

William E. "Ernie" Thomas
Army

422 Infantry Regiment / 8 Infantry Division
During the Battle of the Bulge, December 16, 1944, "Ernie" was taken prisoner by the Germans. While being held as a POW, he was wounded on Christmas Eve, 1944. The next day, his Christmas dinner he remembers well as being only one tablespoon of grape jelly. He was released as a POW in April, 1945.



Elwood Tomlinson

Navy / Naval Combat Demolition Unit (Amphibious)
Better known as "Frogmen", their duty was to go in ahead of landings and clear obstacles from the water, an extremely dangerous job.

His first mission was at Bizerte, Tunisia, clearing the harbor of sunken ships. Next they cleared the beaches for the amphibious invasions of Italy. Before the D-Day Invasion of Normandy, his unit cleared the obstacles before the beaches, losing over 50% of their men.

Clearing the underwater obstacles at the beaches in the South of France, in preparation for that landing, was their last European invasion preparation work.



Charles Allen Tillman

Navy
Motor Torpedo Boat / PT 103 / Squadron 5

PT 372 / Squadron 27 / Seventh Fleet
PT boats were a David and Goliath story, a very small boat fighting against larger vessels of the Japanese Navy.

PT 103, "Acorn One", was operating from "Oak Tree" base in the central Solomon Islands. Patrolling, they saw the burning and sinking of PT 109, commanded by John F. Kennedy, later President. It was struck by a Japanese destroyer.

From a Borneo, Netherlands East Indies base, the PT 372 patrolled the Makassar Strait between the Celebes and Java Seas. When the war ended, they took their boats to the Philippines where they were stored and later destroyed by the Navy.



The Tillmans

Charles, at left, and Jerry, met on Samar Island, Philippines in early 1945.



John I. Tomlinson
Central Signal Corps School
Camp Crowder, Mo.

Jerry Duncan Tillman
Navy

12 Naval Construction Battalion
20 Naval Construction Regiment
Survey Detachment

With the 12 Naval Construction Battalion, in the Aleutian Islands, off Alaska and south of the Bering Sea, they were in action removing the Japanese occupiers during 1943.

During the invasion of the Philippines, the 20 Naval Construction Regiment was in the

Leyte Gulf area where they built a large port supply base for support of the forces and the expected invasion of Japan.

In the photo at top left, he is operating a bulldozer in the Philippines. Above, he is sharing coconuts with a friend and two native children.

Lachlan Macpherson
"Mac" Tillman
(See Page 43)

Army
506 Parachute Infantry Regiment
101 Airborne Division

Pathfinder Detachment
Headquarters

101 Airborne Division

September, 1943, the Cunard White Star RMS *Samaria* sailed from New York, bound for Liverpool, England. Aboard the luxury liner, but not in luxury style, were 10,000 troops, almost the entire division. They were packed aboard this ship on a 14-day convoyed voyage.





Jerry Bolton Tullis
Army Air Forces
 368 Fighter Group
 404 Fighter Group



From a fighter base in France in 1944, leading his flight, he attacked a superior number of German aircraft which had engaged another group of Thunderbolt fighters. He personally was credited with destroying three enemy aircraft and damaging several others. Although dangerously low on fuel and ammunition, he continued his action until the enemy was completely routed. Because of his gallantry in armed action against the enemy, he was awarded the *Silver Star*.

E. W. "Bill" Tullis, Jr. and Jerry were brothers.



The photo at right was taken at Fort Devens, Mass., in 1939. David Van Alstyne was in action from Omaha Beach, the Battle of the Bulge, through Germany and into Czechoslovakia, ending at Pilsen.



Ernest William Tullis, Jr.
Army
 117 Infantry Regiment
 30 Infantry Division

Wearing a well-earned Combat Infantryman Badge, "Bill" fought his way across France to the Siegfried Line. During the Rhine River Crossing in Germany, March 24, 1944, he eliminated a German machine-gun, earning the *Silver Star*.



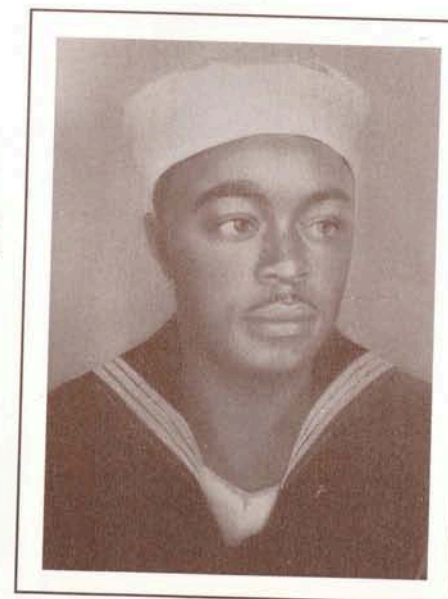
David A. Van Alstyne
Army
 Headquarters V Corps / 1 Army

In Normandy, June 21, 1944, he was awarded the *Silver Star*, being presented to him by V Corps Commander General Leonard C. Gerow. David had distinguished himself by his rescue of one of the men of his company. The man was drowning in the surf during the June 6, 1944, D-Day action. He swam out, under enemy fire, and rescued the soldier.



William Arlie Vann
Army Air Forces

Hal Wade
Navy
 USS *Alabama*
 USS *Saratoga*





William Amos Welch
Army Air Forces
 91 Air Service Squadron
 Served in Italy. This picture was taken at
 Taranto, Italy.



Richard H. Whiddon
Navy
 61 Naval Construction Bn.
 Served with the "Seabees" on Guadalcanal.



Jack C. Williams
Army
 121 Infantry Regiment
 30 Infantry Division
 351 Infantry Regiment
 88 Infantry Division
 Entered service with Valdosta's National
 Guard, Company G, 121 Infantry Regiment.
 Overseas with the "Cloverleaf" Division, Jack
 was injured in a jeep accident at Sorrento,
 Italy, June, 1944. He returned to the U.S. and
 was hospitalized until 1947, when he was
 medically discharged.
 Later, he rejoined the Georgia National Guard,
 from which he later retired as a regimental
 Staff Officer.



Max Young
Army
 103 Infantry Division
 VII Army
 Fought in southern Germany to Austria with the
 "Cactus" Division.



**James Elwood
 Wisenbaker**
Army
 1st Bn. HQ Co.
 Anti-Tank Platoon
 423 Infantry Regiment
 106 Infantry Division
 I Army
 Taken prisoner by the
 Germans December 18,
 1944, at Saint Vith,
 Belgium. He was held as a
 POW until released by the
 Russian Army at
 Luchenwalde, south of
 Potsdam, March 8, 1945.



Johnnie Mack Williams
Navy



Earl C. Wetherington, Jr.
Logistics Support Co.
Camp Perry, Virginia



Moses Clinton Wetherington, Jr.
Army
29 Infantry Regiment
4 Infantry Division

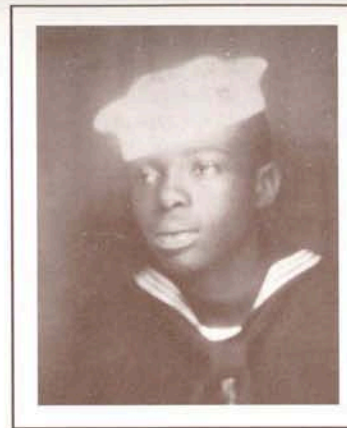
With his organization, he was engaged
in operations in France, Belgium,
Holland and Germany.



Richard Emmett Williams
Army
20 Armored Division



Owen King Youles
Cannon Company
426 Infantry Regiment
106 Infantry Division
With the "Golden Lion"
Division, he fought at St.
Vith, Belgium in the Battle of
the Bulge.



★ Samuel H. White
Navy
Naval Construction Battalion
"Seabees"
Died at Naval Hospital, Pacific
Area, June 11, 1945.



Cyre B. Ashbrook
Army Air Forces



William O. Wildes
Army Air Forces
44 Troop Carrier Command
At the right in this picture. He served in the Pacific.



Frank Z. "Zeke" Campbell
Navy
Naval Air Service
 Died in an airplane crash
 October 9, 1945, near
 Waterford, Pennsylvania. He
 had attended the *United*
States Naval Academy,
 Annapolis, but had resigned
 to take Naval flight training.



Randall R. "Bullet" Clements
Navy
Naval Air Station
Lake City, Fla.
 Pictured here with his wife,
 the former Clarice Easters.



William Lafayette Davis
Army Air Forces
Mediterranean Allied Air Force



Merrill L. Cowart
Army
85 Signal Service Bn.
Signal Corps



Lionel Ebbert Deming
Army
305 Infantry Regiment
77 Infantry Division
 An Infantry Company
 Commander with the
 "Statue of Liberty"
 Division, they fought on
 Guam, Leyte and
 Okinawa.



Richard Harding "Dick" Davis
Merchant Marine
SS Mission Pursima
SS Mangore
SS Firemore

A ship's engineer, aboard the *SS Mission Pursima*, an oil tanker, he made a trip to Murmansk, Russia, in 1943 in a convoy of 160 ships. They were attacked by German aircraft and lost several ships off the coast of Norway.

The *SS Mangore*, also a tanker, sank in the Caribbean Sea. All the crew, including Dick, escaped.

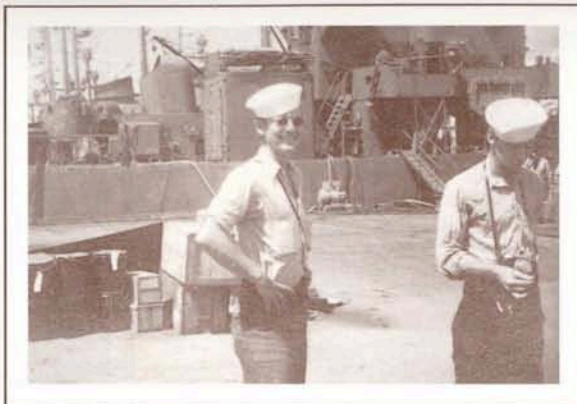
His three year career in the Merchant Marine ended as 3rd Engineer on the *SS Firemore*, an ore ship on the South American run.



Dorothy Davis (Simmons)
Army
Nurse Corps

1022 Station Hospital (New Hebrides)
9 Station Hospital (New Caledonia)
 She tended the wounded and sick in the South Pacific. Her brothers also served, ★Joe in the *Marine Corps* and "Dick" in the *Merchant Marine*.

She married a career *Navy* officer whom she met during her overseas tour.



Sherwood C. "Woodie" Dennis
Navy / USS PCE 900

His little ship — a number, not a name — was affectionately called "*The Reluctant Dragon*" by its crew.



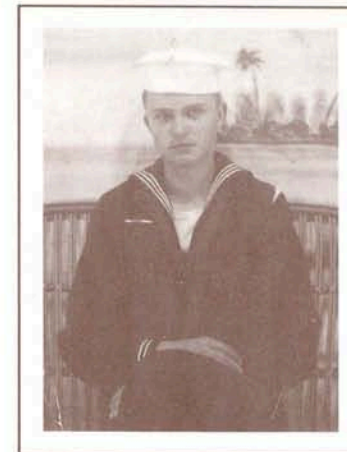
William I. Dennis
Army
Combat Engineers
Served in North Africa.



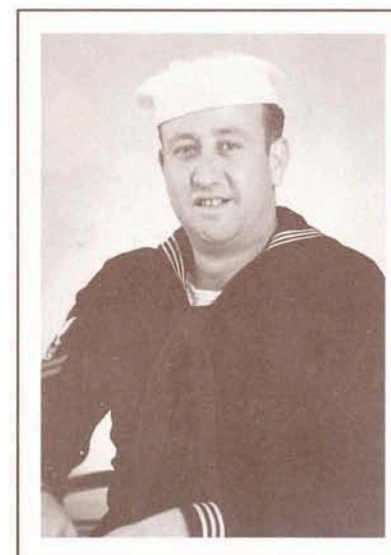
John Keller Dukes
Navy
LST 742 / LST 1102



Frank E. Eye
Marine Corps
Transit Center Marines
Hawaii



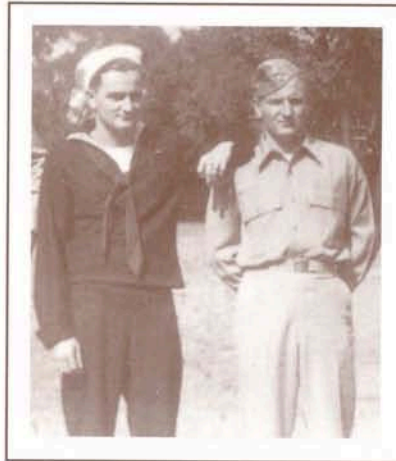
Clifford Junior Farmer
Navy
LST 688
Crewman on a landing craft.
Participated in landings on Guam
and Okinawa.



Jewell Little Futch
Navy
Shore Patrol



Harry James Gaskins
Army
36 Infantry Division



John Keller Dukes (left)
Navy
LST 742 / LST 1102

William Thomas Giddens (right)
Army Air Forces
856 Aviation Signal Svc. Co.



Robert Wilburn McKey
Army
290 Infantry Regiment
75 Infantry Division

Served in Belgium, France, and Germany, including the Battle of the Bulge. He is pictured with his wife, Irma Lucille Adams McKey and their son, Robert Wilburn McKey, Jr.



Lloyd Barton Greer, Jr.
Army
121 Infantry Regiment
30 Infantry Division



Mack Varnedoe Greer
26 Marine Regiment
5 Marine Division
Was with the Army of Occupation in Japan. Here he is pictured holding a small Japanese child.

James Glenn Gregory
Army
4499 Service Command Unit
Military Police
Army Service Forces

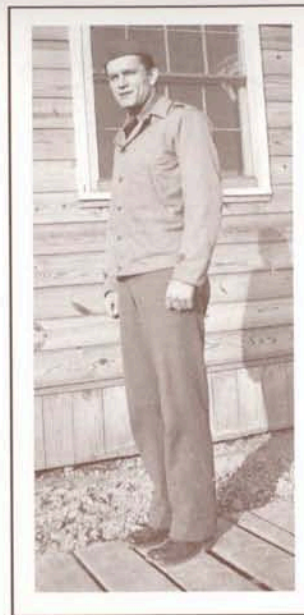




Fred Julian Groover
*Army Air Forces
 Headquarters Squadron
 Base Air Depot
 Aviation Air Service*



Henry James Halter
*Navy
 USS Housatonic*



Tim Harris
*Army Air Forces
 1050 Ordnance Squadron*



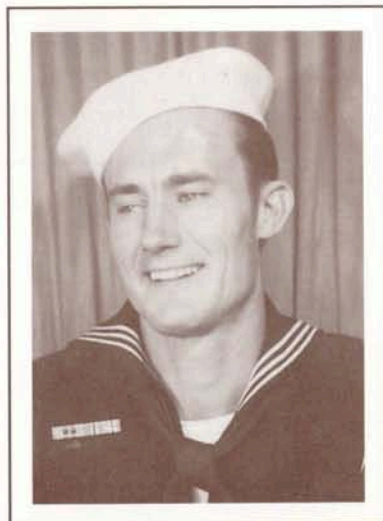
Syd Hartnig
*Marine Corps
 1 Pioneer Battalion / 1 Marine Division*
 Sergeant Hartnig is standing with his wife, the former Lottie Margolis, on their wedding day. His unit of *Pioneers* served on Guadalcanal and New Guinea.



Lynwood Elbert Hickman
Navy / USS PC 479
 The picture at top left shows Elbert wearing a Japanese uniform and holding a Japanese flag. His ship was a patrol craft — sub-chaser, operating from Hollandia, New Guinea, Dutch East Indies.



Paul R. Lilly, Jr.
*Army
 42 Infantry Division*



Howell Hendly
Navy





Fred Julian Groover
Army Air Forces
Headquarters Squadron
Base Air Depot
Aviation Air Service



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Paul R. Lilly, Jr.
Army
42 Infantry Division





Henry W. "Billy" Peeples

*Navy
USS Niobrara*

The USS Niobrara was a Navy "oiler", a tanker hauling fuel. They also carried some "deck" cargo. Aboard this ship he was in the Caribbean, the Atlantic and the Pacific. The ship was attacked by submarines and Kamikazes, but was never hit. The most serious fighting for him was the action which he saw around Okinawa.

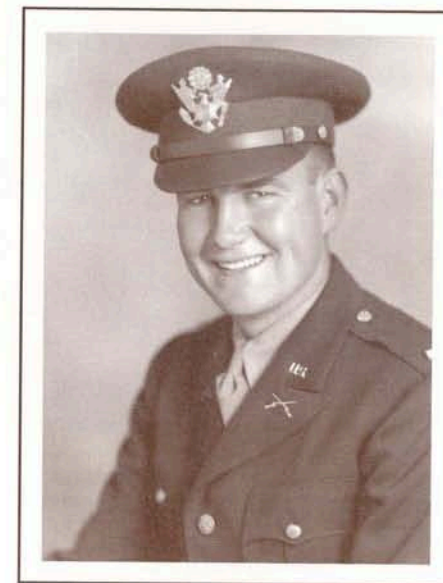
He was with the American fleet at the surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay, September 2, 1945.



John Newton Peeples

*Army
Headquarters
Mid-Pacific Command*

Trained with the 42nd "Rainbow" Division, but was transferred before it left for Europe. He went to the Pacific, and was assigned to an Intelligence Unit.



James H. Perry

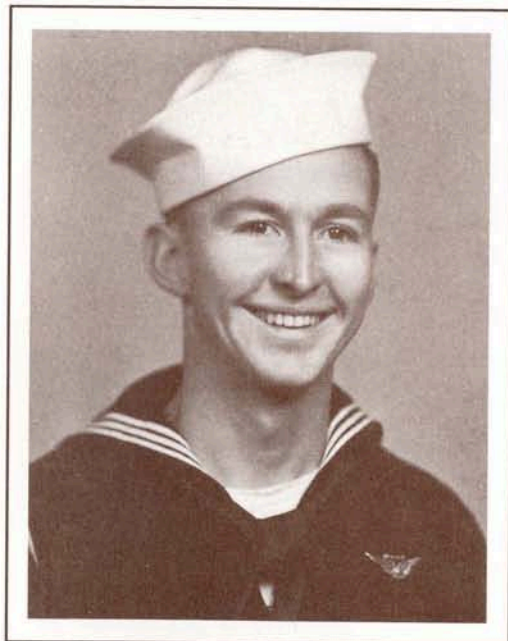
*Army
12 Infantry Regiment
4 Infantry Division*



Served in France, Belgium and Germany, including the action at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.

Was a mortar observer when trucks of his unit were abandoned because of heavy artillery fire. In order to find the source of the enemy fire, he climbed a church steeple and directed fire against the German artillery. The enemy guns were neutralized and a party was able to retrieve the trucks and wounded.

He was awarded the *Silver Star* for his gallantry.



Cadore C. Powell

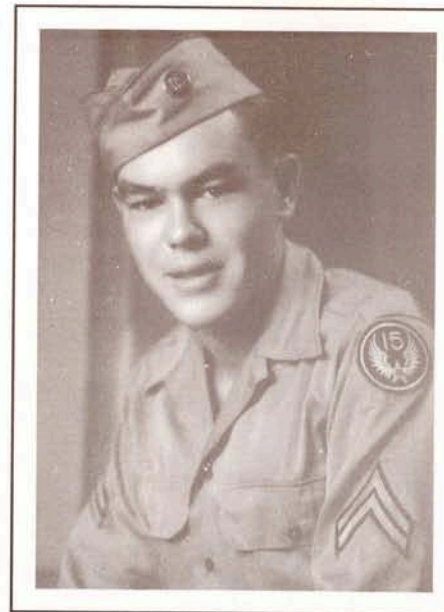
*Navy
Naval Aviation Service*



Thomas A. Scott, Jr.

*Navy
Naval Communications*

This picture was taken by another Valdostan, Charles W. Barnes, during a chance meeting in Brisbane, Australia.



Luther Payne Shelton

*Army Air Forces
555 Base Unit / XV Air Force
Served in Italy, France and Germany.*



William A. Turner
Army Air Forces

487 Bomber Group / VIII Air Force

"Billy" was a radio operator/rear gunner. He flew on both B-17's and B-24's, from England. He participated in the D-Day Normandy invasion, flying bombing support on June 6, 1944. He was one of the crew in the lead plane for the Eighth Air Force in this June 6, 1944 action.



Bennett G. Owens
Army
Medical Corps

111 Station Hospital
234 General Hospital

Physician and Administrator of a hospital
in the China-Burma-India Theater.



Malcolm Lindsey
Army

555 Motor Ambulance Co.
X Army



★Romie E. Lindsey
Army

Fort Stewart, Georgia
Killed while he was in
training.



★Henry Virgil Rodgers
Army Air Forces
Far Eastern Air Force



Joseph Lamar Rodgers
Army
1462 Boat Co.
3 Engineer Special Brigade



Louis Franklin Rodgers
Navy



Chester Rodgers
Army Air Forces

The Rodgers

★Henry Virgil Rodgers sailed from Savannah with reinforcements, bound for the Philippines aboard the *SS President Coolidge*. "Billy" Bird (see page 8) was also with this group. They landed at Manila, November 21, 1941. When hostilities began, December 8, 1941 (west of the International Date Line), he fought as an Infantryman. He was taken prisoner when American-Filipino forces on the Bataan peninsula were compelled to surrender.

April 13, 1942, on the Bataan Death March, with several other prisoners, he went to a spring to fill canteens. Shots were heard by the marching prisoners. Corporal Rodgers' group never rejoined the marchers. He was listed as "Missing In Action" until after the war ended. His remains were recovered and returned to the United States and he was buried at Lake Park Cemetery, October 13, 1948. He was 25 years old when he lost his life.

"J.L." was assigned to an Engineer Maintenance Company. They kept in repair the Brigade's 56 foot "LCM's" (Landing Craft Mechanical). The "LCM's" delivered tanks and trucks to the beachhead as American forces landed from New Guinea to Japan.

Louis joined the Navy and served in the Caribbean. Chester was with the AAF in Europe.



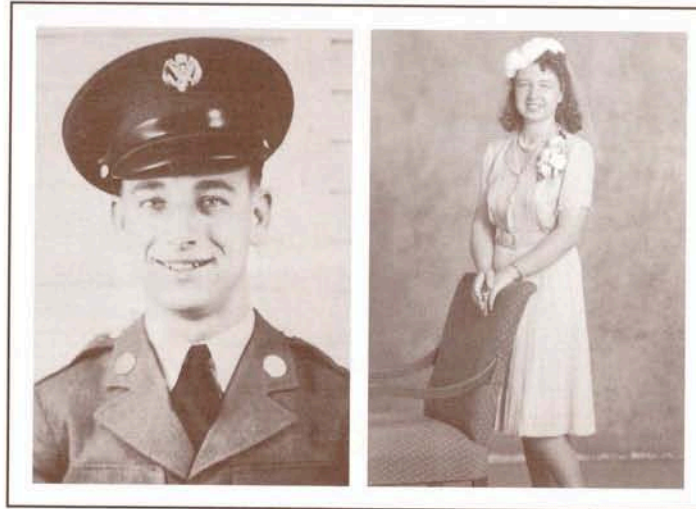
Moody Brides



**Frederick E. Bell
Martha Marie Walker**

They met at *Moody Field* and became better acquainted at the Valdosta USO. His *Moody* career was short. Arriving in May, 1945, he was discharged October, 1945. They were wed December 30, 1945.

Civilian life ended for him when he was recalled to active duty during the Korean War. He retired from the *Air Force* in 1966.



Alvin Lawrence Brass & Bette Johnson

Al came to *Moody Field* and was given an assignment in Personnel Division, Payroll Section. He met and married Bette. They wed June 2, 1943. After the war, they made their home in Valdosta, Al working with Southern Bell and Bette doing secretarial work with area schools. They have four children.



**Herbert Clayton
Bobbie Johnson**

Receiving his Commission along with his silver AAF wings at *Moody Field* on October 1, 1943, he topped this with his marriage to Bobbie.

Overseas in Italy, he completed 50 missions with 374 Bomb Group.



**James Cryer
Barbara Harris**

Wedding bells rang for them May 9, 1942. He was assigned to *Moody Field*, Quartermaster Corps.



**Henry E. Bentley, Jr.
Nell Carter**

From his Letcher County, Kentucky home in September, 1942, drafted into the *Army*, he came to *Moody Field*. His assignment was to 459 Air Training Squadron. He soon met Nell and persuaded her to marry. They were wed Christmas Eve, 1944. He was discharged March 26, 1946. They remained in Valdosta, Henry having a successful career with the Post Office.



Roger M. Budd & Doris Hewitt

He joined the *Army Air Forces* as a Cadet, but had eye problems and exited the Cadet program. Transferred to *Moody Field*. She was employed by Base Supply at *Moody* and it was there that he met Miss Valdosta of 1938. A courtship resulted in marriage on August 8, 1945. His post-war career was automobile sales — for many years he was Valdosta's Chevrolet dealer. He was very active in civic and community affairs, serving three terms in the Georgia Legislature. They had two children.



**Frank R. Finnern
Elsie Baker**

The Omaha, Nebraska, native found his love in Valdosta and married her June 19, 1943.

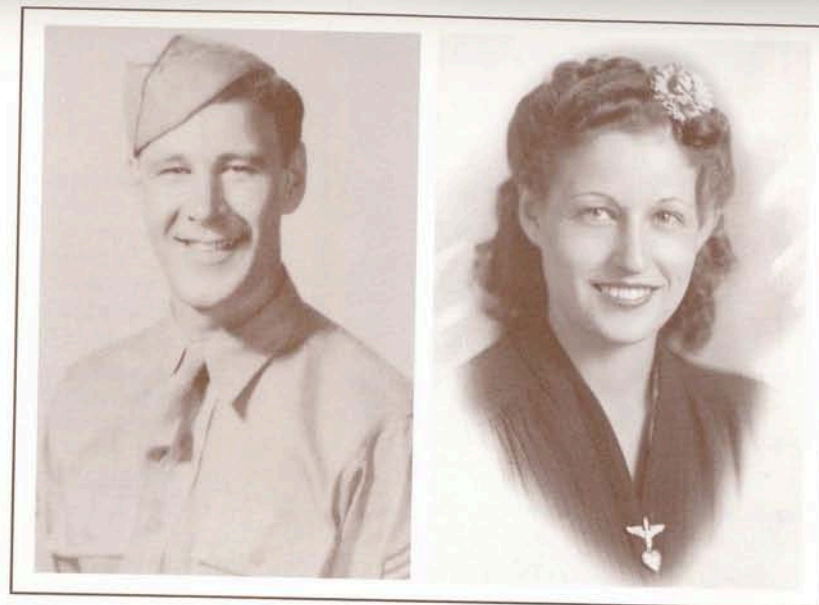
**Charles Eugene Hart
Ferrell Marion Dalton**

An early *Moody Field* assignment gave him an opportunity to meet one of the Dalton girls. The romance culminated in matrimony January 1, 1942.



**Robert P. Felder
Juanita Baker**

Robert, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, met and wooed his bride-to-be while stationed at *Moody Field*. They were married June 7, 1944. His overseas service included an assignment in Egypt.



Howard W. Hult & Nettie Johnson

Prior to his *Army Air Force* Service, he served two years in a *National Guard* unit, 122 *Mounted Field Artillery*, where real "horse power" was the means of energy and pull! From 1940-45 he served as a Link Trainer Instructor, giving simulated pilot training to the cadets.

The lady who charmed him was a Valdosta High School English teacher, who also broadcast "The Bible Story Hour" over local radio station WGOV. They were married February 6, 1946.



**Michael A. Drumheller
Virginia "Gina" Copeland**

A graduate of the *United States Merchant Marine Academy*, he served with the *Merchant Marine*. His ship with its high explosive cargo was torpedoed by a submarine. Surviving this sinking, he joined the *Army Air Force* as a cadet and took flying instruction. He was unable to complete this course because of an asthmatic condition and was discharged. He rejoined the *Merchant Marine* and served until the end of the war. After the war, they made their home in Valdosta where he had a career in textile manufacturing and sales.



**Donald E. Gerlock
Josephine Reddick**

One of the first enlisted men at *Moody Field* was Don Gerlock, arriving November, 1941. Shortly after, he met Jo Reddick and they dated about two months. He was transferred to *Fort Warren*, Wyoming, in early 1942, then overseas to Australia and into the New Guinea combat zone where he served for over two years. The romance was continued by mail.

He returned to the U.S. in 1945. About three weeks later, he came to Valdosta and claimed Jo as his bride, June 8, 1945.

**Bronston Y. "Red" Holsclaw
Sara Vess Brooker**

Away to their honeymoon they sped, in his 1938 Willys Sedan, with a "Just Married" banner attached. June 7, 1942, was the happy day for this pair, *Moody Field* matched with Valdosta!

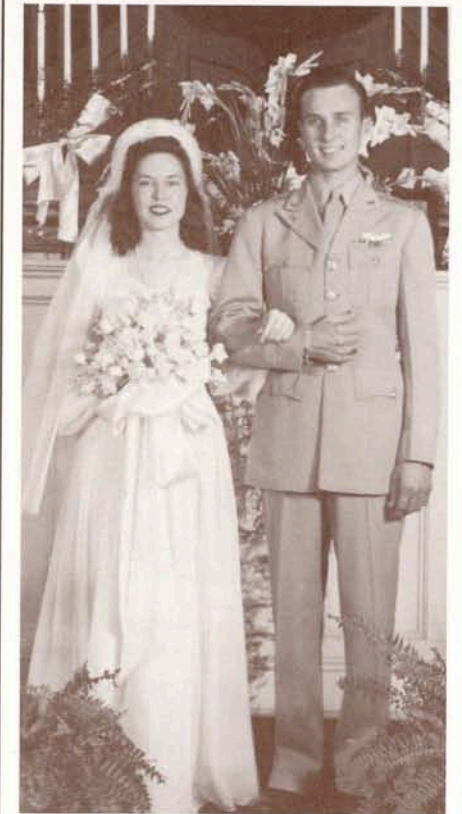


John Henry "Jack" May & Sis West

The silver wings of the *Army Air Forces* were pinned on this Cadet at *Moody Field*, February 12, 1944; at the same time he received his Commission. His career continued at *Moody* as a Flight Instructor. He was later transferred to *Donaldson Field*, S.C., for combat crew training.

July 24, 1945, Jack married Sis West. After his discharge from military service, they lived in Buffalo, N.Y.

Returning to Valdosta in 1962, Jack's career has been as a CPA. He has involved himself in the Valdosta community, serving as City Councilman and Mayor Pro-Tem, and has been active with The American Red Cross. They have two children and three grandchildren.



**William R. Howard & Eleanor Morgan
(See Page 4)**

In one of *Moody Field's* early classes was William Riley "Bill" Howard, *Class 42-E*. After graduation he instructed at *Moody*. More importantly, he met Eleanor Morgan of Valdosta and they were married April 14, 1945.

As a B-26 instructor, he was at Del Rio, Texas. His overseas assignment was with 40 *Bomb Group*, 395 *Bombardment Squadron*, Karachi, India, with the XX *Air Force*.

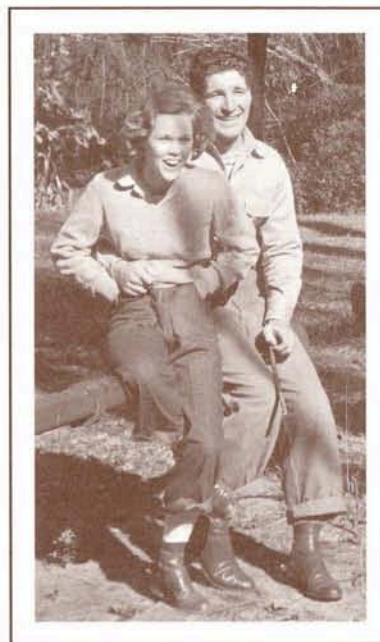
When hostilities ceased, he was assigned to Germany as part of the *Army of Occupation* in the *American Zone*. His wife joined him and while living there, a son, William Riley Howard, Jr., was born. The Berlin Airlift began in 1948 and Bill's crew was one of the first to make the flight to *Templehof*. Tragically, he was killed when his plane crashed on August 24, 1948, during one of these missions.



**Alexander Welton Skoropat
Florine Rykard**

Alex was born in a sod house on a North Dakota wheat farm to immigrant Ukrainian parents, September 26, 1915. He graduated from North Dakota University Law School in 1940. He joined the *Army Air Corps* as a Flight Cadet, August 15, 1941.

Upon graduation, receiving his Commission and wings, he was assigned to *Moody Field* as one of the contingent of 24 flying instructors. On September 26, 1942, he married Florine Rykard. They are parents of four children and have five grandchildren.



**Alan Sorenson
Mary Jean Rockwell**

Another of *Moody Field's* early arrivals in 1941 was Al Sorenson. He considers coming to Valdosta and *Moody Field* THE big event of his life. "Talk about luck — I just happen to be the luckiest guy in the world — What a sweetheart!" The lucky gal was Mary Jean, whom he married.



Harry Nadack & Evelyn Coody

Harry enlisted in the *Army Air Corps* July 8, 1940. He came to *Moody Field* as part of the original Headquarters Squadron, Personnel Section, Payroll, November 25, 1941.

Soon after his arrival, he met Evelyn and they shared a 15-month courtship, marrying March 20, 1943.

Remaining in Valdosta, he pursued a career in sales. They have two daughters.



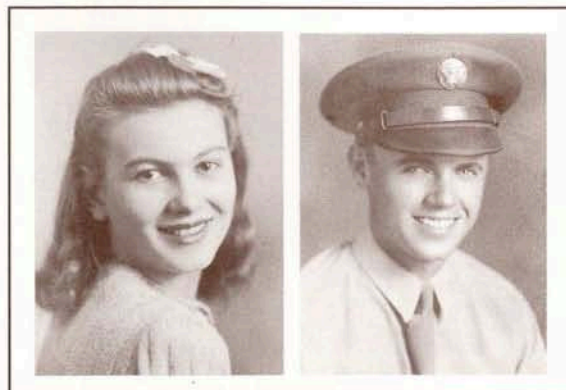
**Joel H. Teasley
Juanita Tudor**

Joel came to Valdosta in 1941, a civilian with the *Corps of Engineers*. Their task was to lay out and build a base for the *Army Air Corps*, later to be named *Moody Field*. They met, as Juanita was also working with the *Engineers*.

In January, 1942, he enlisted in the *Army's* Aviation Cadet program, at *Moody Field*. They were married January 17, 1942. He was transferred to *Kelly Field*, Texas, for training, after which he was commissioned and received his AAF Silver Wings.

Upon completion of advanced training, he went to the *China-Burma-India* theater where he piloted B-25 "Mitchell" bombers in support of combined American, British and native troops in Burma. He flew 72 combat missions with 490 Bomb Squadron, 341 Bomb Group, assigned initially to X *Army Air Force*, and later the XIV *Army Air Force*.

He returned to the United States in February, 1944, remaining in service after the war. He retired from the *Air Force*, and they returned to Valdosta in 1970.



Laverne E. Stevens & Kathryn Burgsteiner

Laverne E. Stevens enlisted in the *Army Air Corps* December 9, 1940. His training was as an aircraft mechanic. He was assigned to *Moody Field* in 1942. While at *Moody* he met Kathryn Burgsteiner.

He trained as a Glider Pilot during 1942-43 and received his Glider Pilot wings, June 1943.

While being given additional training at *Luke Field*, Arizona, "L.E." wed Kathryn, March 1, 1945.

"L.E." had a record of 23 transfers while in service, never overseas. He was discharged in November 1945.



John C. Woodward, Jr. & Mary Frances Johnson

Graduated at *Moody Field*, August 1, 1943. Cadet Woodward received his Commission and joined those wearing silver AAF wings. He had earlier married Valdostan Mary Frances Johnson, January 6, 1940.

His overseas service began with his ferrying a C-47 plane from Miami, Florida, via Natal, Brazil and Africa to Prestwick, Scotland. He was then assigned to *Air Transport Command* in Naples, Italy, flying C-47 transport aircraft. After the European war ended in 1945, he returned to the United States on the same route of his first journey, ferrying a B-17 bomber filled with returning GI's.



Tom Henderson & Theron Roberts

He met his future bride in Valdosta, while he was stationed at *Moody Field* as an enlisted man. Later, he received his Commission and was transferred to Spokane, Washington, assigned to an *Engineer Aviation* unit destined for the Pacific.

They were married at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Washington, D.C. on Sunday, December 5, 1943, between the hours of Sunday School and Church.

As often happens with the Armed Services, before his unit departed, he received new orders assigning him to the *Military Air Transport Command*, Accra, Gold Coast (British West Africa). This was a station on the Natal, Brazil, route via Ascension Island for ferrying planes to Africa, Europe, and the Near East.

Upon his arrival in the Gold Coast, to his surprise he met Colonel Fred C. Nelson, who had been Commanding Officer at *Moody Field*, together with several of his staff officers from *Moody*. They had been transferred to assume command of the *Accra Air Base*.



James Edwin Williams & Mary Catherine Powell

The new Mrs. Williams stands with her husband, at the center. They were wed July 3, 1943, at First Baptist Church. Bridal attendants were (L-R): Faye Carroll, Mildred Griner, Evelyn Hewitt, the bride and groom, Doris Terry, and Betty Sue Grant. Rear, left to right, George E. Powell, who gave the bride in marriage. Groomsmen: Capt. Richard E. Lorenzen, Capt. Matthew F. Shannon, S.H. Williams, father of the groom and best man, ★Capt. W.R. Heck, and Lt. Harry A. Wills. After completing his training, Lt. Williams was assigned to the *China-Burma-India Theater* and flew missions "over the hump" from India to China. He remained in the service after the war and served in the 1948 Berlin Airlift.



John Maxwell Sorenson & Gloria Dalton

"Mother Moody" — The girls of Valdosta gave this as an affectionate moniker to the base. "Mother Moody" found Gloria for John and they were married September 11, 1942.

His *Air Force* career included being an instructor at *Moody Field* and instructing on B-24's at *Smyrna Army Air Field*, Tennessee. His World War II overseas service was with the *Air Transport Command*, ferrying planes. He was posted to *Roberts Field*, Monrovia, Liberia, and Casablanca, Morocco.

He participated in the 1948 Berlin Airlift. After his flying career, John and Gloria returned to retire in Valdosta.

Horace M. Watkins & Mary Beth Woodward

The "Serenaders" from Georgia State Womans College, Valdosta, presented a program for the *Moody Field* Cadets on Thanksgiving Day, 1942. It was on this occasion that Mary Beth met Horace. Wedding bells rang for them on August 29, 1943.

He had a career in the *Air Force* and retired in 1968. Living in Valdosta during their retirement, he died in 1975.



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TEXT KEY: ★ Died in service for their country, World War II.

Front Cover

Louie Peeples escorts Supreme Commander, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, on an inspection tour of her American Red Cross Club in Frankfurt, Germany, 1946. Previously, Louie (now Mrs. Arthur White) had served at the famed Rainbow Corner Red Cross Club in London, England. The Rainbow Corner Club was where she met her future husband, Sergeant Arthur White, correspondent for the U.S. Army newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*.

A Tribute

*The war is over and we pass
To pleasure after pain
Except those few who ne'er shall see
Their native land again.*

*To one of these my memory turns,
Noblest of the slain;
To Captain English of the tanks,
Who never shall return.*

*Yet should some future war exact
Of me the final debt
My fondest wish would be to tread
The path which he has set.*

*For faithful unto God and man
And to his duty true,
He died to live forever
In the hearts of those he knew.*

*Death found in him no faltering
But faithful to the last,
He smiled in the face of fate
And mocked him as he passed.*

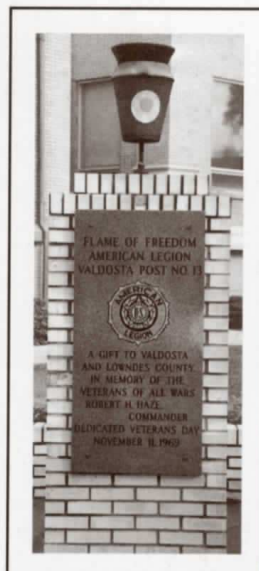
*No, death to him was not defeat
But victory sublime;
The grave prompted him to be
A hero for all time.*

"Captain English"

By General George S. Patton, Jr.
written November 11, 1918



Spanish-American
War Veterans Memorial
Court House Square
Valdosta, Georgia



Flame of Freedom
Memorial to Veterans
of All Wars
Court House Square
Valdosta, Georgia

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Submissions are solicited for consideration for inclusion in next year's publication. Photographs will be returned, if requested, but no responsibility can be assumed for loss or damage. Please send submissions to:

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BOOK TWO - A Family Album of World War II Memories

More Valdostans and area residents will be found in the 1996 Volume of *Valdosta Visions Yesteryears*. Final date for submission of photos and information is May 1, 1995.

Included will be Valdosta's most decorated World War II soldier, along with other area heroes and heroines.