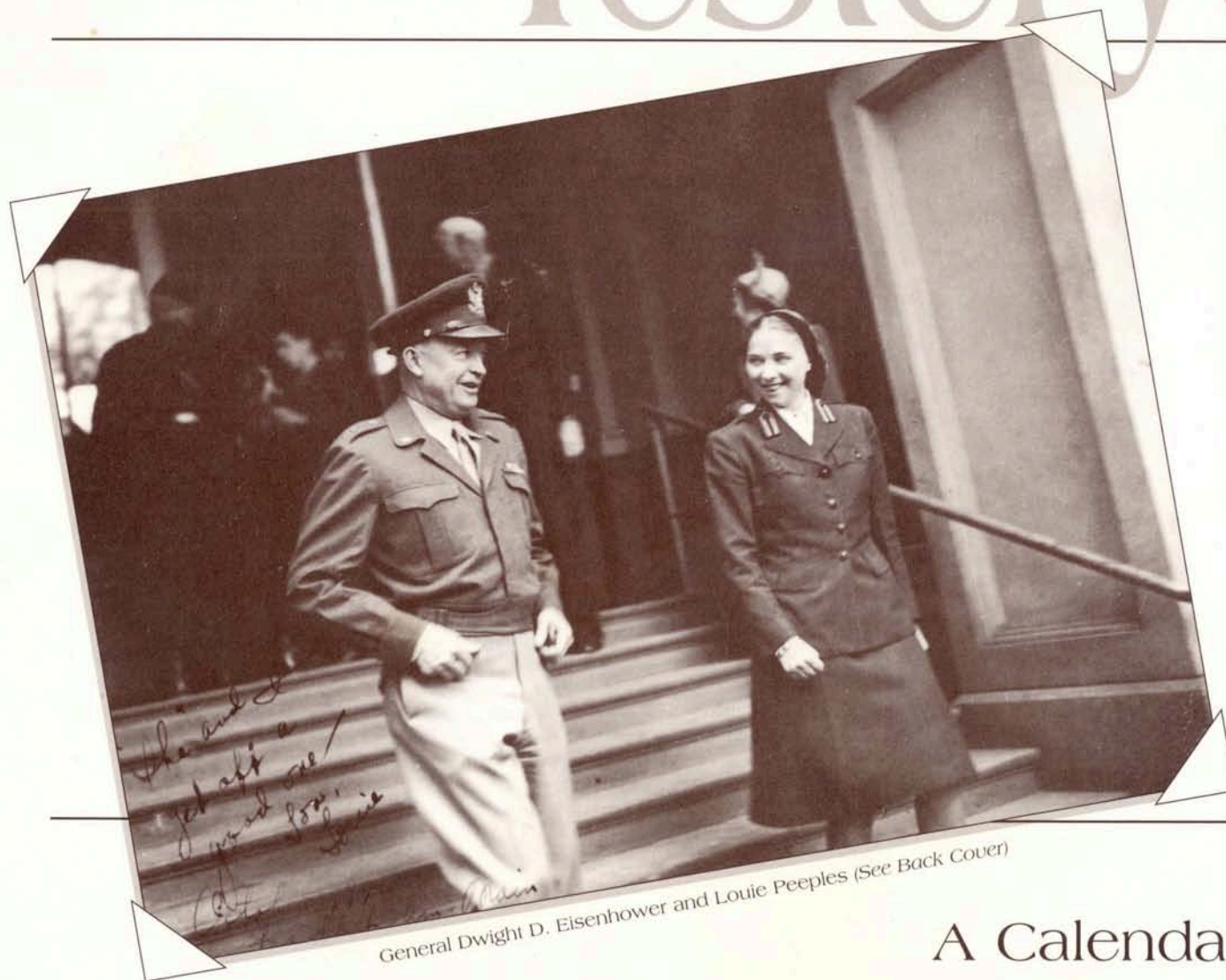


Valdosta Visions

# Yesteryears

*A Family  
Album of  
World War II  
Memories*

Book One



General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Louie Peoples (See Back Cover)

A Calendar for

1995

A destroyer-escort vessel, the *USS Neal A. Scott* DE-769, was named for him. It was launched at a Tampa, Florida, shipyard June 4, 1944.



City Park, Madison, Florida



★Colin Purdie Kelly, Jr.

Graduate of *United States Military Academy*, West Point Class of 1937; a B-17 Pilot, 14th Squadron, 19th Bomber Group, Far Eastern Air Force, Army Air Forces, Captain Kelly

was stationed at *Clark Field*, Manila, Philippines. On December 9, 1941, attacking the *Japanese Third Fleet*, his plane was severely crippled and he ordered the crew to bail out. Attempting to land the plane, he crashed and died. He was 26.

He was awarded the *Distinguished Service Cross* for his outstanding acts of heroism against an armed enemy. President Franklin D. Roosevelt designated him as the first American hero of World War II. Depicted here is the Four Freedoms Monument, commissioned by President Roosevelt and erected in Madison, Florida, which honors Captain Kelly. The monument is inscribed, "Greater Love Hath No Man Than This, That A Man Lay Down His Life For His Friends."



Sunset Hill, Valdosta



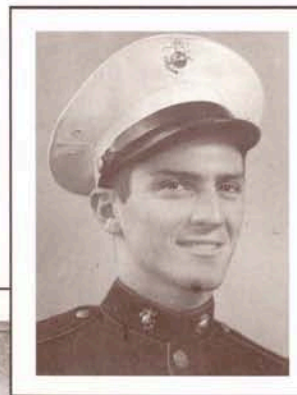
Myrtle Hill, Rome, Georgia



★Neal Anderson Scott



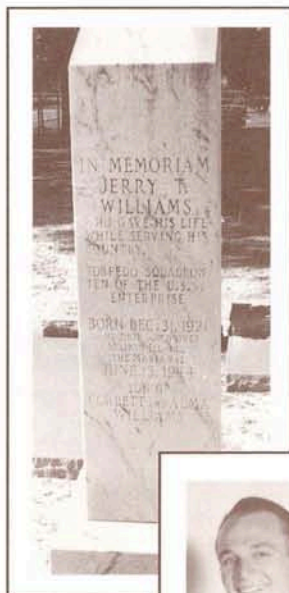
President of his 1936 Valdosta High School graduating class. Ensign Scott was aboard the *USS Smith* during the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands. The ship was severely damaged when a Japanese plane crashed onto the deck, fatally wounding him. He died October 26, 1942. For his outstanding acts of heroism against an armed enemy, he was posthumously awarded the *Navy Cross*.



★Joseph Malachi Davis

Corporal Davis, Co. M, 3rd Battalion, 21 Marine Regiment, 3 Marine Division, lost his life November 17, 1943, when his ship, the *USS McKean*, was torpedoed. The ship was in the area of the Solomon Islands, South Pacific. There were only three survivors of this sinking.





★Jerry Thomas Williams

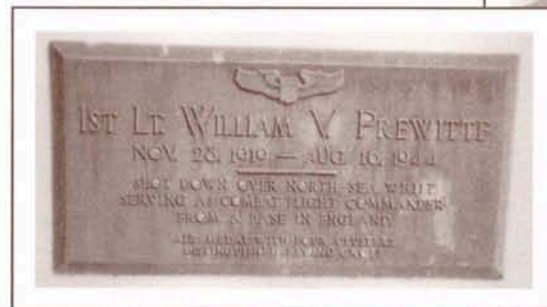
Naval Aviation Radio Operator, *Torpedo Squadron Ten* of the USS *Enterprise*, was killed when his Grumman Avenger was shot down at Saipan in the Marianas, June 13, 1944.



Sunset Hill, Valdosta



Sunset Hill, Valdosta



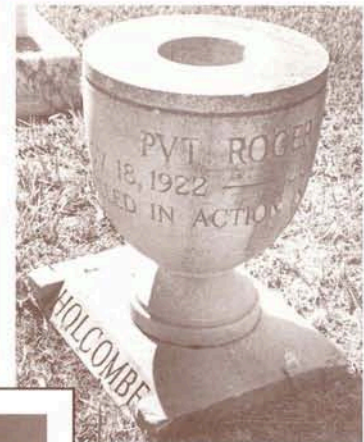
★William Vivian Prewitte

An outstanding Air Cadet, he was assigned as aide to Brigadier General A. Hornsby of the 32nd Flight Training Wing, Army Air Forces, after completion of training. Later he completed Bomber Pilot Training and was posted to the 492nd Bomb Group, 859th Bomber Squadron, in England. He completed 21 combat missions in the European Theater flying B-24 Aircraft. His plane was disabled during an operational training flight over the North Sea. He ordered his crew to bail out. Seven escaped before the explosion which took his life, August 16, 1944. He is buried at Cambridge American Military Cemetery, England.

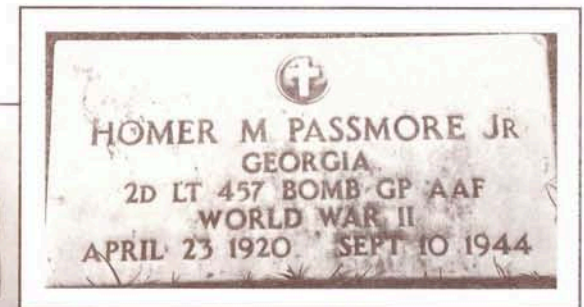
★Roger Furman Holcombe

Paratrooper, *Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division*, he was among the first troops deployed on D-Day, June 6, 1944. He was killed in action July 5, 1944, in an engagement at St. Lo, France.

He was buried at St. Laurent American Cemetery, France.



Sunset Hill, Valdosta



Sunset Hill, Valdosta

★Homer M. Passmore, Jr.

"Butch" Passmore was flying with the 457th Bomb Group, 751 Bomber Squadron, Army Air Forces. He was killed September 10, 1944, when his plane crashed in Belgium, after a raid to Germany.



★George Hollis Oliver, Jr.

An Army Air Forces bomber pilot flying with the 492 Bomb Group from England, he was killed in action during a raid over Hamburg, Germany, December 28, 1944. He is buried at the St. Avold American Military Cemetery, France.



Sunset Hill, Valdosta

★J. Frank Jarrell, Jr.

Marine Corps Aviation Wing. He went down with his plane and was lost May 3, 1945, in action near Iwo Jima.

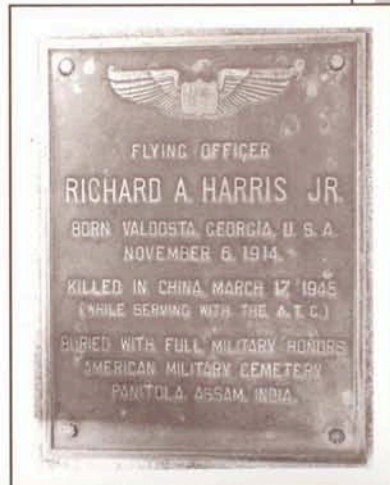


Sunset Hill, Valdosta



★Richard A. Harris, Jr.

Air Transport Command, Army Air Forces. Captain Harris' flights took him to Egypt and other African destinations, Palestine, India and China. Flying from Calcutta, India, over the hump to China, he died in a crash in China, March 17, 1945.



Sunset Hill, Valdosta



Monticello,  
Florida



★Ernest I. Thomas



Sergeant Ernest I. "Boots" Thomas, *Marine Corps, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marine Regiment, 5th Marine Division*, of Monticello, Florida, led his platoon to the top of Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, February 23, 1945, the first planting of the American flag on Japanese territory in World War II. This event was a classic battle picture, and was used

as the basis of the *Marine Memorial* in Washington, D.C.

Only seven days before his 21st birthday, March 3, 1945, he was killed while leading his men in combat. Posthumously, he was awarded the *Navy Cross* for exceptional heroism in combat, for an event which had occurred ten days before his death..

Shown above is the original photograph of the event. It was later reinacted for a widely-distributed news picture, the view more generally seen.

Sergeant Thomas was a grandson of Valdostans and had other relatives living here.



William Riley Howard

Captain Howard was assigned to the 40th Bomb Group, XX Air Force, Karachi, India, flying B-29's. He was later transferred to China and from there flew missions to Manchuria, Formosa and Japan. He flew 31 Combat Missions.

After the war he was posted to Germany and during the 1948 Berlin Crisis was assigned to the 60th Troop Carrier Group, Air Force, flying the Berlin Airlift. On August 24, 1948, he died in a crash while flying supplies to the beleaguered city.

A monument was erected at *Templehof Central Airport*, Berlin, honoring those who died in this operation. His name is the third listed on this monument.

Templehof Field,  
Berlin, Germany



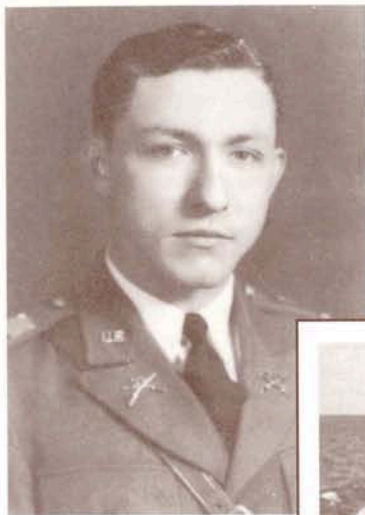
## Footnotes to History...

- Georgia and Florida made notable contributions in World War II through personnel, agriculture, industry, and training installations.
- ★ Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr. of Madison, Florida was designated as the first hero of World War II. He was awarded the *Distinguished Service Cross*. The body of Captain Kelly arrived in Valdosta October 12, 1948, being transferred from a Southern Railway passenger train to the Georgia and Florida Railroad, enroute to his hometown, Madison, Florida, for final burial.



Both Georgia and Florida may claim as a son the first Medal of Honor recipient of World War II, ★Second Lieutenant Alexander Ramsey "Sandy" Nininger, Jr., *United States Army*. Born October 30, 1918, in Atlanta, Georgia, he lived in Gainesville, Georgia and moved with his family to Florida at age three. A graduate of Fort Lauderdale High School, he graduated from the *United States Military Academy*, West Point, Class of 1941.

Posted to the Philippines, he was assigned to the 57th Infantry Regiment, *Philippine Scouts*. He was posthumously awarded the *Medal of Honor* for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty" in action with the enemy near Abucay, Bataan, Philippine Islands, January 12, 1942. He was 23 years of age when he was killed in this action.



**Sam H. Allen**  
Army  
Served in the Pacific Theater.



**Charles Wesley Barnes**  
Navy / Submarine Service  
Trout SS202 / Bashaw SS241  
Entemedor SS340  
(See Page 31)



**Charles Brooker Blanton**  
Navy  
USS Indiana



**Boysie Byrd**  
Army  
1311 Engineers  
Embarked from San Pedro, California, June 2, 1944, aboard ship on a three week sail to the South Pacific, seeing nothing but water everywhere until reaching his destination. As a combat support engineer, he served in campaigns in New Guinea and the Philippines.



**August Wright Bazemore**  
Navy  
He attended Naval Officers Training at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, thus becoming a "Harvard Man."



**William Putnam Battell**  
Marine Corps  
Signal Supply, Service Command  
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific  
His first assignment was Peking (Beijing), China, and he concluded his career as Major-General, Marine Corps Quartermaster General.

Assigned to Marine Corps Headquarters, Washington, when the United States entered the war, he was transferred to Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, in early 1944, as Signal Supply Officer, Service Command. In this capacity he was responsible for support of the Marianas, Palau and Iwo Jima operations.



**Robert Moses Blanton**  
Army / 10 Mountain Division  
Assigned to the Fifth Army, he fought in Italy.



**Chandler Harris Blanton**  
Army



**William G. "Red" Bullock**  
Army



★Gunnar Abildgaard

Navy

USS Bunker Hill

A native of Denmark, he lived in Valdosta. Seaman Abildgaard was killed in action in the Pacific while serving on an aircraft carrier.



Bill H. Allison

Army Air Forces

550 Bomb Squadron / 385 Bomb Group

Bill's B-17 was hit by ack-ack on his fifth mission over Germany August 9, 1944, and burst into flames. Of the nine-man crew, five bailed out before the bomber exploded. The plane was flying at 21,000 feet near the small German town of Kusel, near the Belgian border. The explosion blew him free; he fell with the debris. He managed to open his parachute. On the ground, although injured, he evaded capture for six hours. When caught, he was interrogated and subsequently imprisoned with other Allied fliers at Stalag Luft III. The prisoners were moved a number of times as the Russian Army advanced, ending up in a prison camp near Munich — where they were liberated by American Third Army troops of the 14 Armored Division and 99 Infantry Division. He arrived back in the United States June 16, 1945, a year and a day after he departed for Europe.

Charles Adams

Army

Infantry Replacement Training Center  
Fort Gordon, Ga.



Nathan J. Adams

Army Air Forces

23 Fighter Squadron

36 Fighter Group

IX Air Force

A May, 1941, Auburn ROTC graduate, he was commissioned in the Field Artillery and in July, 1941, went on active duty. Accepted for pilot training, he received his AAF Silver Wings at Spence Field, Ga., December, 1942.

First assigned to the 36 Fighter Group in Puerto Rico, he flew Curtiss P-40 fighter aircraft. As a member of the 23 Fighter Squadron of this group, he was transferred to England in 1943, flying P-47's.

The unit flew support missions from England, including over Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

About two weeks after the invasion, they were moved to a temporary field in France flying combat ground support with Third Army. Operations were moved forward as they fought across Europe, giving air cover and support to the infantry and armored units.

He retired at Moody AFB, March 1968, where he served as Wing Commander of 3580 Flying Training Wing.





**James McEntire Beck**  
Army  
362 Infantry Regiment  
91 Infantry Division



Was awarded the *Silver Star* for gallantry in action against the enemy near Palisina, Italy April 23, 1945. At that time he was serving as Operations Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 362nd Infantry Regiment.

He was engaged in combat operations in North Africa before the Italian Campaign.



★**Sidney Stuart Beck**  
Army  
39 Infantry Regiment  
9 Infantry Division

Assigned to Company "H", 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, he participated in the June 6, 1944, Normandy invasion. Wounded in France, August 5, 1944, he received the *Purple Heart*. Returned to his unit in Belgium in October, 1944, he was killed in action at the Remagen bridgehead, Germany, April 5, 1945.

His brother is James M. Beck.

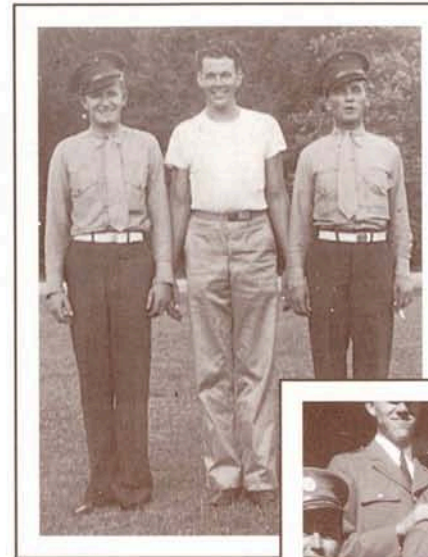
Staff Sergeant Beck is buried in the Margraten American Military Cemetery, Holland.

**Rayford Virido Bagley**  
Army Air Forces  
6 Bomb Squadron  
29 Bomb Group  
XX Air Force

He completed 25 missions over Japan as a B29 Bomber Radio Operator. The plane was named "Nipponese Nipper".

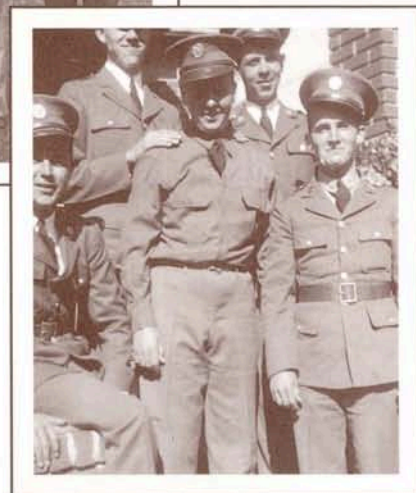


**Howard F. "Billy" Baker**  
Army Air Force  
490 Bomb Group  
Gunner on B-17 and B-24 Bombers.



(L-R) Marines-  
★**Stephenson W. Baker,**  
**Julian Futch** and  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Witherington** at  
Camp Pendleton, Calif.,  
1943

Below: L/R, Front,  
**Eugene E. Slocumb,**  
**Leon Duval Larus,**  
**Stephenson W. Baker;**  
top, **J.C. Coody** and  
**Oliver R. McDonald,** all  
of Company C, 121  
Infantry Regiment, 30  
Infantry Division, at Fort  
Jackson, S.C., 1941.



★**Stephenson W. Baker (far right)**  
Army  
121 Infantry Regiment  
30 Infantry Division

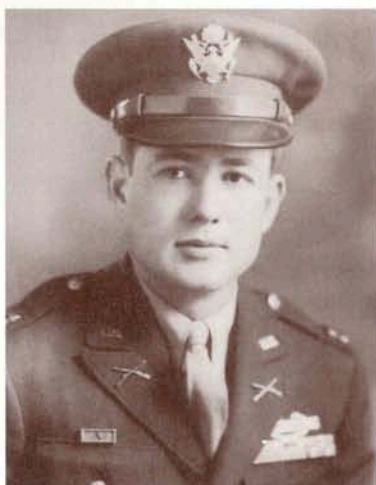
Marine Corps  
4 Marine Division

Joined the Corps during the fall of 1942 when a "South Georgia Platoon" was formed. He saw combat service in the Marshall Islands and was killed in action on Saipan, August, 1944.

In the lower photo, Steve is in Army uniform, with friends. Earlier, he had enlisted for one year in Company G, 121 Infantry Regiment, Georgia National Guard. They were called into Federal Service September 16, 1940. He was discharged from the Army at the end of his term of service, as were all whose enlistments expired. Then he joined the Marines.



**Newton L. "Buster" Bassford**  
Navy  
Naval Air Transport Service  
NAS Pensacola, Fla.



**Frank Bird, Jr.**  
Army  
19 Infantry Regiment  
24 Infantry Division  
Entered service with the Valdosta National Guard. He fought in the South Pacific, including New Guinea and the Philippines. October 20, 1944, during a landing on Leyte, Philippines, he was wounded during a heavy engagement with the Japanese enemy.



**William Wylie Bird II**  
Army Air Forces  
Far Eastern Air Force  
Was posted to Clark Field, Manila, Philippines when hostilities with Japan began in 1941. "Billy" fought as an Infantry Officer. He was taken prisoner April 9, 1942 and survived the infamous Bataan Death March. As a prisoner of war, he was taken to Japan and held at Zentsuji Prison Camp. He was freed September 8, 1945, after hostilities had ended.

Returning to active duty, he continued his flying career and lost his life in an airplane crash in Mississippi, July 29, 1946.



(L-R) - Edward D. Puckett, Jr., AAF,  
William M. "Knuck" McCrary, Army,  
Louie Sloan Blanton, AAF.



Louie S. Blanton  
in Control  
Tower, in Brazil.

**Louie Sloan Blanton**

Army Air Forces  
Army Airways Control Services

Air Transport Command, Amapa, Brazil

Trained as an Air Traffic Controller at Moody Field. He served in Brazil as an ATC on the Miami, Florida - Natal, Brazil route at Balem, Fortalaza, and in the Amazon river jungle of Amapa, checkpoints. From Natal, the route continued eastward via Ascension Island to North Africa.

**Edward D. Puckett, Jr.**

Edward D. Puckett, Jr. served in the Army Air Forces from 1942 to 1946 at various bases in the United States.

**William M. "Knuck" McCrary**

William M. "Knuck" McCrary transferred from the Army Air Corps to the Infantry and saw combat in Germany.

He was an outstanding athlete and told a hair-raising story about an occasion when a grenade landed in the middle of his squad. Realizing he had about three seconds before explosion, he made a lightning dash and "hit the dirt". Thus he avoided being injured, while some of his group were not so fortunate.



**Edward Blaum (front row right)**

Army  
4 Armored Division

Served in the 4th Armored Division in Europe from Normandy to Czechoslovakia. His combat included battles in France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany. On May 10, 1945 he joined with Russian soldiers, shown in this picture, at Strakonice, Czechoslovakia.



**Louis "Jack" Boyd**  
Army  
Served in Europe.



**Roland Burton**  
Royal Air Force

RAF Cadet Burton took his flight training at *Moody Field*, Valdosta, graduating December 13, 1942. Returning to England, he served as a Pilot Instructor until the end of hostilities.

After the war, he continued his military service into the jet age. During this time he set a speed record for military aircraft between London and Canberra, Australia.



**Earl Blocker**

*Navy / LST 522 / LST 073*

A D-Day veteran, he participated in the invasion of Normandy, June 6, 1944. Transferred to the Pacific, he took part in the 1945 invasion of Okinawa.



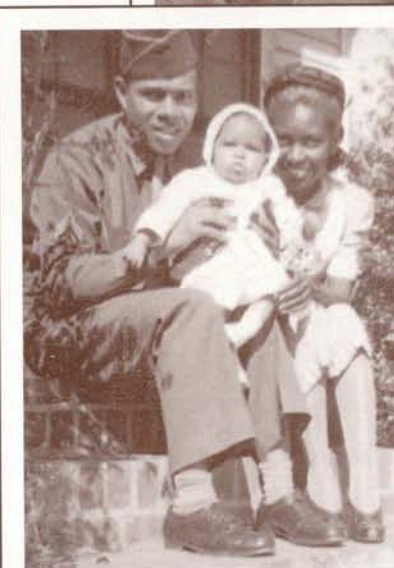
**Edward L. Boykin**  
Army

*1553 Engineer Battalion*  
He was a D-Day participant in Normandy serving in France until he returned to the U.S.

He is pictured with his wife, Ruby, and daughter, Vivian.



**Wallace "Dazzy" Boyd**  
Army  
*597 Replacement Depot Battalion*  
*Indiantown Gap, Penn.*





**Will Davis Burgsteiner**  
Army Air Forces  
359 Fighter Group  
370 Fighter Squadron



Was awarded the *Silver Star* for gallantry in action against the enemy. This Mustang fighter pilot was credited with destroying five German aircraft. He was called into military service in 1940 with the Valdosta National Guard, Company "G", 121st Infantry Regiment and transferred to the Air Corps.



**Julius Jerome Brown**  
Army Air Forces  
301 Fighter Squadron  
322 Fighter Group

Stationed in Italy for the Rome-Arno, North Apennines, Po Valley and Central Europe campaigns. The unit was also active in France and Germany. Col. Benjamin Davis was Group Commander.

★ **Clifton Henry "Tippie" Brumitt, Jr. (at right)**  
Navy / LST 531

Went down with his ship when they were attacked by German "E-Boats" in the English Channel, April 28, 1944.



**Donald S. Bryan**

Army Air Forces / 352 Fighter Group / 328 Fighter Squadron  
*Distinguished Service Cross* winner, he shot down five planes in one day! From 1942-45 he was credited with shooting down a total of 13 German fighters. He flew the P-47 Thunderbolt, P-51B and P-51D10 fighters out of bases in England and Belgium. His outfit was known to the Germans as "the blue nose bastards of Bodney", Bodney, England, being the base from which they flew.



**Lloyd L. Burns, Jr.***Army Air Forces*

397 Bomb Group / 525 Bomber Squadron / VIII Air Force  
 462 Bomb Group / 769 Bomber Squadron / XX Air Force

He may be the Valdostan who saw the most action with a bomber group during World War II, but modestly he does not lay claim to this.

Born March 20, 1925, he entered military service at age 17. He does claim to have been the youngest combat pilot in the *Army Air Forces*. His combat experience began while he was only 18 years old and when he was 19 years and one month of age, he had completed thirty combat missions, flying from England. These he flew in just two months. During this time, he made two crash landings and bailed out one time, parachuting into the English Channel.

After his European tour of duty with *VIII Air Force*, he had a tour with the *XX Air Force* in the Pacific. Based at Tinian Island, the Marianas, flying B-29's, he flew five combat missions. He also flew a "decoy" mission on August 6, 1945, as a part of the first atomic bomb attack, Hiroshima, Japan.

After release from the *Army Air Forces*, he completed medical school and practiced medicine until his recent retirement.

**★Irvin S. Cohen***Army Air Forces*

While serving as a navigator with a bomber group flying from England, he was lost in action while on a flight over German-occupied Europe, July 26, 1943.

His father operated a popular mens' shop in downtown Valdosta, named Irvin's. They opened the store in September, 1939.

**Chester Madison Cameron***Navy***Roy W. Campbell**

*Navy*  
*Carrier Aircraft Service*  
*Unit 7-44*

*Patrol Squadron 200*  
 In the Pacific flew a PB4Y2  
 "Flying Boat" for search/rescue  
 of downed flyers, and in patrol  
 service.



(Clockwise from upper left) -

**Thomas E. Campbell**, *Army Air Forces*, 390 Bomb Group;

**Norman C. "Neal" Campbell**, *Army Ordnance*;

**George J. Campbell**, *Army Air Forces*;

**Robert B. Campbell**, *Army Air Forces*

T/SGT Thomas E. Campbell was a radio operator/gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress. He flew over thirty missions against vital German installations from the Rhine to Berlin. His group held a war record for shooting down 63 German fighters over Munster, Germany, October 10, 1943.



**Robert A. Catoe**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*494 Bomb Group*  
*864 Bomb Squadron*

An Army National Guardsman, he transferred to the Army Air Corps in 1940. As an Aircraft Electrical Specialist, he saw overseas service in the Palau Islands of the Caroline Group, the Philippines and Okinawa.



**Alex Caudle**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*XIII Air Force*

Served with the Eighth Air Force in England.



**Sam Caudle**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*V Air Force*

Served with the Fifth Air Force in Australia, New Guinea, and in the South Pacific island of Morotai, Dutch East Indies.



**Wesley Ren Christie**

*Marine Corps / USS Quincy CA-71*

A Drill Instructor Sergeant at Parris Island in 1940, he was commissioned and as a Captain, he was commanding officer of the Marine Detachment of the cruiser *USS Quincy CA-71*.

Early on June 5, 1944, the *Quincy* took her place as part of the armada bound for the D-Day, June 6th, Normandy invasion. They gave fire support to the troops storming the beaches of Utah and Omaha. The *Quincy* was the first ship in the D-Day fleet to take and return fire. The *Quincy's* guns could fire 23 miles inland from the ship.

While involved with this D-Day operation, they assisted in rescue of the crews of *USS Corry* and *USS James Henry Glennon (DD-620)*, both having struck mines.

Afterwards, they engaged in action at Cherbourg, and in the Mediterranean at Toulon, Saint Mandrier and Cape Sicie, in southern France. The ship later hosted President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, King Farouk I of Egypt and Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia.

The *Quincy* then sailed for the Far East and saw action at Okinawa, and was present for the Japanese surrender at Tokyo Bay, September 2, 1945.





**Leon Cody**  
*Army Air Forces*  
 After service in  
 Guam, he had a post-  
 war assignment to  
 Taiwan.

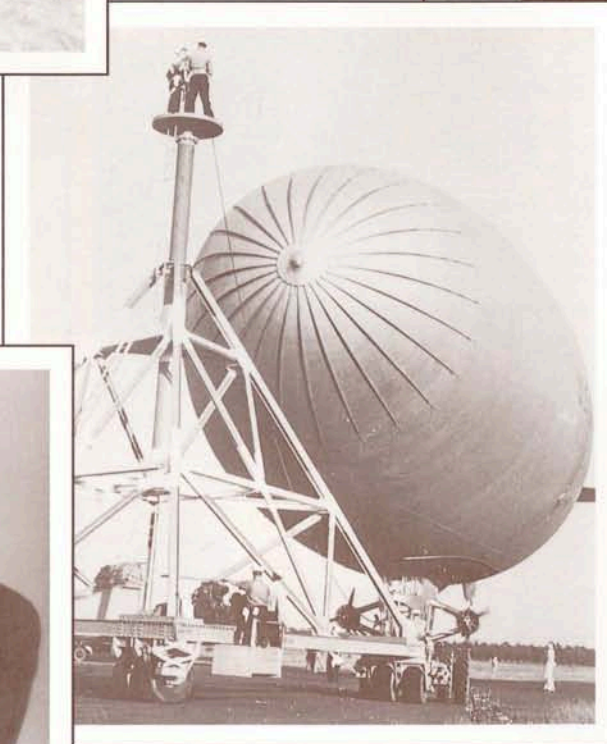


**Claxton "R" "L" Cooper**  
*Navy*  
*USS Foote*  
 Was a Torpedoman Third Class  
 when he shot down an enemy plane  
 with AA fire from his ship. He was  
 awarded a *Bronze Star* with "V" for  
 valor.



**George W. Colson**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*XV Air Force*  
 Served in Italy.

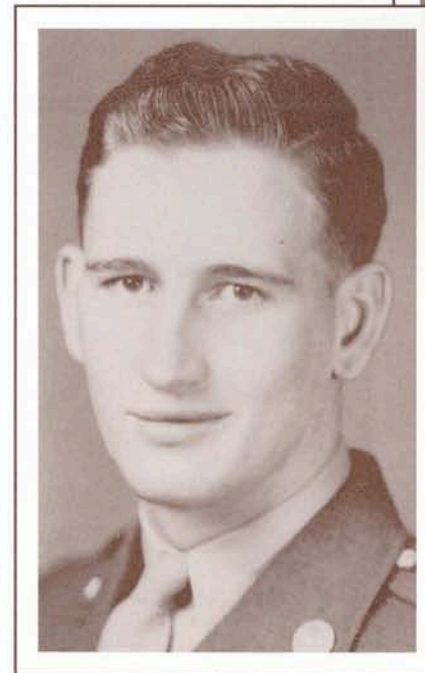
Blimp L-2 at mooring mast,  
 NAS Lakehurst, N.J.



**Raymond A. Cook**  
*Navy*

*Fleet Airships, Atlantic / Blimp Squadron 21*

As the pilot of a blimp, along with his crew, he patrolled the East  
 Coast of the United States searching for German submarines. His  
 base was NAS Richmond, Florida.



**Kenneth C. "Bill" Colson**  
*Army Air Forces*  
 An aircraft sheet metal technician,  
 he repaired planes in the South  
 Pacific, Guam and Saipan.





**Clifford T. "Tibby" Corbin**  
Navy

*USS Baireus / USS Manatee / USS Humboldt*  
A 1926 graduate of the *United States Naval Academy*, Annapolis, he was the first from Lowndes County to graduate from the *Naval Academy*. During World War II he saw active service in both the Atlantic and Pacific.



**Theo Wade Coleman**  
Army  
*Security Intelligence Corps*  
Pictured with his sons, Dan and Wade.



**Milton Ray Corbett**  
Navy  
*Aviation Metalsmith 3rd Class*



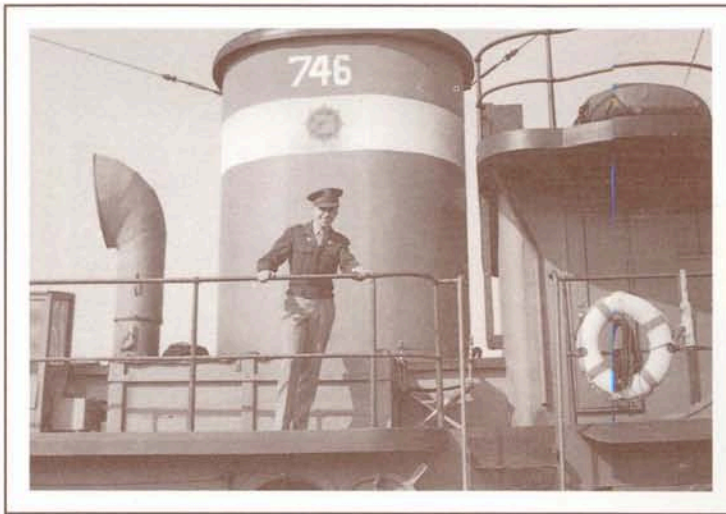
**Robert Eugene Corbett**  
Navy  
*Electrician 3rd Class*



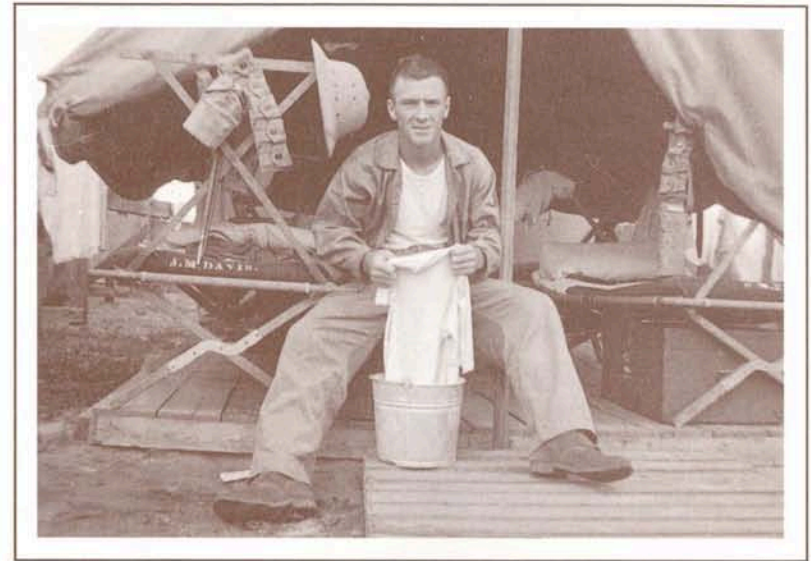
**Benjamin F. Crawford**  
Troop B  
*9th Cavalry Regiment*  
(Mounted)

**James F. "Bubba" Council**  
Navy  
Overseas service in the Philippines





Homer W. Davis  
Army  
Transportation Corps  
Water Division  
Picture taken at Le  
Havre, France. The  
army maintained its  
own fleet of non-  
combat ships.



★Joseph Malachi Davis  
Marine Corps  
21 Marine Regiment / 3 Marine Division  
(See Page 1)



James W. "Bill" Davis  
Army  
88 Infantry Division

Company Commander of the Valdosta National Guard, Company G, 121 Infantry Regiment, he was called into active service with the regiment September 16, 1940.

The 88 Division was formed to train selective service inducts in July, 1942, and Bill was assigned to this task. He went overseas with the division in late 1943. They took part in the Italian Campaign, from Rome to northern Italy.

After the war, he was assigned as Executive Officer of Sugan Prison, Tokyo. This was where the Japanese war criminals were held. Later, he was commanding officer of the Army Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

He completed a career with the Army, and retired home to Valdosta.

The snapshot above shows him with his daughters, Marthand Karon.



Oscar Davis Dalton  
Army  
119 Infantry Regiment  
30 Infantry Division

A Company Commander in the "Old Hickory" Division, he was wounded during the 1944 Battle of the Bulge.

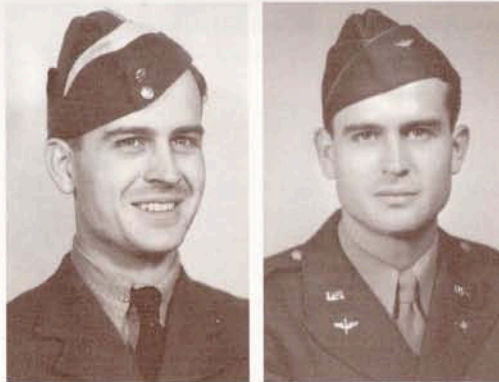


James Berry Dees  
Army Air Forces  
Military Police



**James Edward Dees**  
*Army*  
 121 Infantry Regiment  
 8 Infantry Division

A Georgia National Guardsman, he was called to active duty with this regiment September 16, 1940. His unit was engaged first in the Normandy battles. He was wounded during the Rhine River crossing.



★**William Rudisill Barry**  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
*Army Air Forces*  
 384 Bomb Group

Anxious to fight for the cause of freedom, he joined the *Royal Canadian Air Force* in September 1941. He was discharged February 5, 1942 for the purpose of joining the *American Army Air Forces*.

Flying with the 384 Bombardment Group on a raid to Bonn/Cologne in Germany, his plane was shot down and he lost his life January 10, 1945.

He was born William Rudisill Dewberry, but as an adult changed his name to Barry.



**Abe Dennis**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*Mess Squadron*  
*VII Air Force*

With his cousin, Jay Helou, in Valdosta, 1942. He served as a Mess Sergeant in Hawaii.



**Sara Dunaway (DeLoach)**  
*Army*

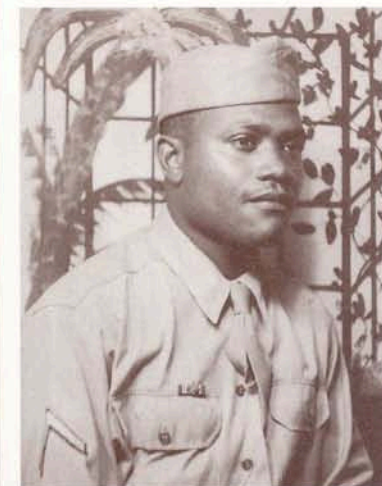
*Women's Army Auxiliary Corps*  
 At the right in both of these pictures, here she is with a group of other Americans with locals in a native Guam village.



★**Robert Elmo DeLoach**  
*Army*  
 121 Infantry Regiment  
 8 Infantry Division  
 (See Page 33)



**Melvin R. DeShazior**  
*Army*  
 3246 Quartermaster Service Co.  
 9 Infantry Division  
 Served in North Africa, Sicily, France and Germany.





**Charles W. Hatcher (center)**  
121 Infantry Regiment / 8 Infantry Division



**Fred J. Holland**  
Navy  
USS LSMR 524



**Herman Henry Harpe**  
Army Air Forces  
400 Bomb Group  
390 Bomb Squadron  
Aircraft Mechanic, servicing B-24  
"Liberator" bombers in the Philippines.



**Jesse James Hampton**  
Army

60 Infantry Regiment / 9 Infantry Division  
Fought with the "Varsity" Division in North Africa,  
Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany. He participated in the D-Day invasion at  
Normandy, Battle of the Bulge and was among the first to cross the Remagen bridge.  
He received the *Purple Heart* and was awarded the *Bronze Star* with "V" for valor.  
The photo at above left is a German Mark V tank, which had earlier been disabled by  
American forces.



**Maceo A. Horne, Jr.**  
Army  
661 QM Trucking Co.  
III Army

The truckers were known as the  
"Red Ball Express" as they rushed  
supplies through France from  
ports to the front.



**John Henry Ford**  
*Army*  
 3240 Quartermaster Company  
 Quartermaster Corps  
 25 Infantry Division  
 Served in the Pacific theater.



**Alonzo Fuller**  
*Army*  
 716 Tank Battalion  
 He entered service with the  
*Alabama National Guard* in 1939.  
 During overseas service in the  
 Pacific Theater, he was  
 wounded. He was medically  
 retired in 1945.



**Joseph H. Fisher**  
*Army Air Forces*  
 His career with the *Air Force* carried  
 him to Panama, Europe, Hawaii,  
 Korea and Vietnam.



**Everett Gornto Force**  
*Marine Corps*  
 Headquarters Battalion  
 3 Marine Division  
 Served in Guadalcanal and Guam. At  
 left, Everett was a Division Training  
 Officer with division on Guam.  
 Below, perched on cistern of native hut  
 on Guam. Cistern was used to collect  
 rain water for household consumption.



**Donald E. Gerlock**  
*Army Air Forces*  
 1155 Quartermaster Aviation  
 8 Service Group

The Army Air Force at Moody Field consisted of two canvas-covered, twin-engine wooden propeller aircraft and one "drop-chin" B-17 when he arrived at Moody Field in November, 1941.

Don is at the left, in this picture and Josephine Reddick, his future wife, is the young lady.



**Joe Brown Gaskins**  
*Navy*  
 USS Spangler  
 DE 696

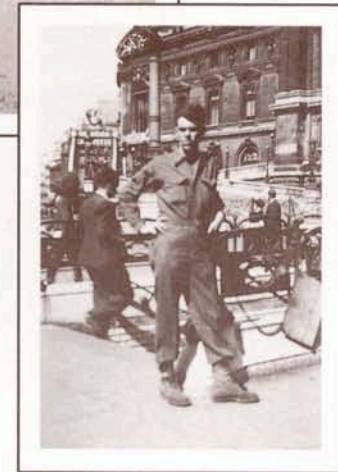
**Bernice Gaskins**  
*Army*  
 Signal Detachment  
 304 Infantry Regiment  
 76 Infantry Division  
 A motion picture film editor in the "Liberty Bell" Division, his detachment documented the horrors of the German concentration camps.



**James Austin Griffin**  
*Army*  
 423 Armored Field Artillery  
 10 Armored Division / III Army

Trucking ammunition to the forward artillery batteries was the job of this Sergeant in Patton's Third Army. They fought through France, at Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge, and through Southern Germany, closing the war at Salzburg, Austria.

In the top picture he is shown "clowning" in a German uniform after the war.



**John Melvin Griner**  
*Army*  
 8 Signal Battalion  
 8 Infantry Division

His battalion provided communications for the regiments and other divisional units as the "Golden Arrow" Division fought battles from Brittany, France, to the Cologne plain of Germany.

Going through Germany, he stopped at an abandoned Opel automobile factory, picking up a "just off the assembly-line" vehicle which he used until his return to the U.S.

Harwell M. Griner was his brother.



**Worth C. Green**  
*Marine Corps*  
*4 Marine Air Wing*  
*VMF 13*

Served two tours as a fighter pilot in the Pacific, flying F4F Wildcats and F4U Corsairs. He flew from both carriers and land bases.

After a mission over Japan, he was attacked by enemy aircraft. His plane had already been disabled by ground fire. He bailed out into the sea. After eight hours afloat in his "Mae West" life-jacket, he was picked up by a PBY "Black Cat" flying boat.

Art Buchwald, later to achieve fame as a humorist, was Green's ordnance sergeant.



**Harwell Martin Griner**  
*Navy*  
*USS Marblehead CL-12*  
*Asiatic Fleet*

Was on the China Station at Shanghai aboard the USS

*Marblehead*, before the war. When bombs fell at Pearl Harbor, they were at Tarakan, Borneo, Netherlands East Indies, assigned to the *Asiatic Fleet*. Action came on February 4, 1942, when the *USS Marblehead*, with other units of a combined American-Dutch force was attacked by Mitsubishi-96 bombers near Makassar Strait. The *USS Marblehead* was disabled in this action and retired to Tjilatjap, Java, N.E.I., for repairs. There being no dry dock large enough to handle this ship, it was necessary to return on a long, hazardous cruise via Ceylon and the Cape of Good Hope.



**Ike Bowen Harrell**

*Army / Battery B / 308 Field Artillery Bn. / 78 Infantry Division*

Ike's Artillery Battalion participated in history's heaviest artillery barrage, against Aachen, Germany. They also participated in action at Remagen and in the Ruhr Valley of Germany.



**Edward B. Hanley, Jr.**  
*Army*  
*32 Air Transport Command*  
*Natal, Brazil*





**Hardy B Douglas**  
Navy / USS MacLeish



★**Charles Arnold Dunbar, Jr.**  
Army / 94 Reconnaissance Squadron  
14 Armored Division / VI Army  
Was killed in action at Hatten, France, January 19, 1945. He is buried at the St. Avold American Military Cemetery, France. His twin brothers, Guy and William, served with the Navy Seabees.



**James Dennis Dowling**  
Navy  
Naval Aviation Service



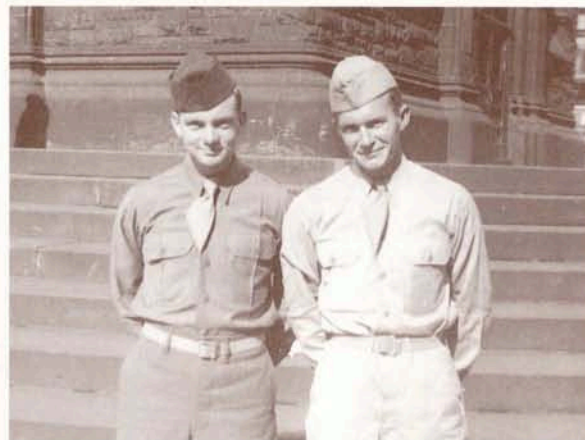
**Franklin G. Eldridge**  
Army  
Medical Corps  
174 General Hospital  
Began his medical career as a medical officer with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), after completing his internship. December 1, 1940, he entered military service. His overseas service was in Southern France in 1944.



**Guy T. Dunbar and William Dunbar**  
Navy  
98 Naval Construction Battalion



**Robert Lemuel Howell**  
Coast Guard  
Unit 372



**Leonard H. Aiken (left)**  
Army Air Forces  
56 Air Engineer Squadron  
31 Air Service Group  
314 Bomb Wing

**Leonard Rudolph Howell (above)**  
Army Air Forces  
564 Bomb Squadron  
389 Bomb Group  
VIII Air Force  
(See Page 29)



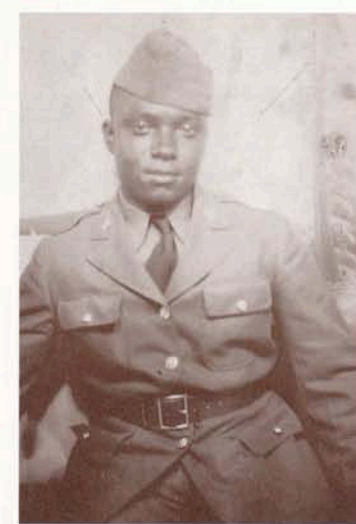
**Tillman Howell**  
Army  
Medical Service Corps



**Robert R. Humphreys**, at top without hat. Pictured is Class of October, 1941, Army Air Force Signal School, Omaha, Nebraska.



**Eddie Hunter**  
Army  
He served with the Army in the Pacific islands.

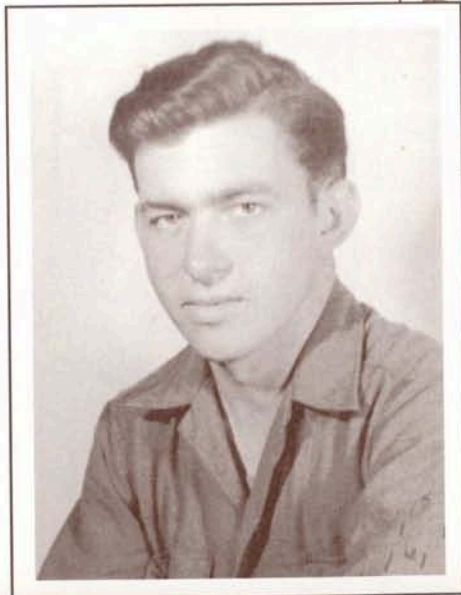




**Gaines Hunter**  
*Army Air Forces*



**Stephen A. "Akie" Joyner**  
*Navy*



**Norman Daniel Johnson, Jr.**  
*Army*  
*Combat Engineers*



**Mitchell Johnson**  
*Army Air Forces*  
*11 Bomb Group*  
*7th Air Force*

Mitch is in top row of this crew picture,  
second from right. He was the plane's  
navigator.



**Ralph B. Johnson**  
*Army*  
*330 Infantry Regiment*  
*83 Infantry Division*  
Ralph fought with the  
"Thunderbolt" Division at  
St. Malo and the  
Ardennes in France and  
Roer River area of  
Germany.



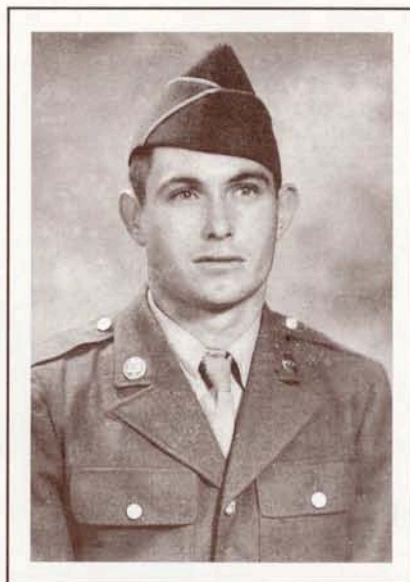
**Art Koch**  
Army Air Forces  
Military Police



**John Wesley Langdale**  
Navy  
USS Owen DD 536  
Destroyer Squadron 52  
The USS Owen was the flagship of Destroyer Squadron 52, and John served as Operations Officer. He was at Tokyo Bay, September 2, 1945, when the Japanese surrender was signed.



**Donald Leigh Larus**  
Army  
553 Field Artillery Battalion  
Served overseas in France and Germany doing maintenance on combat vehicles.



**Luther Charles Lewis**  
Army Troop E  
29 Cavalry Group  
(Mechanized)

Charles trained at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and went overseas to the European theater with his unit. They arrived in Germany, April, 1945. He was a medium tank crewman. Injured in a non-combat accident, he was medically discharged, May, 1946.



**Dale Leslie**  
Marine Corps  
1st Marine Air Wing / VMSB 231  
Received the Navy Cross for an outstanding act of heroism against an armed enemy when he helped rescue Marines stranded on a Guadalcanal Beach. He was a distinguished Marine Air Wing fighter pilot.

