

## Love and Kindness

### A Journey of Reconciliation



**Above: Pfc James Marvin Bishop  
Co. A, 21st Armored Infantry Battalion  
11th Armored Division US 3rd Army  
Died of Wounds, April 24, 1945**

By Marvin Bishop

This is the story of my dad, Pfc James Marvin Bishop, who died April 24, 1945, near the Bavarian town of Tittling, and the pilgrimage I and my son Andrew made to the area during October and November of 2018.

My dad met my mother, Sarah Jane Engle, at a Christmas party somewhere in the Sand Valley area in December 1943. I suppose it was a sort of love at first sight situation, because they were married in April 1944. They were both working at the Benjamin Kohn Ribbon Mill in Attalla, Alabama - he part-time as he was a senior at Etowah High School.

He graduated in May, and his draft notice was received June, 1944. He reported to Fort McClellan, and was inducted into the US Army. He was then sent to Camp Crowder near Neosho, Missouri, for basic training in the Signal Corps. Mother traveled by train in September to visit him and they had only the weekend for their visit. She would see him for the last time when he was on leave at home in Attalla in early Jan 1945 before reporting to Fort George Meade in Washington D.C.

As we know from history, the German offensive of December 1944 was of great consternation to the US Army officials. Consequently, General Marshall and others decided that all available soldiers, regardless of their MOS, would be sent to the European Theater of Operations to serve as riflemen. Thus, my Dad would now be sent to the ETO.

We believe my father was sent to the ETO on a troop ship from Baltimore Harbor, February, 1945. He celebrated his 19th birthday on board ship. After arriving in England, he was assigned to a replacement depot to await orders. In one of his letters he mentions that England was a very pretty country, with many low rock walls...and the people talked funny!

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# President's Message

by Walt Linne

As you read this STAR newsletter, I truly hope you and your family are safe and doing well regarding the Coronavirus. Let us continue to take every caution by limiting our excursions outside the home and wearing a mask. I am now into watching Little House on the Prairie reruns. And, thank goodness for virtual communication technology to help us see our family members who live on the other side of the country.

I want to wish our STAR Editor, Kristin Holmes, a happy ?? birthday and many more. Also, I have received numerous favorable comments on her WWII home front article *Knitting for Victory - The Humble Way Women Helped Win World War II*. Thanks to our Mothers who knitted many a warm, cozy sock. Thank you, Kristin and happy birthday! **(Editor's Note - Thank you, Walt!)**

Next year, 2021, we will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the American World War II Orphans Network (AWON) by our Founder Ann Bennett Mix. Thank you, Ann, so very much.

Celebrating 30 years Honoring and Remembering our Father will be the theme of our National Conference in New Orleans next May. In addition, we are planning a written 30th Anniversary Commemorative Program that will honor our Fathers. With all of our help it will be a keepsake for generations to come! More information to follow.

The current Board of Director's two-year term ends this year. Our By-Laws state that the AWON Board consists of nine members. Seven of the current Board members have agreed to serve another two years, leaving a vacancy of two positions. Further information on the Board election can be found on page 9. Finally, I want to thank everyone for renewing their membership and welcome to our new members. Of note, our dues have remained at \$25 for 30 straight years thanks to our members who volunteer for the Board, various committees and special projects and those members that include a little extra donation in their membership dues. Thank you all very much!



## AWON FOUNDER

Ann Bennett Mix

## AWON OFFICERS

### President

Walt Linne

### Vice President

Gloria Layne

### Secretary

Lorin McCleary

### Treasurer

Paul Bremer

## AWON DIRECTORS

Barry Barr-Finch

Barbara George

Judi Kramer

Robert Meek

Ann Mix

Rik Peirson

## AWON ADMINISTRATION

### Database Coordinator

Lorin McCleary

### Dues

Paul Bremer

### Bookstore Manager

Walt Linne

### The Star Editor

Kristin Holmes

### Webmaster

Rik Peirson

### ListServ Mods

Judy Hathaway, Judy Hoffman

### Regional Coordinator

Barry Barr-Finch

[www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org)

Email us at [awon@awon.org](mailto:awon@awon.org)

The Star is a quarterly publication of the American WWII Orphans Network (AWON), a nonprofit 501(c)3, nonpolitical public service organization serving the children of US Servicemen killed in WWII.

The Star is published and mailed from Indianapolis, IN. ISSN 1941-370X (print), 1941-3769 (online) Copyright 2020 by the American WWII Orphans Network. All rights reserved. Issue 97 - 1M (3-20)

*...Love and Kindness, from front page*

Since I was born February 20, 1945, I of course never saw my father, nor he me. Although I had a few precious photographs, his and her letters to each other, and stories from my mother and grandparents, I naturally always felt a deep loss.

It was only in the early 1980s that I started to research Dad's situation, trying to find any information I could. All of his service records were destroyed in the fire at the US Army Records Center in St. Louis, MO in 1973. I did have my mother's letters and papers which did provide some direction. For instance, I had 2 letters, one from his captain, and another from his sergeant, in which they tried to tell my mother of her husband's death. Both indicated he was shot and was buried in a temporary grave by the side of a road, near a town by the name of Tittling, Germany.

Later I learned that the Army had other records, namely a record called "Finding of Death"(FOD). This is a record of any death of a soldier, prepared by the Graves Registration (GR) organization. The GR people follow after battles to locate the dead, and remove them to a central location for interment. The soldier's next of kin had the option to leave the remains in a US controlled Cemetery in Europe (or the Pacific), or to have the remains sent back to the US after the war was over.

It was this record, that led me to a most amazing odyssey and discovery.

In this FOD file was a map prepared by the GR, which showed that Pfc James Marvin Bishop's body was found at a location about one mile from the center of the town of Tittling. There was also a perfunctory examination of the remains, which showed "all bones broken, except left ulna" (This information is critical). The remains were identified by two dogtags.

Now I was somewhat confused. The letters from his Capt and SGT said that he was killed by sniper fire. But this report says that all his bones were broken except his left arm.

Of course, these days, the whole world is connected by the Internet, which makes doing research easier. About 15 years ago, when I first got the FOD file, I searched the Net and found that Tittling had a website! Of course it was in German, but I could determine the

mailing address, so I sent the town mayor (Hr. Herbert Zauhar) a letter with which I enclosed a copy the FOD report, explained who I was and why I was writing, and asked him if he could possible verify the location as marked on the map.

Here is where the odyssey truly begins!

Hr. Zauhar not only verified the location as reported on the GR map, but he also sent several color photographs of the area, the house, and the man who lived in the house, a Mr. Krenn, who was a young lad at the time, and remembered my father's body being there. Hr. Zauhar also placed a wreath of flowers on the burial site. I was overwhelmed. Hr. Zauhar also sent many other photographs and information which he gathered. One of the items he sent me was a brochure about the town's years during the war, prepared by the town historian. It was titled, "Das Amerikanzes Commen".

Of course it was in German, which I cannot read or speak, but I asked a friend to translate it for me. He said that there was only one part of it that was of any consequence for me. It told of when the American army came to Tittling on April 24, 1945, an American soldier was riding on a tracked vehicle, was shot, fell off, and then was run over by another tracked vehicle, probably a tank.

Since it was verified by his unit after action reports that my Dad was the only American soldier killed that day in this town, his body was also identified by his dogtags, so I know for sure this is him.



*Above: Marvin and son Andrew Bishop at the gravesite of PFC James Marvin Bishop*

*...continued on page 4*



### *...Love and Kindness, from page 3*

With that, it became clear about the GR report that all bones were broken! He was run over after being killed. I know this is gruesome, but things like that sadly happen many times in war.

My friend Jack Franck, an infantry captain in Vietnam, told me no officer would ever write a wife or mother a letter detailing the exact cause of death. Thus, the intentionally vague statements in the letters from his captain and sergeant.

I maintained an email relationship with Hr. Zauhar in the years since, and had always wanted to visit the town. Early in 2019, my son Andrew and I started to plan a trip to Tittling.

We left Atlanta October 29, arriving in Munich on the 31st. We were met by Hr. Zauhar and his friend Guenther Hodl. We spent some time in Munich Center sightseeing, and then drove to Tittling, where Andrew and I were guests of Hr. Zauhar and his wife, Gertrude.

The next day, we traveled to Passau, a larger town about 20 miles away, and toured the town. We saw in a church the largest pipe organ in the world.

On Thursday, we were invited to a reception at the town hall, or as they call it in Germany, der Rathaus. The mayor and his staff were there, and several others who had some connection to my Dad.

It was heart-wrenching for me when I was introduced to Mrs. Gertrude Kalbus, whose grandfather was the town grave digger, and who moved my Dad's body from the field where he was killed, to a safer place by the side of the house of Mr. Krenn. Mr. Krenn (who died a few years prior) was a young boy at the time, and he remembered the body being placed there and covered with a tarp. Mrs. Kalbus, who was 6 years old at the time of my father's death, also said that she and some other children placed lilac blooms on the tarp. Later the GR people came and removed the body to be interred in the Nuremburg Cemetery.

Mrs. Kalbus gave me a small photograph of her grandfather. I will certainly treasure it.

Mrs. Kalbus also told me of a nephew of hers who was maybe 15, and the SS showed up at his house and told

him to come with them. He asked if he could see his mother one last time, but they refused his request. He was killed the next day.

Mrs. Hannelore Krenn gave me a spent German bullet that her husband found when he was repairing the roof of their house. Another keepsake (I am just glad it made it thru TSA and customs!)

Hr. Willmerdinger, the mayor, gave a short talk, welcoming Andrew and me to Tittling. I then made some remarks to the crowd. Mr. Johann Kargl did the translating for me.

I also met two people who also had fathers killed in the war. Mr. Xaver Munichdorf, whose father was killed, and Mrs. Katharina Holler, whose father was killed in Russia, and is buried in an unknown grave, when she was a year old.

Mr. Josef Krenn, chairman of the local veterans association was also there.

I also met Mr. Brienbauer whose father was a prisoner of war in Russia, and who did not make it back to his home until 1951! Also, this man's home (close by where my dad was killed) was burned down in the fighting around Tittling.

Hr Zauhar also took us to the very spot where my Dad was killed. It was an empty field about a half-acre, close by the house of Mr Krenn. This is in the small village of Hormannsdorf, just outside Tittling, about 1 mile. It is a farming area, both then and now.

The American Army was driving through Bavaria when my Dad's unit (21st Armored Infantry Battalion of the 11th Armored Division) passed through the Tittling area. So I have stood in the very area where he met his death, and also the spot where his body was



*Below: some of the many wonderful people  
the Bishops met during their journey*



*Above: Marvin and Andrew Bishop with Hannelore Krenn  
Below: the reception at the Rathaus in Tittling*

*Facing Page: The author at his father's gravesite*



placed safely before the GR showed up 2 days later. The town placed a small shrine on the side of the road; a crucifix and some flowers, with his photograph.

I also placed a small wreath of flowers at the town's War Memorial. I did this not for any political reasons of my own, but from respect, to memorialize the people's loss of loved ones. The way I look it, when a person loses a loved one in the awfulness of war, they feel their loss just as much as anyone, regardless of the reasons for the war.

I cannot express how much all this has meant to me. It is simply awesome that the townspeople of Tittling would pay such respect to me and Andrew, the son and grandson of an American soldier who came to their town in a time of war, to help repel the evil of Nazism.

These words came to me after my odyssey:

### **Love and Kindness**

**But may I say that while all this has been of deep meaning to me personally, it is in the final analysis not about me, but it is about the more than 400,000 men and women who gave their last full measure of devotion in service to their country. In WWII, men and women left their homes and loved ones, and did not come home. Their loss is felt even today - by sons and daughters, brothers, sisters, and yes, even a few mothers and fathers who yet live today.**

**My prayer is that no war ever comes to our world again.**



# AWON Moments

by AWON President Walter Linne

*The mission of our AWON Moments series is to review AWON's history, celebrating special moments experienced by AWON's orphan members since Ann Bennett Mix founded the organization in 1991.*

We will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding AWON next year. Over the past years AWON has met many milestones and its members have experienced numerous *AWON Moments*.

**From American WWII Orphans Network Newsletter, Vol 16, Winter 1998-1999, European "War Orphans Memorial" Speech by Constant Goergen** - "In June, as a part of Luxembourg's National Day (which includes a celebration of the Grand Duke's official birthday), the U.S. Veterans Friends erected a memorial in Goesdorf, Luxembourg honoring the children of U.S. servicemen who died in the war. It appears that this rite will become an annual event on the third weekend each June."

**From Vol 17, Summer 1999. Widows May Be Eligible for Monthly Payments** - "Widows of veterans who remarried after their husbands' deaths but who are now single may be eligible for a VA compensation of at least \$861 per month. Eligible widow(er)s must now be single, and at some time in their lives have been widowed while married to a uniformed servicemember or veteran who died: while on active duty; as a result of a service-connected disability; or of non-service connected cause having 100 percent service-connected disability."

**From Vol 18, Winter 1999. 5th Division Donation** "AWON received the following letter from the 35th Division Association - 'It is with pleasure that I am forwarding Check #1744 in the amount of \$1,000, a donation from the 35th Infantry Division Association.. There are no strings attached to this donation. We respect the fine track record AWON has established.'"

**From Vol 19, Spring 2000** - "AWON's involvement with the grassroots fundraising campaign for the National WWII Memorial is making good progress, as reported by the American Battle Monument Commission. To date, more than 50 of our members are actively distributing brochures and spreading the word about this long overdue Memorial to honor our fathers and all who helped win the war. As of mid-March more than \$15,215 has been generated by AWON members. This puts us well into the 'Defender' level of participation and AWON will be recognized as a major contributor."

**From Vol 20, Summer 2000 - AWON CONFERENCE 2000, San Diego, California - November 10-13.** "Conference theme, 'As Time Goes by' - 40s to 50s music, fun, fun time. Looking forward to seeing old friends and getting to know lots of new ones. See you in San Diego."

**Unforgettable AWON Moment: A Fallen Hero Comes This Way** by Elaine Danks - "It had taken fifty-four years to get to this beautiful and perfect day of days. On August 30, 1999, my family gathered at Arlington National Cemetery to mourn, remember, and celebrate the life of my beloved Father, Jacob E. Ricketson. He was lost at sea when he was shot out of the sky by a Japanese battleship. There was no funeral, no final resting place where we could come to accept the reality of his death and commemorate his life. Now, at last, the nation for which he had given his life had erected a headstone in his memory in that hallowed ground of heroes, and paused to show its respect and gratitude for his sacrifice."

Please send your *AWON Moment* to:

AWON STAR, 5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216 or [president@awon.org](mailto:president@awon.org), so we can share in the joy of knowing your Father!

# Call for Tributes!

**Add a Tribute to the AWON Website!** This could be one of the most long-lasting and satisfying ways to remember your Father, Grandfather, Brother, or Uncle. Just be a current AWON Member!

**Here's How:** 1. Have a look at our website's TRIBUTE section at [www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org) (click "Our Fathers") to see what others have done; 2. Check the web page on "How to prepare a Father Tribute" – (at [www.awon.org/check5.html](http://www.awon.org/check5.html)); then 3. Scan (or have a Kinko's scan) your best picture of your loved one in uniform; 4. Collect your thoughts, memories, and service record of your loved one; 5. Send your JPG-formatted image and between 500 and 1,100 words to our Tribute Stager, Nancy Sue Johnson. Her E-Mail address is . . . [janceysue@gmail.com](mailto:janceysue@gmail.com). If you need her snailmail address, just call Nancy Sue at 406/529-2315.

**Don't let another day go by.** AWON is honored to help you honor your Father or loved one! . . . a Tribute page is yours for the asking.



PFC Maurice Joseph Ott



## AWON Wishes to Thank Our New and Renewing Members from late March, April, May, June

Kathleen Hobbs	James E. Barnes	Lynn Williams	John Fringer Jr.
Gretchen Wronka	Judith Markland	Steven Telecky	Felicity Hallanan
Duane Ticknor	William Sarver	Michael Rugg	Rosalie Francisco
Verner Pike	Jeanne Rhinehart	Patrick Mockus	Eric Rosen
Walter Johnston	Rik Peirson	Jean Reid	Lois Ciccone
Jean Eich	Lindsey Peirson	Janice Powers	Karl Rosazza
JoAnne Morrissey	Tanner Hayes	Suzane Moore	Jackie Poslusny
Barbara Oefinger	Zack Hayes	Nancy Boohe	Doris Ewing
Barbara Smith	Bernard Achten	Sandy Britton	Bob Burnett
George Strerthaus	Marie Achten	Fred Coldicott	John Linne
Maxine Olson	Marie Fowley	Arthur Chotin	Cary Zehner
Gaye Rule	Judi Kramer	Betty Birdwell	Kristie Clark
Marvel Ruth Joyce	Regine Villers	Barbara Clark	Lynn Williams
Ellen Swatek	William Wilson	William Owen	Joyce Kovalsky
Robert Wilkinson	Zudora Keele	Bob Meek	Carmine Pesce
Evelyn Ritchie	Gene Fromm	Barbara George	Diane Richardson
Karen Wisner	Diana Clark	Doris Ewing	Tom Wiedmeyer
William Dorsey	Paul Teremy	Patsy Yates Bynum	Bob Odom
Betsey Belvin	Judy Bezjak	William Barrie III	Mary Martin
Kenneth Underwood	Suzanne Parker	Donna Umbro	Gary Countryman
Dan Denning	Theodore Krismann	Linda Chauvin	Maggie Fenstermacher
Calvin Fagley	James Boese	Alice Irving	Michal Hansen
Charles Dyer	Alys McAllister	Norma Brubaker	Kae Blanchard-Randall
Caol Ann Donahue	Barbara Bardes	Norma Nicol Hamilton	Nicole Aure
William McElvain	John Mesa	Ted Leonard	Don Milne
Suzanne Moore	Hager Holon	John Goodrow	Diana Wood
Robert Lombardo	Ted Leonard	Barry Barr-Finch	Rose Foster
John Elder	Marilyn Reese	Angela Christian	

Don't come out of your shell just yet!  
Practice Social Distancing!!!!



We here at *The Star* want to remind all our readers to continue practicing social distancing. It is imperative for your health and safety to stay home right now. We care about you and we don't want to lose you! Stay safe, stay healthy, STAY HOME!!

## Hooray for AmazonSmile!

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation donates .5% of the purchase price on all eligible products to AWON at no extra cost!

The same great products you know and love, with the same Amazon prices and reliable shipping you've come to expect!

Placing your Amazon order is exactly the same, only the good people at Amazon share the proceeds with AWON. Just enter "American WWII Orphans Network" as the organization you wish to support.



2021 Alert!



## Remembering Our Fathers

We're celebrating our 30th Year  
In a 30-year Commemorative!

- A History of AWON
- An Ann Bennett Mix Dedication
- Remembrances of Fathers and Mothers
- A List of Orphan Authors & their Titles
- A Posting of Orphan Poems
- A Recap of our National Conferences
- Commercial Ads
- Significant AWON Events, Initiatives
- and so much more!

**Space Reservations for Members:**  
1/4-page ~ \$40 • 1/2-page ~ \$70 • Full-page ~ \$130

**Deadlines:** • October 1, 2020 • No-Money Reservations  
• November 1, 2020 • Art & Payments  
> Contact Kristin: [atomicagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicagebrush@gmail.com)



American WWII Orphans Network  
Our 30th Year  
In Their Memory™

## Commemorative

THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM  
NEW ORLEANS

More Details are on the Web

Don't miss out on this One-time Commemorative Remembrance Opportunity!





# Meet your 2020 AWON Board of Directors!

by Lorin McCleary, AWON Board Secretary, Election Committee Chairman

Per AWON Bylaws, 2020 is a year when Directors of AWON are to be elected. Following procedures in our ByLaws, the election was announced, and nominees were solicited in the Spring issue of The Star. We are pleased that two members stepped up to run for the Board: Barbara George and Bob Meek.

At the end of the current Board term we had two vacant positions, one current Board Director who was unable to serve a second term due to family commitments, and Ann Mix, our Founder, does not need to stand for election as the ByLaws state that the Founder is a permanent member of the Board. So, we had two members who stepped up to run and with two vacancies on the Board. Balloting to determine who would serve and the coincident expense associated with that, became unnecessary.

Therefore, the AWON Board of Directors slate for 2021 - 2022 has been approved by current Board of Directors. Below and on the next four pages are the biographies for your AWON Board of Directors.

Please welcome them to the new AWON Board!



Barry  
Barr-Finch

Barry's Previous Board Experience: AWON BOD, Mason County Education Association, BOD of the Cursillo Movement of the Diocese of Olympia. I have been an AWON member since 2000.

Special Skills: I tend to get along with everyone. I am very knowledgeable about history, especially Seattle, since I'm from the Seatac area.

Vision for AWON for our next two years: I want our board to work on our mission to reach out to orphans whom we have not yet met. To develop a better method of recruiting local regional coordinators. I would like to see a paid publicity person who knows what they are doing to lead and coordinate this effort. I want the AWON Board to develop more ways to be responsive to the needs of our membership.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board Member: By continuing my role as Director of Local Regional Coordinator. Working on backing up each role of the board so that if a board member were unable to continue, there would be someone in place who is knowledgeable about the role and could take over if need be. Creating a who is who of AWON jobs so that all members can see who does what.

Personal: I have never been convicted of a crime, or served time in jail. An asset is that Tom Brewer is my husband and he is a font of ideas and creativity.

# Meet your 2020 AWON Board of Directors!

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Paul C. Bremer

Paul's Previous Board experience: AWON: Co-chair, 2016 National Conference. Fidelity Bankshares, a public financial institution, served on the Board of Directors from Aug. 2000 until the bank was sold in January 2007. Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation: Board Member 14 years, Treasurer 14 years. Children's Healthcare Charity Inc. The Honda Classic Board Member: 13 years, President 8 years, Treasurer 1 year. Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches: Board Member, 10 years, President 1 year. Kiwanis Club of West Palm Beach: Board Member, 8 years, President, 1 year. Kiwanis Club of West Palm Beach Foundation: Board Member, 10 years, President 1 year. Palm Beach Atlantic University Founder and Chairman of Audit Committee since inception in 2010.

Special Skills: I am a retired CPA with significant financial experience as noted above. I was a partner in a local firm that merged into Ernst and Whinney and eventually became Ernst and Young. I retired after 35 years in the practice of public accounting in Palm Beach County, Florida.'

Vision for AWON for next two years: We need to enhance membership communication to all members so we can communicate and educate our members as to activities going on in their areas. In addition, we should encourage meetings among members within geographical areas that would not require extensive travel or put a burden on them due to personal limitations. We should ensure that every member receives a copy of the STAR every quarter.

Personal: BS, Stetson University. Married for 52 years to Barbara, two daughters, two grandsons, and one granddaughter.



Barbara George

Barbara's Previous Board experience: Clayton Valley Children's Center Board. Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church Board serving several six-year terms since 1987 and currently serving another term.

Special Skills: Retired IT consultant having worked and managed projects in several industries. BS in Business Administration. Designer and administrator of two websites. Served 27 years as Church Board Secretary wherein I know the bylaws and policies and ensure that these are followed. Good written skills.

Vision for AWON for the next two years: To have AWON become more known to the public and that our Fathers' grandchildren become more involved.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board Member: Serve as needed on the AWON Board. Develop better communication with all members. Figure out a way to have regional meetings when members are geographically far apart.

Personal: Team player or a leader depending on what is needed. Considered it an honor to have spoken at Operation Overlord 75th Anniversary in Washington, D.C. and participated in the D-Day Anniversary the next day.

# Meet your 2020 AWON Board of Directors!

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Judi Kramer



Gloria Layne  
(b. Zuccarella)

Judi's Previous Board Experience: Past AWON Board of Directors - 8 yrs. Member of various teams and organizations while working.

Special Skills: Public speaking - good communicator and listener. Ability to lead. Organizational - (co-chair 2014 Seattle conference)

Vision for AWON for next two years: Involve more members, better communication with members. Reach out to them - ask what they want to get from AWON. Listen to the members. Ensure that funds are used wisely.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board Member: Be a committed member of the board. Listen to all points of view and make the appropriate decisions for the good of AWON.

Personal: Member of AWON since 1991. Attended all conferences. Volunteer in my community - Cancer/breast cancer/heart disease awareness.



Gloria's Previous Board Experience: AWON Board and President. Bright Side Manor Board & Chairperson. Tenaflly Senior Citizens Committee Chairperson. Vestry Church of the Atonement. Bergen County Office on Aging Advisory Council. Englewood Hospital Advisory Council. Special Skills: Management & administration; PR; event planning; assessing needs & finding creative ways to meet those needs; establishing outreach programs & ability to connect people/organizations; experienced with government programs and seeking financial and in-kind support for programs.

Vision for AWON for the next two years: I would like to make an effort to establishing a greater connectivity with our membership and provide more personal interactions with members by calls and notes to keep members more engaged in the 'what's happening'. I am also interested in continuing work on projects the Board is already pursuing.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board Member: I would be helpful with establishing outreach programs as well as acting as liaison to government officials and other organizations, i.e. TAPS, museums and supporting the projects of other members of the Board.

Personal: I have experience working in private industry, the non-profit world and with both federal and county governments. I love to travel; I am a "Margraten kid"; I enjoy being with family and friends and I enjoy my current role as "professional volunteer".



# Meet your 2020 AWON Board of Directors!

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Walt Linne



Lorin McCleary

Walt's Previous Board Experience: St. Mary Elementary School, Board Member, 1976-1978. Scecina Memorial High School, Board of Governors, 1990-1998. AWON Board of Directors 1993-2003. President of AWON Board of Directors since 2018.

Special Skills: Retired USAF Command Pilot and Retired Asst. Director of Operations, Indiana University. Served in numerous leadership positions in the military and civilian service.

Vision for AWON for the next two years: Continue to reach out for WWII Orphans to keep our Fathers' sacrifice alive.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board Member: Serve as needed on the AWON Board.

Personal: Team Player.

Lorin's Previous Board Experience: Organizer of AWON First Founders Meeting; Member - AWON First Founders; AWON First President; Past AWON Board Member; Secretary, AWON 2018 BOD, recipient of AWON's Col. Jack O. Forgy Distinguished Service Award.

Special Skills: Enthusiasm for AWON's mission and its members! Extensive business experience and organizational skills. Effective written and electronic communicator. Good at formulating plans and implementing them. Strong computer skills. I serve as the AWON database coordinator.

Vision for AWON for next two years: Continue moving AWON towards health and vibrancy. Continued emphasis on member services, membership recruitment and retention. More responsiveness to membership input and needs. Encourage AWON Regional development and meetings.

Personal: B.S. Indiana University M.S. University of Pittsburgh. Married, 2 daughters, 4 grandsons, 1 granddaughter. Have been a member of AWON since 1993. Membership in AWON literally changed my life, enabling me to come to terms with my father's death in WWII and to honor his service and sacrifice. I want to make sure that our organization will continue on so as to make these things possible for others.

## AWON Director Email Addresses

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Gloria Layne	glayne731@gmail.com
Walt Linne	wlinne@iupui.edu
Lorin McCleary	ldmcleary@gmail.com
Ann Mix	annmix@gmail.com
Rik Peirson	rik@dayone.com
Robert Meek	rhmeekjr@gmail.com

# Meet your 2020 AWON Board of Directors!

continued from page 12



Robert Meek Jr.



Rik Peirson

Robert's Previous Board Experience: Vice-President AWON BOD. Vice Chairman, Executive Committee, Diocese of Western Carolina (Episcopal). Senior Warden, Finance Warden, Vestry Member, Church of the Ascension and St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Member District and Committee Boy Scouts of America, President, Treasurer and Board Member Catawba Valley Wildlife Club, Chairman and member Hickory Historic Preservation Commission, Member Catawba County Adjustment Board. Member Catawba County Historic Commission. Member Cathedral Chapter, All Souls' Cathedral. Member Hickory Farmers' Market BOD.

Special Skills: Legislative Experience, Budgeting and Financial Management. Retired Army Colonel

Vision for AWON: To continue to seek out WWII orphans and get more grandchildren involved.

How best can I serve AWON: Legislative conduit and budgeting.

Rik's Previous Board Experience: American Advertising Federation, Santa Barbara; Vietnam Veterans of America - 218th; Unity Shoppe; Victoria Street Community House. Special Skills: Planning, Marketing, Primary Research, Advertising, Writing, Design, Branding, Web Development, and Media Relations.

Vision for AWON for next two years: Focus on Reviewing and Prioritizing AWON Missions ~ Long-term as well as Short-term; Completing the Website Upgrade; Deploying OUTreach; Boosting AWON Awareness and Membership; More INreach - Polling and Understanding the Needs and Preferences of the Membership; More Board Transparency and Sharing of Critical Resources; Developing Volunteerism; Optimizing Coordination between the AWON Website and the Star; Promoting Greater Tribute Participation by the Membership; Restoring the ABMC Flower Program.

How you can best serve AWON as a Board member: INSIDE ~ Promoting Management by Collaboration and Consensus: OUTSIDE ~ Through increasing Outreach and Membership; and by Researching, Remembering, & Honoring our Fathers.

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Be sure to follow AWON on



Personal: B.A. Penn State; Excellent Health; Willing to Work; Married 39 years: Dianna. Children: Lindsey; Grandchildren: Zack and Tanner.

### **The Star Guidelines for Submitting Material**

We want to tell your story and your family's story. We accept submissions both electronically and via US mail. If you have an article or picture and aren't sure how to submit it, that's ok. Message *The Star* and we will work with you.

Please keep text reasonable in length. 500-1000 words or 1 page is a good guideline, but we publish longer pieces too. Preference is given to material written by, for, and about AWON members and families.

Authors retain copyright to published original writing. Permission to reprint should be obtained from the author by contacting the editor.

**Kristin Holmes, Editor**  
**PO Box 242, Creston WA**  
**99117 (509) 279-5241**  
**atomicsagebrush@gmail.com**

## *A Great Big Thank You!*



Heartfelt Thanks  
to the DeHand Family  
for placing this lovely  
memorial to 2LT  
George Riley Francis,  
Father of AWON Member  
Barbara Kelly, on their  
family farm in France.  
Thank you, thank you,  
THANK YOU, Philippe  
Dehand, so very much!

*Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.*

*--William Arthur Ward*

AWON Treasurer's 2020 EOM Account Totals				
Submitted by Paul Bremer June 30, 2020				
	General (Wreath Fund)	Conference	Book Source	Money Market
JANUARY	\$14,664.50 (\$1,585.00)	\$6,330.55	\$613.35	\$48,222.84
FEBRUARY	\$15,471.42 (\$1,807.00)	\$8,365.55	\$523.35	\$48,252.62
MARCH	\$17,150.52 (\$1,982.00)	\$3,379.50	\$315.35	\$48,245.23
APRIL	\$15,815.42 (\$2,082.00)	\$1,159.50	\$346.75	\$48,227.63
MAY	\$17,123.22 (\$2,322.00)	\$599.50	\$341.75	\$48,210.04
JUNE	\$18,312.43 (\$2,505.00)	\$409.50	\$336.75	\$48,192.43



**National Wreaths Across America  
Day is coming December 19, 2020!  
Stay tuned for more information  
in the Fall Edition of *The STAR*!**



# Membership



This is a

- ☐ New Membership  
☐ Renewal  
☐ Family Membership  
☐ Database Registration Only

## About You:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobilephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you're renewing, skip to the Dues Section  
 Your Relationship to Serviceman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 How did you hear about AWON \_\_\_\_\_

## About your WWII Service Member:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hometown & State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Military Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Burial Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wife's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional information on your WWII Service Member's  
 Military Service, Death, or Burial. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check:

Payable to AWON, include it with this form and send it to:

**AWON Treasurer**  
**5745 Lee Road**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana 46216**



## Membership Types:

☐ **Orphan Member:** Any son or daughter of a member of the US Armed Forces, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine who was killed, remains missing in action, or who died in the line of duty, or who later died of wounds or injuries sustained during WWII.

☐ **Family Member:** Other relations who are not a son or daughter.

☐ **Supporting Member:** Other individuals with an interest in WWII, who wish to support us and participate in our outreach activities and programs.

## Membership Dues:

**Basic Orphan Member Dues** are \$25 a year – starting when we receive your check. This includes your AWON Membership Card, a Web Tribute for your father, a physical or E-version of our quarterly newsletter, **The Star**, a personal account on the AWON online List-serv, and an account on the AWON Facebook Page.

**Family Member Dues** are \$25 a year – including a printed Star – OR \$10 a year for Membership with an E-Star.

**Supporting Member Dues** are \$25 a year – including either version of **The Star**.

## Membership Dues Levels:

Please circle your Dues Level below:

	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years
Orphan	\$25	\$48	\$70
Family (Printed Star Version)	\$25	\$48	\$70
Family (E-Star Version)	\$10	\$20	\$30
Supporting	\$25	\$48	\$70
Gold Star (Increased Donation)	\$100	\$192	\$280

## Donation Considerations:

Memorial Day Wreath Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Operations & Outreach \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Dues & Donations Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Submittable  
 Online >>>



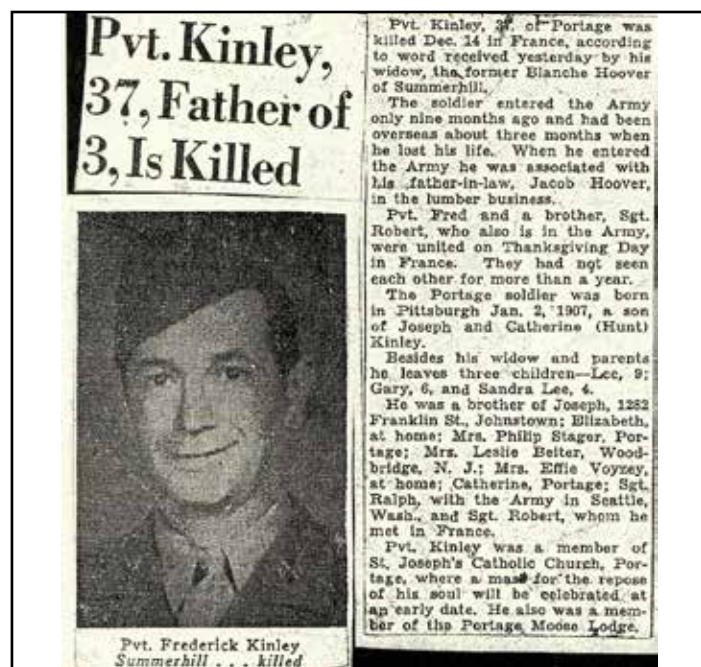
AWON (American WWII Orphans Network) is a humanitarian, non-profit, nonpolitical service organization under Section 501(c)3 of the US Federal Tax Code. (EINB #91-1538912) Membership is not required to be entered into the Database. For more information, the AWON Website is at [www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org).

# The Only One In The World

as told to Kristin Holmes by Gary Kinley

Private Frederick Kinley was affectionately called "Pappy" by his fellow soldiers because at the age of 37, he was much older than most of the men he served with, and was already a family man. A Pennsylvania native, he left his wife Blanche and his children - Lee, George (called Gary) and Sandra - when called to serve his country in Europe.

On December 12, 1944, Private Kinley, a bazooka sharpshooter, and his fellow troops from the 313th Infantry, 79th Division led an assault on the town of Seltz in the Alsace region of France. PVT Kinley and his fellow team members were sent across the remains of a ruined bridge by foot to set up a bridgehead to raise a pontoon bridge to allow tanks to enter the city. In the words of SSGT James Carter who witnessed the assault, "Enemy fire was very heavy, and it took great courage for these men to advance, but they never wavered."



*Above: Private Frederick Kinley's obituary. Kinley was KIA December 14, 1944, during a successful assault on the French town of Seltz.*



*Above - The unusual flag treasured since 1944 by the Kinley family, with both the white and the distinctive gold stars on display.*

PVT Kinley was hit by artillery fire and killed on December 14, but the assault was successful. The bridge was raised and the town of Seltz was secured. His family received word of his passing the day after Christmas.

Shortly before Kinley's death, the United States Army ran out of flags to lay on their soldiers' graves. The losses had been so heavy post-Normandy, that they had used up literally every flag they had. So in November of 1944, the Signal Corps charged a group of French flag makers (actually a small garment company who had taken on the job of flagmaking) with the task of producing more American flags - at that time with 48 stars - to be laid on the coffins of fallen soldiers.

But the French misunderstood the request. They thought they were making flags for Gold Star Mothers, and produced a first run of 500 flags not with white stars on both sides, but with white stars on one side and gold stars on the other. Rather than waste the flags, the Army used them, and one of these unusual flags was laid on the coffin of Private Fred Kinley.

...Only One, continued from previous page

Gary Kinley recalls going up to the attic beginning at the age of 6, not long after his father's death, and opening the family's cedar chest to read his parents' letters. The flag was there, but Gary didn't open it to take a look till he was much older.

Once he saw those gold stars, Gary began to investigate its origins. He contacted the Army, the Navy, and even the Smithsonian Institution in the search for more information. The Smithsonian claimed that the flag's existence was a rumor, but that they'd been looking for 20 years for corroboration of the story. The Kinley family's flag is believed to be the last surviving flag of the 500 originally made.

Gary Kinley still flies his family's flag on special days like his father's birthday. He has vowed that he'll never sell his flag, not for a million dollars. Just like his father Fred, it's the only one in the world - irreplaceable.



*Above: the sign that was hung at Camp McCabe honoring the fallen from Normandy through the final victory in Germany. Fred Kinley's name is located at the top of the center column*

*Left: Private Fred Kinley's grave marker at Lorraine Cemetery*

A Great Option for Summertime Streaming!

## Return To Hardwick

With everyone cooped up inside due to social distancing, it's a great time for a movie. There's a new documentary of interest to many of AWON Members - **Return to Hardwick**.

**Return to Hardwick** tells the story of the 93rd Bomb Group of the Mighty 8th Air Force, the most highly decorated bomber group during WWII, who flew out of Hardwick Air Base in Norfolk, England. You can find out more about the bravery of the 93rd by visiting their website here: <https://www.93bg.com/>

**Return to Hardwick** tells of the 93rd Bomb Group - notorious for having pulled off some of the most daring air raids during the war, while also sharing the tale of the sons, daughters, and grandchildren who journeyed to Hardwick to celebrate the lives of these courageous men.

Producer Michael Sellars, the grandson of a 93rd bombardier, grew up attending reunions with his grandfather and decided to make a film honoring these courageous heroes and their descendents. AWON member William Hardwick, son of fallen pilot William Rueckert, in addition to several other descendents of the 93rd, was involved in the process of bringing **Return to Hardwick** to the screen, a labor of love six years in the making.

You can find **Return to Hardwick** (ranked 100% Fresh on Rotten Tomatoes!) on major streaming services such as Amazon Prime, and on DVD/BluRay (available online at Amazon, Target and WalMart) Check out the movie's website for more!

<https://www.hardwickfilm.com/>





# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form

### Books

Authors in **BOLD** are orphan or family members

Items marked with (\*) include P&H

\_\_\_\_\_ **NEW!** *Pieces of Us*

**By Janice Crandell Powers** **\$20.00\***

\_\_\_\_\_ *A Daughter's Quest: Retracing My Father's Footsteps During World War II*

**By Laura Smail Sims** \$16.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Gun Club: U.S.S. Duncan at Cape Esperance*

**By Robert Fowler** \$15.99

\_\_\_\_\_ *Collateral Damage, A World War II Orphan: Lost and Found*

**By Reda Reynolds** \$9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *Feisty: Chronicles & Confessions of an Old PR Warhorse*

**By Joe Finnigan** \$12.99

\_\_\_\_\_ *A Bit of Earth*

**By Wendy Crisp Lestina** \$13.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *K.I.A.: An Orphan's Search for His Father Through the Fog of War*

**By Patrick Audinet** \$10.00\*

\_\_\_\_\_ *All proceeds from Audinet book benefit AWON*

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Beauty of What Remains: Family Lost, Family Found*

**By Susan Johnson Hadler** \$15.00\*

\_\_\_\_\_ *In Search of a Pilot: Hanford "Rusty" J. Rustand*

**By Marilyn Rustand Lieurance** \$7.00\*

\_\_\_\_\_ *My Father: More than a Picture, a Beer Bottle and a Flag*

**By Jerry W. Pinkerton** \$12.00\*

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Lost Submarine: A True Story of Love and War*

**By Nancy Kenney** \$16.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *"Daddy's Gone to War": The Second World War in the lives of America's Children*

**By William M. Tuttle Jr., PhD** \$30.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *In My Father's Words: Letters From a WWII Soldier*

**By Bill McElvain** \$16.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *Farebersville 1944*

**By Jeff Wignall** \$18.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *A Soldier's Daughter*

**By Lois Brown Klein** \$17.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Ordinary Infantrymen: Heroes Then, Heroes Again*

**By Imogene Woods** and Twelve WWII Infantrymen \$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *Full Fathom Five: A Daughter's Search*

**By Mary Lee Coe Fowler** \$29.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *Love Always, Ben*

**By Huey Tyra, nephew** Reduced! \$2.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *Sporty Course* (bomber pilots)

**By Col. Jack Swayze** \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Hotton Report* (About the Battle For Hotton)

**By Robert McDonald** \$13.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *World War II: A Legacy of Letters-One Soldier's Journey*

**By Clinton Frederick** \$26.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *An 8th Airforce Combat Diary*

**By John A. Clark** \$49.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *When I See a "Forty and Eight"... I Remember World War II*

**By Lt. Col. Jacques Adnet USAF (ret.)** Reduced! \$5.00!

\_\_\_\_\_ *In Their Memory: American WWII Orphan's Network*

**By Turner Publishing Company**  
Was 49.95 Reduced \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Fighting Tigers: The Untold Story Behind the Names on The Quachita Baptist University WWII Memorial*

**By William Downes** \$24.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *The War Journey of Major Damon "Rocky" Gause*

**Forward by Damon L. Gause** \$21.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *No Greater Sacrifice, No Greater Love: A Son's Journey to Normandy*

**By Walter Ford Carter** Reduced! \$18.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *D-Day + 60 Years: A Small Piece of Airborne History*

**By Jerome J. McLaughline** \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *They Also Served: Women's Stories From the WWII Era*

**By Jeanie Sutton Lambright**  
New Price! Hardcover \$20.00      Softcover \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_ *Finding Billy*

**By Diana Thompson Dale, niece** \$16.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *Father Found: Life and Death as a Prisoner of the Japanese In WWII*

**By Duane Heisinger** \$13.95

\_\_\_\_\_ *Shobun: A Forgotten War Crime in the Pacific*

**By Michael J. Goodwin** \$19.95

# AWON BOOKSTORE

## Price List / Order Form

### CD/DVD



\_\_\_ *Leather and Strings*

by **Mark LaPoint**, grandson of Sgt. William G. Aubet featuring *Somewhere in Germany*, written and sung by Mark at AWON's 10th conference memorial service \$6.00

\_\_\_ *Letters of Love and War* (CD for Mac or PC)

By 1LT John and Betty Peirson \$19.44

\_\_\_ *AWON 2004 Conference & WWII Memorial Dedication* (VHS)

Reduced!! Was \$5.00 \$3.00\*

\_\_\_ *We Speak Their Names: A Tribute to Our Fathers* (VHS)  
produced by Patrick Tierney and **Terry Boettcher**

Reduced! was \$15.00 now \$3.00

\_\_\_ *AWON 2000 Conference Journeys - Finding Our Fathers* (VHS)

by Justin Taylan was \$15.00 \$3.00\*

\_\_\_ *Sleep My Sons: The Story of the Arisan Maru*

by Shawnee Brittan Reduced! was \$30.00 \$20.00\*

## AWON Logo Products

*Closeout on the Following AWON merchandise*

\_\_\_ AWON Hat \$15.00

\_\_\_ Scarf (royal blue fleece - only 3 left!!) \$10.00

\_\_\_ 20th Anniversary Tote Bag (small)  
REDUCED! \$5.00

\_\_\_ Tote Bag (large) \$10.00

\_\_\_ 20th Anniversary Garden Flag (without holder) \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Holiday Ornament \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON lapel pin \$10.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Button 2 1/4" \$3.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON Lanyard w/ nametag and ticket holder (blue with white lettering, 4"x6"holder) \$6.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON notecards & envelopes (pkg of 20) (Only 2 left!!) \$20.00

\_\_\_ \*AWON bookmarks

Circle amount: 1 for \$1.00 5 for \$3.00 10 for \$5.00

## The Star Newsletters

\_\_\_ \*Individual issues: \$4.00 - Includes P&H

\_\_\_ \*All archived issues: \$40.00 - Includes P&H

\_\_\_ \*Special!! Most recent five issues: \$15.00 Inc. P&H

### Ordering Information

Postage and handling: \$8 for each item. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) include postage and handling.

For multiple purchases: Up to \$40 - \$10 P&H \$40-\$60 - \$12 P&H \$60 and up - \$15 P&H

Washington State residents please add 7.8% sales tax

For more information and color photos please visit [www.awon.org/bookstore/bookstore.html](http://www.awon.org/bookstore/bookstore.html)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** (check/money order payable to AWON): \_\_\_\_\_

Send check or money order to:

**AWON Bookstore**

**5745 Lee Road**

**Indianapolis, IN**

**46216**

email: [bookstore@awon.org](mailto:bookstore@awon.org)

# In Remembrance - Memorial Day 2020

Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, the ABMC was unable to have public ceremonies on Memorial Day 2020. In lieu of wreathlaying, the AWON Wreath and Banner Committee prepared a retrospective of Memorial Days past in tribute of the over 600 AWON fathers who rest in America's overseas cemeteries. If you would like to see more of this incredible tribute, please visit <http://www.awon.org/memorialday/> or click on any of the photos below to visit that cemetery's tribute.



Ardennes Coordinator Since 2004:  
Gail Eisenhower  
Buried: 5,317; Missing 463  
Total Remembered: 5,780  
AWON Fathers remembered: 37  
Dedicated in 1960  
90.5 Acres, Belgium

Brittany Coordinator Since 2006: Brian Hope  
Buried: 4,409; Missing 500  
Total Remembered: 4,909  
AWON Fathers remembered: 27  
Dedicated in 1956  
28 Acres, France



Cambridge Coordinator Since 2005:  
Jean Rhinehart  
Buried: 3,812; Missing 5,127  
Total Remembered: 8,939  
AWON Fathers remembered: 38  
Dedicated in 1956  
30.5 Acres, United Kingdom





Epinal Temporary Coordinator : Jean Rhinehart

Buried: 4,254; Missing 424

Total Remembered: 5,678

AWON Fathers Remembered: 43

Dedicated in 1956

48 Acres, France

Florence Coordinator Since 2017:

Barbara Catterall

Buried: 4,399; Missing 1,409

Total Remembered: 5,808

AWON Fathers Remembered: 27

Dedicated in 1960

70 Acres, Italy



Henri-Chapelle Coordinator Since 2003:

Rik Peirson

Buried: 7,992; Missing 450

Total Remembered: 8,442

AWON Fathers Remembered: 57

Dedicated in 1960

57 Acres, Belgium

Lorraine Coordinator Since 2012: Paul Bremer

Buried: 10,489; Missing: 444

Total Remembered: 10,993

AWON Fathers remembered: 56

Dedicated in 1960

113.5 Acres, France





Luxembourg Coordinator Since 2004:

Sandy MacDuffee

Buried: 5,075; Missing 371

Total Remembered: 5,446

AWON Fathers remembered: 42

Dedicated in 1960

50.5 Acres, Luxembourg

Manila Temporary Coordinator: Rik Peirson

Buried: 17,184; Missing 36,286

Total Remembered: 53,470

AWON Fathers remembered: 78

Dedicated in 1960

152 Acres, The Philippines



Netherlands Coordinator Since 2019:

Gloria Z. Layne

Buried: 8,301; Missing 1,722

Total Remembered: 10,023

AWON Fathers remembered: 82

Dedicated in 1960

65.5 Acres, The Netherlands

Normandy Coordinator Since 2019:

Rondy Elliot

Buried: 9,835; Missing 1,557

Total Remembered: 10,942

AWON Fathers remembered: 23

Dedicated in 1956

172.5 Acres, France







North Africa Coordinator Since 2019:

Bonnie Hellums

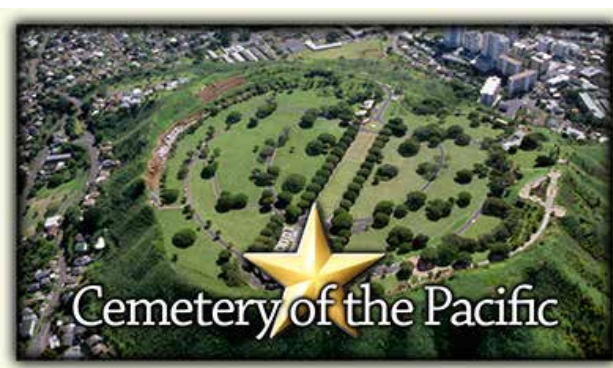
Buried: 2,841; Missing 3,724

Total Remembered: 6,565

AWON Fathers remembered: 23

Dedicated in 1960

27 Acres, Tunisia



Cemetery of the Pacific Coordinator Since 2005:

Susan Chadd

Total Remembered, All Missing: 28,909

AWON Fathers remembered: 67

Dedicated in 1966

Punchbowl Crater, HI, United States



Rhone Coordinator Since 2006: Vic Muller, RIP

Buried: 860; Missing 294

Total Remembered: 1,154

AWON Fathers remembered: 10

Dedicated in 1956

12.5 Acres, France



Sicily-Rome Coordinator Since 2004:

Robert Meek, Jr.

Buried: 7,860; Missing 3,095

Total Remembered: 10,955

AWON Fathers remembered: 31

Dedicated in 1956

77 Acres, Italy



Suresnes Coordinator:

AWON Wreath and Banner Coordinators

Buried: 1,565; Missing 974

Total Remembered: 2,539

Fathers Remembered: 24 WWII dead

Known But To God

Dedicated in 1937

7.5 Acres, France



Editor, The Star  
JH Geiger Operations Center  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216

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### Address Service Requested

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## The Star

"Breaking Down the Wall of Silence"

AWON Headquarters  
5745 Lee Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46216  
[www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org)



### AWON Mission

To locate and bring together sons and daughters of those who died or are missing as a result of American involvement in World War II, honor the service and sacrifice of our fathers and provide information and support to these people who were orphaned by the war.

# AWON Directory

#### Address Corrections

Lorin McCleary [ldmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:ldmccleary@gmail.com)

**Archives** OPEN POSITION

#### Bookstore

Walt Linne [bookstore@awon.org](mailto:bookstore@awon.org)

#### Database Coordinator

Lorin McCleary [ldmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:ldmccleary@gmail.com)

#### Dues

Paul Bremer [bremergolf@aol.com](mailto:bremergolf@aol.com)

#### Facebook

Barry Barr-Finch [barrfinch1@gmail.com](mailto:barrfinch1@gmail.com)

#### First Inquiry Coordinators

Lorin McCleary [AWON@awon.org](mailto:AWON@awon.org)

Janice Ott Buterbaugh [Janicebuterbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:Janicebuterbaugh@gmail.com)

**Friends of the National  
WWII Memorial Liason** OPEN POSITION

#### ListServ

Judy Hathaway [judy0305@yahoo.com](mailto:judy0305@yahoo.com)

Judy Geis Hoffman [jghoffman44@gmail.com](mailto:jghoffman44@gmail.com)

#### Membership

Gloria Layne [glayne731@gmail.com](mailto:glayne731@gmail.com)

#### Memorial Day White House Event

Marilynn Lieurance [mlrustysgirl@yahoo.com](mailto:mlrustysgirl@yahoo.com)

#### Memorial Day Wreath & Banner

Jeanne Rhinehart [hart1003@comcast.net](mailto:hart1003@comcast.net)

Rik Peirson [rik@dayone.com](mailto:rik@dayone.com)

#### Regional Gatherings Project

Barry Barr-Finch [barrfinch1@gmail.com](mailto:barrfinch1@gmail.com)

#### The STAR

Kristin Holmes [atomicsagebrush@gmail.com](mailto:atomicsagebrush@gmail.com)

#### Washington, D.C. Liason

Lee Mathis [jlee123@verizon.net](mailto:jlee123@verizon.net)

#### Website

Rik Peirson [rik@dayone.com](mailto:rik@dayone.com)