



FORTRESS FOR FREEDOM



388TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ASSOCIATION

**8th Air Force, 3rd Air Division, 45th Combat Wing
Station 136, Knettishall England, 1943-1945**

333 Total Missions

306 Combat Missions, 19 Aphrodite Missions, 5 Chowhound Missions, 1 POW Mission, 2 Revival Missions

388th Bombardment Group Headquarters

Station 136 Weather Detachment, Fersfield Air Base (Aphrodite Project), 434th Headquarters Squadron,
860th Squadron, 684th Squadron, 434th Air Service Group, 1211th Quartermaster Company, 1284th Military Police Company,
273rd Medical Dispensary 1751st Ordnance Supply and Maintenance Company, 2019th Engineering and Fire Fighting Platoon,
452nd Sub Depot, 29th Station Complement, 587th Postal Unit, 877th Chemical Company, 214th Finance Detachment
560th Bombardment Squadron, 561st Bombardment Squadron, 562nd Bombardment Squadron, 563rd Bombardment Squadron

VOLUME 67

ISSUE NO.1

SPRING 2012



Savannah or Bust!

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Hosted by Bibbens Communications Internet, Inc.

The 388th Bomb Group Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(19) organization chartered in the State of Florida.

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From the President's Desk

I was at the blood bank recently, carrying on a personal ritual, giving up some platelets & plasma. As I sat there, I began to think about our BG Assoc. and the founders, our original members. How many of them did this very same thing over and over again for the cause during the war? Obviously we all admire and respect anyone who made any contribution for many reasons, some personal, maybe their family, or just in general out of admiration & respect. But what is it that holds that special allure for a WW II vet? Any one of us would extend the same respect and courtesy to any veteran or active duty personnel who has or currently serves, regardless of it being peace time or engaged in conflict. But there is something special about WW II. After all, those who served aren't referred to as "Greatest Generation" without good reason.

As I sat there, I began to think about just what it took to be a member of what has become a very "Elite" group of men and women. Yes I did say women intentionally. It is in an effort to convey the importance of a very general, broad based, society known as America! Americans, then and now, come from all walks of life. Except for the American Indian, we are all immigrants, or descendants of immigrants, who came to this country in search of many freedoms. Two of the most important and well known documents that define those freedoms are known as the "United States Constitution" and the "Bill of Rights".

Now this is not intended to be a history lesson but an effort to convey and define what created the "Greatest Generation". One of the most attractive and intriguing features of that time was the complete and total unselfishness of the society and time. We all saw the instant and immediate response, dedication, generosity, and patriotism that sprung into action during the attacks leveled on United States soil the morning of September 11. When the U.S. was drawn into the WW II the real difference was that this same dedication, generosity, and patriotism was already a way of life. That is the HUGE distinction which separated the society of then and now. While we still live in the greatest country in the world, we have lost far too much of the desire to put others before ourselves. Yet once drawn into WW II, the entire population sprung into action. That complete and total unselfishness is the difference. It is what makes them the "Greatest Generation".

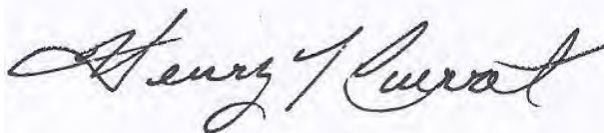
(Cont. pg 03)

(Cont. from Pg 2)

I know of several who tried to enlist before they were 18 years old, just as I'm sure each of you do. Some made it and others had to wait. Some forged documents in order to expedite their opportunity to defend, not only their freedoms, but that of our country. Women from all walks of life, mothers, wives, and sisters volunteered too. They built the planes our men flew. Some became Nurses and patched up the wounded, so they could return to defend our country. If you ask some of our members, they will even recount their courtship and marriage to some of the special caregivers that patched them up. We choose these words carefully even though it's an understatement. **It was no mans desire to return to war, but all had that burning desire to defend his country, our freedom!** That is what drove them back to battle as soon as possible.

Please take note that throughout this article I have referred to the United States as our country. Well it is, but it is only because the "Greatest Generation", recognizing it may be the ultimate sacrifice, gave themselves so unselfishly for others. They gave to each of us, a gift to be treasured! Let us do our part to preserve, honor, and share their story. We all have a part, a duty, to honor their sacrifice for us.

So there it is, the definition and intrigue of the "Greatest Generation": **The complete and total desire to defend the rights and freedom of all, before thinking of themselves.** Join us in Savannah, Georgia, for the **63rd annual reunion** at which we will be celebrating these living legends. Shake their hands, thank them, and live a part of history. It's been said in the last two issues of the Newsletter, but it bears repeating again: **Time Is Running Out!** And if you ever have thought to yourself, 'I'll do it tomorrow, next week, next month, or next year', ask yourself what kind of world we would be living in today had the "Greatest Generation" not put the welfare of **ALL** before themselves?



New Members:

Emerson Burkhard Great Grand Son Roger Swihart	563rd
Gerry Hess son of Lester Hess	561st
David Kasten son of Nelson Kasten	562nd
James P Ostler original 388th Navigator	563rd
Blake Schroeder son of Loren Schroeder	562nd
Geoffrey Swihart Grand Son Roger Swihart	563rd
Evan Swihart Great Grand Son Roger Swihart	563rd

Thank you for your donations

General Fund

388th At War 7 Books Purchased
 Al Arenowitz
 Harold Rosenn for Newsletter
 Walker Family Trust
 Challenge Coin Receipts
 Thomas Bartnik

Memorial Fund

388th Bomb Group Foundation
 Al Arenowitz

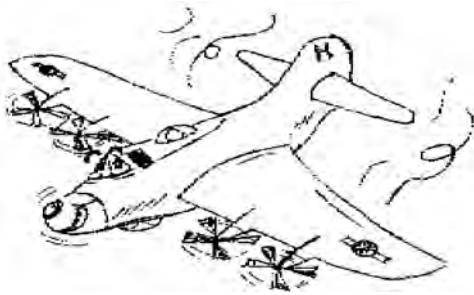
Project Ultimate Sacrifice

Al Arenowitz
 Ivers Fitschen
 Mary Jane Meyers IMO Levi Mack+Meyers
 Jeanne Swiszc IMO Thomas Linzee Jr
 Robert Whittaker IMO Thomas Linzee Jr
 Sue & Ed Brancati IMO Thomas Linzee Jr
 Gordon & Loraine Oesch
 James & Audrey Ostler
 Jean Roncallo IMO Thomas Edward Linzee

See ya'll in Savannah...



The Lighter Side



Some think that Lt. Col. Roy Forrest was too rough, and even though he was at times, he also had a softer side. He had a wife in Texas and a little daughter, he had not even seen. When the Group flew to England in June of 1943, I flew with Roy in AC 230224 B17 F. When we arrived at Prestwick, Scotland, we had some days of layover. One day Roy said to me, "Kliwer, this is boring - let's have a little fun." South of Prestwick were some rolling hills, so just the two of us took off for some hedge hopping (flying a few hundred feet high and following the terrain). I said, "Oh Yea", but the whole time I was thinking what if another plane is doing the same thing and we crest over a hill and meet head on!

At Knettishall, there was a load limit allowed for a jeep five men. One day, after a mission, I was picking up bombsights with a jeep and I saw five gunners with their guns. "Hop in guys!" Now I already had several bombsights at 40lbs each and now there were six guys and five 50 cal. guns in that jeep. And yes, here comes a pesky MP and of course, I get a ticket. I got called in to see Forrest. For several minutes he screamed the riot act at me - you know the rules - why did you do it - etc, etc. All of a sudden he began laughing and laughing (as if to imply- now we have gotten that crap over with) and we sat down and had a good talk. Roy said that he would have done the same thing, but just don't get caught the next time!

Thank you Ellis Kliwer (T/Sgt. 560 Sq.) for sharing your story with us.



I hope you are enjoying **The Lighter Side** column, we would love to hear your story. All submissions accepted with enthusiasm. Please send **your** story to the Editor by mail or email, to be published in a future issue of the 388th BG Newsletter .

Memorial Dedication Planned for July 14

By Tony Goff, Chair of the 388th Memorial Trustees

We are planning to hold a Dedication Service for the extended Memorial on Saturday 14th July, to honor all those whose names now appear on the new wing stones. This will coincide with a week-long series of local events currently being planned to mark the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the USAAF in East Anglia.

If any Association members are able to make the trip over to take part in this special event we would be most delighted to see you and help you plan your visit.

A day visit to Knettishall (from Cambridge for example) would enable you to attend the dedication and afterwards enjoy the 388th Collection at Hillside Farm.

For those of a more adventurous nature that evening there will be a 1940s hangar dance at nearby Hardwick airfield, home to Maurice Hammond's P-51 Mustang fighters *Janie* and *Marinell*.

And for those with an interest in the history of the USAAF in East Anglia, a lecture/film show is being scheduled by a leading local USAAF authority on Friday evening preceding the dedication.

Do please let us know asap if you have an interest in attending, either for the day or the weekend. We can assist with local transport and accommodation arrangements if necessary. We would advise staying locally if you wish to take in the evening presentation and/or the hangar dance, to facilitate transportation and to make your stay more relaxing.

Please contact either me (Tony Goff) (agoff@btinternet.com) or our UK Liaison Jan Pack (bg388@aol.com or at 626-359-4444) and we will keep you updated as plans firm up.



Henry & Betty Curvat on their recent visit to the Memorial "Experience of a lifetime."

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING...

By Dick Henggeler, Historian



I recently got an email from a 12 year old interested in finding someone still living who knew his Grandfather. As you can imagine, I was not able to help with that request but I thought that I could give him some idea. Below is part of my response to the young man.

Your Grandfather must have been a very brave man. Each time he flew into combat he did not know if he was going to be killed or wounded or shot down and become a POW (prisoner of war). For every mission he went on, he saw German fighters shooting at him and anti-aircraft flak blowing up around him. He saw other planes beside him get shot down or blown up. He probably saw men he knew (and maybe some of them were his friends) parachuting to the ground.

He flew up at 30,000 feet where the temperature was 20 degrees below zero. If he took off his gloves and touched the aircraft around him, his hands would have frozen to the metal. He might have seen someone on his crew get shot and he, or someone else on the crew would have to try to stop the bleeding. When he got back to base, he and his crew probably counted the bullet holes and flak holes in the airplane and thought about how close to death or injury came to them. He and his crew would have been very thankful that they survived but wondering about the next time they go up.

He did not do this one time but 27 times. Each time he must have felt that he had been lucky up to this point and maybe he was due.

You can be very proud of your Grandfather and I am sure that if he were alive today he would tell you that he did that so you could live in the same great country that he lived in.



If anyone can identify any or all of this crew standing in front of the aircraft "Screamin' Red Ass", please contact our Historian, Dick Henggeler.



OUR VERY OWN MEMORIAL CHALLENGE COIN

A new order for an additional 300 of our beautiful Challenge Coins has been placed. If you missed out on getting some of these beautiful coins to give to your family and friends the first go round, you can put in your order for some now.

In addition, there are now key chains available and if you would prefer, you can get beautiful velvet boxes to encase these treasures (otherwise the coin comes in a soft plastic sleeve).

. What a wonderful gift for your children, friends and grandchildren!

Coin	\$8.00ea.
Keychain	\$10.00ea.
Velvet box	\$4.00ea.
Shipping	\$3.00/up to 5 coins, \$8.00

for 6 coins or up to two gift boxes, & \$14.00 for med flat rate box - for multiple gift boxes

Make checks out to: 388th Bomb Group Assn.

**Mail to: Greg Staples
4715 W Larchwood Ct.
Spokane, WA 99208**

All profits go to the Project Ultimate Sacrifice addition to our Memorial in Knettishall

REGISTER NOW

63rd Reunion
Aug 29 – Sept 1, 2012

The "City of Savannah"

in

The City of Savannah



HOTEL INFORMATION

EMBASSY SUITES SAVANNAH AIRPORT

145 Mulberry Boulevard - Savannah, GA 31322

Telephone 912-330-8222

<http://embassysuites1.hilton.com>

\$119 per night + 13% using the 388th Group Rate

Cut-off date for reservations: August 14, 2012.

Hotel will continue to accept reservations from Group attendees after that date at the prevailing room rate, subject to availability.

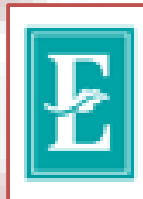
Complimentary Transportation to & from Savannah Int'l Airport

Complimentary Parking on premises,

Complimentary Daily cooked to order breakfast,

Complimentary Daily manager's reception,

Reunion Rates 3 days pre and post reunion dates.



Registration Form 63rd Annual Reunion

Savannah, Georgia

August 29 – September 1, 2012

CUT-OFF DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS AUGUST 14TH

To cancel and receive a full refund, cancellation must be received before the cut-off date of **August 14th** contact:

Jennifer Wammack (928-210-1392, jlwammack@hotmail.com)

Cancellation received after **August 14th** will forfeit all payments.

ATTENDEE #1 FULL NAME: _____ MEMBER: YES / NO

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

ATTENDEE #2 FULL NAME: _____ MEMBER: YES / NO

ATTENDEE #3 FULL NAME: _____ MEMBER: YES / NO

ATTENDEE #4 FULL NAME: _____ MEMBER: YES / NO

(For more than four attendees, write name(s) and membership status on separate piece of paper)

The Registration Fee includes **FREE** Motor Coach Shuttle service from the Hotel to the Mighty 8th AF Museum, and Downtown Historic District on Friday and Saturday prior to scheduled activities and events.

A detailed itinerary and the shuttle schedule will be available at registration, and published in the program.

Registration Fee	Required for all attendees	\$40.00	X	_____	=	_____												
Thursday (30 August) 9:00am ó 3:30pm	Mighty 8 th AF Museum Tour and Lunch (Includes Return Admission Pass to visit through Tuesday Sept. 4 th)	\$35.00	X	_____	=	_____												
Friday (31 August) 5:00pm ó Immediately Following	Savannah Queen River Boat Dinner Cruise (Experience refreshing river breezes, delicious local southern flavors, cultural entertainment, dancing, and more)	\$65.00	X	_____	=	_____												
Saturday (1 September) 6:00pm ó Immediately Following	Mighty 8 th AF Museum Banquet	Champagne Chicken	\$35.00	X	_____	=	_____											
		Peppercorn Roast Beef	\$35.00	X	_____	=	_____											
Commemorative "City of Savannah" 2012 Reunion Polo Shirt (Light Blue; White Letters)		\$25.00	X	_____	=	_____												
	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">QTY</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">SIZE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">M</td> <td style="text-align: center;">L</td> <td style="text-align: center;">XL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">XXL</td> </tr> </table>	QTY	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	SIZE	S	M	L	XL	XXL	each				
QTY	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____													
SIZE	S	M	L	XL	XXL													

*All original 388th members, attending the Savannah reunion, will receive a **FREE** polo shirt.

What size? S M L XL XXL

Memory Book	Enjoy reminiscing about The " <i>City of Savannah</i> " & The City of Savannah	Book	\$16.00	X	_____	=	_____
			CD	\$5.00	X	_____	=

Donation = _____

Write check payable to **388th Bomb Group Association, Inc**

Mail check **and** registration form to:

Jennifer Wammack, 10131 E. 35th Pl, Yuma AZ, 85365

TOTAL = _____

* Newsletter VOLUME 66 ISSUE NO.4 WINTER 2011 has a typo in Jennifer's address. Please use above address!

388th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Questionnaire for Future Reunions

*Your opinions are important to us.
It helps us plan the most **exciting** and **entertaining** annual reunions possible.
Please help us by answering the following questions.*

What time frame would you like reunions to be planned?

- Anytime Between August & October
- Early to Mid August Early to Mid September Early to Mid October
- Mid to Late August Mid to Late September Mid to Late October
- Continue Near Labor Day Weekend

Do you have suggested locations for a reunion?

- Western United States (2014): _____
- Central United States (2015): _____
- Eastern United States (2016): _____

Do you have suggestions or comments for future reunions? _____ _____

Are you or a member of your family interested in helping with the 388th Bomb Group Association's reunions?

Name: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

2012 63rd Annual 388th Bomb Group Reunion

In this issue of the Newsletter you will find the Registration Form for the 2012 reunion in Savannah. There will still be the activities on Thursday and Friday along with the Saturday evening banquet. But instead of holding the banquet at the hotel this year we will have it in the Mighty 8th AF Museum Rotunda. It's a beautiful setting. This seemed especially fitting since the B-17, City of Savannah, which is being restored by the museum, served in Knettishall with the 388th Bombardment Group [H]. To have this kind of history on permanent display in the museum is a great honor and something that all members have hoped would one day happen.

On Friday and Saturday during the times no activities are scheduled we have arranged for the motor coaches to provide a shuttle service between the hotel, museum, and downtown Historic District. Be sure and check your reunion programs for the shuttle schedule. The Embassy Suites hotel is only a couple of years old and the rooms are beautiful. They all have refrigerators and microwaves if you like that midnight snack. Also be sure and arrange for the Free airport shuttle the hotel offers to & from the SAV airport if you fly in. And in the morning bring your appetites. The cooked to order breakfast for all guests, which is included in the room rate, is fantastic. Whether you like omelets, eggs of over easy, cereal, sausage, or bacon, all you have to do is ask. When you make your hotel reservations use the special rate code: **BGA** or **C-BGA**. Hotel Contact information is:

Embassy Suites Savannah Airport
145 West Mulberry Blvd.
Savannah, Georgia, USA 31322
1 (800) EMBASSY
1+(912) 330-8222 7109 Fax: 1+(912) 988-9100
http://embassysuites1.hilton.com/en_US/es/index.do

If you are interested and fly into Jacksonville, FL or Charleston, S.C. you may want to check into an **AmTrack train ride to SAV**. A quick search found one way fares in the \$30 to \$60 range. It might add to the fun!

Thursday's activity will be a trip to the museum for a day of browsing and fun. A wonderful buffet lunch will be served in the hall where many wonderful pieces of art work depicting W.W. II will be on display for all to see and admire. For anyone who wishes to return to the museum during your visit to Savannah, keep your 388th BG name Badge handy and it will allow free admission back into the museum through the following Tuesday, Sept., 4th. Also keep in mind that the BG rates are good 3 days before and after the reunion dates if you want to extend your time for a nice vacation.

On Friday you will have almost the entire day to do whatever you want. But in the evening get ready to party! We're going to take you on a River Boat ride up and down the Savannah River. For those of you that have been there before and seen the ships coming in and out of the port, your going to be right along side them. A dinner buffet will be served on the boat with lots of sea food and a lot more than you can eat. Some live entertainment and a dance floor if anyone wants to cut-a-rug! It will be a fun filled night!!

Of course there will be the usual Saturday morning Annual meeting and then your day will be free until the banquet in the evening. This year the hotel already includes breakfast in your stay so sleep in if you like. The Annual business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. as in the past. While the coaches will be used for the shuttle to the museum and downtown throughout the day, they will be ready to take everyone to the Museum for the banquet. We know this will be every bit as exciting and fun filled as previous years.

We look forward to seeing all of you in just a few short months. Friends and family come and enjoy. We are going to have a great time! For those of you who use wheel chairs or scooters, they will go everywhere we're going to go. And by the way, all the Original members that attend this years reunion will receive a FREE special edition commemorative 388th Polo Sport Shirt. The same shirt will be available for purchase for all others so buy as many as you want. Please be sure and include the size information on your registration form. See you In Savannah!!!!

Dear Members of the Association,

I visited the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum in Pooler, Georgia on November 12, 2011 and ran in a 5 K race organized to raise funds for the restoration of the B-17G *City of Savannah*. I wore my 388th Bomb Group baseball cap and came in first in my age division, which some refer to as *OTD* (older than dirt). I won't mention how many others ran in my age division.

The restoration of the *City of Savannah* has been underway for three years and will soon enter its fourth. Thousands of hours of volunteer work have gone into the restoration effort and the results are remarkable. The exterior has been thoroughly cleaned and polished to its original, unpainted condition. All fabric-covered control surfaces have been removed, cleaned, re-covered, and reinstalled. Replacements for the gun turrets which had been removed while the plane was in civilian service have been secured. A ball turret shell has been installed. A top turret bubble has been acquired. A tail turret that was salvaged from a B-17 that crashed in Alaska over sixty years ago has been acquired, given a new aluminum skin covering, and is in the process of being installed. A fully functional chin turret has been acquired along with the cap and fairing required for its installation. The interior of the plane has been thoroughly cleaned and painted.

The radio room has been fully restored to its original operating condition and its first transmission was sent on July 13, 2011 to a sister B-17 *Miss Liberty* at the Eighth Air Force Museum at Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, Louisiana. New woodwork for the interior has been fabricated and is ready for installation.

When the restoration of the interior and exterior are completed, the exterior markings of the plane will match those of the B-17G 42-97542 *City of Savannah* when flown by the Ralph Kittle crew of the 563rd Squadron of the 388th Bomb Group in World War II.

Although our Association and a number of us as individuals have contributed already to the restoration effort, more help is needed. I encourage as many of you as possible to make contributions to the restoration of the *City of Savannah*.

Make your checks payable to the Mighty Eighth B-17 Restoration Account and mail them to:

**Mighty Eighth B-17 Restoration Account,
P.O. Box 1992,
Savannah, GA 31402.**

When you send your checks, be sure to identify yourselves as members of the *388th Bomb Group Association* and mention that you are looking forward to seeing the *City of Savannah* with the high-bar H of the 388th Bomb Group on its tail when we hold our 63rd Annual Reunion at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum in Pooler in September, 2012.

Sincerely, Jim Morrow,

388th Bomb Group Association Liaison to the
Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum



Taps



PAUL ARBON

Paul Arbon, Jr., 561st Sqd. navigator, 92, passed away in London on Oct. 11, 2011. Flying with the Paul Swift crew, he had a narrow escape on Oct. 14, 1943 when the *Hard Luck*, a substitute B-17 the crew had been assigned for the mission to Schweinfurt, crashed on take-off.

After finishing his tour with the 388th BG, he flew nine missions with a B-29 group based in Guam, and left the service with the rank of Major.

After the war Mr. Arbon became a stock broker, and was a partner at Roosevelt and Son for 15 years. He moved his family to London when the firm planned to open a European branch, but decided to become an independent broker after his partner, Julien Roosevelt, died suddenly.

Mr. Arbon is survived by Joan, his wife of 65 years, daughters Carol, Joyce, Robin and April, and six grandchildren.



Arbon

EARNEST H. HEAD, JR.

Earnest H. Head, Jr. passed away Dec. 9, 2011 at his residence in Dalton, GA. The former 388th BG tail gunner was 87.

Survivors include Edna, his wife of 65 years; daughter Sharon Norris; Sons Terry and Ricky; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Interment with military honors was held at Dug Gap Baptist Church Cemetery.



Head

THOMAS E. LINZEE, SR.

Thomas Edward Linzee, Sr., radio operator on the George K. Thompson crew in the 563rd Sqd., died in Marion, MA Jan. 6 at age 89.

On Dec. 24, 1944, flying in support of ground forces during the Battle of the Bulge, the crew was forced to bail out over Belgium. T/Sgt. Linzee landed in a field to find both American and German vehicles racing toward him, guns blazing. The Americans reached him first, and he was whisked to safety.

Military awards included the Air and a Purple Heart.

Mr. Linzee earned a BS in business administration from Boston University in 1948. He moved his family Port Jefferson, NY where he worked as an insurance adjuster for General Motors. He would later work as a research and development planner for Republic Aviation; as part-owner of the Smithtown Riding and Tennis Club, as a



Linzee

construction superintendent's aide at SUNY Stony Brook, and as a boat builder. When he retired in 1990, he had spent 18 years as a legal aid interviewing and advising patients for the NY State Supreme Court's Mental Hygiene Legal Division

Mr. Linzee served as ward captain and chairman of the North Shore Republican Club and was active in the Port Jefferson Station Lion's Club.

Survivors include Elizabeth, his wife of 68 years; daughters Gail Reitter and Carol Anne Crane; sons Thomas Jr. and George; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

G. CARLTON SEVY

George Carlton Sevy of Valencia, CA died Dec. 27, 2011 on his 87th birthday. Waist gunner on the Othello Smith crew in the 562nd Sqd., he participated in 10 missions before wounds suffered in action on Dec. 31, 1944 ended his flying career. Awards included the Air Medal and Purple Heart.

Born in Richfield, UT, Mr. Sevy was raised in Los Angeles, CA and graduated from University High School in Los Angeles before enlisting in the Army Air Corps in Sept. 1943.

He went into real estate development after the war and was president of Carnel, Inc.

Mr. Sevy is survived by daughter Lynn and sons Carlton and Jay. He was preceded by Nell (better known as Cookie), his wife of 52 years, in 2009.



Sevy

JAMES S. STROEHER

James Sydney Stroehler passed away Nov. 26, 2011. The Billings, MT resident was 87.

Serving as navigator on the Lester Hess crew in the 561st Sqd., he flew 35 missions as well as humanitarian flights, primarily in the aircraft *Heavens Above*, beginning in Feb. 1945. He participated in the Operation Chowhound flights, delivering food to the starving Dutch people, on May 5 and 6, 1945; and helped repatriate former POWs later that month.

Born in Mansfield, OH, Mr. Stroehler grew up in Billings, MT. Following the war he continued his education at Eastern Montana College; and received his degree in dentistry from Loyola Dental College, Chicago, IL, in 1951.

Mr. Stroehler maintained a thriving dental practice in Billings until his retirement at age 65, and was active in the Montana Dental Assn., the Billings Rotary Club, and the First Congregational Church.

Survivors include Libby, his wife of 60 years; daughter Ginny, sons Sam and Tom, and four grandchildren.



Stroehler

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STREET _____ CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____
SQUADRON _____ POSITION _____ AIRCRAFT NAME _____
PILOT _____ NO MISSIONS _____ POW (DATE) _____ STALAG LUFT _____
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