

POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

SUMMER 2002

COLUMBUS REUNION 2002

Bill Warthen has firmed up on the details for the reunion in Columbus.

The telephone no. for the hotel is on the agenda page.

You must make your own reservations. You must also provide for your own transportation to the reunion. Any questions? Contact Bill Warthen.

REUNION 2003

We are still in contact with the people in Minneapolis about the reunion there in 2003. Bret Job lives in Minneapolis and has agreed to help prepare for the reunion. We will report as information becomes available.

PUBLICATIONS

The Waters Story \$19.50
My Tour of Russia \$ 5.00
The Men of Oflag 64 \$ 20.00
The Oflag 64 Directory \$ 3.00
Oflag 64 Audio Tape \$ 5.00
Original Roster-Oflag 64 \$10.00
Tribute to TF Baum (Paperback) \$15.00
Hammelburg Roster \$ 7.50

Make check out to Oflag 64 PF and
 mail to the Editor.

In the Presence of Mine Enemies \$10.00
 Make check payable to and send to:
 Mrs. Rose Daniels
 5100 Sharon Road. Apt 603
 Charlotte. NC 28210-4720

Vic Kanners Diary----FREE
 Contact- Dave Kanners
 1141 Pine Ridge Court
 Rochester, MN 48306

Americans Behind the Barbed Wire
 By Frank Diggs \$24.95
 Plus shipping 3.75
 Total \$28.70

Contact: Vandemere Press
 P.O.Box 5243
 Clearwater, FL 22205

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MAIL CALL

Irv Yarock has been reading your mail again and says-

Robert Moorhead, 1111 Putnam Blvd, Wallingford Br. Media, PA 19086. A new name. I couldn't find him on any roster I have, but according to **Curt Jones**, he hit Oflag 64 in October of 1944. He may make it to Columbus where I'm sure some of you will recognize him. My failure to remember him could be due to my age and lousy memory. Curt says he's a major, but I'm not sure whether that was his rank in the camp. Speaking of Majors brings to mind the two "hot shot" Majors who made a quick trip from the State of Washington (104th Division) to Oflag 64 in about a week. The first person they ran into was **Roger Cannon**. One of them said to him "this ought to be an easy place to escape from". Roger said "by my guest". The Major didn't think that was the way to talk to a senior officer and started to berate Roger when the Appel bell rang and they found themselves at the end of the line as the junior officers in a string of field grade officers. One of them turned out to be a nephew of high school teacher of mine (IY).

Mervin Danielson, 47 Clemente Circle, Hot, Springs, AR 71909. Used to be on our roster but moved several times and we lost him. He's planning to be with us in Columbus.

Robert Cheatham, Asheboro, NC, plans to be with us in Columbus. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

Rocco Pravidica, Rockford, IL, received the following letter and forwarded it to Bob Thompson along with a contribution to the Postage Fund -

'I am looking for former POWs who have any memories at all of the team called the "Red Sox" which played baseball in Oflag 64 during World War II. I am a writer who has written several books on the Boston Red Sox and I thought it might be a very interesting story that there were prisoners who played for and against a loosely organized team by the same name while in captivity. It may interest some to know that my father-in-law was one of the "Lost Battalion" and spent approximately 42 months in Japanese prison camps.'

*From: Bill Nowlin, 1 Camp Street, Cambridge, MA 02140, e-mail
billing@rounder.com*

Robert O'Neill, 8276 E. Mohawk Lane, Scottsdale, AZ 85255 is his new address.

Anonymous- whoever you are, Bob says he's added you to the mailing list, but didn't give me your name. Anyway, thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund, and we hope to see you in Columbus. Reminds me of the bus accident in New York City. There were 10 people on the bus and 20 got hurt.

Tony DeSanto evidently has been in correspondence with Bob T. He sent a check for the Postage Fund to be credited to Peter Domes. I can't find either one on my roster, but thanks anyway.

Alan Dunbar, Las Vegas, NV is having some health problems. If my memory is correct, Lilo had some health problems a few years back, so now he's getting back at her. Says Lilo is doing a great job caring for him and keeping his spirits up. Health permitting, they'll be in Columbus.

Larry McBrayer, 115 Athene Drive, Slidell, LA 70460 Telephone No. (985)643-5384. Planning a trip to New Orleans? Larry will give you a personal tour of their D-Day Museum. Larry is a volunteer and became interested in us when he found that a co-volunteer was a member of "Task Force Baum". His name is **Robert Zawada**. **Lyle Bouck** is also a graduate of Hammelburg, so neither one is on our Of lag 64 roster

Todd Trotter, Bozeman, Mt checks in and enjoys reading the Item. He also sends in a donation to the PF. Thanks Todd.

MAIL CALL

Errol Johnston, New Haven, KY plans on being in Columbus. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

W. M. Boucher, 700 E. Naples Ct #E208, Chula Vista, CA 91911 is his new address.

Ormond Roberts, Worcester, MA -I (IY) visited him and had a great visit reminiscing about our POW days. Ormond is in reasonably good health and living in a well-rated rest home. He's somewhat restricted in that his eyesight is poor. However, he does have the gadgets necessary to do some reading. For instance, I read the Of lag 64 Item to him which took about 15 minutes. With all his implements, he said it would take him a few hours. I left a copy of the Oflag 64 Item with him and he enjoyed that. He's the last one in his family left in Worcester, but he has some long-time friends who take him out on necessary and/or recreational trips. I'm sure he'd appreciate hearing from his kriegie friends. His address was in the last Item, but to repeat it's Briarwood Continuing Care Retirement Community, Briarwood Drive, Apt #220 ,Worcester, MA 01606.

Suzy Parker USA Today, 7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, VA 22108 is the daughter of Captain Robert Scott who was a Chaplain in the 101st Airborne. He was probably the first airborne Chaplain to be captured. He spent some time at Oflag 64 along with Herb Garris. She mentions- Garris's escape and her father was with Garris. I don't have any information on that. If anyone of you knew him and anything about him, Suzy would love to hear from you. She can be reached at the address above or e-mail sparker@usatoday.com(Parker,Suzy) Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

Bob Thompson, your editor sent me some E-mail stuff. I am still holding out. I don't have a computer and I don't have e-mail. e-mail is great, but there are two major faults.

1. You don't need an envelope, therefore we are not getting contributions to the Postage Fund, and **Joe Serringer**, our treasurer, says the Postage Fund balance is getting pretty lean, and
2. You have to be exceptionally careful about getting the address right.

There is the story of a working couple who were going to Florida. The wife had a business emergency come up so she had to delay her trip one day and her husband went down to Florida alone. When he registered at the hotel he thought he'd send her an e-mail but he couldn't find the slip of paper on which he wrote the address. He guessed at the address, but instead of going to his wife, the message went to an elderly lady who had just returned from her husband's funeral. She checked for messages, saw one, screamed and fainted. People came running when they heard her fall, and there on the screen they saw the following message JUST CHECKED IN, EVERYTHING SET FOR YOUR ARRIVAL TOMORROW. IT'S SURE HOT DOWN HERE.

Robert Galloway, Mt. Pleasant, SC sent a few e-mail messages. Most important, he plans to put all the interviews with us in their entirety (about 15 hours) on DVD and is trying to figure out how he can index them. It's a tremendous job and will probably take all his free time for quite some time. Maybe during his baby-sitting chores. He is also interested in comments on Hart's War. I (IY) had already given him my evaluation. It was a film worth seeing, but the authenticity is questionable. Whereas the film OFLAG 64 was as close to being authentic as possible, I was never in III-B but without having been in the camp I'd bet there was more fiction than fact. I don't know if I'll ever get around to reading the book. It's possible that the book is more authentic than the movie. **Nick Katzenback** was with us in the Italian camps until the Germans re-claimed us and separated the ground force officers to Oflag 64 and the Army Air Force Officers to Stalag Luft III. Nick became an assistant Attorney General and was the guy on the news when he pushed Governor Wallace aside to bring the little black girl into a previously all white school. He later became chief counsel for IBM. This author & playwright is his son.

Ted Roggen sends an address correction. It's 101 Westcott, unit 306, Houston, TX 77007.

MAIL CALL

Virginia Barton, Black Eagle, MT - continues to receive the Item. Says it brings back memories of her service in Africa and Italy. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

Jack w. Stanley remembers Task Force Baum although he wasn't born until 1946. He was named for PFC **Jack W. Stanley**, his uncle, who was killed on the first full day of Task Force Baum, March 26th, his 20th birthday. His uncle was awarded the Silver Star posthumously.

Roy and Helen Chappell send Valentine Greetings-. They sent them by E-mail. I counted up to 25 recipients and was about half-way through, when I quit. It's no wonder that the Post Office can't make ends meet. There goes almost \$20 worth of stamps. If you weren't on the list, it's too late now, but you can save it until next year. Here goes the message-

"AS THIS IS THE DAY FOR REMINDING FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF THE LOVE WE HOLD FOR EACH OF YOU, WE JUST WANT TO SEND A BIG BASKETFULL OF RED ROSES AND A HUGE BOX OF CHOCOLATES" - "IT IS BETTER TO BE ABLE TO COUNT THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT GOD HAS ALLOWED US TO MAKE OVER THE YEARS" - "ENJOY YOUR LOVED ONES. GIVE THEM BEAR HUGS AND LOTS OF KISSES".

We have run out of Irv's reply, so I will continue with this mail call (Bob T)

Peter Domes, Germany, sends in a request from **Karl A. Kordik**, who is looking for information about his father and the Hammelburg Raid. His father was at Hammelburg and Karl would like to know which way he went during the Raid, either back to camp, overland to the American lines or with the tanks on their way out. His full name is **Capt. George A. Kurdik**, Co H, 2nd Bn, 242 Inf. Regt. 42nd Div.

If you knew Capt. Kurdik, or have any information about him please contact Karl at karlk@am-com.net If you do not have a computer with e-mail send me the information (Bob Thompson) and I will see that it is forwarded to Karl. My address is on the 2nd page of this Item.

Herb Garris, Pinehurst, NC, writes that **Colonel Erwin F. Lessell III**, US Air Force, has been nominated to become a Brigadier General. Colonel Lessell was our host at a dinner at the Officer's Club at Fairchild Air Base and was also guest of honor at our Saturday night dinner at the Spokane Reunion. I know that we all wish him the very best in his military career and thank him for his hospitality during our visit to Spokane, WA. He is now stationed at Ramstein AFB, Germany

His address is: **Colonel Erwin F. Lessell III USAF, 86th Airlift Wing
Ramstein AFB, Germany, APO-AE 09094**

Rosemary Maxwell Lynch, **Frank Maxwell's** daughter, wrote asking about information as to how to register for the reunion in Columbus this fall. Bill Warthen responded and hopefully she will attend. She is bringing Frank's diary about his repatriation from Oflag 64 in 1944. **Col. Drake** was also repatriated at this time. Her brother, **Frank Maxwell III**, from San Francisco, also plans to attend as does **Charlie Eberle**. Charlie Eberle has not been to a reunion in several years and I know we will all be anxious to see our good friend Charlie. Frank's wife, Catherine, died last year and she told Rosemary that she always enjoyed the reunions. Rosemary's mailing address is: Rosemary Maxwell Lynch, 63 San Jacinto Way, San Francisco, CA 94127

Don/Lucy Lussenden, Livonia, MI, say they are anxious to come to Columbus and see all their friends again! They are driving and will enjoy the scenery along the way. Hopefully the drive will help to thaw them out after a long Michigan winter! They also send a donation to the postage fund for which we thank them.

ABOUT 2003 IN MINNEAPOLIS

Bret Job has been talking to the members of the WWII Historical Roundtable in Minneapolis and has started to make plans for the 2003 reunion.

This group of people have a meeting every second Thursday of each month- Sept through May.

These meetings take place at Ft. Snelling.

This makes the time for our reunion in Sept, 2003 from probably Wednesday through Sunday which is normal for our reunions.

Bret has selected a hotel downtown which is near all the good restaurants and places of entertainment.

There is a shuttle bus that goes to the world famous mall.

The WWII Historical group invite people to come to Minneapolis and talk to their membership. The guests will sit on a stage and talk for few minutes and then probably answer questions from the audience. Most of the guests are one or two people, which is not hard handle. But we will probably have 30 or 40 men and that many cannot get on the stage at one time. Probably, we will have to select 4 or 5 men to represent our group and appear on the stage.

Bret has also mentioned that he has a friend that owns a bar and restaurant on the campus of the University of Minnesota and suggests that maybe a few of our men could go to the restaurant and visit with some of the students attending school there.

None of these plans are set in concrete and are subject to change.

Hopefully, Bret can be in Columbus and can bring us up to date on any further plans or any changes that may happen.

A LITTLE COMPANY BUSINESS

- Letters and donations to the postage fund have been declining. It costs about \$4000.00 per year to run the Item. Postage and reproduction costs on other matters that are not concerned with the Item also must be paid for out of the postage fund. The fund is not at this time running out of money, but if donations don't pick up something will have to be done. Joe Serringer will have something to say about this in Columbus and probably we can resolve any problems we have while there.

- A call was made for donations to pay the plaque to be presented to the Ft. Benning Museum at Columbus this fall. Donations were rather dismal. Two persons responded. If you would like to donate, send your money to Bill Warthen. His address is on page two of the Item.

- Pat Waters ran across a man that said his father was a good friend of John Waters and was at Oflag 64 The man's name was William J. Marshall III and I suppose his father's name was also William J. Marshall.

We have been unable to locate his father's name in the "Men Of Oflag 64" roster. Perhaps somebody knew him and his name was left off of the roster. If you remember the man, Pat Waters would like to hear from you. Pat can be reached at : 412 Rice Hope Dr., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

EVENT ENROLLMENT FORM

Oflag 64 2002 Reunion
October 2 – 6, 2002
Columbus, GA

These events are designed and organized for your interest and entertainment. Please select those in which you wish to participate. All of these events are optional and none are required. The Oflag 64 Hospitality Room at the Four Points Sheraton will be open all day each day for those participants who wish to display information/ memorabilia and for those who would like to gather, to reminisce, and to meet new and old friends.

Also, even though there are some events listed below are included in the Reunion Registration, we still need you to include any of these in which you wish to participate in your "enroll" so we are able to plan and make the correct number of reservations.

Please print the names of those included in this enrollment:

	Number of Participants	Total Costs
Wednesday, October 2, 2002		
Dinner at the VFW -----	\$15.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Thursday, October 3, 2002		
Andersonville/Windsor Hotel Lunch/Plains, GA Tour -----	\$35.00/peson x _____	= \$ _____
Or		
The Little White House/Calloway Gardens Tour -----	\$35.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Friday, October 4, 2002		
Breakfast Buffet & Business Meeting -----	Included in Reg x _____	= \$ _____ 0.00
Ft. Benning National Infantry Museum/Lunch/Tour -----	Included in Reg x _____	= \$ _____ 0.00
Historic Downtown Columbus Tour (after lunch) -----	\$15.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Dinner at Port Columbus Naval Museum -----	\$30.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Saturday, October 5, 2002		
The Little White House/Calloway Gardens Tour -----	\$35.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Or		
Historic Downtown Columbus Tour (in the morning) -----	\$15.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Afternoon Trip to Westville -----	\$15.00/person x _____	= \$ _____
Banquet Dinner		
Stuffed Flounder -----	Included in Reg x _____	= \$ _____ 0.00
Or (Please designate your choice)		
Filet Mignon -----	Included in Reg x _____	= \$ _____ 0.00
Sunday, October 6, 2002		
Breakfast & Memorial Service -----	Included in Reg x _____	= \$ _____ 0.00

TOTAL COSTS

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Make check payable to Oflag 64 Reunion and mail to:

William D. "Bill" Warthen
Oflag 64 Reunion
P.O. Box L
Vidalia, GA 30475
bwarthen@cybersouth.com
912-537-4430

THIS REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 10, 2002

REGISTRATION FORM

OFLAG 64 ANNUAL REUNION AT COLUMBUS, GA

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2ND—SUNDAY, OCT. 6TH, 2002

Please print:

Name	Name as Desired on Name Tag	
Mailing Address	Apt.	
City	State	Zip Code
() Telephone Number	@ e-mail address	
Where and When Captured	Where and When Liberated	
Unit	Approx. Dates at Oflag	If you were stationed at Ft. Benning, when?

Guest # 1: _____	Guest # 2: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
E-mail & Telephone: _____	E-mail & Telephone: _____
Relationship to POW: _____	Relationship to POW: _____
Guest # 3: _____	Guest # 4: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
E-mail & Telephone: _____	E-mail & Telephone: _____
Relationship to POW: _____	Relationship to POW: _____

- PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK FOR \$125.00 FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO OFLAG 64 REUNION. THIS WILL INCLUDE TWO BREAKFASTS, SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET AT HOTEL, FT BENNING, & REGISTRATION EXPENSES. THIS WILL NOT INCLUDE OPTIONAL TOURS AND MEALS. (See additional pages for reservations for other events.)

REUNION REGISTRATION FEE—NUMBER () @ \$125.00 each = \$ _____
(Total)

Mail To: William D. "Bill" Warthen
 Oflag 64 Reunion
 P.O. Box L
 Vidalia, GA 30475
 bwarthen@cybersouth.com
 912-537-4430

Do you plan to arrive by air or car?

- OUR HOTEL IS THE FOUR POINT SHERATON—COLUMBUS, GA AIRPORT - (706-327-6868) (www.spg.com or www.sheraton.com)
- ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE SEPARATELY BY YOU ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1st TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL DAILY RATE OF \$79.00+ tax. CALL (800) 325-3535 & DESIGNATE OFLAG 64 REUNION.
- FUN & INTERESTING TRIPS & EVENTS ARE DESCRIBED ON ANOTHER PAGE IN THIS POST ITEM. DON'T FORGET TO ALSO COMPLETE & RETURN THE SECOND REGISTRATION FORM FOR THESE EVENTS & TOURS.
- PLEASE SPECIFY IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH WHEELCHAIR OR HAVE ANY OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS? _____

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DIFFERENT PLANNED REUNION EVENTS

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Arrive at Columbus, check in at the Four Points Sheraton & register at the Oflag 64 Reunion Desk. Our Hospitality Room will be available during the entire reunion for gatherings, visiting with old friends and making new ones.

Wednesday Dinner at the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) – (Optional) \$15.00/person

Around 6:00 pm, we will provide transportation downtown for a dinner (of barbeque chicken and pork, coleslaw, baked beans, and cobbler) at the VFW. This location will also provide you with a nice view of the Chattahoochee Riverwalk area in downtown Columbus.. (Cash bar available.)

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Andersonville Historic Site, Lunch at the Windsor Hotel in Columbus, Plains, GA Tour – (Optional) \$35.00/person

This all day bus tour/ride includes several hours at Andersonville National Historic Site, the only park to serve as a memorial to all Americans ever held as prisoners of war. This site includes a museum (with a video, exhibits, plaques, and vignettes of “real life stories”), Andersonville, or Camp Sumter, and The Stockade. Camp Sumter, as it was known officially, was built around 1864 and was the largest of many confederate military prisons established during the Civil War. During the 14 months it existed, more than 45,000 Union soldiers were confined here. Of these, almost 13,000 died. The prison pen initially covered about 16-1/2 acres of land enclosed by a 15 ft-high stockade of hewed pine logs. We will motor to Americus and have a buffet lunch at the Windsor Hotel which was built in 1893. During our meal we will be briefed on the history on the Habitat for Humanity organization. Before leaving Americus, we will take a quick drive through some of this organization’s projects. We will head for Plains, GA where we will have a guided tour of Jimmy Carter’s boyhood home, be able to walk through Main Street (where you can see Billy’s gas station), and spend a few minutes at the High School, which is now a museum of Carter’s life in Plains. We will return to Columbus late Thursday afternoon. (Handicapped accessible. Some, but minimal walking and standing.)

-Or-

The Little White House in Warm Springs, GA & Calloway Gardens – (Optional) \$35.00/person

This all day bus tour/ride begins with a stop at the “Little White House”, which Franklin Delano Roosevelt built in 1932 while governor of New York. He came to Warm Springs in 1924 hoping to find a cure for polio which struck him in 1921. Swimming in the warm, buoyant spring waters brought him no miracle cure, but did bring some improvement. On April 12, 1945, during his 41st visit to this rural community of 500, he suffered a massive stroke and died. His house and furnishings have been carefully preserved very much like Roosevelt left them in 1945. The museum displays memorabilia and presents a brief film containing footage of Roosevelt and his contemporaries. We will journey to the Calloway Gardens Inn where we will have a delicious buffet luncheon. Afterwards we will enter “the gardens”. Our guide will explain this educational resort and its many aspects including the Cibley Horticultural Center, The Day Butterfly House, the Historic Log Cabin, and the Discovery Center Museum where there is a video film and birds of prey demonstration. We will return to Columbus late Thursday afternoon. (Handicapped accessible. Some walking and standing, but at your pace.) (www.callowaygardens.com)

Friday, October 4, 2002

Breakfast at Hotel & Business Meeting – (Cost included in Reunion Registration)

A full buffet breakfast will be available for all participants. During this meal we will hold our annual business meeting.

Plaque Dedication at Ft. Benning’s National Infantry Museum, Luncheon at Officer’s Club, Tour of Ft. Benning - (Cost included in Reunion Registration)

We will take buses to Ft. Benning, GA. Our first stop will be the National Infantry Museum where we will dedicate a plaque to those Oflag 64 Prisoners of War. After the dedication, we will be able to tour the museum, which is packed with military history, on our own. We will report to the Officer’s Club for seated luncheon. After lunch we will continue with a bus tour down “memory lane” of sites on the Ft. Benning base. Afterwards we will be returning this group to the hotel around 3:30 pm. (Some walking and standing.)

Historic Downtown Columbus Tours (Optional) - \$15.00/person

[For those who would prefer, you have an option of touring the National Infantry Museum and having lunch at the base and then leave from Ft. Benning and traveling to downtown Columbus to take the following tour (instead of the Ft. Benning riding tour):]

We will be able to take a walking tour including the viewing of five historic buildings/homes within a third of a block in downtown Columbus. Then we will take an approximate hour guided bus tour of several historic spots in and around downtown Columbus. (Some walking and standing but benches between homes. Several steps inside one of the homes.)

(Con’t)

Friday Night Dinner at Port Columbus, National Civil War Naval Museum (Optional) \$30.00/person

We will take a bus ride downtown and will be having a dinner catered for our group at the National Civil War Naval Museum, the first in the nation to deal solely with the Civil War on the rivers and high seas. You will be able to tour the interactive museum at your own pace, either before or after eating. The centerpiece of their collection is the salvaged hull (often called the "ghostly remains) of the CSS Jackson. They have other exhibits featuring naval artillery pieces, weapons, uniforms and artwork depicting the Civil War as well as the salvaged hull of the CSS Chattahoochee and the recreated turret from the USS Monitor. This museum is also on the Chattahoochee River. (Handicapped accessible. Some walking & standing, but at your own pace.) (Cash bar will be available.) (www.portcolumbus.org)

Saturday, October 5, 2002

All Day Tour of The Little White House in Warm Springs, GA & Calloway Gardens – (Optional) \$35.00/person
(Refer to the above description, under Thursday, October 3, 2002)

-Or -

In the Morning, Historic Downtown Columbus Tours - (Optional) \$15.00

(Refer to the above write up under Friday, October 4, 2002. On Saturday morning this will leave from the hotel instead of Ft. Benning and will return participants to the hotel before lunchtime.)

-And/Or-

In the Afternoon, Trip to Westville, and 1850's Village – (Optional) \$15.00

After lunch on your own, we will travel to Lumpkin, GA where you will visit Westville, a functioning living history of relocated, authentically restored, original buildings and landscape. The Village of Westville realistically depicts Georgia's pre-industrial life and culture of 1850. You will stroll down the streets and watch craftsmen at work producing items for their neighbors, hear the "clang" of the blacksmith's hammer and anvil, watch a potter spin and smell the gingerbread and biscuits cooking on the stove and fireplace. You may even get a chance to try your hand at a seasonal craft. (This does require walking and standing or usage of one of their motorized scooters. They said you can use your own wheelchair.) (www.Westville.org)

Saturday Night Social Hour and Banquet at the Four Points Sheraton - (Cost included in Reunion Registration)

We will have a (cash bar) Social Hour and then the Banquet dinner, (your selection of either Stuffed Flounder or Filet Mignon), at our hotel. There will be a speaker and entertainment.

Sunday, October 6, 2002

Breakfast, Memorial Service, and Adjournment (Cost included in Reunion Registration)

There will be a full breakfast at the hotel at around 8:15 am and immediately following we will hold our traditional Memorial Service. The 2002 Oflag Reunion will adjourn at approximately 10:30 am.

.....
Springer Opera House / The Fantasicks

In addition to the activities that we have included above, "The Fantasicks" will be performed by a professional theatre group at the historic Springer Opera House in downtown Columbus. This musical, which is about two fathers eager to get their children to fall in love, ran "off Broadway" for a record 18 years. Springer Opera House, the official State Theatre of Georgia, opened in 1871 and is now a National Historic Landmark. This theatre is a very special experience. Performances will be Thursday through Sunday nights at 8:00. Ticket prices range from \$23-28. Tickets will go on sale in August and if interested, you can purchase them by calling the Springer Box Office, 706-327-3688, by calling Tickets.com at 888-332-5200 or by going on line at tickets.com. (www.springeroperahouse.org)

JAMES F. BICKERS
3019 INDIANWOOD ROAD
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS 60091

April 22, 2002.

Dear Bob,

THANKS FOR SENDING ME THE "POSTER" OF MY CAMP DRAWING !

It was extremely thoughtful of you, and Emmy Lou joins me in thanking you.

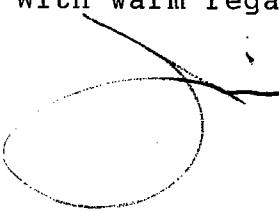
I made the drawing in 1943, and with the knowledge that Col. Drake was going to be repatriated I planned to give it to him.

To avoid a possible German censor problem I left the guard towers and the barbed wire fence out.

After the war I contacted the Drakes, but never learned the whereabouts of the drawing.

Again, please accept my gratitude.

With warm regards,



Several months ago, I began to try to enlarge the drawing by Jim Bickers of Oflag 64 to a poster size copy. After several attempts, it turned out fine. It was necessary to scan the original copy with a high resolution, then convert the file to the format required by Kinkos (Copy Shop) and have them make the copy as poster size. It turned out fine. Then a copy was sent to several interested people to receive their comments. Their comments were all favorable.

It is planned to bring several copies of the poster size copy to Columbus and place them in the hospitality room for anybody that would like to have one. Donations to the postage fund will be requested to cover the cost of the reproductions.

This letter from Jim Bickers may answer some questions as to how the drawing reached the USA and what happened to the fences and guard towers on the drawing.

Bob Thompson

LTG Carmen Cavezza will be our guest speaker at the reunion in Columbus in October.

CARMEN J. CAVEZZA

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

LTG (Retired) Carmen Cavezza completed thirty-three years of service in the United States Army with extensive assignments in Asia. He served two years in Vietnam and commanded the U. S. Army Infantry Center and School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of the Reserve Officers Training Corps curriculum and educational course of study at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry and awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science in 1961.

He holds a Master of Arts Degree in Government from the University of Miami, a Master of Science in International Affairs, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science from George Washington University. In June 1994, General Cavezza received an honorary Doctor of Military Science Degree from The Citadel. His military education includes the Infantry Basic and Advanced Officer Courses, the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and the National War College.

General Cavezza completed his Army career, as Commanding General, I Corps at Fort Lewis, Washington. He has held a variety of important command and staff positions: Commander at Fort Benning, Georgia; Commanding General at Fort Ord, California; Assistant Division Commander at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Executive to the Secretary of the Army in Washington, DC.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Silver Star (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal with the "V" Device, and the Purple Heart. Lieutenant General Cavezza is authorized to wear the Combat Infantryman Badge, The Master Parachutist Badge, The Ranger Tab, and Army General Staff Identification Badge.

After his retirement from the military in October 1994, LTG (Retired) Cavezza served as the Executive Director of Columbus '96, a non-profit corporation established to support the 1996 Olympic Softball Venue in Columbus, Georgia, which subsequently to the Olympics converted to the Greater Columbus Sports and Events Council. In May 1997, he accepted the position of City Manager, Columbus Consolidated Government. He is married to the former Joyce Mathews of Charleston, South Carolina, and they have one daughter, Peggy J. Anders, of Columbus, Georgia.

S.H.A.E.F.

NUMBER 5

Supreme Headquarters

Allied Expeditionary Force

APRIL 14 1945

THE DAILY ORGAN OF SUPREME HEADQUARTERS

U.S. ARMOUR ROLLING TOWARD BERLIN

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER

Designed for the information of displaced persons in Germany, "S.H.A.E.F." carries the official instructions of Supreme Headquarters for Allied nationals both in unoccupied Germany and in areas recently occupied. The present issue contains standstill instructions for foreign workers and a summarized version of instructions for German civilians in the Ruhr pocket—cross-reported for Allied nationals. If you who are reading this are an Allied POW who has not yet been liberated—be of good cheer, we're coming!

LAST REPORTED 45 MILES FROM CITY: LIBERATE BIG CONCENTRATION CAMP

TANKS of the U.S. Ninth Army continued to advance toward Berlin after their crossing of the Elbe north of Magdeburg. According to the last official reports, they were only 45 miles away from the German capital, and were making steady progress.

The British Second Army advanced 13 miles beyond captured Celle, having crossed the Aller River at several places. British tanks are now operating at less than 45 miles south of Hamburg, while Bremen is actually within range of Allied guns.

In the area between the Dutch border and the Weser River, troops of the Canadian First Army made further progress. In Holland, new crossings were made over the IJssel River. A new attack was launched against Arnhem, which is now invested on three sides. Street fighting in the city is in progress.

In Central Germany, troops of the First U.S. Army crossed the Saale River and made further advances toward Leipzig, last reported only 15 miles away. In the area of Weimar, whose fall was announced yesterday, American troops liberated over 20,000 political prisoners in the notorious Buchenwald concentration camp. The prisoners included many nationalities, including some German anti-Nazis.

Further south, the U.S. Third Army was likewise across the Saxe and reached Kahla and Jena after capturing 120 towns. On the extreme right flank of the Allied advance, the French First Army made further gains south of Baden-Baden, whose fall was announced yesterday.

Allied aircraft made several large attacks against communication lines, notably at Neumunster on the railroad leading to Denmark. RAF Mosquitoes made three night attacks against Berlin.

VIENNA FALLS STALIN TELLS OF VICTORY

THE fall of Vienna, the capital of Austria, was officially announced today in a special order of the day of Marshal Stalin addressed to Marshal Tolbukhin, commander of the Third Ukrainian Front.

Vienna is the 16th European capital that has been wrested from German control. It was also the first capital to be occupied by the Nazis. Radio Moscow has expressed gratification at the enthusiastic welcome given to the Red Army by the population of Vienna. Austria has been assured re-establishment of her independence by the Moscow Declaration of October, 1943.

Marshal Stalin's order of the day also announced that a total of 130,000 Germans had been taken prisoner in the Vienna campaign, from March 16 to April 13. 1,345 tanks and self-propelled and 2,250 pieces of artillery were destroyed or captured in the fighting.

On the left bank of the Danube, troops of Marshal Malinovsky's army group made further progress in the flat country west of the Morava (March) river, and captured Hodonin on the railroad from Vienna to Brno.

Other Red Army units made further progress up the Danube valley toward Bavaria, while in southern Austria the left wing of Tolbukhin's forces was reported within 30 miles of Graz.

GERMAN CRUELTY TO U.S. POW'S

A joint statement issued by the Secretary of War, Mr. Stimson and the Secretary of State, Mr. Stettinius, says that 70,000 American prisoners of war held in Germany are living "under deplorable conditions." The American people, the statement adds, will not forget the Nazis' criminal treatment of these men and promises that "the perpetrators of these heinous crimes will be brought to justice."

TOKYO BOMBED

A very large force of bombers raided Tokyo today from bases in the Philippines. The giant planes were escorted by Mustang fighters operating from newly captured bases in the Volcano Islands.



RADIO

in English
MAIN WAVELENGTHS
BBC—49m. 373in. 1500m.
ABSIE (American Broadcasting Station in Europe)—267m and 307m. Radio Luxembourg—1293m
10.00—10.15 News (BBC).
10.15—10.30 America calling Europe (BBC). 12.00—12.05 News Headlines (Lux). 12.30—12.35 Foreign Workers (Lux). 15.00—15.30 London calling Europe (BBC and Lux). 16.00—16.15 News (BBC). 17.30—18.00 Report to Europe (ABSIE). 21.30—21.45 News (ABSIE). 22.45—23.00 News (BBC). 00.00—00.15 News (Lux). 00.15—00.30 News (ABSIE).

WORLD MOURNS ROOSEVELT DEATH

TRUMAN SWORN IN AS NEW U.S. PRESIDENT

A DAY of mourning was proclaimed by Harry S. Truman, the new President of the United States, in honor of the late President Roosevelt, who died suddenly on Thursday afternoon. The interment is to take place on Sunday at Hyde Park, Roosevelt's home in New York State.

Among the many messages of condolences received by Mrs. Roosevelt and by the new President, were messages from Prime Minister Churchill, Marshal Stalin, General De Gaulle, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek and Pope Pius XII. In his message Stalin said: "The American people and the

United Nations have lost the greatest world statesman and herald for the organization of peace and security after the war."

The new President, Harry S. Truman, was sworn in today and pledged himself to carry on Roosevelt's work and to prosecute the war to a successful conclusion. One of his first official acts was to announce that the San Francisco world security conference would be held on April 25th, as scheduled.

President Truman was born in 1885 in Missouri, and has a long and distinguished career of public service—first as a county court judge, later as U.S. senator from Missouri.

This copy of a leaflet dropped over Germany at the end of the war was sent in by Larry McBrayer, a volunteer worker at the D-Day museum at New Orleans. Larry is a good friend of Oflag 64 and has sent in various items for our use. He also sent in the items about the USS Bayfield at Normandy. Note the note to all POWs in the area!



Home Was Never Like This

The Yardley Diaries:

A World War II American POW Perspective

Colonel Doyle R. Yardley

Edited with commentary by Charles A. Turnbo

"Home Was Never Like This," covers three years of the military service of Colonel Doyle R. Yardley, Commanding Officer of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion and for 17 months a German Prisoner of War.

From 1942-1945, Yardley kept detailed records of his assignments, his contacts with fellow soldiers, and his combat and POW experiences.

His diaries, which he kept buried during his imprisonment, were miraculously returned to him after the War.

Colonel Yardley entitled his collection of dairies ***"Home Was Never Like This."*** His WWII American POW perspective reveals a heart-wrenching and often humorous look into his life and the lives of hundreds of others involved in or affected by the War.

"Home Was Never Like This" (ISBN: 0-9717439-0-8) is available for \$20.00 each.

Please include \$5.00 shipping and handling to any United States address.

Make payment to:

Yardley Enterprises

P.O. Box 1335

Evergreen, CO 80437-1335

Phone: 303-674-4337

Email: cturnbo@aol.com



"Home Was Never Like This"

The Yardley Diaries - A WWII American POW Perspective

Name _____

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Phone _____ Email Address _____

Enclosed is my order for _____ ***"Home Was Never Like This"*** books (ISBN: 0-9717439-0-8)

"Home Was Never Like This" is available for \$20.00 each

Please include \$5.00 shipping and handling to any United States address.

Yardley Enterprises P.O. Box 1335 Evergreen, CO 80437-1335

Phone: 303-674-4337

Email: cturnbo@aol.com

NOTE: Col. Yardley was Charlie Turnbo's uncle. Charlie attended our reunion at Spokane. This was his first reunion.

Post Office Box 1335
Evergreen, CO. 80437
April 25, 2002

Bob Thompson
7448 E. 68th Pl.
Tulsa, OK. 74133

Dear Bob:

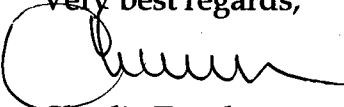
We are close to getting Col. Yardley's diaries printed! Here is our advertising flyer and I wondered if you could mention the upcoming book in your next newsletter.

We are releasing the book at the October reunion in honor of all the men from Oflag 64 and 64Z. Afterwards, it will be publicly released. I will bring a supply to make available at the reunion.

I am also enclosing a little contribution to the "postage fund." Hope this will help!

Thanks for your help and support and we look forward to joining you again at the October reunion!

Very best regards,



Charlie Turnbo

Enclosures:

Check (postage fund)
Flyer - "Home Was Never Like This"

Cc: Bill Warthen, Oflag 64 Reunion

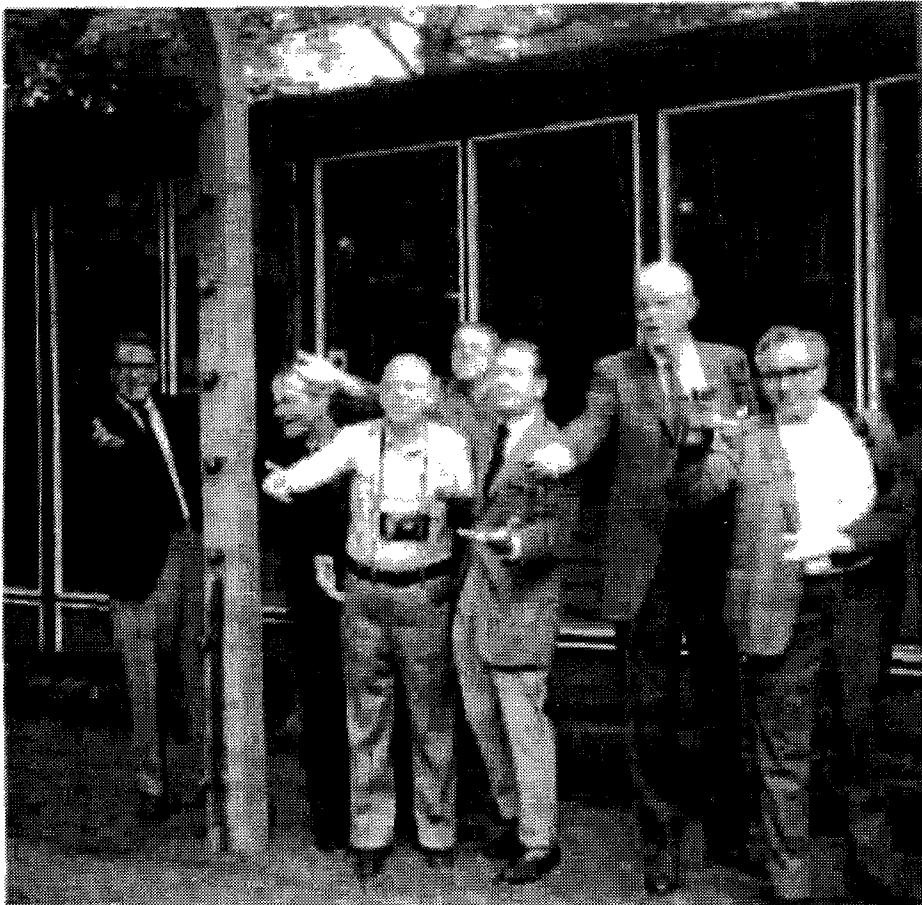


REUNION
OPLAG 67
WYKESVILLE
OCTOBER 10, 1964
MARRIOTT MARSH HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, PA

John P. Peters
Chester, PA. Telephone 5-7116

This is a photo of the reunion in Philadelphia in October, 1964. That was almost 40 years ago, and a lot of these men are missing. How many of them can you identify? There appears to be about 58 men present. That is about what we have had attending for several years. The attendance is about the same, but the faces have changed!

In 1970, during the first trip back to Oflag 64, the group stopped in Copenhagen for a day or so. Somebody found an old place of internment used during the occupation by the Germans. Several of our men went behind the wire and acted like they were begging for something to eat. This is a photo of the make-believe begging! Identify of the men is : Bob Thompson on the far left, then Roy Chappelle, then Dan Lewandowski, then Ray Klinkenborg, then Frank Maxwell, then Wright Bryan, then Charlie Eberle. The acting we did here irritated the Danes and we sent somebody to explain to them who we were and what we were doing. That seemed to calm their feeling somewhat.



**Alumni of the Oflag 64 Academy singing their fight song
“ HABEN SIE ESSEN”**

TAPS

Holder dies at age 85

From Staff Reports

H. Randolph Holder

Retired Athens radio executive H. Randolph Holder, celebrated as a tireless cheerleader for the Athens community, died Monday night at Athens Regional Medical Center. He was 85.

Holder, former chairman of Clarke Broadcasting, was widely admired during decades of broadcasting for his commitment to local causes.

Long-time friend E.H. Culpepper recalled Holder's crucial roles in making the Classic Center, downtown's convention and performance space, a reality, and in the successful vote more than a decade ago to consolidate the Athens and Clarke County governments.

"Through the years, he's given this community a tremendous amount of leadership," Culpepper said.

The Rev. Jon Appleton, another long-time friend, called Holder a fighter, a community leader and "probably the most familiar voice in our community."

Holder owned and operated WNGC-FM and WGAU-AM in Athens for many years.

"He enjoyed life and gave joy to a lot of people," said Appleton. "He was a man of the news, but also a man who gave to his hometown. He had a sense of humor, and he didn't take himself too seriously."

Many Athenians knew Holder as the voice from WGAU that crackled from radio speakers each morning, reminding them, "It's a lovely day to be in Athens," and, "Keep smiling until 10 o'clock, and the rest of the day will take care of itself."

"Somewhere out in space, there are those radio waves," Nathan Carmack, who first met Holder in the early '60s, said Monday evening.

Others knew Holder as a World War II hero who escaped from a prisoner of war camp in 1945 after four attempts, going on to win a Bronze Star and write a book about the adventure, "Escape to Russia."

"I'd say Randolph Holder was a true American patriot," said Len Sopera, a friend for three decades.

According to Appleton, in recent years, Holder suffered from symptoms of Parkinson's disease, and later, cancer. "He was a fighter," Appleton said.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete Monday. Bridges Funeral Home in Athens is handling those arrangements.

Published in the Athens Banner-Herald on

Subj: **LOSS OF A HAMMELBURGER**

Date: 4/3/02 2:50:30 PM Central Standard Time

From: EASTES@YAHOO.COM (ERICK EASTES)

Reply-to: HAMMELBURGPOW@topica.com

To: HAMMELBURGPOW@topica.com (HAMMELBUR)

Dear list members,

I received the following message from Mrs. Phyllis Rowe.

Erick

- Phyllis Rowe <pnrowe@earthlink.net> wrote:
From: "Phyllis Rowe" <pnrowe@earthlink.net>
To: "Erick Eastes" <eastes@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: March 26
Date: Wed, 27 Mar 2002 21:00:00 -0500

Dear Mr. Eastes:

Jack Stanley has written about March 26 & I've tried to reply to the Hammelburg group. but the computer keeps telling me that a "name is missing." Since this makes no sense, I'm writing to you & hope that you'll forward this to the Hammelburgers. I've also sent the info to Ray Millen, whose e-mail I happen to have.

In addition to being, as Jack Stanley says, "the first full day of the Task Force Baum Raid," March 26 is now also the date of a military memorial service for one Hammelburger, my husband, Willis (Bill) Rowe, who died suddenly on Feb. 8 & was cremated. We held a memorial service for him yesterday at the Rocky Gap (Maryland) Veterans' Cemetery," but I was not thinking when I chose March 26 as the date for this that it has any significance for the Hammelburg group.

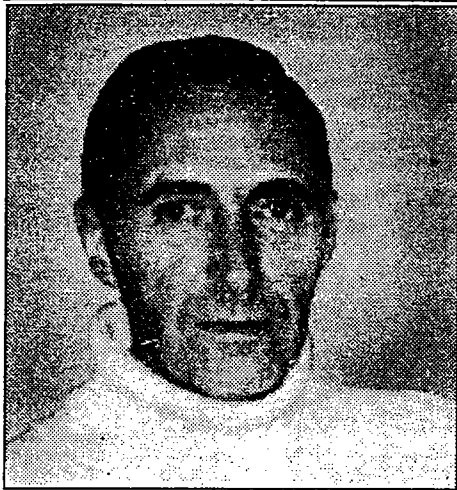
Since there are fewer & fewer original members left, this is a good time for all to send whatever info or inquiries they have. Bill and I enjoyed being part of this group & I'd like to continue to receive whatever info comes through on any play, movie, etc.

Phyllis Nichols Rowe (Mrs. W.C. Rowe)

IRVING J. YAROCK

Dear Bob:

11/14/'01



DAVIS, JOHN HAYWOOD
Retired Architect

Of Annandale, VA, died on March 8, 2002 at INOVA Fairfax. He was the son of the late George Samuel Davis and the late Mary Estelle Plasett Davis. His grandfather was the founder of the Fairfax County community of Lorton and he resided most of his life in the Old Stone House on Hooes Road, now part of the CrossPoint Subdivision. He was a commissioned First Lt. serving in World War II in N. Africa and Italy in the Infantry Division. He was in the German POW camp at Oflag, which was later liberated by Gen. Patton. He was a graduate of George Washington and Catholic Universities and a Vestryman of Pohick Episcopal Church and Architect of the Church Hall. He is survived by grandnephews, John Davis Hood, Timothy Hood, Kevin Hood Gary and numerous cousins. Interment was in the family plot of Pohick Episcopal Church.

Received a call last night from Tony Gleason, John Gleason's son. John passed away November 3rd. I don't recall his ever coming to areunion. If you want to publish his son's address, it's Tony Gleason 496 County Rd Ashby, MA 01431 There may be a few people who remember him. He made the long walk with us. I got to know his son who was in the army and was assigned to the instructor group in ROTC at WPI.

Despite that, he lived a fairly decent life for a long time, but his kidneys went a while back and after about six months on dialysis he had a serious of strokes and then went downhill fast.

Hope everything is O.K. with you and Gladys. I'm holding my own.

John Davis' Obituary was sent in by:

Irv

T. WILLIAM DOWDY

Attorney and Counsellor at Law

Post Office Box 644
Springfield, VA 22150

1941

**Earl Aulstin
Smoak, Jr.**

Earl A. Smoak, Jr., of Beaufort, died April 3. Mr. Smoak served in the U.S. Army and was a former prisoner of war. Upon his return he worked as a salesman for Standard Oil Co. of N.J. in Beaufort and later as a petroleum distributor. Mr. Smoak was an active member of The Citadel Alumni Association.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ruth Smoak, 73 Sunset Blvd., Beaufort, S.C. 29902-1416.

Dear Bob,

My Dad wrote to tell me about Tom Miller's death. He received a letter from his wife which I am sending to you. My Dad often told the story about when he arrived in Oflag 64 the first American he saw was Tom Miller whom he recognized because they had attended the same high school. Tom was collecting dog tags because the Germans wanted them for the Battle of the Bulge. Dad says that at Eastern High School in Washington, D.C., Tom Miller was the city champion high jumper. He was in ROTC at the University of Maryland and later joined a Ranger battalion, a volunteer group.

I hope I have this information right. Tom's wife's name is Eleanor and her address is 1175 Muhlenberg Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081.

Pat Bender

Mrs. Miller wrote:

April 9, 2002

Dear Doc & Family,

Perhaps you have heard by now but my beloved husband Tom died at Riddle Memorial Hospital on March 17th. I took Tom to a routine appointment to see his doctor who admitted him to the hospital because his blood pressure was too low and he was dehydrated. The doctor felt he would be stabilized and home again after four or five days. Because they could not find why he got nauseated they MRI'd, x-rayed and cat scanned him from head to toe. He picked up pneumonia for which they had no cure and he spent seven weeks lying to get the pulmonary system under control for a bme on a ventilator. He really became quite ill but I never thought he was going to die. Needless to say I am devastated and can hardly imagine life without him. He was a wonderful and loving husband, father to our children, and we will miss him terribly. He had a beautiful but sad military funeral. He would have been honored to be so honored. We will miss seeing you all at future reunions but wish you all the best.

Sincerely,
Eleanor Miller & Family



THOMAS E. MILLER, JR.

Born

December 27, 1915

Whom God Called Unto Himself

March 17, 2002

Thomas E. Miller Jr. Plant manager, 86

Thomas E. Miller Jr., 86, a retired plant manager and decorated World War II veteran, died of pneumonia last Saturday at Riddle Memorial Hospital in Media.

Mr. Miller had been a longtime resident of Swarthmore. He also maintained a winter home in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Mr. Miller worked for 42 years for Bird & Son, a large roofing and siding manufacturing company based in Walpole, Mass. He started as a salesman, was promoted to division sales manager and was general manager of its plant in New Brunswick, N.J., when he retired in 1980.

Mr. Miller, who grew up in the Washington suburbs, received a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in 1939 before serving with the Army during World War II.

He commanded an infantry unit and saw action in Italy. Mr. Miller was captured during the Battle of Anzio, spending 15 months as a prisoner of war. He earned several decorations for his service, including a Bronze Star Medal, awarded for heroic or meritorious achievement; a Presidential Unit Citation; and a European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

Mr. Miller was a member of First Baptist Church of Largo, Fla., and he attended Maranatha Tabernacle for many years. He was a longtime Mason, and he belonged to VFW Post 5705 in Springfield, Delaware County.

He is survived by his second wife, Eleanor, to whom he had been married since 1964; daughters Margaret Mayo and Branda Butt; sons Brinton and Albert; two sisters; 14 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Another son, John, died in 2001. His first wife, Dorothy, from whom he had been divorced for many years, died a few years ago.

Services will be at 1 p.m. today at Marvil Funeral Home, 1110 Main St. in Darby. Burial will be at Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill.

Memorial donations may be made to Brandywine Summit Camp Meeting, 119 Beaver Valley Rd., Chadds Ford, Pa. 19317.