

# The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

*of the*

## GOLDEN LION

Vol. 80 – No. 2

April – June 2024

*Our Reunion is Fast Approaching...  
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*(Photo from atriumhotelsuites.com/)*



***Make your plans NOW!***

to attend the  
106th Infantry Division  
Association's

**77<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion**  
at the

**Atrium Hotel & Suites**  
**Dallas Fort Worth**  
**Airport South, Irving, TX**

## September 18–22, 2024

*See information on page 20.*

# The CUB

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

**Total Membership as of April 30, 2024 – 681**

Membership includes *CUB* magazine subscription

**Annual Dues are no longer mandatory: Donations Accepted**

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## Editor's Message . . .

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As I write this, the weather is clear, the azaleas, irises, and dogwoods are in bloom, and the birds are chirping. Everything seems calm and peaceful in this moment. This isn't true for many other parts of the world though, and not even in many parts of our nation. There is much to be thankful for but also much left for which to strive in an effort to help make this a better place to live. Our Veterans did and do just that for us. We pray there will be lasting peace after every conflict, hope that we learn lessons that steer us in a better direction, but somehow if those goals are achieved they don't last for long. The fact remains that the men and women who gave of themselves to help us AIM for those goals, to give us the means by which we can continue to pray and hope, and to enjoy simple pleasures like a clear day full of happy sounds and beautiful sights, should be thanked for doing so. Not all of these brave

soldiers made it home. For those who did, let's celebrate them. Part of doing that is having yearly reunions, not only to socialize but to remember and give thanks and appreciation for all that the Veterans of the 106th, living and dead, have done for our nation and for us. For the last three years, I've been unable to attend due to family obligations, but this year I am looking forward to making the trip with my husband to be part of this wonderful gathering. I hope you will, too.

In this edition of *The CUB*, our Adjutant, Randy Wood supplies us with a very interesting perspective (a philosophy in fact that we should all live by) about why you should attend this year's reunion, Pastor Edmonds reminds us what Memorial Day is all about, and we welcome a new Historian to our Board. You'll also see more information on this year's reunion and the form you can use to let us know you'll be attending.

Enjoy your summer and I hope to see you in September!!

Lisa Dunn, *Editor*  
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***Make Your Plans NOW!***  
**for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the**  
**Atrium Hotel & Suites Dallas Fort Worth Airport South, Irving, TX**  
**Sept. 18 –22, 2024**

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

[106InfDivAssn.org](http://106InfDivAssn.org)

## Editor's Message . . .

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### 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, 2024** — mail date: late November, 2024 (to include reunion photos and remembrances)

**January 31, 2025** — mail date: late March, 2025 (issue may include reunion paperwork)

**April 20, 2025** — mail date: mid-June, 2025 (issue will include reunion paperwork)

### Articles and pictures can be mailed or emailed to:

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## 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](mailto:CUBeditor@106thInfDivAssn.org)

**Note from the Editor:** As our President, Henry LeClair stated, we received a number of responses to the survey 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!

**Watch (again!) the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion's  
2020 Virtual Memorial Service**

Remember the men of the 106th at <https://youtu.be/6S4Ke-Tftg>

## President's View . . .

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I'm hoping you are all enjoying your summer and making plans for our September 2024 reunion. The Board of Directors has been putting a lot of effort into the plans for our annual gathering in hopes that we can keep people interested in attending. We continue to receive interesting suggestions from our survey and have taken some of that information into consideration.

As new membership chair of the 106th Infantry Division Association, I occasionally get inquiries asking where information about a relative's World War II service can be found. We try our best to answer these questions or point the inquirers in the right direction. In my own personal experience, the task of researching information about my dad during his war experience is daunting at times. What I've come to learn is to keep asking questions, be tenacious and you never know what treasures you will find. I have reached out to family members and of course members of the Association near and far. I have spoken with Veterans, authors of various books, battlefield guides in Belgium, and sought out information through the internet. One connection leads to another. You never know who might have the answers or where you might find them. Maybe even stored in someone's basement across the country.

I would like to share one anecdote regarding a "breakthrough" moment



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in my own information gathering experience. My dad passed away when he was 56, I was 17. I was too young to realize the extent of what he and other men of the 106th endured. He was so young when he passed away and our family didn't think to ask those important questions so that we would have some history to pass on to our family's younger generation. We had some information but the personal details were lost when he left us.

I'm the youngest of eight so I don't have the history with my father that my other siblings have. Naturally, they remember more



## *President's View . . .*

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because they shared more time with him. I do have vague memories of my dad writing at our kitchen table in our Cape Cod style house in Dracut, Massachusetts. I recall that he often sat there corresponding to various people in his life. Years later, I was having a conversation with my older brother Bob, and he remembered that dad would often be in touch with his Slaughterhouse Five buddy Joe Topicz. Bob recalled that during Christmas time, dad would purposefully put the Topicz Christmas card ON the tree. I set out to try and locate Joe and discovered that he had passed away, but through his obituary I discovered he had a daughter Carol. I searched for Carol in the Ohio area and came across a few matches. I called the numbers I found and left messages and one called back — and she was the one I was looking for! She said she knew my dad very well and had stories of our dads sitting at the kitchen table in her parents' house in Cincinnati, talking about their lives during and after the war.

That first conversation lasted about an hour but before wrapping up I had a long-shot question I felt it couldn't hurt to ask. I wondered aloud to Carol if she thought that her parents may have saved any correspondence from my dad. Carol explained that she did not know of anything offhand but offered that she had inherited her parent's house with all its contents. She said she would

look for any saved correspondence and get back to me. It was my hope that if any letters or cards existed, I would be able to gain some insight into my dad's thoughts and life.

Would you believe it? In her basement she found holiday greeting cards and letters from my dad throughout the years after the war, along with some pictures. I couldn't believe the treasures she had found. She knew that this material was very important in my research and offered to send the cards and letters to me.

The correspondence offered a glimpse into my dad's ordinary but special life. He shares details about his children and what we were doing at that time. He talks to Joe about his early morning swims in the ocean for therapy on his leg (he was wounded in the leg during the war.) Some of the correspondence contents may be mundane but it's still special. These were his own personal thoughts and feelings... words from him in his own voice.

As a young kid of 17, I was just coming to know my dad. Our relationship was fragile in my early years. He slipped away too soon leaving me to wonder who he was... making me more curious in my adult years. The more I learn about my dad I have come to realize what a difficult life he lived. I now have so much more respect for him and appreciate

*continues on page 6*

## President's View . . .

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the suffering he endured while being a prisoner of war.

Putting all these pieces together by asking questions helps me and my family understand more of the man who left us so suddenly. What I have come to realize in my research

is that people genuinely care and want to help.

Don't stop asking questions. You will never know where they may lead. You may be amazed at the answers you'll find. Stay curious.

Respectfully,  
Henry LeClair (father 422/G)

### ***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](http://106thInfDivAssn.org/survey2023.html)***

## **Visit the 106th Association's Website!**

To complement the wonderful websites that are already out on the Internet, including a website from our own member, Jim West ([IndianaMilitary.org](http://IndianaMilitary.org)), the Association has its own website at [106thInfDivAssn.org](http://106thInfDivAssn.org).

The Association's website provides information on upcoming events, copies of the membership application for your family to join, the complete latest issue of *The CUB in color*, plus additional photos not seen in hard copy.

Also look for our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn](https://www.facebook.com/106thInfDivAssn). You will find up-to-the-minute information here and it's where you can 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](mailto:Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org) or 410-409-1141.

The 106th Infantry Division Association also now has an Instagram page! You can get to it at the URL: [www.instagram.com/106th\\_infantry\\_division\\_assoc/](https://www.instagram.com/106th_infantry_division_assoc/). The Instagram account name is simply *106th\_infantry\_division\_assoc*. Use that to search for it on your phone or other electronic device — iPad, tablet, laptop or computer. The idea is to preserve memories of the 106th Veterans virtually forever.



## Chaplain's Message . . .

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*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.* John 15:13

Memorial Day is unique to our nation and more than a holiday. It is a sacred time to remember our beloved sons and daughters, moms and dads, sisters and brothers and fellow Americans who died in war. The day is intended to stir us to grateful recall of those who gave themselves, shed their blood, and laid down their lives in military battle for the cause of freedom in our land.

On May 5, 1868, Major General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization made up of Union Veterans, set aside May 30<sup>th</sup> as Decoration Day to commemorate fallen soldiers by adorning their graves with flowers. General Logan's order declared: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

That year, 5,000 gathered at Arlington National Cemetery to attend commemoration ceremonies presided over by General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant. This was our nation's first major tribute to those who fell in the Civil War, and at



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that time small American flags were placed on each grave, a tradition that continues today.

However, the decoration of graves began before General Logan's official order, and some two-dozen locations claim to be the site of the first Memorial Day observance. Many of these sites are in the South, where most of the casualties of the Civil War are buried. For example, both Macon and Columbus, Georgia, as well as Richmond, Virginia, each claim to have begun Memorial Day in 1866; and Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, claims that it held the first observance in 1864.

*continues on page 8*

## Chaplain's Message . . .

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One of the first documented sites to hold a tribute to the Civil War dead took place in Columbus, Mississippi on April 25, 1866. A group of women who were placing flowers on the graves of Confederate soldiers, casualties of the battle at Shiloh, noticed the destitute graves of the Union soldiers and also decorated their graves with flowers.

The first community-wide observance occurred in Waterloo, New York, on May 5, 1866, with a ceremony to honor local Civil War veterans. A century later in 1966, President Lyndon Baines Johnson and Congress declared Waterloo to be the “birthplace” of Memorial Day because of that earlier observance.

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the observance of May 30<sup>th</sup> as a day to honor the Civil War dead had become a widespread practice across the nation, but after World War I, the tribute was expanded to include all American military men and women who had died in any war.

Memorial Day has been acknowledged as a national holiday since 1971, when an Act of Congress established its observance on the last Monday in May. Then in 2000, Congress passed the “The National Moment of Remembrance Act,” asking all Americans to pause at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence in remembrance of all those who have died in military service to America.

For us in the 106th, remembering our soldiers who died in battle and those who have recently died, is a solemn duty that we observe each year at our reunion. Our memorial service is the main reason that we gather. While the graves of our brave boys are the permanent and visible symbols of their heroic devotion and sacrifice, we cannot visit every grave so we gather to remember the courageous resistance of our Golden Lions in the frightening forests of the Ardennes.

Thousands of our men were captured enduring untold hardships that hounded them the rest of their lives. Hundreds more gave their all — 700 men of the 106th Division died. Another 73 men died while in service with attached units; 215 men died as Prisoners of War; 444 men were killed in action; 79 men died of wounds from battle and 61 men are listed as missing in action.

*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.* John 15:13

We remember their names. We retell their inspiring stories. We recall their great sacrifices on our behalf. We rejoice in their greater love and the blessings they secured for us and future generations.

The greater love of our 106th warriors and all soldiers of the Greatest Generation deserve our highest honor and deepest gratitude.

*continues at bottom of page 10*  
*See Chaplain's Message, continued*

## The Adjutant's Message . . .

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This year's 106th Division reunion is quickly approaching, scheduled for September 18–22. It will be in the Dallas area at the Atrium Hotel in Irving, Texas. What is amazing is that if you are paying attention, Battle of the Bulge references will show up out of nowhere, from the most unlikely sources. For example, today I saw on Facebook, a daughter of a niece of ours quoted to her dad one of Kurt Vonnegut's philosophies of life.

*“Kurt Vonnegut was telling his wife that he is going out to buy an envelope. She says well you are not a poor man. You know, why don't you go online and buy a hundred envelopes and put them in the closet? So, Kurt pretended not to hear her, and went out to get an envelope because he was going to have a hell of a good time in the process of buying one envelope. He went on to say: I meet a lot of people. And I see some great looking babies. And a fire engine goes by. And I give them a thumbs up. And I'll ask a woman what kind of dog that is. And I don't know. The moral of this story is — we are here on earth to fart around. And of course, the computers will do us out of that. And what the computer people don't realize, or they don't care, is we are dancing animals. You know, we love to move around. And it's like we're not supposed to dance at all anymore. Let's all get up and move around a bit right now... or at least dance.”*



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Besides talking about computers, what I think Mr. Vonnegut was talking about was to get up and move. Enjoy your surroundings and your friends. Enjoy your country.

### **Enjoy Your Comrades and Friends at the Next 106th Infantry Division Reunion ... Before You Can't**

None of us are guaranteed tomorrow. So, if at all possible, don't miss the chance to participate in the reunion. Or at least get up and DANCE!

Why does this reference to a philosophy of Kurt Vonnegut's fit into my report? First of all, I do not know if my dad knew Kurt Vonnegut, (they

*continues on page 10*

## The Adjutant's Message . . .

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were both part of the 423 Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division) but I do know that my dad and Kurt were within 13 people of each other as they both stood in line at Stalag IV B being processed into the German prisoner of war system after they had been captured during the Battle of the Bulge. Both of these soldiers survived this ordeal. They returned home, went to work, raised families ... AND DANCED!

I would not have known this had it not been for Brian Welke researching Kurt Vonnegut and my dad, for that matter. Brian was asked to come describe Vonnegut's ordeals during WWII. Vonnegut's followers knew him as a word artist and interesting person but virtually none of them knew he was part of our 106th Infantry Division. My dad never made it known that he was part of the 106th either. But they were there together, and we honor them both. Thank you, Brian.

At this year's reunion, we plan to have two presentations that will provide information about some Battle of the Bulge Veterans about whom we are most likely not familiar.

Information for this year's reunion is in this CUB magazine, please *see pages 20–24*. It also includes the registration form that you can pull out, complete and send to our Treasurer, Mike Sheaner. *The CUB* and our website has the phone number and link to the hotel so you can make your room reservations. There is a free shuttle from the airport to the hotel. If you drive to the reunion, there is free parking at the hotel. Cars may be rented at the hotel site. There is a description of the events and the proposed itinerary in the information section as well.

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS DANCE!

Randall M. Wood, *Adjutant*  
106th Inf. Div. Association  
My Veteran: Robert M. Wood 423 Co I

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### *Chaplain's Message, continued from page 8*

If not for these brave Americans we would not enjoy the precious freedoms that the First Amendment to our U.S. Constitution guarantees: *the freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to petition our government*. These five freedoms make us the freest people

in the world — and the most blessed.

I hope you will join us this year at our reunion in Dallas on September 18–22 as we remember and honor our 106th heroes. May the freedoms they secured at great costs inspire us to live free and serve others with greater love.

### WE HEARD YOU

We recently posted an online survey about what things you'd like to see from our Association at our annual reunions. One recurring suggestion was to provide information on specific Veterans or events of historical interest pertaining to the 106th.

**We heard you** and have exciting news!

#### *Get Your Questions Answered at the Reunion*

If you are planning to attend our next reunion, and have questions about events involving a specific individual or unit of the 106th, the Association will conduct the research and present the results to you in person. While we are aware of approximately 20,000 soldiers that were part of the 106th, it is estimated that as many as 45,000 were attached at some point — even if only for a day or two. Finding information can often be difficult with conflicting or insufficient results

Let the resources of the Association help! We have many different ways to gather information and will share what we find with you at the reunion.

Not only will you get the answers you've been looking for but you'll get to mix and mingle with Veterans and their family members who may have even more knowledge to share.

Please submit your request to [Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org](mailto:Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org) with the following information:

- You name, phone number and email address
- Name of Veteran or the historical event you want information about
- Unit #, Date of Birth, Birthplace of the Veteran
- Any other information you already know
- What would you like to know? Please provide what it is you are looking to learn about this person or event

You will be notified upon receipt of your request.

This offer is **only being extended to people who register for the reunion being held in Irving, TX Sept. 18–22, 2024!**

***It's not too late to make your opinion count! Take the survey now at:***  
***[106thInfDivAssn.org/survey2023.html](https://106thInfDivAssn.org/survey2023.html)***

## Historian's Message . . .

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**Note from the Editor:** *We have been waiting a long time to find an official Historian for the 106th Association, and we are very pleased to announce that Sean O'Dwyer has accepted the position. You might remember seeing Sean's name in past CUB editions. He submitted some interesting pieces which showcased his ability to do research-driven, fact-based writing with a personal slant, and we are fortunate to now have him on board as a regular contributor to our publication, and as a resource for all of our readers. Welcome, Sean!*

### ***A little bit about Sean in his own words:***

Since his youth, Sean O'Dwyer has maintained a deep interest in World War II. Over the past decade, he has interviewed more than 200 Veterans of the conflict and amassed an extensive collection of historic artifacts. A proud Gator, Sean holds a BA and an MA in American History from the University of Florida. Currently, he serves as the Education Programs Manager at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force near Savannah, Georgia.



*Photo supplied by Sean O'Dwyer.*

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## Remembering Oliver "Ollie" Libman, CN/424

*by Sean O'Dwyer*

As part of my research into Pfc. George Skinner (featured in the March 2024 edition), I scoured the records of Anti-Tank Company, 424th Infantry. After making some remarkable connections with surviving company Veterans and families of Veterans, I began poring over another unit's roster, that of Cannon Company, 424th. George Skinner's platoon of AT Company was bivouacked in the Cannon

Company area at the start of the Bulge, meaning that the Golden Lions of CN/424 would have had a very similar experience to George's. The late Oliver "Ollie" Libman was serving with CN/424 that fateful day.

Born in Chicago on July 22, 1922 to a Jewish family, Ollie was drafted in 1943 and joined the 106th upon its activation at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He took part in the Tennessee Maneuvers during spring



## Historian's Message . . .

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*Oliver "Ollie" Libman with the author, June 2023.*

1944 and remained with the division at Camp Atterbury after thousands of its original troops were reassigned to a replacement pool that summer. Although he was initially trained as an artillery-fire control man, Ollie would take up positions as a regular infantryman when he arrived at the front near Winterspelt, Germany in December 1944.

Armed only with carbines and machine guns, CN/424's spirited defense buckled under concentrated German panzer assaults. Ollie's platoon commander, Lt. Albert Barnaby, was killed while directing fire on enemy infantry and tanks, and posthumously earned the Silver Star for his leadership. Ollie recalled that amid the confusion in the opening phase of the battle, he and three others were left to hold an isolated wooded hilltop. After hours of waiting with no further orders, Ollie and his comrades decided the best option was to retreat during the night of

December 16. This decision was especially prescient for Ollie given his heritage. He and his squad mates made their way back to American lines, where Ollie was reassigned to 424th's medical detachment until VE Day. After the war, he began a career as a chemist, married, and

raised two children.

Becoming active with the Association in the 1970s, it was not until attending annual reunions that Ollie discovered others from his unit had survived as prisoners of war. Recalling the bond that they forged decades before, he described them as "long-lost brothers." Ollie remembered very fondly his friendship with Dr. Owen Youles (CN/424) in particular, who passed away in 2022 at age 98. Oliver Libman, the last known surviving member of his company, died on January 30, 2024 at 101 years old.



*Ollie Libman with his wife Philomena at a 106th Division reunion, circa 1980.*



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

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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](mailto: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](mailto:membership@106thInfDivAssn.org)  
603-401-3723

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**Treasurer's Report:**  
**Feb. 1 – April 30, 2024**

**Association Membership**  
**as of April 30, 2024**

<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>\$22,315.99</b>	<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>681</b>
Money In:	441.22	Veteran Membership	192
Money Out:	2,429.90	Associate Membership	489
Difference:	(1,988.68)		
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$20,327.31</b>		

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## Show support for our mission by giving generously.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

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

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

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

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## **LIFE PLUS and REGULAR DONATIONS:**

Patrick Horan	Associate Member
Terry and Cheryl Lyon	Associate Members
Robert A. McCool	Associate Member
Dennis Shane Miller	Associate Member
John H. Mock	422/L
William H. and Mary Jo Zaeske	Associate Members

## **NEW MEMBERS:**

Patrick Horan	Associate Member
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## **MEMORIAL and HONORARY DONATIONS:**

*In honor of my father, POW Virgil L. Collins, 423/CN*  
Given by Carolyn L. Riley

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## **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](mailto:membership@106thInfDivAssn.org)

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## **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.

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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.

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## **Returned Issues of the Latest *CUB of the Golden Lion***

We have gotten many returned *CUB* issues in the past due to incorrect addresses or members who have passed away and therefore no longer reside at the address we have on file. If you happen to know of anyone who is not getting *The CUB* who should be, it may be because we have an incorrect address. Or if you know of a member who has passed away and whose family no longer wishes to receive *The CUB*, we want to know.

Please notify Membership Chair ***Henry LeClair***, ***directly at the address listed on the inside cover of this issue*** if you know of anyone who falls into these categories so that our records may be updated with accurate information. We would like to have your email address and/or phone number on file so that we can contact you if your *CUB* is returned.

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## **Jim West and the *IndianaMilitary.org* Website**

Additional 106th Infantry Division information can be found on Jim West's (OGL 2000) website at ***IndianaMilitary.org***. It includes the following:

- Every issue of *The CUB* from 1946 to present (searchable)
  - Every issue of the *Camp Atterbury Camp Crier* with articles on the 106th
  - Local Columbus, Indiana, newspaper articles featuring the 106th
  - With Wayne Dunn's help, over 451 diaries of 106th men and a few from other units
  - Articles include: 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.
-

**106th Challenge Coin and Wooden Ornaments —  
Have You Gotten Yours Yet?**

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



*Front*



*Back*



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

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

**Lapel Pins**

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



*Please call or email Randy with questions.*

Phone — 765-346-0690

Email — [woodchuck01@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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.*

## **“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](mailto: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 email the Editor.*

### **WWII POW Hero Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

*By Ann Jadin, David Gilles and Steve Gilles  
Photos provided by Ann Jadin*

Today James D. Gilles is 99 years old and will be celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday surrounded by his family and friends on June 2, 2024.

At age 18, in March 1943, he entered the Army. In December 1944, as a Battery Clerk in the 590th Field Artillery, 106th Division, dad was deployed on the Siegfried Line in Belgium. Hitler’s counteroffensive — now infamously known as the Battle of the Bulge — began on December 16th. Soon dad’s unit was overrun. Instead of surrendering, he with others attempted to reach reestablished American lines.



**James Donald Gilles  
on Veterans Day in  
2021.**

**James Donald Gilles**

**Serial # 3681081**

**POW#095573**

**#590 Field Artillery Battalion**

**#1 Stalag XII A Limburg**

**#2 Stalag XIII C Hammelburg**

**#3 Stalag XIII Nuremberg**

**#4 Stalag VII A Moosburg**

Although dad sustained back and ankle

shrapnel injuries, he managed to join other unit remnants at Saint Vith. Without ammunition, these units, including dad, soon surrendered.

Dad’s ankle injury was the most serious; fortunately, a German surgeon successfully operated without amputation. POWs had to endure very poor physical conditions with minimal nutrition — many perished. As Allied forces pushed Germans into Germany, POWs were moved from one prison to others more distant from the front lines. With other POWs, dad had to march hundreds of kilometers and perform hard labor in extreme winter conditions. Dad’s ankle had an open wound, his boots didn’t fit

## Email Bag . . .

properly, and he needed a brace to walk. POWs were also transported to other prisons via unmarked railroad boxcars that were crowded, unsanitary, and lacking sufficient water and food. Fear was a constant companion — rumors of POW executions, Allied strafing or bombing together with sickness and malnutrition were persistent dangers.

In April, Nuremberg POWs walked more than 100 kilometers to another prison — for this march dad had a single boot. Yet, dad survived weighing 98 pounds when liberated at Moosburg on April 29, 1945. When asked, dad maintains that his faith carried him through that fearful time — as it continues to guide him today.



**James Donald Gilles, taken when he was liberated from POW camp in April 1945.**

In June 1945, he returned state side and resumed courting Elaine Kleist. They married on Thanksgiving, 1947. Together, they raised their family and continued to delight in their life together for



**James Donald Gilles with his sons, David and Steve Gilles, and daughter Ann Jadin and her husband Tom, on June 2, 2023 at the Military Museum in Punta Gorda, FL.**

73 years. Quite honestly, dad never talked about the dangers he faced in those dark days while serving our country until we were adults, married, with our own children. Only as he began to share his stories did we begin to appreciate how fortunate he was to have survived.

Undoubtedly, dad's World War II POW experience profoundly shaped his life in ways that

we will never fully comprehend. Surely his courage, resilience and fortitude confronting death early in life provided an enduring foundation for later challenges. In contrast to the cruelty of war, dad's unconditional commitment, affection, and love for Mom and family and his generous compassion for others by sharing his time, talents and resources is exemplary. Similarly, his first-hand encounter with war's destruction must heighten his appreciation for everyday moments — like the enjoyment he takes from nurturing flowers to his genuine interest in his grandchildren and now, great-grandchildren.

In honor of James D. Gilles, our dad, and our American Hero. We are grateful and proud to be his children.

*David Gilles, Steve Gilles, and Ann Jadin*



## Reunion Information . . .

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

### **77<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion**

**September 18–22, 2024**

**Atrium Hotel & Suites**

**Dallas Fort Worth Airport South (DFW), Irving, TX**

The following pages contain information about the activities and schedule for the 77<sup>th</sup> Reunion. This *CUB* also includes a copy of the *registration form* to complete and send to our treasurer Mike Sheaner along with your check. If you have any questions, you may contact Mike Sheaner, Treasurer at [sheaner1@airmail.net](mailto:sheaner1@airmail.net). or Wayne Dunn at [Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org](mailto:Host106th@106thInfDivAssn.org). If you need a copy of the registration form mailed to you, please contact Mike Sheaner.

**For the most updated information about the reunion visit**  
**[106thInfDivAssn.org](http://106thInfDivAssn.org).**

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

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## Hotel Reservation Information

**Atrium Hotel & Suites**  
**Dallas Fort Worth Airport**  
**South (DFW)**  
4600 West Airport Freeway  
Irving, Texas 75062

### ***Making reservations Online:***

Use this link: <https://atriumhotellandsuites.net/106th>

To make a reservation and to get the 106th group room rate, you may call or reserve online.

### ***Making reservations by Phone:***

- Call the hotel reservation line  
**972-513-0800**
- Identify yourself as part of the *106th Infantry Division Association*

Using either method, you must make your own room reservation and you may stay up to 3 days before and/or 3 days after the reunion at the group rate of **\$129 plus tax per night** which includes a hot breakfast for 2 occupants per room per night stay.

**Hotel Information** continues on *page 22*



# Reunion Information . . .

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS *(All times subject to change.)*

### WEDNESDAY, September 18

- 4:30 - 5:30 pm      *Registration Open*  
5 - 6 pm              Current Board of Directors Meeting  
***Dinner is on your own***  
4:30 - 9 pm            Hospitality Room Open/review Silent Auction items

### THURSDAY, September 19

- 7 - 9 am                Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)  
9 - 9:30 am            *Registration Open*  
9:30 am                Gather to carpool to visit the BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY (box lunch included)  
3 - 6 pm                Return to hotel to relax and visit Hospitality Room/ review Silent Auction items  
4 - 5 pm                ***NEW!*** Battle of the Bulge Education Session  
*Kurt Vonnegut's Military Service and Slaughterhouse Five* by Brian Welke  
6 - 9 pm                Reception in Hospitality Room  
(finger foods and beverages included)  
plus Indoor Corn Hole Tournament

### FRIDAY, September 20

- 7 - 9 am                Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)  
9 am -                 Gather to carpool to the HOLOCAUST MUSEUM and the JFK SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM  
4 pm                    Return to the hotel  
***Dinner is on your own***  
4 - 9 pm                Hospitality Room Open/review Silent Auction items  
5 - 6 pm                ***NEW!*** Battle of the Bulge Education Session  
*Walking with the Lions* by Chris Edmonds

### SATURDAY, September 21

- 7 - 9 am                Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)  
9:30 - 10:30 am        Memorial Service  
11 am - 6 pm            Hospitality Room Open/review Silent Auction items  
***Lunch is on your own***  
1 - 2 pm                ***NEW!*** Video from the fields of Belgium ...  
*A Tour of the Battle of the Bulge* by Carl Wouters  
4 - 5 pm                New Board of Director's Meeting  
6 - 7 pm                Cash Bar gathering/Social Hour  
7 - 10 pm                Banquet Dinner Buffet, Officer inductions, Presentations, Completion of Silent Auction

### SUNDAY, September 22

- 7 - 9 am                Hot Breakfast Buffet (included)  
Say your Farewells and have a safe trip home

## Reunion Information . . .

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### Hotel Information *continued*:

#### **Room Reservation Cut-off Date:**

Reservations must be made by **August 18, 2024** (rooms may be available after that date but not guaranteed)

#### **Parking and Shuttle Information:**

Complimentary shuttle to and from Dallas Fort Worth Airport (DFW)

Free parking and car rental service available at the hotel

#### **Hotel Cancellation Policy:**

Cancellation must be received by the hotel 24 hours prior to arrival date

**Hotel Extras:** An indoor pool is available on site and the rooms include a microwave, refrigerator, a coffee maker and a work desk.

**Reunion information  
is posted  
on our website**

[106thInfDivAssn.org](http://106thInfDivAssn.org)

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## Plan to Participate in our Silent Auction!



You are invited to participate in our Silent Auction to be held during our 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion, September 18–22, in Irving, a western suburb of Dallas, Texas.

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 a little more than \$2,000! — all going to the 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 given to highest bidder and all payment due at end of the banquet Saturday night.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

### Tour Descriptions

#### **Bush Presidential Library** —*Thursday, Sept. 19*

*9:30 am — Meet at the front of the hotel*

We will be carpooling to the Bush Presidential Library. Those who are planning to drive to the reunion, or rent a car at the hotel, will provide carpool transportation to those who need a ride.

The George W. Bush Presidential Center, which opened on April 25, 2013, is a complex that includes former United States President George W. Bush's presidential library and museum, the George W. Bush Policy Institute, and the offices of the George W. Bush Foundation. It is located on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU) in University Park, Texas, near Dallas. The library and museum are privately administered by the National Archives and Records Administration, while the university holds representation on the institute board.

At 207,000 square feet, it is the second-largest presidential library, behind only the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. Like most presidential libraries, it includes a full-size replica of the Oval Office and the Resolute Desk where visitors may have their pictures taken. Particular focus is made on Bush's decisions after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and includes artifacts from the event. Another section includes "Decision Points" interactive exhibits about key events in his presidency, the title taken from Bush's memoir. Other exhibits include Hurricane Katrina and the 2008 global financial crisis, and a collection of items from First Ladies of the United States. A temporary exhibit hall has rotating exhibits from American history. Bush's paintings are also exhibited in the museum. There is a 14-acre native garden adjacent to the site dedicated to Laura Bush, and a farm-to-table restaurant, Café 43.



*Photo by Andy Jewett, 2022-08-20  
from <https://www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/>*

*Information from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_W.\\_Bush\\_Presidential\\_Center](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_W._Bush_Presidential_Center)*

*continues on page 24*

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

## Reunion Information . . .

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### **Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Dallas** —Friday, Sept. 20 9 am — Meet at the front of the hotel to carpool



Founded in 1984 by Holocaust survivors, the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum is a sacred place for remembrance, serving as a home to both horrific history and noble moments. Our mission is to teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred, and indifference.

The alarming rise in antisemitic and racially motivated acts illustrate that the Museum's work has never been more urgent than now. We take hope from the knowledge that just as hatred is learned, it can be unlearned. The Museum teaches about some of humanity's most incredible stories of struggle and courage to empower our community to be Upstanders, those who take action to create positive change.

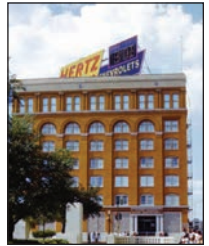
At the Museum, visitors experience an immersion into the lessons of the Holocaust, the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights following World War II, historical and contemporary genocides, and America's human and civil rights journey. Through meaningful exhibitions, engaging community programming, and pioneering educational initiatives, the Museum inspires visitors to be Upstanders by confronting hatred and promoting human dignity.

*Information and photo from: <https://www.dhhrm.org/about/>*

### **JFK Sixth Floor Museum** — Friday, Sept. 20

*After lunch on your own, we will walk to the museum*

The Sixth Floor Museum, chronicles the assassination and legacy of President Kennedy and explores the history of the 1960s through the collections, special events and educational programs. It is located in the Texas School Book Depository building, within the Dealey Plaza National Historic Landmark District. Between 1901 and 1963 the building served first as a warehouse for plows and other agricultural equipment and then housed a grocery wholesaler. In 1963 the building was leased to the Texas School Book Depository Company and served as a distribution hub for school textbooks with regional offices for education publishers.



After a decade of development and community soul-searching, on Presidents Day (February 20, 1989), The Sixth Floor Exhibit opened as a response to the many visitors who come to Dealey Plaza to learn more about the assassination.

*Information and photo from: <https://www.jfk.org/>*

## **Touring the Bulge Battlefields**

*By Carl Wouters, Belgian Liaison*

In early Spring 2024 Golden Lion family members visited the former battlefields of the 106th in Belgium and Germany.

Calvin Friar was a 22-year-old assistant gunner on a 60mm mortar in C-Company, 422nd Infantry when he was wounded in action and captured on 19 December 1944 outside Andler, Belgium. After travelling with a trainload of wounded POWs to Stalag XIB in Fallingbostal, Germany, he was sent to Stalag IIA, where he and 19 others were designated to become an Arbeitskommando (work detail). He ended up working near Gustrow, Germany, where the group lived on



**A waterlogged foxhole near the former CP of Lt. Colonel Thomas Kent (422/1BN). (Photo courtesy of Carl Wouters.)**

a farm before being freed by Soviet troops on May 1, 1945. Instead of remaining in the custody of the Soviets, the group stole a horse-drawn wagon and headed west towards the advancing American troops.

After returning home, Cal married Margie in the summer of 1945 and resumed his university education, while continuing to serve his country as a reservist. Cal passed in November 1989 at the age of 66 and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Cal's daughter Julie and her husband Jack visited in early March, wanting to follow in the footsteps of her dad. We visited the former 422nd positions on the Schnee Eifel ridge. Near the former First Battalion headquarters, the craters caused by a barrage of 88s are still evident in the forest soil. One of these 88s struck Lt. Colonel Thomas Kent's CP, situated in a log annex built next to the concrete bunker. He later died from his injuries. Across the crest of the hill, the C-Company foxholes and squad dugouts

*continues on page 26*



**Calvin Friar.  
(Photo courtesy of  
Carl Wouters.)**



## News from Around the Globe . . .



***Finding the tools of war on the Belgian-German border. This is what remains of a .30 caliber ammunition box, once carried by troops of the 106th Division. Julie Friar, daughter of Calvin Friar (422/C) stands at the right. (Photo courtesy of Carl Wouters.)***

are still clearly visible. The log roofs have long since collapsed and have been consumed by nature, but their footprint remains. The lush forest covers its wartime scars with a thick blanket of moss. Near the Belgian border we inspected the point where units of the 423rd crossed the Ihrenbach stream while advancing on Schönberg. Finding more evidence of combat action at the base of a tree, I spotted what remains of a .30 caliber ammunition can partially rusted away but clearly mangled by artillery or shrapnel. We ended the day in Gerolstein, inspecting a former

German field hospital where wounded prisoners of war survived a bombing raid after falling three stories down into the basement as the building collapsed under them. The railway station in town is a symbolic spot for many, as it is there where a boxcar ride began which brought them deep inside Germany as prisoners of war.

Pete G. Dimas served as a cook and rifleman in B-Company, 423rd Infantry Regiment. After initially volunteering for the Air Corps in 1942, he requested a transfer to an infantry unit in hopes of getting a combat assignment. While serving with the 106th, Dimas received his baptism of fire as his company was outposted in front of Brandscheid, Germany, when the Battle of the Bulge began. From their positions at the edge of the woods overlooking the town, they were facing an entire Regiment of the 18th Volksgrenadier



***Pete G. Dimas, rifleman in B-Company, 423rd Infantry Regiment. (Photo courtesy of Carl Wouters.)***

## News from Around the Globe . . .



*Pete Dimas (son of Pete G. Dimas, 423/B) and Carl Wouters stand near the former positions of B-Company, 423rd overlooking Brandscheid, Germany. (Photo courtesy of Carl Wouters.)*

Division as it pushed towards Bleialf and the Belgian border. While advancing on Schönberg on 19 December 1944, B-Company became the tip of the spear of the 1st Battalion and reached the outskirts of the village, only to become the target of heavy barrages of German mortars and artillery. After the surrender, Pete saved the life of Pvt. Robert Everhart, who was severely injured when a German mortar shell landed nearby. Pete carried Everhart out of the woods and urged a German officer that he be allowed to bring Everhart to an aid station. Everhart ended up having his leg amputated. As a POW, Pete Dimas was marched to Koblenz, where a train took him to Stalag IVB and later to Stalag IIIA and IIIB. After the war, he participated in the organization of American Legion

Post #41 and worked for the Water Department of the City of Phoenix until his retirement in 1975. After his service in WWII, he continued to serve with the Arizona Army National Guard and Arizona Air National Guard. Pete passed away shortly before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 27, 2020.

In 2009, I first met up with his son and namesake Pete, who made the documentary *Los Veteranos of WWII* which recognizes the service of several Latino WWII veterans. Pete is currently working on another documentary focusing on the story of his father and the men who served with him in B-Company of the 423rd. As Pete and I met again in early May this year, we noted the changing landscape of the Ardennes by

continues on page 28



comparing the spots we visited fifteen years ago. Although the battlefield, especially the forested area, remains largely the same, modern constructions such as wind farms and new housing developments continue to evolve the villages and

landscape in the Eifel and Ardennes.

If you're interested in seeing the Battle of the Bulge battlefields in December for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, see the information below for how to attend.

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### ***Reminder!***

## **Mark Your Calendars and Join Us for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge in St. Vith, Belgium!**

16 December 2024, will mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. With our surviving WWII Veterans now nearing or having reached or exceeded the blessed age of 100, this year will mark perhaps the last major anniversary where Veterans will travel to Belgium and Luxembourg to attend the commemorations. For the young generations of grateful Europeans, this will be a unique chance to meet, talk with and personally thank the members of the Greatest Generation.

For solo travelers and small groups travelling under their own power, the Association Bulge Chapter will offer a four-day immersive itinerary (13–16 December 2024). The focus naturally will lay on the history and experience of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. The itinerary will



***Members of the Association who visited for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, Dec. 2019. Photo by Carl Wouters.***

be focused on battlefield and museum visits, participation in several official commemorative events throughout the larger “Bulge” area and a unique chance to walk in the footsteps of the Golden Lions. As this program is offered through the Association on a voluntary basis, there are no fees involved except covering your own costs for transport and lodging.

For those interested in joining us for the unique commemoration weekend, please contact Association Belgian liaison Carl Wouters at [bulgechapter@outlook.com](mailto:bulgechapter@outlook.com)

## Order of the Golden Lion Committee

This award is provided in three classifications depending on the qualifications of the recipient. The most prestigious is “**Commander Class**” issued in gold finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time and is usually a Veteran of the 106th Infantry Division.

The second is “**Officer Class**” issued in silver finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully over an extended period of time and has assisted in the operation of the Association.

The third is “**Companion Class**” issued in bronze finish. This award is usually provided to someone who has served the Association faithfully in the capacity of assistance in the operation of the Association. The specifications for making the award are intended to fit many instances where an individual is deemed worthy. *The award should be determined by the recipient’s contributions to the Association.*

The Co-chairs of the Order of the Golden Lion 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. Nominations will be submitted in a format suitable for



composing a formal citation to accompany the award of 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 awarding ceremony. **LEAD TIME — 3 WEEKS, MINIMUM**

Send nominations to any one of the committee members listed below:

Carol J. Faulkner, 765-342-1872  
3179 Kestrel Court  
Martinsville, IN 46151  
[faulknerskeepe05@yahoo.com](mailto:faulknerskeepe05@yahoo.com)

Beth Garrison, 618-628-4733  
7766 Haury Road, Lebanon, IL 62254  
[rbg75@att.net](mailto:rbg75@att.net)

Kathy Spinella, 305-562-4381  
1991 Carolina Ave. NE  
St. Petersburg, FL 33703  
[pspin142@aol.com](mailto:pspin142@aol.com)

**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.*

**ALBERT, ROY I.**

**423/E**

*Date of death: February 9, 2021*

Roy Irving

Albert passed away on February 9, 2021, at the age of 96, surrounded by family. He was born in Norway, Michigan, where he spent his childhood years nurturing his love of nature in this bucolic setting. He would always reminisce about his days down on the river fishing and camping, as well as his time on the farm. He worked at his father's one-room grocery store for "one dollar a day" as a teen.

Fate and World War II would collide for Roy at the young age of 18, where he would enter into the war, an event that would forever shape his life. He landed on Omaha Beach, crossed France, and was captured at Germany's Blies River. He survived as a POW for six months, eventually returning home to Michigan to marry his beloved Marianne Hoener in 1946. They moved to Ann Arbor, where he entered into the architecture program at the University of Michigan. To pay



their way, Marianne worked as a secretary while Roy spent nights at the A&P and bussing tables at the Student Union. Together, they worked as "house parents" at a girl's rooming house, as well as ushers at Michigan Stadium.

Roy worked initially with Buckminster Fuller on the geodesic dome and other projects. LIFE captured him at work on the dome, his second appearance in that magazine, with the first during his Ranger training. As his independent nature would inevitably dictate, he eventually branched out to establish his own architecture firm, working "for himself" on hundreds of projects throughout the years.

His life was not, however, defined completely by his lovely design work. It was instead defined by his dedication to Marianne, his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild. His selfless love of neighbor and friends touched many untold lives. He shared his love of nature and gardening with his family and those around him, this love providing him a personal respite from his

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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tragic memories of war. In the end, he would embrace humility, never wanting his life to be defined by his earthly accomplishments; but rather his generous, gentle personality which transcended through his smile.

A video called “Why Did I Live and Not Joe?” explaining more about Roy’s experiences during the war can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lu-fd1QwITo>

He now joins his wife Marianne in heaven. He leaves behind his children: Joanne Walle, and her husband Jim; Peter Albert, and his wife Mary Jo, Paul Albert, and his wife Gina. Grandchildren include Patrick Walle and his wife Asako, with great-grandchild Kaito; Michael Walle, Peter Walle, Mary Walle, Theresa Walle, Anna Albert, and Steven Roy Albert.

### **ANDERSON, LYTTLETON C., JR. 81 ENG ©/HQ**

*Date of death: January 10, 2024*

Lyttleton (Lyt) Cooke Anderson Jr., age 99, of Nashville, Tennessee passed away on January 10, 2024. Lyt was born at the old St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee to the late Lyttleton and Leona Anderson on August 14, 1924. He graduated from West End High in 1940. He entered



Vanderbilt Engineering School and completed his freshman year before being called to serve his country.

Lyt’s Army training was spent at bases in Tullahoma, Tennessee, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, and Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He graduated from the Engineer Replacement Training Center for Mapping and Surveying. Later, Lyt was sent to the 106th Infantry Division and then assigned to the 81st Combat Battalion. His combats consisted of the Ardennes Battles of the Bulge, then in Central Europe. He was captured as a POW in Germany for a brief time and escaped back to his platoon. Lyt returned from Europe in 1945, serving at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri until his discharge in 1946. He continued his education, returning to Vanderbilt, graduating with his Civil Engineering Degree in 1948. He was in the student council and president of Sigma Chi Fraternity during college. Lyt continued serving in the Army Reserves and was a Captain during the Korean War. He received his Honorable Discharge in 1970 from the Army Reserves. His last military visit to Bastogne, Belgium was made in 1994, to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge.

Lyt returned to Nashville, married Patricia Waldrum, and started the Anderson Construction Company. He was also involved in commercial development throughout the Nashville

*continues on page 32*

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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area. He was responsible for purchasing property for and founding Harding Academy in Belle Meade. Lyt was a member of Belle Meade Country Club and served at Nashville VA Medical Center. He took pride in speaking and educating Vanderbilt and multiple schools on World War II. Lyt had a passion for God and loved his church family at St. Henry Catholic Church. He loved playing golf, hunting, and gardening. He had a great group of his generation friends that would meet to play cards. He loved life and was always looking out for those in need. Lyt was one of the kindest people you could ever meet. His family was his pride and joy, especially his grandson and great-grandchildren.

Lyt is survived by his daughter Leona (William) Butler; grandson, William (Kristen) Butler; great-grandchildren, Liam, Beau, and Smith. Other than his parents, Lyt is preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Patricia Anderson; and brother, Thomas Anderson.

Special thank you to all the caregivers over the years who helped take care of Lyt, Martha, Alahandra, and Gaila, especially Melissa Beard who was not only a caregiver but who became a part of our family.

### **BRADY, JOHN LESTER 106 SIG**

*Date of death: November 29, 2023*

John Lester

Brady was born November 23, 1924, on the family farm near Ingleside Baptist Church in the Campobello-



Landrum area of Spartanburg County, South Carolina, to Oren L. Brady, Sr. and Gussie Edwards Brady. He attended Southside and Pine Street Elementary Schools and graduated from Spartanburg High School in the Class of 1942. He attended the University of Alabama and Clemson University, graduating from Clemson in the Class of 1947 with a degree in Textile Engineering.

John served in the Army of the United States from November 1942 until October 1944 in the 106 Signal Company of the 106th Infantry Division. He was Charter Member of Westminster Presbyterian Church where he served as a Deacon, an Elder, and the Clerk of Session.

John worked with Inman Mills in Inman, SC and the Milliken Company at Johnston, SC. He spent most of his career with Reeves Brothers, Inc. in Spartanburg where he worked for more than 39 years, first as Accounting Manager and then as Corporate Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. He was a member of the Johnston, SC Jaycees, a Charter Member of the Spartanburg

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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Sertoma Club, and recently a member of the Executive Sertoma Club of Spartanburg. He served as a board member of the Mental Health Association of the Piedmont, the Greenville Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the Portals Apartments of Greenville, the Spartanburg Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the New Day Clubhouse of Spartanburg, Newport Apartments and Wilkinson Place Apartments. John was a member of the Board of Directors and served as Treasurer for the National Alliance for Mental Illness-South Carolina (NAMI-SC). He also served on the Board of the Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center for several years.

In recognition of his service in the mental health/illness field, he and his deceased wife, Sallie Grist Brady, received the NAMI-SC Solid Gold Member Award in 1998 and he received the award again in 2000. He was a recipient of the J. William Davenport Distinguished Service Award from the Mental Health Association of the Piedmont and the Alma and T.R. Garrison Award from the Spartanburg County Health Planning Commission.

John was a Clemson IPTAY Representative for more than 50 years. He was a member of the Clemson University National Alumni Council and a member of the Clemson University Board of Visitors. In 2003, he received the John Fleming-Grove Henry Lifetime Achievement Award

from the Spartanburg Clemson Club for services to Clemson.

Surviving are his sons, John L. Brady, Jr. (Donna) of Atlanta, Ga., and Earl Grist Brady of Anderson, SC; stepdaughter, Joy Nanney Finch (Boyd) of Inman, SC; sister-in-law Evelyn Loomis Brady of Spartanburg, SC. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Ramey Johnson Brady and his first wife, Sallie Catherine Grist Brady; brother, Oren L. Brady, Jr.; sisters, Helma Brady Shields, Euna Mae Brady Lowry, and Rebecca Brady Cunningham.

### **COY, JACQUELYN KAY**

#### **NON-106TH VET/ ASSOC. MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

*Date of Death: March 16, 2024*

Jacquelyn Kay Sparks Coy, a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and dear friend to many, passed away with grace and peace on March



16, 2024, in New Providence, NJ, surrounded by family. She was born on August 12, 1939, in Rahway, NJ to the late William and Adeline Sparks. Jackie resided in Long Hill Township, and following retirement, moved to Mt. Arlington on Lake Hopatcong and later to Lantern Hill in New Providence. Jackie was married to Dudley F. Coy from 1962

*continues on page 34*



## *In Memoriam . . .*

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through 1983 and then was the domestic partner of Harry F. Martin, Jr. Harry was a Veteran of the 106th, 424th/L Co, and past president of the Association. Jackie and Harry were together until his death in 2020.

Jackie graduated from Westfield High School receiving her bachelor's degree from Lake Erie College for Women and her master's degree in Italian Studies from Middlebury College. She also studied abroad for several years at the University of Florence. Upon her return to the United States, Jackie worked for Banca d'Italia in New York City.

A pioneer of the modern woman, Jackie skillfully managed many responsibilities. She was a single mother for much of her parenting life, while simultaneously establishing a successful work career and volunteering in her community. Professionally, she excelled as a life insurance broker and was well respected in the industry by her colleagues and clients. Jackie served as President of the New Jersey Chartered Life Underwriters and Treasurer of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors—Northwest New Jersey. Her community involvement was extensive. She served on the vestry for All Saints Episcopal Church, was a board member for the Long Hill Community Center, served as class parent and scout leader for all three of her children, and she was a member of the Jaycees.

For many years, she chaired the Long Hill Township Recreation Committee, where she organized The Run for Independence. In recognition of her many years of community service, Jackie was honored with the Good Scout Award for Outstanding Community Service, presented by Bill Bradley, former Governor of NJ. In later years, she served as President of the Trustees for the Mount Arlington Library and as a Board Member of the Veterans of the 106th Infantry Division Association. Most recently she served on several committees at Lantern Hill.

Jackie gave generously throughout her life — a testament to her love and compassion for others. She contributed both her time and money to numerous causes and organizations, including the Seeing Eye in Morristown, NJ and the Lakes Environmental Association in Bridgton, Maine. She gave even when doing so was challenging, believing that contributing to those in need was a responsibility for all.

Above all, Jackie valued time spent with her family, including her three children, Maria Coy, Timothy Coy and Meagan Coy (married to Mitchell Epstein). She was a devoted grandmother to four grandchildren who brought immense joy to her life: Kaitlyn Winn, Arbor Coy, and Alexa and Elise Epstein. Jackie is also survived by her brother William Sparks, Jr. (Grace Sparks) of Cleveland, TX, and Harry's children, Marty, Lisa, and Larissa.

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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Jackie's passing leaves a void in the hearts of those who knew and loved her deeply. She will be celebrated for her strength, independence, compassion, and intelligence. She leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire her family, friends, and the communities she served.

### **HOLMES, BRADFORD M.**

**423 INF/2 BN/E**

*Date of death July 14, 2023*

Bradford M. Holmes, 97, of Wareham, MA died July 14, 2023, at VA Boston Healthcare in Brockton after a long illness. He was the husband of Mary L. (Bowler) Holmes. Born in Wareham, he was the son of the late Bradford V. and Olive (Haskins) Holmes. After leaving high school, Mr. Holmes went to work for Hammond Cranberries in Onset until his induction into the U.S. Army in January 1944. Three days after the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, Mr. Holmes was captured and held as a German prisoner of war in Stalag IV-B, one of the largest POW camps in Germany.

Returning to Wareham, Mr. Holmes owned and operated Holmes Shell Service Station on Onset. He was also a plow operator for the Town of Wareham, assistant harbor master, and herring agent. More recently, he worked at Gone Bananas



Army/Navy Surplus in Wareham.

In a ceremony held in Wareham on April 15, 2018, Mr. Holmes was presented with his POW medal by Congressman Bill Keating (D-9th District).

He is survived by his children, Richard W. Holmes of E. Freetown, Pamela J. Bond of Yulee, FL, Sally Anderson of E. Freetown, Kathleen Raymond of S. Middleboro and Bradford E. Holmes of Wareham. Also survived by 12 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by two children, the late Linda J. Crump and James B. Holmes; his siblings, the late William Holmes, Shirley Marchisio, Beverly Smith and Robert Holmes.

*Reported by his son, Rick Holmes*

### **KUIZEMA, HAROLD JAY**

**589 FABN/BATT B**

*Date of death April 3, 2024*

Harold Jay Kuizema passed into glory on April 3, 2024. He was 98 years old and lived in the Holland Home Raybrook community for more than 25 years. He was born August 16, 1925, in Grand Rapids, MI, to Henry and Elsie Kuizema in their family home.

A lifelong member of Oakdale



*continues on page 36*

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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Park Christian Reformed Church, Harold graduated from Grand Rapids Christian High School in 1943.

Months after graduation and on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served in Europe with the 106th Infantry Division, which fought in the Battle of the Bulge. In that battle, he was wounded twice, experienced frozen feet, and escaped three times. His parents received a notice that he was missing in action, but by the grace of God he returned home. He then attended Calvin College, focusing on business. In 1949, Harold married the love of his life, Jessica DeBoer. They were married for 72 years.

Harold's working career began at H. Kuizema and Sons, the family hardware business, where he worked with his father. He continued to operate and expand the hardware store for more than 50 years, later joining Cotter and Company and changing the name to H. Kuizema and Son True Value Hardware. He helped the community with goods and services while seeking to instill Christian values in those he served and employed. Even in his retirement, he was recognized as the owner of the local hardware store.

Harold served in other various capacities: as a member of Oakdale Park Church, he enjoyed teaching Sunday School, was a Deacon, an Elder, and — along with his wife, Jessica — served on the church's

Centennial Committee.

Harold was an advocate for the marginalized in West Michigan, serving with his wife, Jessica, daughter, Diane, and son-in-law, Mark for many years on the board of Christians Concerned for Mental Illness. He and Jessica also welcomed Calvin international students into their home and into their lives. Harold served as a board member of Calvin Academy of Lifelong Learners where his responsibilities included recruitment of new members.

During the second half of his life — especially in retirement — Harold and Jessica visited more than 40 countries and all 50 states. They loved these rich experiences and were especially intrigued by the variety of people that they met. An annual highlight for Harold was reunions with his friends from the 106th Infantry Association, for which he served on the board and provided spiritual guidance.

Harold was preceded in death by his wife, Jessica; his daughter, Diane; and son-in-law, Kock Seng Chee. He leaves behind three daughters, Ellen (Norm) Thomsma, Carole (Albert) Valk, and Joan Chee; and one son-in-law, Mark DeHaan. He also leaves six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. He is survived by his sister, Jeanne Rypma; his sister-in-law, Dorothy Zylstra (Dale) Sheler; and brother-in-law, Ken Kwantes.

*Reported by Carl Wouters*

## In Memoriam . . .

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### **LIBMAN, OLIVER E.**

**424 INF/CN, 424 INF/MEDIC**

*Date of death: January 30, 2024*

Oliver Emmanuel

Libman, at 101.5 years old, passed away peacefully on January 30, 2024 at his home in Cary, North Carolina. Born in Chicago on July 22, 1922, he lived in that area until relocating to NC in 2011.

Oliver lived a long, amazing life full of love, adventure, and success. From the battlefields of WWII to the labs of Gillette, his smile and humor made his 5'5" stature much bigger in presence.

Through all his years earthside, family always remained his priority. He married the love of his life, Philomena, in 1951 and celebrated life every day with her (even though they could never agree on how many years they had been married). He enjoyed cooking five-course breakfasts and spent countless hours hanging out at parks and pools so that his grandkids could play (and he could finish his latest book).

He was the beloved husband of the late Philomena Libman; loving Pops of Claudia (Mike) Thompson and Andrew (Marie) Libman; loving brother of the late Robert (Florence) Libman and Henry (Charlotte) Libman; grandfather to five grandchildren,



nine great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren; son of the late, Felix and Martha Libman.

The family would like to thank the staff at Sunrise Senior Living of Cary who took great care of him in his final days. And to all his friends that shared in his final hands of poker.

### **PATTRIDGE, ROBERT GEORGE "BOB", SR. 106TH**

*Date of death: April 8, 2022*

Robert George Pattridge, Sr., 96, of Cleveland, NY, passed away April 8, 2022 at the Abraham House, Rome, NY. He was born in 1926 on a dairy and cash-crop farm with no electricity. He was the son of George and Lillian Burlingame Pattridge. He graduated from Perry High School as Valedictorian when at the time WWII was in the making. His buddies and his cousin enlisted as did Bob to fight for the freedom of our country. He was assigned to Patton's 3rd Army Spearhead Division armored infantry. He reached the rank of Sergeant. The 106th Infantry Division consisting of new recruits arrived in Northern France. They were in need of battle-tested, non-commissioned officers. Bob was assigned to the 106th Infantry as platoon leader. The Germans made their push in the front



*continues on page 38*

## In Memoriam . . .

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held by the 106th Infantry. Sixty percent of the division was taken as prisoners or casualties. After the Battle of the Bulge, Bob returned to Spearhead Division until the war's end.

Bob worked with NYS Transportation as an engineer in charge of building bridges and roads. Always an outdoor person, he settled on beautiful Oneida Lake upon his retirement. He knew every inch of the lake! Walleye and perch fishing were possible every day. Fishhawk was his handle.

He is survived by his wife, the former Louise Markwica, two sons, Robert and Maureen Pattridge, Jr. and George Pattridge, his grandchildren, Robert and Alyssa Pattridge III, Kenneth Pattridge, Dayna Pattridge, Autumn and Mark Black and three great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

### **SUSSMAN, ALVIN 424/2BN/HQ**

*Date of death: June 28, 2022*

On June 28, 2022, Alvin Sussman of Fort Lee, NJ passed away at 99 years of age. He is survived by his daughter Patrica of Alpine, CA. He was a Veteran of the Battle of the Bulge and created the Fort



*Photo from "Jewish War Veterans" Vol 72, Number 2, article by Carl Singer, 8/20/2018.*

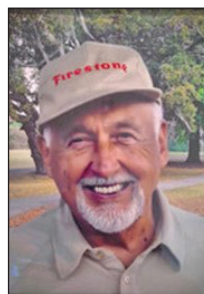
Lee Battle of the Bulge Monument in 2010.

An early TV cameraman, Al was a television executive, producer and syndicator. He is credited with "The Merv Griffin Show" and "The Mike Douglas Show." He was predeceased by his wife of 46 years, Lynda.

### **WILLIS, ARNOLD MURRELL** **106TH**

*Date of death: March 4, 2024*

Arnold "Arnie" belonged to the "Greatest Generation" and was widely known as driven, patriotic, and a team player.



Born at home on Miller Avenue in South Akron, OH, he grew up during the depression on Paris Avenue, went through the Akron Public School system and attended Lincoln Elementary, South High, Hammel Business College, and lastly earning an Honors Financial Degree through the University of Akron in 1956 courtesy of the GI Bill and sheer determination.

Drafted at age 18 into the 106th Army Infantry Division, he was stationed in France and Germany during World War II. After discharge, he served as a Reservist in the Finance Corp during the Korean Conflict for an additional two-year commitment. He notably attended

## *In Memoriam . . .*

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General George Patton's funeral procession in Heidelberg, Germany in 1945.

Arnie's entire professional career was at the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. He entered as a teen in the Tire Production unit and retired in the Accounts Payable department. A special highlight of his 36-year career was the appointment as Comptroller for their Singapore operations for purchasing and exporting natural rubber to the United States Akron manufacturing plant.

The love of travel, adventure, sport, and nature included: many cross-country trips towing a pop-up camper, circumventing the world six times, traveling while using the "Europe on \$5 A Day Guide," putting in the annual tomato garden each summer in Ohio and similarly harvesting his grapefruits in Florida during the early spring. Arnie enjoyed playing a great game of golf, especially with the guys and attending the Princeton Corner open.

He spent many days searching for the perfect swing and then commented some days that golf was a good walk spoiled. On his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, Arnie tandem sky dived and had a celebratory champagne toast.

Arnie loved his family and leaves his wife of nearly 75 years, Peggy (Gilbert) of Lady Lake, Florida, daughter and son-in-law Karen and Brian Kelly of Lady Lake, Florida, son and daughter-in-law Alan and Darlene (McDaniel) of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, grandchildren, Megan Holt of Lady Lake, Florida, Heather Willis of Tallmadge, Ohio, and Alexander Holt and wife Jennifer Stoneking of Cleveland, Ohio, special niece, Rev. Deborah Bolen as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Preceded by parents Ual and Lorena (Gutherie) originally from Green County, Kentucky, Glenn from Miami, Florida and Norma Greer from Fairlawn, Ohio and many beloved pets.

### **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*.

### **We Are Currently Updating Our 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.



## Association News . . .

### ***Make Your Plans NOW!***

for the 106th Infantry Division Association's 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the  
**Atrium Hotel & Suites Dallas Fort Worth Airport South, Irving, TX**

**Sept. 18 –22, 2024**

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

***106InfDivAssn.org***

### ***Watch (again!) the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion Virtual Memorial Service***

which replaced the live event for the 74<sup>th</sup> 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.

### ***The CUB Delivery Options***

Approximately 90% of Association expenses are directly related to printing and shipping *The CUB* each year. Your choice to receive *The CUB* by email will help defer expenses and enable us to continue to deliver *The CUB* until “The Last Man Standing.” Please indicate mailing preference by responding to the following:

1. Preferred delivery method for general correspondence:

MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ or Email \_\_\_\_\_

2. Preferred delivery method for *The CUB*:

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3. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

You can let us know your preference by emailing:

***[membership@106thInfDivAssn.org](mailto:membership@106thInfDivAssn.org)***

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](mailto:sheaner1@airmail.net)

**106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

\* THE ARDENNES

\* CENTRAL EUROPE

\* THE RHINELAND



**GOLDEN LIONS**

Henry LeClair — Membership Chair  
209 Range Road  
Windham, NH 03087

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**