time in captivity. However, they want it known that they did not surrender, but they were surrendered by their officers. This now appears to have been the right decision and saved many lives.

One of the stories Bob and many others tell is [about] approximately 90 POWs being crammed into a boxcar on Christmas Eve, 1944 with

the Allies bombing the track, not knowing the train cars were full of Americans.

Another thing they talk about was being so hungry all they could think about was food and what they would eat when they got out. One of them said "you can tell someone about being hungry and they have no concept of what hunger is." Rutabagas, sawdust bread, turnip soup called Jerry soup was the menu. The official recipe of German Black Bread which was supposed to be Top Secret was 50% bruised rye grain, 20% sliced sugar beets, 20% tree flour (sawdust), 10% minced leaves and straw. No doubt many would have starved (as many Russians did) if it hadn't been for Red Cross boxes which after a time, they began receiving — at first it was one box for four men and later each man got one box. You probably read of the controversy with the French about the Iraq War. That was not the first time. When the Americans received boxes, they shared with all, after all they were allies; however, when the French received 9 car loads of boxes, they kept them all to themselves.

Along with food, the boxes contained cigarettes. Since Bob and his buddy did not smoke, they were able to barter for food. They had quite the system, so many cigarettes for a chocolate bar (called a D Bar), etc. To me, it is sad that anyone would rather smoke than have something

The Adjutant's Message . . .

to eat. They devised a recipe for Ice Box Cake which to them was so good they intended to make it when they got home. Never happened.

Two years ago (September 2001), we went to the 106th Infantry Reunion in Falls Church, Virginia, inside the DC beltway. We went especially to meet Bob's POW bunkmate, Russell Lang and his wife, of Poughkeepsie, NY. After 56 years, name tags came in handy. It was a memorable reunion in more ways than one. We drove around the Pentagon and had lunch at the Pentagon Mall after having attended a memorial service at Arlington Cemetery. On September 10th, we drove home passing through Somerset Co., PA, and you know what happened September 11, 2001.

This article was written by our mom, Wilma Wood, two years after my parent's first 106th Infantry Division Reunion attendance in

September 2001. Mom continued to attend all reunions even after dad passed away until her mobility became an issue and she could no longer travel in comfort. My mother is Wilma Wood, and my dad is Robert Wood (Bob) 423 Co I. I found this article while getting my mom and dad's condo ready for sale. Dad passed away in 2006 and mom passed away on February 13th of this year. This article represents the reasons for all of us who are descendants of Veterans and POWs to be there for them and remember them for their efforts and their sacrifices.

Please plan to join us at the reunion, you will not regret it.

* "Echoes of Captivity" is a 1998 POW documentary that can be seen at the National Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville and on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKcx9NPjPSY>.

Make Your Plans NOW!!

**for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 78th Annual Reunion at the
Columbus Marriott Downtown, Columbus, GA
September 17–21, 2025**

Reunion hotel information and full schedule are included
in this *CUB* starting on **page 24**, along with the registration form insert.

For additional information about the reunion, please visit:

106InfDivAssn.org

Historian's Message . . .

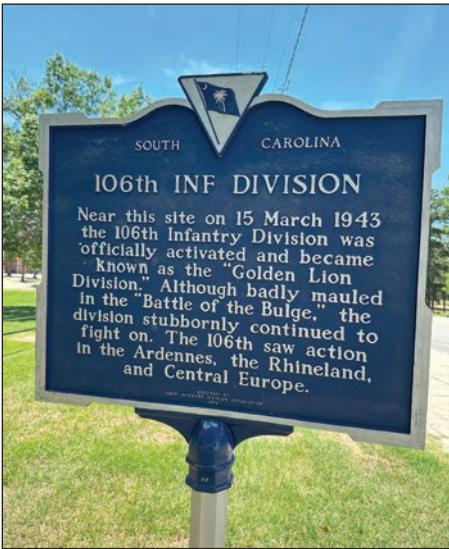
Last summer, I visited Fort Jackson near Columbia, South Carolina, where the 106th spent most of the first year of its existence. Located on base is the U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Museum, which preserves a number of artifacts linked to the Golden Lions. Thank you again to the museum's staff, especially Steve Noonan and Henry Howe, for making this article possible!

Photo credit:

*All images courtesy of the U.S. Army
Basic Combat Training Museum,
Fort Jackson, S.C.*



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Fort Jackson, South Carolina served as the first home of the 106th, with the Division being activated there on March 15, 1943. The Golden Lions remained at the base building strength and unit cohesion until January 1944,

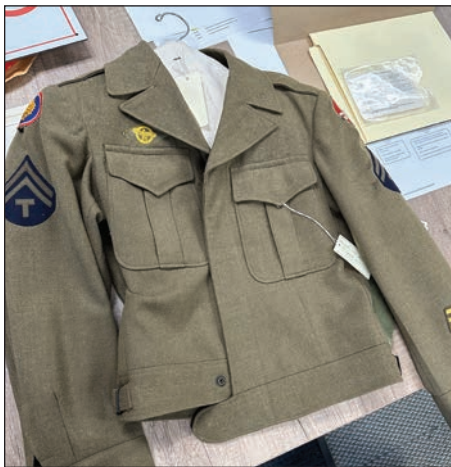
when the division took part in its Tennessee Maneuvers. Fort Jackson is still bustling with activity today, serving as the main center for U.S. Army Basic Combat Training. Its 3,500-strong garrison along with another 3,500 civilian support staff oversee the training of 40,000+ personnel annually, about half of all new army recruits.

The Fort Jackson Museum (pictured at top of page 13), later renamed the U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Museum, was founded in 1974 to tell “the story of how training in the U.S. Army has developed since 1917” when the first troops arrived on base. The museum's staff

Historian's Message . . .



were gracious enough to open up the archives during my visit retracing the division's footsteps. Although their collection of 106th artifacts is sparse, they each tell an incredible story.



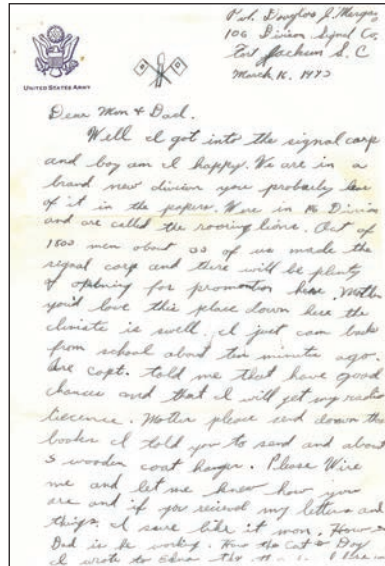
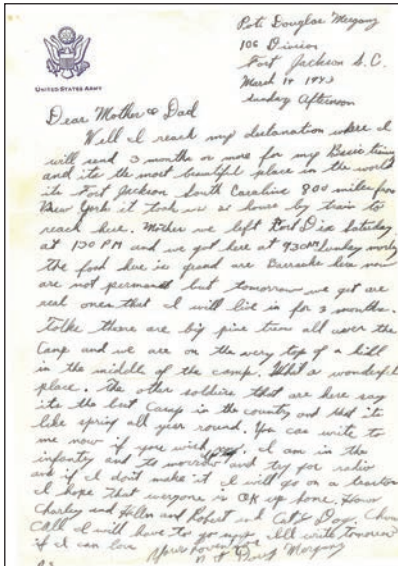
An "Ike" jacket (shown to the left) belonging to Pfc. Wanold D. Olman (SVC/422 INF) sports both the 106th and 84th "Railsplitters" Division patches, likely due to a late war or postwar transfer from one unit to the other. Records indicate that Olman escaped his regiment's encirclement at the Bulge, and that he became very active with the Division Association until his passing in 1986.



The uniform above was donated by Owen H. Murphy, a technician fourth grade in the 106th's Finance Section. Murphy's jacket is quite unusual, being a class-A jacket cut down at the waist to mimic the highly tailored style of the "Ike" jacket. Although the exact details are lost to time, it's possible the jacket was modified in theater, perhaps during the Division's stay in England.

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Historian's Message . . .



Another wonderful piece in the collection is a pair of letters from then-Pvt. Douglas J. Merganz (106th SIG CO) addressed to his family in Palisade Park, New Jersey. The first letter dated March 14, 1943 talks about his arrival to Fort Jackson, describing it as “the most beautiful place in the world,” admiring especially the base’s many pine trees, WACs, and “U.S.O. girls.” In his following letter dated March 16, 1943, Merganz makes note of joining a “brand new division,” in which he clearly took great pride. Merganz was a relative rarity in the 106th, staying with the division through its entire wartime service and avoiding capture in the Ardennes. He earned the rank of technician fifth grade and a Meritorious Unit Commendation by the time he was discharged.

A popular wartime souvenir among recruits in training, “sweetheart” pillowcases were meant as a keepsake for a soldier’s loved one back home (pictured below). They might depict a scene from Army life, a tropical island, or in this case the 106th insignia accompanied by a note of their then-home base at Fort Jackson. This example is also credited to Douglas Merganz, the author of the letters featured previously.



Historian's Message . . .



This photo depicts Pvt. Francis A. Younkin (E/422 INF) of New Sharon, Iowa vaulting an obstacle at Fort Jackson in April 1943. A month earlier, Younkin had been present for the birth of the 106th and had the honor of receiving the National Colors on activation day. Although it's unclear when Younkin left the 106th, records show that he joined the 502nd Parachute Infantry, 101st Airborne Division in time for the Battle of the Bulge and was seriously wounded by shrapnel in January 1945. He survived the war, went into missionary work abroad, and passed away at age 97.

Last but not least, the staff brought out a very unique war prize attributed to Francis Aspinwall (HQ/589 FABN). Pictured here is a “short snorter” totaling six bills

spanning five different nations. Typically associated with WWII aircrew, “short snorters” were banknotes signed by members of a unit to be cashed in on a round of shot-sized cocktails, also known as “short snorts.” Of the legible names on the Belgian bill, nine men could be found on the 106th’s online roster: Andrew J. Cutcher, Henry F. Libera, Paul Stoneking, Elmer H. Deutschendorf, Morris Weinberg, Anthony A. Alcamo, Thomas F. Gorman, Walter L. Tuttle, and Leonard J. Markowski. The signers all appear to be artillerymen, some from the 589th and others from Division Artillery. The inscriptions track their movements through each country, marked on the respective nation’s bill. The other side of the Belgian note even shows the path of their retreat during the Bulge.



Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

Make checks payable to “**106th Infantry Division Association**” and mail them to the Treasurer:



Mike Sheaner, Treasurer
PO Box 140535
Dallas, TX 75214
sheaner1@airmail.net
214-823-3004

Please report all changes of address and deaths to the Association Membership Chair:



Henry LeClair, Membership
209 Range Road
Windham, NH 03087
membership@106thInfDivAssn.org
603-401-3723

Treasurer's Report:	
February 1 – April 30, 2025	
Beginning Balance:	\$25,808.02
Money In:	1,361.22
Money Out:	3,112.44
Difference:	(1,751.22)
Ending Balance:	\$24,056.80

Association Membership	
as of May 1, 2025	
Total Membership	637
Veteran Membership	106
Associate Membership	531

Membership Roster Update!

We are updating our roster with the most current information to make sure you are receiving *The CUB* the way you want it. If you have not received a printed copy of *The CUB* in the mail and you've indicated you want to, or you are still getting a copy and you've indicated you no longer want it sent but still enjoy reading it online, or if a family member who was getting it has passed, please let us know.

Please notify: Henry LeClair, membership@106thInfDivAssn.org

Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

MEMORIAL and HONORARY DONATIONS:

In memory of Darrell Reed Bush, 106th/75th. He and his wife were such a dear couple and are sorely missed. So grateful to have met and been inspired by them in recent years. A joy to have Darrell participate in various Battle of the Bulge events in DC area.

Given by Madeleine J. Bryant

In honor of my father, Staff Sgt. Charles S. Garn, 422/H, to keep The CUB going and honoring the Veterans of the 106th.

Given by Jeff Garn

In honor of my father, Hugh R. Lyon, Signal Co.

Given by Terry and Cheryl Lyon

In memory of Anthony J. Urban, 423/I Co, captured during the Battle of the Bulge. He was first detained at Stalag IX-B (Bad Orb), then transferred along with 349 of his fellow soldiers to Berga. My father died in 1956 at age 40 as a result of the injuries and treatment received while a POW.

Given by Edward D. Urban

In memory of Wilma E. Wood

Given by Martha and Donald Murdoch

Given by Connie and Gregory Cundiff

Given by Rich and Carol Lunan

Given by Lori and James Elgin

Given by Camilla G. Morris

In memory of Wilma E. (Burcham) Wood, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Given by Tom and Sue Jackson

In memory of Wilma Wood, who will be remembered for being a great friend to the 106th Inf. Div. Association and its members, a wonderful role model and the head of a loving family.

Given by Susan Weiss

In memory of my father, Newton W. Weiss, 423/HQ 3BN in honor of what would have been his 100th birthday on July 1, 2025.

Given by Susan Weiss

In memory of Jim West, in honor for all that you have done for the 106th Infantry Division.

Given by Wayne Dunn.

Boys, *Just Boys*

*Biography of a WWII
Infantry Regiment*

by **Brian J. Welke**

Through the voices of the men who experienced it, *Boys, Just Boys* relates the story of the 423rd Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division before, during, and after the Battle of the Bulge. In mid-December 1944, the men of the 423rd, along with the rest of the division, arrived in the snows and forested ravines of the Ardennes/Schnee Eifel, the mountains straddling the border between Germany and eastern Belgium. As they dug into their positions, they were assured that the Germans no longer posed much threat.

The 423rd was deployed across the border into Germany, and despite the reassurances that the Germans were not a threat, its soldiers took their job seriously. A few days later, in the early dawn of December 16th, the Germans attacked an 80-mile front; positioned at the flashpoint near the center, the 423rd was hit head on. Vastly outnumbered by the enemy, the 423rd and the rest of the 106th held out for four days in Germany. Many died in the assault, but most of the survivors were taken prisoner. The 423rd was essentially destroyed. The rest of the 106th suffered as well, but more than 2,700 members of the 423rd, to include future author Kurt Vonnegut, were shipped as POWs to the east where they endured unimaginable hardships before the war in Europe ended the following spring.

The 423rd Infantry Regiment seldom makes it to the pages of World War II history, except as a brief note about the inadequacy of an untried unit against superior forces during the Battle of the Bulge. There is little mention of the regiment's staunch defense of its position against overwhelming odds, or the failure of the Allied command to recognize and prepare for the German attack. *Boys, Just Boys* sets the record straight in a deeply moving and gripping way.

Available online at

[amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

and [walmart.com](https://www.walmart.com)

(simply type the title in the search bar)



Treasurer's and Membership Chair's Report . . .

LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:

Rob and Kim Akey	Associate Member
John J Madden	Associate Member
Dennis Shane Miller	Associate Member
Joan Murphy Thompson	Associate Member

NEW MEMBERS:

Joan Murphy Thompson	Associate Member
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Planned Giving

Whether you would like to put your donation to work today or benefit the 106th Infantry Division Association beyond your lifetime, you can find a charitable plan that works for you. Popular means of life planning gifts include Wills and Living Trusts and Beneficiary Designations. Consult your professional advisor on how to extend support for the 106th Infantry Division Association to make a lasting impact.

Memorial, Honorary and Life+ Contributions are Essential for Keeping this Organization Going

A suggested annual donation of \$25 to help underwrite the cost to publish and mail *The CUB* through the “Last Man Standing” and beyond is appreciated. The Association exists on donations from its members and interested individuals. Your gifts are essential to maintaining *The CUB* magazine in its current format with high-quality content and tri-annual delivery. The cost of printing and mailing each edition of *The CUB* exceeds our current level of giving. Therefore, we encourage all readers to make an annual contribution, as you are able, to help defray the cost of printing and mailing.

Those Members who contribute will have their names (only, no amounts will be shown) published in the next *CUB*. You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like. By donating, you are helping perpetuate the 106th ID Association.

Show support for our mission by giving generously.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Send your contribution, check made payable to *106th Inf. Div. Association* to:

Mike Sheaner, Treasurer
106th Infantry Division, PO Box 140535, Dallas, TX 75214

106th Challenge Coin, Wooden Ornaments and Lapel Pins —

***Have You Gotten
Yours Yet?***



**\$10 each plus \$2 shipping
per ornament**

*(Lower shipping costs will be applied
to orders of 10 or more)*



Front



Back

\$10 each, plus \$1 postage per coin



**\$10 each plus
\$1 shipping
per pin**

Please call or email Randy with questions.

Phone — 765-346-0690

Email — woodchuck01@sbcglobal.net

For purchase of items above,
please make check payable to *106th Infantry Division Association*
and mail to:

Randall Wood, 810 Cramertown Loop, Martinsville, IN 46151

All proceeds benefit the Association.



Official 106th T-shirts — Get Yours!

Wear the Golden Lion proudly!

Available in multiple sizes.

\$20 each — includes shipping

Order from Board member Janet Wood by

Email: KipKai2000@yahoo.com or Phone: 205-910-0542

***Make checks payable to: 106th Infantry Division Association
and mail to***

Mike Sheaner, Treasurer, PO Box 140535, Dallas, TX 75214

Order of the Golden Lion Award

This medal is given to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time. The award is determined by the recipient's contributions to the Association. People may be nominated or selected as outlined below.



Nominations

The Chairman of the Order of the Golden Lion (OGL) committee will poll the members of the Board of Directors for recommendations for the OGL awards. The President or Chairman may select additional members to the committee. Members of the 106th Infantry Division Association may also nominate worthy candidates. Nominations should be submitted in a format suitable for composing a formal citation to accompany the medal. This must be done in ample time prior to the next reunion in order for the manufacturer to produce the medal(s) on time.

All citations should be kept confidential between the nominator

and the Committee Chairman prior to the actual award ceremony.

**LEAD TIME — 3 WEEKS,
MINIMUM.**

Send nominations to any one of the Co-chairs listed below:

Carol J. Faulkner, 765-342-1872
3179 Kestrel Court
Martinsville, IN 46151
faulknerskeepe05@yahoo.com

Beth Garrison, 618-628-4733
7766 Haury Road, Lebanon, IL 62254
rgbg75@att.net

Kathy Spinella, 305-562-4381
1991 Carolina Ave. NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33703
pspin142@aol.com

Watch (again!) the 74th Annual Reunion Virtual Memorial Service

**which replaced the live event for the 74th Annual Reunion
that was to have taken place in Kansas City, MO, September 2020.**

Remember the Men of the 106th

“Attend” this virtual Memorial service at <https://youtu.be/6S4Ke-Tftg>

Share this link with family and friends, schools and organizations.

Sacrifices at Spineux

*By Carl Wouters,
Association Belgian Liaison*

On January 4, 2025 a ceremony was held at Spineux, Belgium at the monument of the 424th Infantry Regiment, remembering the 80th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. In and around Spineux bitter fighting took place in January 1945 which claimed the lives of no less than 34 GIs of the 424th. The names of these soldiers were read as local children from the elementary school on Wanne presented roses for each of them at the monument. “It seems very long ago, even to us, but we try to explain it to them in simple words.



Roses at the 424th Infantry monument in Spineux, Belgium with a portrait tribute of some of the fallen.



Elementary school children from Wanne place roses for each of the fallen Golden Lions.

We explain to them little by little the events that took place so that, later on, they will understand values useful to democracy,” explained one of the children’s parents.

“We had never organized a laying of roses for each soldier as is done at American cemeteries like Henri-Chapelle. I found the gesture quite symbolic. Especially since it was the children who laid the roses. We could not better symbolize the future than through children,” explained local historian Christian Meurice, caretaker of the monument and organizer of the tribute.

The seemingly unimportant villages of Spineux, Lavaux, Henumont, Wanneranval, Logbiermé and Ennal proved to be key objectives in furthering the advance towards St. Vith, as they commanded the high ground east of the Salm and Ambleve Rivers. Despite the freezing weather, many locals and especially those of the younger generations came out to

News from Around the Globe . . .

pay their respects to the fallen heroes of the Golden Lions, to ensure that these sacrifices were not in vain.

Speeches at the monument. Carl Wouters explaining some of the Divisional history of what happened 80 years ago in the fields around the village. Trois-Ponts mayor Claude Legrand and several of his council members represented the local community.

Pictures by Claude Orban (Facebook)



Make Your Plans NOW!

**for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 78th Annual Reunion at the
Columbus Marriott Downtown, Columbus, GA**

Sept. 17 –21, 2025

For additional information about the reunion and to register online, visit:

106InfDivAssn.org

Plan to Participate in our Silent Auction!



Sample of items from a past silent auction!

You are invited to participate in our Silent Auction to be held during our 78th annual reunion, September 17 to 21, in Columbus, Georgia.

If you have a hobby or a craft that you love to do, then consider sharing. Last year's Silent Auction consisted of objects made by hand, found items, and items someone thought you would cherish. We made more than \$1,000 — all going to our association to fund *The CUB* magazine.

Bring your donated items to the hospitality room upon arrival and join the fun bidding on your next treasure! Items will be given to the highest bidder and all payments are due by the end of the banquet Saturday night.

Reunion Information . . .

**We are proud to announce our plans for the
106th Infantry Division Association's**

78th Annual Reunion

September 17–21, 2025

Columbus Marriott Downtown, Columbus Georgia

The members of the association board have made the following plans for our 78th Annual Association Reunion.

On the following pages of this *CUB*, we have supplied all the reunion information and there is a copy of the registration form inserted for you to complete and send to the association with your check. If you would like a PDF or a printed copy of the registration material mailed to you, please contact Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at sheaner1@airmail.net. If you have any questions, please contact Wayne Dunn at 410-409-1141 or Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org.

**For the most updated information about the reunion please visit
106thInfDivAssn.org.**

[All reunion information correct at time of publication but may be subject to change]

Hotel Information:

Columbus Marriott Downtown

800 Front Avenue
Columbus, Georgia 31901

Reservation by Phone: 706-426-4199

Reservation Online: [Book your group rate for 106th Infantry Div. Association Reunion](#)

(<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1746638909156&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink>)

Group Name: 106th Infantry Division Association (Must mention 106th Infantry Division Association at time

of registration to get the group rate.)

Rate: \$99 plus tax. *(Call to book your reservation if you want to book up to 3 days before or after the reunion which will entitle you to the group rate, based on availability.)*

Cut-Off Date: August 18, 2025,
any rooms not reserved by our group will be released to the general public; however, the hotel will accept reservations from the reunion attendees after the cut-off date at the group rate, subject to availability.

Hotel Information continues on [page 26](#)

Reunion Information . . .

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(All times subject to change)

WEDNESDAY, September 17

- 4:30 - 5:30 pm *Registration Open*
5 - 6 pm *Current Board of Directors' Meeting*
4:30 - 9 pm Hospitality Room Open and begin display
 of Silent Auction items

THURSDAY, September 18

- 6 - 11 am Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)
9:30 - 10 am *Registration Open*
10 am - 4 pm Gather to carpool to visit the NATIONAL INFANTRY
 MUSEUM AND SOLDIER CENTER with lunch on your
 own at the museum
4:30 - 5:30 pm Battle of the Bulge Education Session — “*The*
 Home Front” presented by Brian Welke
6 - 9 pm Reception in Hospitality Room for 3RD ANNUAL
 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT with Nacho Bar and
 soft drinks

FRIDAY, September 19

- 6 - 11 am Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)
9 am - 4 pm Gather to carpool to visit the ANDERSONVILLE
 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE: NATIONAL POW MUSEUM
 AND CEMETERY WITH BOX LUNCH INCLUDED
4:30 - 5:30 pm Battle of the Bulge Education Session — “*Our*
 POWs: Their Trials and Triumph” presented by
 Chris Edmonds
4 - 9 pm Hospitality Room Open and review display
 of Silent Auction items

SATURDAY, September 20

- 6 - 11 am Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)
9:30 - 10:30 am MEMORIAL SERVICE
11 am - 6 pm Hospitality Room Open and review display
 of Silent Auction items
1 - 2 pm Video presentation — TBD
4 - 5 pm *New Board of Directors' Meeting*
6 - 7 pm Cash Bar Reception/Social Hour
7 - 10 pm BANQUET DINNER BUFFET, including speakers,
 presentations, officer inductions, and completion
 of Silent Auction

SUNDAY, September 21

- 6 - 11 am Hot Breakfast Buffet (included) / Give your hugs,
 say your farewells, and have a safe trip home!

Reunion Information . . .

Hotel Information *continued*:

Cancellation Policy: Room can be cancelled 24 hours prior to arrival.

Hotel Amenities include:

Outdoor pool; complimentary wireless internet access; in-room refrigerators

Parking Information:

Self-parking fee: \$15/day (in/out privileges)

Shuttle Information: For those who plan to fly, the Columbus Airport will be closed for renovations. The closest airport is Atlanta (ATL). The airport is 87 miles from the Columbus Downtown Marriott. Your options include car rental or **Groome Transport** — book online for \$62/pp at: https://groometransportation.com/columbus/?&sd_client_id=41be7908-9ad8-4fca-b600-e634327f8d94

Tour Descriptions

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM AND SOLDIER CENTER

Thursday, September 18

1775 Legacy Way
Columbus, GA 31903

*10 am–4 pm — Gather at
10 am to carpool to the museum
Lunch will be on your own at the museum*



Photo from <https://nationalinfantrymuseum.org/about/>

The **National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center** is a museum located in Columbus, Georgia, just outside the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning). The 190,000-square-foot museum opened in June 2009 and chronicles the history of the United States Army Infantry from the American Revolution to current operations. The museum showcases exhibits and artifacts from all eras of American history and includes interactive multimedia displays. It emphasizes the values that are meant to define the Infantry, as well as the nation: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

In addition to galleries, the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center includes the Officer Candidate School Hall of Honor and the Ranger Hall of Fame.

You can find more information about the museum at:
<https://nationalinfantrymuseum.org/>

Reunion Information . . .

ANDERSONVILLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE:

National Prisoner of War Museum and Andersonville National Cemetery

Friday, September 19

496 Cemetery Road,
Andersonville, GA 31711; 229
924-0343

*9 am–4 pm — Gather at 9 am
to carpool to the museum
Box lunch included*

The only national park to
serve as a memorial to all
Americans ever held as prisoners
of war, **Andersonville National**

Historic Site preserves the site of the largest of the many Confederate military prisons that were established during the Civil War. During the 14 months it operated, more than 45,000 Union soldiers were confined here. The park has three main features, the *National Prisoner of War Museum*, the *historic prison site*, and the *Andersonville National Cemetery*.

During the Civil War, the Confederate army established Camp Sumter at Andersonville to house incoming Union prisoners of war. The overcrowded Andersonville Prison was notorious for its bad conditions and nearly 13,000 prisoners died there. After the war, Captain Henry Wirz was convicted for war crimes related to the command of the camp. Some pro-confederacy groups later regarded his trial as unfair. The POW Museum now depicts POW conditions throughout the ages from our Revolutionary War to the present day. POWs from WWII are represented at the museum.

You can find more information about the museum at:
https://www.nps.gov/ande/planyourvisit/natl_pow_museum.htm



Photo from https://www.nps.gov/ande/planyourvisit/natl_pow_museum.htm

[All reunion information correct at time of publication but may be subject to change]

We Are Currently Updating Our Membership Roster

If any of the following apply, please
contact our Membership Chair:

- You no longer wish to receive *The CUB*.
- You want to switch from mailing to email.
- Your address has changed.

Also, please contact the Membership
Chair, Henry LeClair, to provide us with
your email address so that we can contact
you if your mailing is returned to us.

I GUESS I'LL START MY OWN WAR

A Personal Crusade for Freedom

80th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge

HUGH ROBERTS

The working title for this book had *been* “*A Soldier’s Night Visit*,” but as the story progressed, a quotation by 1st LT Eric Fisher Wood, Jr. became the obvious choice.

On the afternoon of the second day of the Battle of the Bulge, a man named Peter Maraite left his home in the village of Meyerode, Belgium, and went into the nearby woods to look for a Christmas

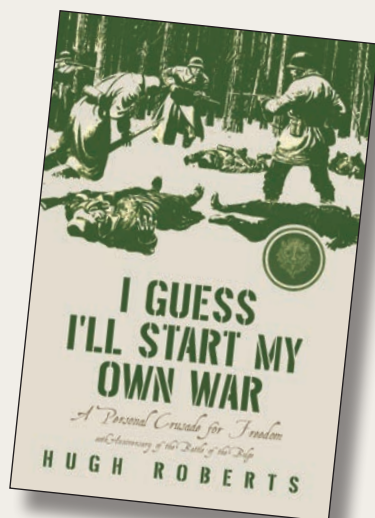
tree. There were German forces all around. When the battle started on December 16, 1944, American forces had been present but were forced back. A mile into the woods, Peter encountered two American soldiers; one wore silver bars on the shoulders of his overcoat. The other soldier was an enlisted man. Peter walked back to his home with the two men and a Christmas tree. Over the next five weeks, the young lieutenant began a campaign against the German forces. Right up until his death.

To Preserve His Legacy

Wood had been a cadet at the Valley Forge Military Academy in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Years later, another Valley Forge Cadet, Hugh Roberts, read of the young lieutenant’s accomplishments and wanted to learn more. He had an opportunity to travel to Meyerode and interview Eva Maraite and other townspeople. The facts and military information in the book are excellent, and it’s a great tribute to a great soldier whose story must be told.

by Jim Riley

DD 214 Chronicle (March/ April 2025)



Available online at

xlibris.com / ebay.com / thriftbooks.com

[Barnes & Noble outlets](#) and many other sites

(simply type the title in the Google search bar)

“VETERANS’ VOICES”

This is a recurring article for The CUB in which Veterans or family members can submit brief personal stories. Whenever possible, please send your submission in an email to the Editor, Lisa Dunn, CUBeditor@106thInfDivAssn.org, so it can easily be transferred to The CUB. Images should be submitted as jpg files. For each picture file you submit, please also include what event the picture represents and where/when it was taken. Individuals in the pictures should be identified. Articles can either be submitted in the body of the email or as a Word document. Articles submitted as hard copies in the mail may or may not be used depending on difficulty of transcription. If you have any questions, please contact the Editor.

The Passing of Jim West

By Wayne Dunn

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Jim West, who died on April 18, 2025, surrounded by family at his home in Shelby County, Indiana.

For those that may not recognize the name, you may recognize his website: www.IndianaMilitary.org. That site contains, by far, the world’s largest collection of information relating to the 106th Infantry Division. Rosters, diaries, photographs, POW Camps, Reports, Orders, and much more representing over 90,000 files, and 60 gigabytes of information.

Jim spent more than 30 years collecting data, converting it for use on the web, and sharing it with the world. There are thousands of Veterans who didn’t know that anything remained of the 106th Infantry Division — until they found Jim’s website. As this article is being written, the son of a Veteran just

made contact to request that his father be added to the roster.

Jim’s efforts collecting and disseminating military information have helped more than anyone can imagine. Children and grandchildren of Veterans can learn about the Division and what their fathers and grandfathers experienced.

While I never had the honor of meeting Jim in person, we had worked together for about 12 years — he expanding his website and I establishing the Association website. We talked, emailed, and texted weekly. Then, last fall, Jim shared that he was facing serious health issues. His concern for what would happen to his creation weighed very heavily on him. He asked if I could help and I agreed to maintain his website for as long as possible. Hopefully, beyond me, an even longer-term solution can

continues on page 30

be found. I, on behalf of the many, thank you Jim, for all that you have done! Rest easy!

Jim's obituary can be found in this issue in the "In Memoriam" section. You can also read more about Jim's life and the story behind how he started the

IndianaMilitary.org website from the article published in 2022 on page 11 of the 2nd edition of Volume 78 of *The CUB*: https://106thinfdivassn.org/CUB/CUB_Vol78_no2_Jun2022_color_web_final.pdf.

Veterans and Family of the 106th Infantry Division's TATTOO* Requests

The original meaning of military tattoo was a military drum performance, but subsequently it came to mean army displays, or a form of gathering more generally. For our Association, letting members know that someone would like to speak with them is why we do this!

Please send any requests to the Editor at: CUBeditor@106thInfDivAssn.org

Note from the Editor: As our membership chair, Henry LeClair stated, we received a number of responses to our online survey (*see link below*) indicating people want a way to find information about a specific Veteran's wartime experiences. This section of *The CUB* is meant expressly for that purpose. Please send your requests to me, and I'll put them in the next edition of *The CUB*. If you want someone to be able to contact you directly with any information they may have, please provide your email address and/or phone number. You never know who will get back to you with the information you seek!

Sometimes we get questions emailed to us that we can answer right away. If you would still like us to publish the question and answer in an effort to help others who may have similar questions, please let us know.

Want to help the 106th Association?

Please take a few minutes to take our new survey. We are asking just a few questions to find out how we as an organization can better serve you.

Click on this link from the PDF or type this into your browser to be connected to the brief survey on our website:

106thInfDivAssn.org/survey2023.html

Visit the 106th Association's Website!

To complement the wonderful websites that are already out on the Internet, including the websites created by Jim West (IndianaMilitary.org) and Carl Wouters (*currently down for maintenance*), the Association has launched our own website at 106thInfDivAssn.org. This is where you can find information on upcoming events, copies of the membership application for your family to join, the complete latest issue of *The CUB* plus additional photos not seen in hard copy. Also, look for our Facebook page at Facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn. This is where you can find current information, connect with friends, and make plans for the next reunion. If you have any additional reunion photos or information that you would like to see on the website or Facebook page, please contact the Webmaster, Wayne Dunn, at Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org or 410-409-1141.

The IndianaMilitary.org Website

Additional 106th Infantry Division information can be found at IndianaMilitary.org. It includes the following:

- Reconstructed Roster of the 106th at <https://106thinfdivassn.org/roster106/rostera.html>.
- 18,902 entries to date, including more than 300 individual photos.
- Issues of *The CUB* from 1946 to present.
- Issues of the *Camp Atterbury Camp Crier* with articles on the 106th.
- Local Columbus, Indiana newspaper articles featuring the 106th.
- 106th member diaries and accounts.
- Articles including those from the Battle of the Bulge, important dates, Unit publications, Photo Albums, After Action Reports, General and Special Orders, and much more.
- Information on the 106th guarded PWTE (Prisoner of War Temporary Enclosures).
- The official history site for Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

PLEASE NOTE:

To the widows/family members of Golden Lions, if you wish to continue to receive *The CUB* after the passing of your Veteran, please let Membership Chair, Henry LeClair know. His contact information is located on the inside cover of this *CUB*.

**PLEASE REPORT ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND DEATHS
TO THE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:**

Henry LeClair

membership@106thInfDivAssn.org

603-401-3723

Unless otherwise noted, the obituaries listed below were obtained online through board member research.

**BELL, THOMAS (TOMMY)
BIRCH 423/B**

Date of death: October 30, 2020

Thomas (Tommy) Birch Bell, 96, passed away peacefully in his sleep Friday, October 30, 2020. He was born June 20, 1924, in Ohio County, KY, to the late Walter J. and Lottie Bell. Tommy was a Staff Sergeant in WWII, seeing action in the Battle of the Bulge as part of the Army's 106th Infantry Division and was a POW until being liberated by a British armored division in April 1945. He was the last living WWII POW in Daviess County. He later retired from General Electric after 37 years of service as a tool and die maker. He also owned and operated Bell's Lock and Key Shop for several years.

Tommy was opinionated on almost every topic. You never had to guess where he stood on an issue. However, under a sometimes-gruff exterior, there beat a heart of gold where the love for his family and friends was deep and true. A devout



Southern Baptist his entire life, he was a faithful supporter of Oneida Baptist Institute in Oneida, and was a former member of Hall Street Baptist Church and Buena Vista Baptist Church.

Tommy loved Owensboro Senior High football and was a season ticket holder for several decades. He also spent many hours watching his beloved University of Kentucky Wildcats play basketball and football. He often remembered fondly "watching" UK on the radio as Cawood Ledford called the game.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Marguerite Bratcher Bell, and a daughter, Marion Sue (Susie) Basham.

CORWIN, LYELL LEREAU 106TH

Date of death: August 19, 2012

Lyell Lereau Corwin, 92, of Waterloo, IA died Sunday, August 19, 2012 at Covenant Medical Center from complications of surgery. He was born



In Memoriam . . .

May 8, 1920, in Clarksville, son of Floyd and Madge Norton Corwin. He married Fannie Schneiderman on Aug. 17, 1939, in Waverly.

Mr. Corwin served in the 106th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army during World War II. During his service in Europe, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and earned two Bronze Stars.

He worked at Rath Meat Packing Co. as an elevator operator for 40 years, retiring in 1982, and was a member of the Rath Union.

He is survived by his wife, Madge; son, Charles “Chuck” (Brenda) of Waterloo; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; 18 great-great-grandchildren; and a brother, Floyd Corwin Jr. of Waterloo.

Preceded in death by: four sons, LeRoy, Richard, Lyell “Bubby” and Raymond Dean; a daughter, Carol Gaffney; two brothers, Dale and William “Bill;” and a sister, Faye Cypress.

DIMAS, PETE G. 423/1BN/B

Date of death: February 27, 2020

Pete G. Dimas, 99, a WWII Veteran and POW, peacefully passed in his home on February 27, 2020. He was lovingly surrounded by his family. His original given name was Pantaleon. Pete was born on Oct 21, 1920, on the Las Vegas Land



Grant in the family settlement of Los Ojitos Frios, New Mexico. Until the age of 5, he lived in Albuquerque where his father worked for the Santa Fe Railroad, but, following an on-the-job accident, his father sought other employment. Eventually, up through the Great Depression, the family of 11 brothers and sisters moved throughout the west and southwest on a flatbed truck with all their belongings, including the chickens, cutting firewood, picking fruit, cotton, nuts, or doing whatever jobs they could to sustain themselves. In his late teens, Pete participated in the Depression Era Civilian Conservation Corps. The family eventually settled in Phoenix.

Pete volunteered for service after the attack on Pearl Harbor. “I was riding in a car with friends and when we heard the news, we all said, ‘We got to go’.” Pete volunteered for the Army Air Corps with hopes of being a gunner. His hopes were not fulfilled, so he volunteered for infantry duty with the newly formed 106th Infantry Division. In December 1943, prior to reporting to the 106th, Pete married Dilia Basurto, who he met while stationed at the Blythe Army Air Field.

As part of Company B, 423rd Infantry Regiment, he was at the forward most position of the U.S. Army in Germany when, on December 16, 1944, German forces unleashed a massive surprise

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offensive to begin the largest battle in U.S. Army history — the Battle of the Bulge. German plans were for a quick, easy push through the untested troops, but the 106th held up the German timing necessary for its success. Pete's regiment tried to hold but was surrounded and cutoff from Allied forces. With ammo running out, weapons out of commission, and no chance of resupply, the 106th was ordered to attack German forces at the bridge in Schönberg, Belgium to attempt a breakout. Facing a German force 10 times its size, his unit was forced to surrender on December 19, 1944. Sgt. Pete Dimas survived the rest of the war in several different POW camps. Emaciated, but alive, he crossed the Elbe River on a small boat to liberation on April 27, 1945. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and the WWII Victory medal.

Upon his release, Pete returned to Phoenix. There he participated in the founding of American Legion Post 41, and continued his military service with the AZ Army and Air National Guard until 1961. He worked for the City of Phoenix Water Department for more than 30 years and retired from his position as a Supervisor in 1977. Pete loved to travel and loved history. Every summer he took his family on a two-week camping trip to places like the Rockies, or to the Redwoods, or the ocean where, much to his wife's dismay, he'd stop at every roadside

Point of Interest so his kids would understand the history of the area. There were also frequent family picnics. He relished telling jokes, and was a consummate story teller. Pete and Dilia were married for 72 years. His empathy, kindness, generosity, humor, and abounding love will never be forgotten by his family and friends. He is survived by his sisters, Ramona, Frances, and Polly, his children, Alice Thiergart, Pete (Kathy) Dimas, Sylvia (Lee) Montoya, Richard Dimas, and Patricia Dimas, 11 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

DOERING, GEORGE IREY **106TH**

Date of death: January 12, 2020

George Irey Doering died in Reno, NV on January 12, 2020. Born in Marion, OH on July 3, 1926, George moved to Youngstown, OH in 1936 when his father (George H. Doering) began employment with the IRS. His mother was Leona Glen Doering, nee Irey. George graduated South High School in 1944, entered the U.S. Army and was assigned to 106th Infantry Division in Europe, under command of General George Patton. He was discharged in August of 1946 with rank of Tech Sergeant.

George graduated from Case Institute of Technology with a BS



In Memoriam . . .

in electrical engineering in 1950. There he was a member SAE fraternity and the Case basketball team. He married Nancy J. Pannier on September 2nd of that year. The couple had three children: Dr. Roger W. Doering (two girls and one boy) and two great-grandchildren, Gail P. Vehslage, two boys and twin great-grandchildren, and David H. Doering, two girls.

George was employed by five firms over a 41-year career, starting with Otis Elevator in lower Manhattan, NY. Three years later he joined Accuray in Columbus, OH. Here a small firm began applying isotopes to the non-contact measurement of the thickness of moving sheets being manufactured in many industrial processes, such as rubber tires, paper, metal rolling, plastic sheet, etc. George received 15 U.S. patents.

For business, George visited all fifty U.S. states and 40 countries including six trips to Russia during the cold war period. George was very active in the Instrument Society of America, heading up technical programs occurring in Houston, New Orleans, and Chicago. After Accuray went public, George made a presentation to Wall Street analysts. He became VP of the Paper Industry Division which oversaw more than half the company's business. After 23 years, he joined an offshoot of this firm which was located in

Cupertino, CA. Three years later he moved to St. Paul, MN as a VP of National Can running a global computer business.

For the last ten years of his career George was a Group VP for MTS Systems, with divisions operating in Eden Prairie, MN, Cary, NC, and Germany. George retired in April of 1991 and moved to Reno, NV, but worked two weeks per month for six months following retirement.

George enjoyed a number of activities outside of work. As a youth, he studied violin under the conductor of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra. The last thirty years he and Nancy attended and supported the symphonies wherever they lived. All three of their children played musical instruments in school. Their daughter Gail is an outstanding professional musician, and son Roger plays in the University Jazz orchestra where he teaches Engineering.

In 1970, George got into sailing by acquiring a Tartan 34-foot sailboat. All the kids learned to sail, and ultimately, he sailed on all the Great Lakes except Ontario. He also sailed in the Virgin Islands, the Grenadines and up and down the West Coast. Gail's sons managed the Annapolis Sailing Club and raced to Bermuda.

George played golf starting at age 13 as a caddy. In later years, he was able to play many fine courses around the country and in Hawaii.

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While living in Raleigh, NC he joined the Pinehurst Golf Club and was a member for 15 years. After retiring and moving to Reno, NV, he joined the Lakeridge Men's Golf Club and won their Highlander trophy in 1997.

After retirement he also became active in the Republican Party as a member and Treasurer of their Central Committees for Washoe County and the Nevada State Party.

FRANK, FLORIAN REINHOLD **591 FABN/SVC**

Date of death: March 20, 2020

Florian Reinhold Frank of Clyde, WI, passed away on March 20, 2020 — 20 days before his 97th birthday. He was born at home on April 8, 1923, in the log farmhouse on the Frank homestead farm in Wilson Creek, Spring Green Township. He was the son of Theodore Frank and Esther Kraemer Frank. His grandparents, Joseph and Mary Frank, were German immigrants. His paternal great-grandparents, Franz and Anna Frank, and maternal great-grandparents, Paul and Walburga Kraemer, were all from the Waldmünchen area in Germany.

Florian attended St. Luke's School in Plain, WI. When he enrolled in first grade, he spoke Bayerisch, a Bavarian dialect of German, and had to repeat first grade to improve his

English. He was the last surviving member of his graduating class from St. Luke's High School.

Florian lived through the Great Depression of the 1930s on the family farm. The farm had no electricity or indoor plumbing and used horse-drawn equipment. During this time, he was an avid hunter and his mother would cook whatever he brought home. Hunting was his only sport and he continued it into his 90s. Florian enjoyed every opportunity to be out in the woods with a rifle or shotgun.

Florian was inducted into the U.S. Army in March of 1943 and served in the 106th Infantry Division during the Second World War. His division was on the front line in Belgium at the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. Florian was qualified as a sharpshooter and machine gunner. At one time during the battle, he was the lead machine gunner in a convoy of ammunition trucks carrying ammunition to supply artillery forces. Florian recounted his squirrel hunting in the Ardennes Forest the day before the final German push during the Battle of the Bulge. He was not one of the many American soldiers captured during that battle. He was awarded four battle stars for battles in the Ardennes, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe.

After VE Day he was assigned to help process German and Bulgarian prisoners of war in Belgium and then served military police duty



In Memoriam . . .

in Luxembourg. His unit received commendations from the countries of Belgium and France.

Florian and Dorothy were married on September 17, 1946, at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Plain, WI. From 1949 to 1989, he and Dorothy owned and operated Biglow Cheese and Butter Company in Clyde, WI. Florian was a licensed cheese and butter maker, having graduated from the Dairy Short Course at the UW Dairy School. He was a founding partner in Muscoda Protein Products, a whey processing facility in Muscoda, WI.

Like many of his generation, service to God and country continued well after the war. Florian was a member of the American Legion, VFW and 106th Infantry Division Association. Florian was the last surviving WWII member of the Lone Rock American Legion Post. He was on the Board of Directors of the Greenway Manor Nursing Home. He was a DNR fire warden for the Clyde Township. He was a member of Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association and the Wisconsin Buttermakers and Graders Association. He attended Sacred Heart Church in Lone Rock and St. Malachy's Church in Clyde prior to its closing. He was a Knights of Columbus and Lions Club member.

Family and hard work were two fundamental principles of living for Florian. He and Dorothy raised a large family while operating the cheese and butter business for 40 years.

He cherished the love of his life, Dorothy, and together they weathered many challenges, tragedies, joys and accomplishments, and traveled the world. His proudest accomplishments were his children. Florian is survived by his wife of 73 years, Dorothy; by his children Deborah, Tallahassee, FL; Joseph (Astrid), Athens, GA; Bonnie (Randy) Thompson, Madison, WI; Mark (Eileen), Dodgeville, WI; Sandy (Mark) Dostal, Lake St. Louis, MO; Ted (Elaine), Spring Green, WI; Susan (Robert) Ashton, Eagan, MN; Nicholas (Jodi), Spring Green, WI, and son-in-law Pat Shelton, Madison, WI; 23 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and by his brother Theodore (Ted) Frank.

GORE, WILLIAM CURTIS 424

Date of death: October 5, 2020

William
Curtis
Gore 95,
of Trinity,
NC died



Monday, October 5, 2020, at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center in Salisbury, NC.

William was born August 18, 1925 in Lumberton, NC to the late Barden E. Gore and Maggie Broadwell Gore. The Gore family relocated to the Highland area of High Point soon after his birth and he lived in the surrounding High Point area for the remainder of his life.

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Mr. Gore proudly served in the United States Army from December 1943 until April 1946 as part of the 106th Infantry Division, 424th Infantry Regiment participating in both the Rhineland and Ardennes Campaigns. While serving with the 106th Infantry Division, the “Golden Lions,” he earned the Good Conduct Medal, American Theater Ribbon, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, WWII Victory Ribbon as well as Combat Infantryman Badge and the Expert Marksmanship Badge with the M-1 Rifle.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Horace E. Gore and his sister, Annie Ruth Smith. Surviving is a niece, Judith E. Riley of Calabash, NC.

GUCZEK, EDWARD J., SR. 424

Date of death: February 28, 2020

Edward J. Guczek, Sr., 98, of Springfield, MA passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, February 28, 2020 surrounded by his loving family. Edward was born in West Warren, MA on May 8, 1921, the son of the late Albert and Balbina Guczek. Raised in Springfield, Edward graduated from the High School of Commerce. After high school, Edward went on to serve his country with distinction in the United States Army’s 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th Infantry



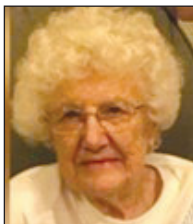
Division, serving campaigns in Italy, Germany, and France, fighting in the Battle of the Bulge, and receiving the Purple Heart medal. He owned Eddie’s Service Station in the North End Section of Springfield, and worked for many years as a machinist at Package Machinery in East Longmeadow. He was an avid Red Sox fan, loved John Wayne westerns, scratch tickets, Solitaire, and playing the ponies. Edward was a member of St. Anthony’s Maronite Church and was the former banquet hall manger there, as well as a member of American Legion Post #275.

Edward was a passionate family man who brought joy to everyone he met with his kind smile and striking blue eyes, enthusiasm, and colorful sense of humor. Edward was predeceased by his wife of 42 years Nora Ann Guczek, and is survived by his son Edward J. (Paula) Guczek Jr., daughter Maryann (Christopher) Guczek-Sawyer, and his four grandchildren Jennifer Sawyer Bogardus and her husband Jacob Bogardus, Jonathan Guczek, Brittany Guczek and David Sawyer.

HAWKINS, LORRAINE JUNE
Associate Member
Wife of Harold W. Hawkins

Date of death: April 23, 2020

Lorraine was born June 10, 1927 in rural Saline County, NE to Edward and Tillie Odvody. She was the middle child, having an older (Norman) and younger brother (Roger).



Lorraine attended a country school, Dist. #53 located on their farm. After attending Friend High School for three years, the teacher's course was canceled and she went to Crete High School, graduating in 1944. She taught rural schools for three years near her parents' home. During the summer breaks, she worked in Lincoln, NE where she met her husband, Harold, in 1945. They were married June 1, 1947 in Friend, NE. They lived in West Lincoln, NE where three sons were born: Wesley, James, and Gerald. The family moved to Millard, NE in 1960. She worked for two years at the Hinky Dinky grocery store, later staying at home as a housewife. In 1974, she worked for 13 years at Control Data Corp., retiring January 1988. Her aging parents came to live with them in November 1986, until they passed away.

She enjoyed watching her sons play sports, the Platte River cabin they had for 56 years and activities at

the family farm they bought in 1992. During their 59 years of marriage, Harold and Lorraine did much traveling with the boys to various U.S. National Parks, cities, and fishing locations in Minnesota, South Dakota, and Canada. She had two very memorable trips that involved genealogy which she enjoyed. One trip was in 1996 to Kentucky, where the early Hawkins had settled. There she found a book "The Life and Times of Our Hawkins Family," written in 1988 relating to her husband's ancestry. The other trip was a tour to the Czech Republic with nine cousins in 1998. The trip was to the village of their grandfather, Peter Odvody. The group met with relatives that had sent her a 1673 Odvody family tree.

During the latter part of her life, Lorraine spent most of her time at her Millard home of 60 years working on various scrap books, gardening, and other projects. She enjoyed holiday gatherings with her family as well as visiting her brother Roger and talking about their parents and friends of her youth.

Lorraine is survived by brother Roger (Joyce) Odvody; son Wesley (Mary) Hawkins; grandchildren, Latonia (Justin) Feters, Melissa (Ryan) Smith and Anita (Aaron) Wood; son James (Peggy) Hawkins; grandchildren Thomas Hawkins; Kristiana (Andy) Avery, and Jonathan Hawkins (Malynne), grandson, Eric (Samantha) Hawkins, and

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great-grandchildren: Lynlee Fetters, Addison and Tyler Smith, Eloise Wood; Franklin and Alex Hawkins, Livinia and Aksel Avery, Jerry James and Olivia Hawkins as well as many nieces and nephews.

KAPSALIS, THOMAS H. 422/C

Date of Death: July 14, 2022

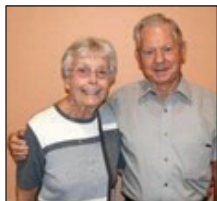
Thomas Kapsalis, age 97, fell asleep in the Lord July 14, 2022. Thomas was the beloved husband of Stella (nee Manos) Kapsalis for 66 years, the loving father of Adamandia and Harry T. (Heidi) Kapsalis, the devoted son of the late Harry and Adamantia Kapsalis, the dear brother of the late Steve (the late Charlotte) and Peter (Frances) Kapsalis and the fond uncle and cousin of many. Thomas was an artist and professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His work was on display at Corbett vs. Dempsey Gallery. He was also a U.S. veteran in the Army and fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.



LITER, GOBEL EDWARD 106TH

Date of death: November 10, 2020

Mr. Gobel Edward Liter, age 95, of Lexington, IN entered this life on October 26, 1925 on Corn Creek in Trimble County, KY. He was



one of nine children born to Eugene and Ida Mae Means Liter. The family moved to Jefferson County early in his life and resided near Brooksbury, IN. He was inducted into the United States Army on November 17, 1944 at Camp Atterbury, IN. He served as a private in Battery C 740th AAA Gun Battalion during World War II serving in the Central Europe Campaign. He was honorably discharged from the 106th Infantry Division Cannon Company, 105 MM on November 21, 1945 in Bolbec, France receiving the European-African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and a Bronze Service Star. Gobel re-enlisted on November 21, 1945 in Bolbec, France, serving in the Second Airborne Division, Company F, 511 Parachute Infantry, during World War II. He received his pilot's license during the war and flew in C-46 and C-47 planes. He was again honorably discharged on March 25, 1947 at Fort Sheridan, IL receiving the World War II Victory Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal Germany and Japan.

He returned home and was united in marriage on June 23, 1951 to Lois K. Webster in Jefferson County, IN. This happy union of 69 years was blessed with a son, Gayle and daughters, Deanna and Terri Lynn. Lois entered this life on December 2, 1932 in Jefferson County near Hanover, IN. She was one of nine children born to Curtis and Mildred Nell Royce Webster. She resided her

In Memoriam . . .

early life in Jefferson County and was a 1950 graduate of North Madison High School. After her marriage to Gobel they resided in New Albany from 1951 to 1959. She was a devoted wife, loving mom, grandma and great grandma. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, raising flowers, reading and cross stitch. Gobel worked for Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company in Louisville, KY retiring from there at the age of 55. They moved back to Jefferson County in 1961 and soon bought their home and farm on New Bethel Road near Chelsea. Gobel loved farming, driving his Model A, raising a beautiful and bountiful vegetable garden, playing golf, fishing and hunting. After his early retirement he went to work for the State of Indiana at Clifty State Park in Maintenance for seven years. Gobel and Lois were faithful members of the Kent Christian Church and Gobel was the church janitor for many of those years.

Gobel died on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 5:35 p.m. at the King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, IN and Lois died on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 10:55 a.m. at Highpoint Health in Lawrenceburg, IN.

A LOVING FAMILY: Gobel and Lois will be missed by their loving son, Gayle (Brenda) Liter; their loving daughter, Deanna "Dee" Liter Deputy and her companion, Jeff Mangold; their grandchildren,

Brent E. (Amanda) Liter, Beverly D. (Danny) Woods, Kristin K. Andrew and her companion, JR Bush, Camille Norris, Chuck (Lacie) Deputy; their great-grandchildren, Kayleigh, Brylee, Kate, Beau, Lucy, Nicholas, Jacob, Blake, Amanda, Makenzie, Jimmy and Colton and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

MUELLER, WILLIAM H. 424/M

Date of death: September 13, 2020

William H. Mueller of Levittown, NY died on September 13, 2020 at the age of 95. He was the beloved husband of the late



Irmgard, loving father of Carol (Barry) Bell, Robert (Laurie), and William (Lynda), cherished grandfather of William (Ramona), Kate (Sean), Alyssa (Rachel), Lindsay (Jeff), Katherine (David), Elizabeth, Robert (Sami), Margaret (Tim), and Joseph, and adored by his 11 great-grandchildren. William was a decorated WWII U.S. Army Veteran, serving in the European Campaign and a longtime Aeronautical Engineer at Grumman Corporation, where he contributed to the Apollo Space Program. He was a devoted member of the Masonic Lodge in Bethpage No. 975, where he served as Master and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

In Memoriam . . .

PATTERSON, DONALD L.

106TH

Date of Death: June 12, 2020

Donald Patterson, 93, of Peshtigo, WI passed away June 12, 2020. Born July 10, 1926 son of the late Louis and Josephine (Albers) Patterson, he graduated from St. Boniface Parish-DePere in 1940 and Nicolet High School in 1944. Donald served in the U.S. Army from 1944 to 1946 as Tech Sergeant in the 106th Infantry Division.



On October 21, 1950, he married the former Mavis Pauls at St. Matthews Church in Allouez and she preceded him in death May 25, 2017. Before entering the service, Donald worked at Green Bay Packaging. After service he worked for Borden Company for eight years, and then worked his way from Line Crew to Foreman at Wisconsin Public Service, transferring to the Wausaukee district in 1975 and retiring in 1988. Don built a cabin on Crooked Lake and loved spending his winters in Arizona. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, playing cards, horseshoe and his many trips to Canada and Minnesota. Donald was a member of the Quarter Century Club of W.P.S., Menominee Knights of Columbus, Crivitz Council, American Legion of Crivitz, former member of the Wausaukee Lion's Club and Loyal Order of Moose in Apache Junction, AZ.

Donald is survived by, a son, Craig (Cindy) Patterson; two daughters, Laura (Mike Keller) Maye, and Caroline (Dan Lintereur) Patterson; three grandchildren, Jesse (Heidi) Maye, Amy (Scott) Hoffman and Daniel Maye; six great-grandchildren, Madison, Jenna, Dylan, Frankie, Gabby, and Mya. He is also survived by a sister, Joan Giles; and two brothers, Gerald Patterson and Jimmy Patterson.

ROBB, JOHN GARWOOD 422/D

Date of Death: March 1, 2025

Dr. John Garwood Robb, 100, of Meadville, PA passed away on Saturday, March 1, 2025. He was born on January 19, 1925, in Vandergrift, PA to Elias Shaffer Robb and Mary Ann (Reither) Robb.



After graduation from Vandergrift High School John entered the Army during WWII and served in a mortar platoon in the 106th Infantry Division in the Battle of the Bulge. They were ordered to surrender after three days of fighting due to lack of food and ammunition causing him to be held as a POW for nearly four months in Bad Orb, Germany Stalag 1XB. His camp was liberated shortly before the war's end.

John resumed his education by graduating from the University of Pittsburgh and Temple University,

In Memoriam . . .

College of Dentistry. On July 31, 1954, he married Marilyn Haise Robb of Erie and established his dental practice the following year in Meadville. John was interested in organized dentistry and served in all components including county, district and state where he served the Pennsylvania Dental Association for six years as trustee. After retirement he served as Secretary Treasurer of Crawford County Dental Society for 26 years.

In the 1970s, John began meeting with the 106th Infantry Division Association at their annual reunions and served in several offices including President, Board of Directors and Memorials Chairman. Attending 33 reunions over the years, he was awarded The Order of the Golden Lion for service to the association.

John was a member of The First Presbyterian Church following more than forty years membership in the Emmanuel United Church of Christ where he served on the PennWest conference board.

Following retirement after 38 years of dental practice, he completed the Penn State Master Gardener Program. He volunteered at the Crawford County Fair Fruit and Vegetable Department for many years and was a vegetable gardener and enjoyed growing roses.

John volunteered for various organizations including Crawford County Historical Society and Baldwin Reynolds House, water

monitor of French Creek from old Mead Avenue Bridge with senior volunteers. He participated in exercise programs and the planning of Veterans Day celebrations each year at Active Aging Meadville. John served many years as a member of the Northwest Region of Council on Aging and attended a White House Conference on Aging in Washington, D.C. He enjoyed being an active member of both the Meadville Roundtable and Taylor Hose where he was the oldest and longest member.

Along with gardening, John enjoyed trail walking in state and national parks, bird watching, and traveling both domestically and abroad.

In addition to his wife Marilyn of 70 years, John is survived by cousins, many nieces and nephews as well as special friends and neighbors.

His was a life well lived, and John felt blessed to be remembered by so many when he recently marked his 100th birthday.

Reported by Marilyn Robb

ROOS, ARTHUR K. 422/CN
Date of Death: June 28, 2022

Dr. Arthur K. Roos of Liberty, Missouri lived a remarkable 96 years before passing away peacefully on Tuesday, June 28, 2022. Art



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In Memoriam . . .

was born in a log cabin in Mt. Vernon, Indiana on July 15, 1925 to Arthur Christian and Elfrieda Morlock Roos. His family relocated to Wood River, Illinois to pursue better opportunities during the Depression, and it's there that Art first met his future wife, Doris E. Davis. Shortly after graduating high school, Art was called in July of 1943 to serve his country in World War II at the age of seventeen.

Art served in the Army in the 106th Division, 422nd Regiment, Cannon Company as a Prime Mover Driver in the European Theater for no more than two months before being captured as a prisoner of war in the Battle of the Bulge along the Western Front in the Ardennes region on December 12th of 1944. He was interned at the Stalag IX-B prison camp in Bad Orb, Germany for three and a half months before being liberated on April 2, 1945. At only nineteen, he had stories to last him a lifetime. When thanked for his service, Art sometimes responded with a smile, "I'm just glad it's over."

Art was honorably discharged on November 22, 1945. Art and Doris had written each other throughout the war and married on June 7, 1946. They soon moved to Chicago so he could study at Northern Illinois College of Optometry. After graduation in 1950, the newly minted Dr. Roos worked in Ferguson, Missouri before buying a practice in a little town named Excelsior Springs,

MO. As Dr. Roos, Art served the community for 46 years through his optometry practice. Clients often said he fit them with the best pair of glasses they'd ever had.

Art and Doris would spend the next 50 years in the town they loved so dearly raising their family and engaging with their community. Art was involved in the Rotary Club and was an active member of the First United Methodist Church with his family. He and Doris moved to Liberty, MO in 2004 after retirement. Art spent his twilight years at the Oxford Grand Assisted Living facility in KCMO amongst friends with the support and love of his family.

Art enjoyed swimming, growing tomatoes, and watching the birds in his backyard — although he held less love for the squirrels. He was known for his genuinely kind, easy-going soul and great hair. He loved clever wordplay and making up witty puns on the fly. Even more so, Art loved hearing others tell jokes, and would respond with his trademark wheezy laugh to even the cheesiest quips. He will be dearly missed.

Art is survived by younger brother Bill Roos; daughter Carol (Jim) Cleek, and their children Brian and Julie; son Keith (Judy) Roos, and their children Jason, Jinifer, and Kendra; and also, his great-grandchildren.

SCHREMPF, BROWNELL (BROWNIE)

424

Date of death: December 22, 2020

Brownell

(Brownie) Schrempf, 95, passed away peacefully with family by his side after a brief illness on December 22, 2020. Brownie

was born in Newburyport MA, a son to the late Elizabeth Schrempf.

To Brownie, family was the most important part of life. He was a devoted husband to the late Doris (Brown) for 50 years. Brownie always had great stories to tell about growing up with his five siblings Betty, Evelyn, Beverly, Janice and Johnny. A proud father to four children and their spouses; Glenn Schrempf, Linda and Alan Morse, Carl and Debbie Schrempf and Betty and Scott Lafrance. He absolutely adored his five grandchildren and their spouses: Carl Schrempf Jr. and his fiancé Michelle, Richard and Kristin Schrempf, Emily and Jay Wiedeman, Jason and Kassie Tipton and Nathan Daniels. Completing Brownie's family are his seven great-grandchildren who were the light of his life; Hunter, Lucas, Charlotte, Gus, Hank, Clyde and Knox.

Brownie was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII, serving in the 106th Infantry Division 424th Regiment. He defended NYC with Anti-Aircraft 120mil guns and he



traveled across Europe where he was part of the Replacement Depot. While in Germany and France he served many roles including an Army Medical Technician and a Military Police POW escort. In the Army, his nick name was "Gansett." He would often recall stories of the war including being on a ship headed overseas to Europe when some shouted out "Yeat" (a term to identify someone on Naval ships from Newburyport). Another favorite story was a chance meeting with German actress Marlene Dietrich in a Paris ice cream parlor.

After the war, he met his future wife Doris while roller skating at Salisbury beach. They were married on April 17, 1949. Brownie moved to Kensington where he raised his family. He continued his connection with Newburyport by being a proprietor of the Gulf gas station at the Newburyport circle, owning and operating a Mister Softy ice cream truck and delivering Coca-Cola. He traveled all over the seacoast area selling Mason shoes, ARA Honor Snacks, and Electrolux equipment. His life was full and rich with many hobbies and activities, but his greatest achievement was with the Boy Scouts of America. Brownie devoted 30 years to scouting culminating with his District Commissioner's title overseeing the NH Southeast District. He was proud that this role ensured

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every area of his district had a Cub Scout and Boy Scout Program.

In his retirement, he enjoyed watching NASCAR racing, Patriots football and *The Curse of Oak Island*. Another hobby was feeding the songbirds then watching and identifying them. Most of all Brownie enjoyed time with family, either in-person or on the computer and he will be sadly missed by all.

SHAVER, PAULINE

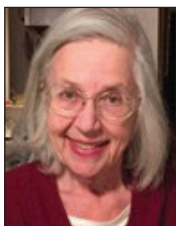
Associate Member

Wife of Robert M. Shaver 424

Date of Death: October 31, 2022

Pauline Barbara (Steffen) Shaver, 94, passed away on October 31, 2022. She was born January 10, 1928, in Indianapolis, IN, the youngest daughter of Elmer Andrew and Marguerite Marie Steffen. Pauline is preceded in death by her parents, her brother, E. Andrew Steffen and her sister Suzanne (Steffen) Geringer. Her husband, Robert Max Shaver, to whom she was married for 58 years, passed away on October 25, 2011.

Pauline graduated from St. Agnes Academy and Purdue University. She was in the Delta Gamma Sorority and graduated with a degree in Home Economics. Pauline met her husband, Bob, at Purdue and they raised five children. She was a dedicated homemaker and after



her children reached school age, she utilized her degree as a part-time market researcher at Walker Research for many years. She was a Girl Scout leader for her daughter's Cadet troop and organized many camping trips to Indiana State Parks and the Smoky Mountains. The family enjoyed annual camping vacations to destinations throughout the United States and Canada. In addition to participating in her local church choirs at St. Matthew and St. Pius of Indianapolis, she sang with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir for many years.

Pauline is survived by her five children: Mark (Heather Gonser); Barbara; Kurt (Debra McPherson); Marie (Peter Holloway); and Charles "Chuck" (Ashley Pfaff); six grandchildren Will, Peyton and Travis Holloway, Lauren, Hailey and Beckham Shaver; a nephew, Bill, and nieces Jeanne, Ellen, and Margaret "Mimi."

Her final years were spent at Sacred Heart Village in Avilla, IN; close to the loving care and support of her oldest son Mark and his wife Heather.

WEINGARTEN, JACK 424/AT

Date of Death: February 13, 2025

Jack Weingarten, of Old Bethpage, NY, and Delray Beach, FL, age 99 and a half, died peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, February 13, 2025.



In Memoriam . . .

Jack, son of Hattie (Rinzler) and Nathan Weingarten, was born on July 22, 1925, in Brooklyn, NY, and grew up in the Bronx, NY. After graduating from Bronx High School of Science, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Army Infantry in Europe during WWII. He proudly served during the Battle of the Bulge and other European campaigns — his division helped to liberate a concentration camp.

Upon returning from his service, he attended and graduated from NYU Law School. In the many years that followed, he worked at Robin Hood Park Homes, a building contracting company that he, his brother, and their father owned and operated. They built hundreds of homes throughout Nassau County, Long Island. He was a proud member of Veterans of Foreign Wars and Jewish War Veterans, as well as the Plainview Jewish Center for more than 50 years.

Jack was predeceased by his beloved wife of 57 years, Charlotte; as well as his three siblings, Sylvia Lucash, Irving Weingarten, and Gloria Appel. He is survived by his children, Shari Weingarten and her husband, David Jennett; his son, Larry Weingarten; his sister-in-law, Fran Wolfe; many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Reported by Sean O'Dwyer

WEST, JAMES (JIM) DAVID NON-106TH-VET

Date of Death: April 18, 2025

James David West, affectionately known as Jim to his friends and family, was a beacon of light and laughter in the lives of all who knew him. Born on May 14, 1940, in Columbus, Indiana, Jim's journey through life was marked by an unwavering commitment to service, a passion for history, and a profound love for his family and nature. On April 18, 2025, in Shelby County, Indiana, Jim's story on earth came to a peaceful close at the home he cherished and in the company of his family, leaving behind a legacy of joy, wisdom, and love.



Jim's life was a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of dedication. He began his career with Indiana Gas Company in 1958. He was promoted to Measurements & Instrumentation Coordinator in 1980 and retired in 1997, after 39 years. He also proudly served his country as a Reservist Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army's 38th Infantry Division and then as a Reservist Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force's 71st Division Special Operations Squadron until being called up for active duty near the end of the Vietnam War. His military career was

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not just a job but a calling, one that he fulfilled with honor and distinction.

Beyond his military service and professional career, Jim was a steward of history. He founded and meticulously maintained IndianaMilitary.org, Indiana's largest privately owned website that is dedicated to preserving the rich history of the state's military installations. His work ensured that the stories of Camp Atterbury, Freeman Field, Bakalar Air Base, and Grissom Air Force Base would be known and remembered by generations to come. His web page has been cited in at least 35 documentaries, television shows, and films.

Jim believed his Cherokee ancestry connected him to the land. He loved to be outdoors, watching everything he planted grow and embracing all animals that found their way to the wildlife sanctuary he established on his property. He especially loved dogs and any and all that were fortunate enough to come under his care lived their best life, including his current canine child, Harley. His home was a haven for laughter, where his funny and loving nature made everyone feel welcome.

He leaves behind a family that adores him: his devoted spouse of 61 years, Sharon Kay Romine West; his children, Christopher C-D (Angela) West and Christine L-E West; his cherished granddaughters, Elizabeth K-A West (Steven Dudley) and

Victoria L-A West; and his treasured great-grandchildren, Ethan James, Mia Renee Victoria, and Aurora Mae. His sisters, Sheryl Ann Rahn, Terri Lou Juraskovich, and Tammy Jean West-Frey, along with many nieces and nephews, will hold his memory close to their hearts. He was the beloved son of the late Ed and Dora Florence Lewellen West. Though his parents predeceased him, their legacy continued through Jim's vibrant life. His step-mother, Martha Sewell West, and step-father Maurice Pile also preceded him in passing, as well as sisters Patricia Snively Beaubien and Betty Jean Scalf.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in Jim's memory may do so to the [*Shelbyville/Shelby County Animal Shelter*](#).

In the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." Jim embodied this sentiment, leaving an indelible mark on the world through his service, his love, and his wisdom.

Jim's life was a master class in making the most of every moment, and his legacy will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him. His story may have ended, but his influence will echo through the ages, urging us to live with purpose, to cherish our loved ones, and to always find joy in the journey.

We are all feeling the effects of the current financial upheaval, including the
106th Infantry Division Association.

The *Annual Dues* of \$10 are no longer billed or collected.

We are now accepting only donations for membership, memorials and
LIFE PLUS.

The previously-allowed payment of \$75 for Life Membership creates
a financial shortfall, as our expenses exceed our income.

Our solution?

We are asking you to join the
LIFE PLUS+ Club

Those Members who contribute to the **LIFE PLUS+ Club**
will have their names (*only, no amounts will be shown*)
published in the next *CUB*.

You can donate as much or as little as you can and as often as you like.

By donating, you are helping perpetuate the
106th Infantry Division Association.

To those Members who we haven't heard from for a long
time — please take the time to join this exclusive club.

Thank you!

Send your contribution, check made payable to *106th Infantry Div. Association*, to:

Mike Sheaner
Treasurer, 106th Infantry Division
PO Box 140535, Dallas TX 75214

To see a *full-color* version of this issue of *The CUB*,
please visit our website at:

106thInfDivAssn.org

The online PDF version is now interactive and all
website URLs and email addresses that appear in blue italics
when clicked, will take you to the site or an open email window.

Pass It On

Perpetuate the legacy of the 106th Infantry Division by giving every family member of all generations access to the rich history, news and stories of Veterans found in each issue of *The CUB*. You can now “*pass it on*” to as many friends, heirs and family members as you wish at **no cost!**

Those you designate will be recognized as members of the Association on the “**CUB Level**” with the following benefits:

1. Receive an electronic copy of *The CUB* delivered by email complete with color photos, graphics and interactive links
2. Access to the Association website and Facebook pages
3. Receive timely notices and information regarding reunions and special announcements

Enroll all family members — sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, grandchildren and others — by submitting their *Name, Email, Address and relationship to a 106th Veteran* to sheaner1@airmail.net

106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

* THE ARDENNES

* CENTRAL EUROPE

* THE RHINELAND



GOLDEN LIONS

Henry LeClair — Membership Chair
209 Range Road
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