

DEADEYE DISPATCH

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION HERITAGE FUND

SPRING, 2018

September 7 & 8: All Deadeyes, Friends and Family Invited!

96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund to meet in SLC

Make your plans now for this fall! The dates and location for the first annual meeting of the 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund have been finalized and are inside this issue. This event, the successor to the annual reunions, will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on September 7 and 8, 2018. All Deadeyes, their families and friends are invited and encouraged to attend.

This new gathering will be an annual meeting of the newly merged organizations and it will include many informal, independent opportunities for socializing and entertainment.

Details are inside but some of the activities include visiting the Ft. Douglas Museum, a 96th History Presentation, Pasta & Beer Night, a Dinner at Ft. Douglas and much more

And of course, the highlight of the event is visiting with fellow friends in the 96th.



Picturesque Salt Lake City/Wasach Skyline



Site of 2002 Winter Olympics



Temple Square



Utah State Capitol



96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund Annual Meeting Registration Info and Tour Descriptions on Pages 6 & 7 inside.

DEADEYE DISPATCH

PREPARED BY THE 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION HERITAGE FUND

Annual Meeting - Salt Lake City

Top 10 Things For Deadeyes To Do in Salt Lake City

1

ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK

Antelope Island State Park is a Utah state park on Antelope Island in the Great Salt Lake. The 28,800-acre park is in Davis County, Utah in the United States. Really cool place to visit. Easy to envision what the West looked like before the western migration. Bison are beautiful and powerful animals.



2

BEEHIVE HOUSE

Built in 1854, the Beehive House was home to Brigham Young and other Church leaders, and also served as offices for the Church for many years. The beehive motif was placed atop the structure to symbolize the strong sense of community and diligent work ethic of the Latter-day Saints called to settle the West. Today The Beehive House serves as a museum displaying objects belonging to Brigham Young and his family. Young was the second president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Utah's first governor. Tours of the Beehive House are available and last about 30 minutes.



3

LDS CHURCH HISTORY MUSEUM

This is the place to discover the stories of the people who helped establish The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Free Interactive exhibitions and fun programs make this one of the best museums in Salt Lake City, a must-see destination.

HOURS:

Monday through Friday: 9 am - 9 pm

Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday: Closed

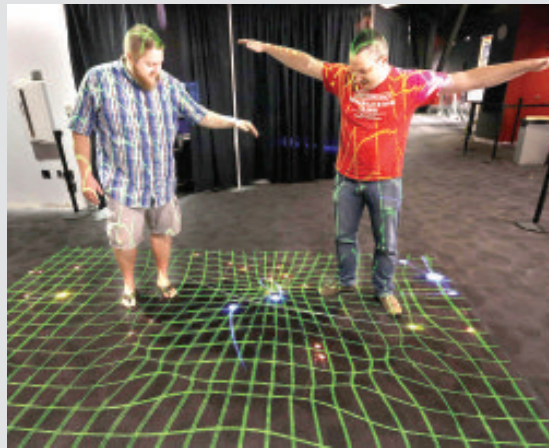


Annual Meeting - Salt Lake City

Top 10 Things For Deadeyes To Do in Salt Lake City

4 CLARK PLANETARIUM

Located in downtown Salt Lake City, Clark Planetarium offers 10,000 square feet of exhibit space, the Hansen Dome and Orbital ATK IMAX Theatres, and one of the best science gift stores in Salt Lake City. Admission to the store and exhibits are FREE to the public. Plan a visit and explore the universe!



5 FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

Want to know more about your ancestors? Where they came from and when? Visit the Family History Library, where you can delve into two million rolls of microfilmed records. Discover your history and experience a feeling of belonging as you explore your family tree.

Hours:

Monday: 8:00am-5:00pm

Tue-Fri: 8:00am-9:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm



6 NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The Natural History Museum of Utah is not only an architectural jewel, but it is one of the finest natural history museums in the country. The museum continues to connect Utah residents and tourists with the natural landscapes and cultures of Utah. They house more than 1.5 million specimens and objects.

Hours

Daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays open until 9:00 p.m.



Annual Meeting - Salt Lake City

Top 10 Things For Deadeyes To Do in Salt Lake City

7

PIONEER MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The Pioneer Memorial Museum is noted as the world's largest collection of artifacts on one particular subject, and features displays and collections of memorabilia from the time the earliest settlers entered the Valley of the Great Salt Lake until the joining of the railroads at a location known as Promontory Point, Utah, on May 10, 1869.

As you enter the Pioneer Memorial Museum, you walk back into history. Here are the belongings of a hardy pioneer people who migrated 2,000 miles west across the plains to seek religious freedom and to build a great city in the Salt Lake Valley and surrounding areas.



8

RED BUTTE GARDEN

Red Butte Garden is Utah's Botanical Garden and part of the University of Utah. It is the largest botanical garden in the Intermountain West. Explore themed gardens, a children's garden, waterfall and pond and nearly five miles of natural area hiking trails. "Four Seasons, A Million Reasons" to visit for floral shows, outdoor concerts, camps and classes. A new 4-acre garden opened May 2017 to rave reviews and amazing views.



9

TEMPLE SQUARE

Temple Square is much more than a religious icon. It's a collage of fascinating history, singular architecture, and gourmet dining. Temple Square in Salt Lake City is Utah's most popular tourist destination. Part of its appeal lies in its accessibility: three city blocks in downtown Salt Lake City contain nearly 20 attractions related to Mormon pioneer history and genealogy, including the Salt Lake Temple, the Tabernacle, and the Family History Library. This means that visitors can see all or most of these attractions in a relatively short period of time.



10

UTAH STATE CAPITOL

For over a century, the State Capitol has been one of Utah's most prominent landmarks. Designed by local architect Richard K. A. Kletting, the Capitol has been home to state government since its opening in 1916.

From 2004 to 2008, the Utah State Capitol underwent one of the largest historical preservation projects in the United States. In addition to safe-guarding the building against the risk of an earthquake, the project repaired and restored the original beauty and artwork of the Capitol. Each year, thousands of people visit the Capitol to witness its modern magnificence and historic significance.





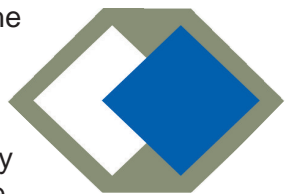
Deadeye News & Features

HELP THEIR LEGACY LIVE ON...

The Board of Directors of the Deadeye Association voted to approve the merger with the Heritage Fund at the end of 2017. The funds in the Deadeye Association were transferred to the Heritage Fund. This is being done to reflect a change in the focus of our efforts, moving from a reunion centric organization to one that is focused on preserving the history of the 96th for future generations. We will still have an Annual Meeting at a location nearby a museum that has historical information about the 96th. Affiliating with select key museums will be an important part of our efforts in preserving our history and building our Legacy.

All current members of the Deadeye Association will automatically become Founding Sponsors of the Heritage Fund. There will be no membership dues although our Founding Sponsors will be given opportunities to donate money to our various programs that will be announced periodically. The Dispatch and our Website will continue to serve the needs of the Heritage Fund in communicating our plans and activities.

It's time for all Deadeyes, families and friends to prepare ourselves for a new mission—a mission in which we purposely shift our focus from the reunions of the past to creating a legacy for the future. This legacy must ensure that the special history of the 96th Infantry Division lives on and that our values of duty, honor and country are shared with generations to come.



The mission of the 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund is to guard the legacies and honor the sacrifices of our 96th veterans. Through oral history preservation, documentary films, educational programs and civic events, the Heritage Fund will work to ensure that Americans fully appreciate--and never forget--the sacrifices made by our 96th Division who have worn the uniform.

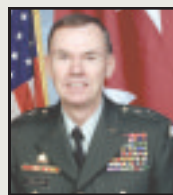
The 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization funded by generous donations from people like you. All donations are tax-deductible.

Donations to **HELP THEIR LEGACY LIVE ON** can be made payable to **96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund** and mailed to:

96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund
Dennis O'Brien, Treasurer
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034



Please let us know if this is in honor or memory of one of our beloved Deadeyes.



President's Report

JIM COLLINS, PRESIDENT
96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association was shut down at the end of 2017 and all remaining assets transferred to the 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund. In the last issue of the Dispatch, I described the structure of the Heritage Fund. Our Founding Sponsors are those members of the Deadeye Association plus anyone else who would like to become a Founding Sponsor. There are no dues however we will solicit donations to support our mission of preserving the history of the 96th Infantry Division and the post WW II 96th units.

The Heritage Fund will hold an Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City on 7 and 8 September 2018. There is more information on the meeting and other activities here in the Dispatch. This year Colonel (Retired) Adele Connell Young has volunteered to be our meeting coordinator there in Salt Lake City. She has been instrumental in making the Hotel arrangements as well as coordinating with the Fort Douglas Museum and the 96th Sustainment Brigade. I look forward to seeing you there.

The challenge for the Heritage Fund now is to get the History and Fund Raising Committees fully operational. This takes volunteers who are willing to take on some tasks/projects. If you would like to learn more please contact Don Klimkowicz or I.

Late last year we authorized the purchase (\$2500) of a Bronze plaque to commemorate the 96th Infantry Division and it will be on display at the new US Army Museum at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

On point: Part of Infantry tactics is to have one soldier "on point" at the front of his squad when operating in the field. The job of being on point takes skill and sometimes a sixth sense of what is around him. Two recent deaths make me feel that we had two more of our soldiers go on point ahead of us while seeking our Lord. Bob Seifert and his wife Ruth passed away within weeks of each other. Bob and Ruth were at our last reunion. Bob was a past President of the Deadeye Association and has attended many reunions. I always found his advice and counsel to be very good. William "Bill" Hill also recently passed away. Bill developed a passion for preserving the stories of Deadeye soldiers and with the assistance of his daughter Jan Wharton started a web site - Remember the Deadeyes. Between the two of them they have added significantly to our documented history. I spoke to Bill just before he passed away and in spite of his condition he was really enthused about his fellow soldier stories. He was looking forward to joining us in Salt Lake City. To my fellow soldiers - Stay on point and guide the way for the rest of us.

Lunch with the post WW II Deadeyes

With the next gathering being in Salt Lake City, it will be an opportunity to connect with many people who served in the 96th after World War II. The 96th Infantry Division Headquarters was transferred to Fort Douglas and then in 1961 the unit was reorganized as the 96th Army Reserve Command (ARCOM). This command went through another change in 1996 to the 96th Regional Support Command (RSC) and later the 96th Regional Readiness Command (RRC). During all this time, the 96th was commanded by a two star General. In 2009 another reorganization occurred and the unit was downsized to a Brigade commanded by a Colonel. But the unit still keeps the lineage and honors of the 96th Infantry Division. Since WW II the 96th has sent soldiers to Vietnam, Desert Storm, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Our history continues.

We do have a few post WW II 96th soldiers involved with the Deadeye Association and now the Heritage Fund. I am one of them. I would like to invite all former ARCOM/RSC/RRC members to a lunch gathering so we can solicit more of their interest and support. We will do this on Thursday 6 September. Please join me.



2018 Annual Meeting - SLC

2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION HERITAGE FUND September 7-8, 2018 • Salt Lake City, Utah

Radisson Hotel, 215 West South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84101; Phone: 800-333-3333

NOTE: There are two Radisson Hotels in Salt Lake City – be sure to reserve your room at the address listed above.

MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 24, 2018. • HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 5, 2018.

Agenda Overview: (*Tentative*)

We are planning to hold our gathering/reunion on Friday and Saturday September 7 and 8 in Salt Lake City. We have selected the Radisson Hotel to host our get together. We will also have registration open on Thursday 6 September and have an Activities Desk to help anyone who would like to take advantage of the many things to see and do in the Salt Lake City area. Anyone wishing to arrive on Wednesday to have an opportunity for activities on Thursday, we will be there to help you.

THURSDAY

- Registration and Activities Desk open
- Activities on your own
- Lunch with the post WWII 96th soldiers
- No evening dinner/event planned

FRIDAY

- Registration and Activities Desk open
- Board of Directors Meeting
 - History and Fund-Raising
 - Committee Meetings
- Drive/Shuttle to Ft. Douglas Museum
- Donation of Military Items to the Ft. Douglas Museum (see newsletter)
- Museum Tour
- Museum Director's Update
- Annual meeting
- 96th History Presentation
- Drive/Shuttle to Hotel
- Pasta and Beer Night

SATURDAY

- Drive/Shuttle to Ft. Douglas
- Visit the 96th Sustainment Brigade
- Presentation by Brigade Commander - Colonel Campion
- Lunch with Soldiers served from a Mobile Field Kitchen
- Tour of the Brigade Facility/Motor Pool.
- 96th History Presentation
- Visit the 96th Memorial (New) at Ft Douglas
- Dinner Event at Ft Douglas
- Drive/Shuttle to Hotel

SUNDAY

- Check Out of Hotel and Depart



PLEASE NOTE

We need your registrations as soon as possible to ensure rooms/activities. Your registration payment will be returned in the event you have to cancel. You should be notified when your registration is received. Bring photos and other items to share.

Military item donations to the Ft. Douglas Museum are also welcome. This is a great way to preserve your history.

Family and friends are encouraged to attend!



2018 Annual Meeting - SLC

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MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 24, 2018. • HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 5, 2018.

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____
 GUEST(s) _____
 YOUR ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ CELL _____
 EMAIL _____
 ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ITEM	COST
Registration Fee (\$15.00 per person, \$2.00 per child)	
Pasta and Beer Dinner, 5:30 pm, Radisson Hotel (\$24.00 per person)	
Saturday Dinner at Ft. Douglas, Utah – Cost To Be Determined	
TOTAL Enclosed	

Please Make Checks Payable to: 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund.

Mail completed form and check to:

DENNIS O'BRIEN
PO BOX 34
TREMPEALEAU, WI 54661-0034

For questions, call Diane O'Brien at 608-317-2496 or Adele Young at 435-850-6300.

MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 24, 2018. • HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 5, 2018.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Please make your own hotel reservations at the Radisson Hotel: Phone number is 800-333-3333. There are two Radissons in Salt Lake City – the hotel we're at is at this address: Radisson Hotel, 215 West South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84101. If you would like to make your reservation on line, here is the special link: <https://www.radisson.com/warvetsreunion>

SPECIAL NEEDS:

If you need a wheel-chair accessible room at the hotel, please let the clerk know when you are reserving your room.

ROOM RATE:

The room rate is \$139.00 for a king or two queen beds. This does not include state and local taxes. There is no charge for parking. You can extend your stay by arriving early or staying longer. The hotel provides a shuttle service and rooms for handicapped are available.

RESERVATION METHOD: Individuals will be responsible for reserving their own guestroom. Dial 800-333-3333 and request the "World War II, 96th Infantry Division" room block.

CUT-OFF DATE: The "cut-off date" for reserving rooms in the Room Block is 5:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time local time at Hotel on **August 5, 2018.**

CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual reservations must be cancelled no later than 24 hours prior to intended arrival to avoid cancellation charges.

- Receive Welcome Packets on Thursday and Friday.
- Sign-Up Sheets for scheduled events and transportation (if needed).
- See attached list of things to do in Salt Lake City (on your own).

PASTA AND BEER DINNER MENU: Salad, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Vegetable Side, Dessert (probably cheesecake) and the cost is \$24.00

TAPS.....Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before Us

Jack Barron
Rantz, Ga.
March 19, 2017
383rd Co. HQ
Radioman
By Pat McMillan

William (Bill) Hill
Brownsburg, IN
February 16, 2018
Co. M, 382nd Infantry
By daughter, Janet Wharton

Francis "Frank" McCarthy
Lenhartville, PA
June 2, 2017
Co. H, 381st Infantry
By Facebook post

Edward W. Riedl, Sr.
Metairie, LA
March 18, 2017
96th Infantry, 921 Field
Artillery Battalion
By his Family

Wayne and Ann Simmons
Montandon, PA
December, 2015 (Wayne)
Co. L, 382nd Infantry
June, 2017 (Ann)
By daughter, Jo Ann Halama

Louis J. Strom
Omaha, NE
September 19, 2011
Co. K, 381st Infantry
By son, Eric L. Hays-Strom

Harry Battle
Rome, Ga.
March 31, 2018
By Family

Jacob J. Hoke
Staten Island, NY
April 11, 2017
Co. C, 381st Infantry
By son, Arthur Hoke

John McManama
Waltham, MA
February 10, 2017
Medic 382nd

Alvin Burton Rose
February 7, 2015
By daughter, Lynn Wyant Price

Clarence A Skiles
Santa Ana, California
September 20, 2016
By wife, Alma Skiles

Oliver J. "O.J." Thompson
First Lieutenant
Grand Jct., Iowa
October 27, 2016
361st FA
By daughter, Dee Savits

Wendlin Baumgartner
Rapid City, SD
May 20, 2017
C Company
Rapid City obituary

Bev Johnston
Wife of Rusty Johnston
Punxsutawney, PA
March 2, 2018
by Dennis OBrien

S.T. Morris
McAlester, OK
February 13, 2017
Co. I, 383rd Regiment
By daughter, Gail Brown

Paul Sather
El Cajon, CA
April 12, 2018
Co. E, 381st Infantry
By wife Betty Sather

Arza George Smalley
Alexandria, VA
2nd Lieutenant
July 6, 2017
Co. G, 382nd Infantry
By son Byron Smalley

Charles Williams
September 11, 2017
382nd Infantry
By daughter, Patricia Franklin

Orville Caspers
Swaledale, IA
April 8, 2017
Co. G, 383rd Infantry
By daughter, Susan Shanks

Chester Livgard
East Bethel, MN
November 28, 2017
Co. A, 382nd Infantry
By daughter Bonnie Harvey

Nels Olsen
Huron, SD
May 17, 2017
383rd 3rd Bn
By son Dennis Olsen

Robert (Bob) Siefert
Shakopee, MN
February 25, 2018
Co. E, 381st Infantry
By Diane O'Brien

LeRoy Smoley
Watkins, MN
August 21, 2017
By Mrs. Jeanette Smoley

Lyle Abner Worthy
Newport, NC
November 19, 2016
381st Infantry
By daughter, Deanna Wilson

Staff Sergeant Andrew
C. Garber
Hobart, IN
March 19, 2018
Co. K, 382nd Infantry
By Jeff Brooks

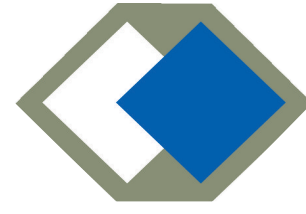
Marvin Margoshes
Hastings on Hudson, NY
January 12, 2018
Co. C, 382nd Infantry
By Facebook post

Ray Radzivila
Poughkeepsie, NY
January 26, 2018
Co. I, 381st Infantry
By David Gerson

Ruth Siefert,
Wife of Bob Siefert,
96th Women's Auxiliary
Treasurer
Shakopee, MN
February 2, 2018
By Mary Eleanor Wood Smith

Walter Snow
Millington, MI
October 20, 2016
Co. D, 383rd Infantry
By son Dan Snow

Glenn Stewart
San Carlos, CA
May 2, 2017
Co. K, 383rd Infantry
By daughter, Lynn Heuer



61 Years of Deadeye Reunion Cities

YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST	YEAR	CITY	ST
1958	St Louis	MO	1978	New Orleans	LA	1998	Ft Mitchell	KY
1959	Chicago	IL	1979	Denver	CO	1999	Denver	CO
1960	Kansas City	MO	1980	Springfield	IL	2000	Salt Lake City	UT
1961	Detroit	MI	1981	Milwaukee	WI	2001	Omaha	NE
1962	Dallas	TX	1982	Dearborn	MI	2002	Kansas City	MO
1963	Little Rock	AR	1983	Houston	TX	2003	Tulsa	OK
1964	Portland	OR	1984	St Paul	MN	2004	Salt Lake City	UT
1965	Minneapolis	MN	1985	Oklahoma City	OK	2005	Washington	DC
1966	Indianapolis	IN	1986	Fresno	CA	2006	Denver	CO
1967	Omaha	NE	1987	Memphis	TN	2007	Salt Lake City	UT
1968	Chicago	IL	1988	Peoria	IL	2008	Nashville	TN
1969	Des Moines	IA	1989	Rapid City	SD	2009	Branson	MO
1970	Detroit	MI	1990	Omaha	NE	2010	Milwaukee	WI
1971	Denver	CO	1991	Spokane	WA	2011	Columbus	GA
1972	New Orleans	LA	1992	Louisville	KY	2012	Colorado Springs	CO
1973	Peoria	IL	1993	Sparks	NV	2013	San Diego	CA
1974	Indianapolis	IN	1994	Hot Springs	AR	2014	Chicago	IL
1975	Kansas City	KS	1995	Lubbock	TX	2015	New Orleans	LA
1976	Fort Worth	TX	1996	Des Moines	IA	2016	Washington	DC
1977	Cincinnati	OH	1997	St Louis	MO	2017	Minneapolis	MN
						2018	Salt Lake City	UT

How to Submit A Name for Taps

Our Taps information comes from a variety of sources, including emails, notes from family and friends and returned mail from the U.S. Postal Service. We apologize for any information that may be incorrect or incomplete. To submit a name for Taps, please contact one of the following:

Diane O'Brien PO Box 34 Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034 Phone 608-317-2496 Email: ddoebrien@triwest.net	Pat McMillan PO Box 2432 Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459 Phone: 479-200-1841 Email: pmil45@yahoo.com
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Deadeye Dispatch

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• Spring, 2018 Edition •

SUBMIT INFO TO THE DISPATCH Scott Buffington c/o MainStreet Newspapers PO Box 908 Jefferson, GA 30549 706-367-2485 scott@mainstreetnews.com	UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS For changing your address Diane O'Brien PO Box 34 Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034 Phone 608-317-2496 ddobrien@triwest.net
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Deadeyes Online at 96thDeadeyes.org



Deadeye News & Features

Bill Hill 1926-2018

A DEADEYE REMEMBERED

You all know my dad as Bill Hill, the Deadeye who developed the Remember the Deadeyes website. He was also known by many other names. He was the Boy Scout leader, the Calligrapher, the Poet, the game player, and the clown. He was the Elder in his church who sang "Amazing Grace," even though he really couldn't sing. He was the guy who organized the retired Machine Repairmen to have lunch together each month. After he flew on the first Indy Honor Flight, he became a volunteer for them. He was the go-to guy they called whenever they needed a WWII vet! He loved when he received calls and letters from family of Deadeyes, who wanted to know about their loved one. He researched and then gave them all he could find. He shared his gregarious personality with other vets who, without fail, attended the WWII Round Table each month. He made personal presentations at schools, museums, and veteran events. He shared his experience being a young, naive Army soldier during WWII. Wherever he went he represented the Army in a very personal and respectful manner.

He was the kind of Dad, Grandfather, and Great-Grandfather who did more than love us. He spent time with each, and challenged us to follow our interests, while he offered guidance and encouragement. He proudly witnessed as each child grew into a confident, well prepared and caring person. He developed special relationships like this with an incredible amount of people, who all felt like they were the most important person in his world. He loved our mother and treasured her, lovingly attending to all her needs during her final years with Alzheimers Disease. (She passed away six days after he.) This is the man who headed our family.

Being a Deadeye of the 96th Infantry Division was very important to Dad, even seventy years beyond the time of his service. I remember as a child



Bill Hill Maintained the "Remember the Deadeyes" until his death. His daughter, Janet Hill Wharton, who assisted with the site, carries on his legacy.

learning how to really clean things thoroughly "the Army way." Whenever we would learn a new skill, he would have us practice repeatedly until we were proficient. He made sure we each stood tall and strong. I had always wondered why he enjoyed bathing so much, and it was years later, when I read his story of his life in the military, that I realized WHY he loved those baths! Throughout our childhoods, Dad held us to the standards he had learned as a Deadeye.

Dad was friendly to everyone, even those he didn't know. He emphasized to us how important it was to meet new people because "You never know what you will learn from them. This will enrich your lives." Dad loved surprising people with his charm, just to give them a smile. He told me lots of times, "If you can do anything, even a small thing to make someone's day - DO IT".

When Dad was very ill, hanging onto life, he received a call from General Jim Collins. He perked right up, amazed that Jim would take the time to call him. He was thrilled. He was trying to tell Jim to go to the website to see the new painting. Dad was still hoping to go to another Deadeye event. "I'll be at the next reunion," he promised Jim.

As Dad's time was drawing near, he surprised us all with what is called a "rally." Suddenly he had a burst of energy. He was delighted to see a whole room full of people who loved him. I couldn't believe it when after a while he told all his visitors "Go to Remember the Deadeyes dot com to see the new picture." No kidding! Here he was, literally on his deathbed promoting the website. Not long before he passed away, he was saying, "Tell everyone I love them, I love everybody."

Dad had told me earlier to be sure to tell the Deadeyes "I love them - I love ALL of them." Thank you for loving him too.

- Janet Hill Wharton, Deadeye Daughter

Drive underway to honor the 96th at Ft. Douglas Museum

Attention: 96th Infantry Division "Soldiers and Families",

Do you want to save your precious artifacts for generations to come? Do you want to make a contribution to the Ft. Douglas Museum?

We want to convince the Ft. Douglas Museum to create more displays to be established at the museum

honoring the 96th Infantry Division. But, in order to do this, they need your artifacts. The museum is looking for artifacts with a story. As you could imagine they have all the can-tees they could ever use. Do you have something a little more unique that you are willing to donate?

The best way to do this is to contact the museum directly. Tell them what you

have available and let them decide if they can utilize it. Please contact Tim Morris (Museum Director) or Beau Burgess (Museum Curator). That way, you can share your stories and experiences directly with the Ft. Douglas Museum personnel.

Your artifacts will help us make a special 96th Infantry Division Display. Your contributions will

make such a display the BEST in the museum!

Fort Douglas Military Museum
Attention: Beau Burgess,
Museum Curator
32 Potter Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

801-581-1251
admin@fortdouglas.org

There is another opportunity to create a special

display of artifacts and soldier history. The Heritage Fund would like to have a small number of display cases with a manequin dressed in a 96th Infantry Division soldiers uniform along with artifacts and personal items all on display in a large glass case. This would require that the donor pay for the display case, manequin and whatever it would take to create such a special display. If

you are interested in doing something like this please contact:

Jim Collins
805 602 2056
jimcollins96@sbcg



Deadeye Mailbag...

Dear Deadeyes, Families and Friends:

I am writing to inform you that we lost Ray Radzivila, I/381/96 (10/2/1923 - 1/26/2018). Ray was a proud Deadeye, a great guy and my dear friend.

I met Ray through The Deadeye Dispatch. After researching my father's service record (Julius Gerson K/382/96, deceased 2009) I joined The Deadeye Association hoping to learn more about his experience in the Army. The first edition of the Dispatch I received was Spring 2011 which contained a letter written by Ray Radzivila from Poughkeepsie, NY. He wrote about, among other things, the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) and what it meant to him. He grew up in a family where college wasn't a consideration, but his success at the ASTP gave him the confidence and motivation to be the first in his family to attend college which he vowed to do if he survived the war. He was at the same ASTP as my dad - Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago so I sent Ray a note asking if he remembered him. 68 years had passed and there were over 500 men so I thought the chances were slim. Ray called me immediately to tell me that he and my dad were roommates and great buddies. We met for lunch where Ray shared memories with me about my dad and the Deadeyes and our friendship began.

Ray survived the war and thanks to the GI Bill, he graduated Manhattan College and enjoyed a long, successful career as a civil engineer.

In retirement and his later years, Ray stayed busy. He loved his independence as he lived on his own, mowed his lawn, shoveled the snow, was a volunteer fireman (50+ years), a competitive swimmer, active in his church plus many other activities. Most important to him were his wife, Theresa (deceased 2008) daughter, Terri Rae, grandsons Chris and Tim and son-in-law Paul.

Ray admitted to me that traveling had passed him by and that he hadn't been on a plane in over 20 years so when he mentioned the reunions I offered to take him. I had the honor

and privilege of attending 4 reunions with Ray: Chicago 2014, New Orleans 2015, DC 2016 and Minneapolis 2017. The surviving Deadeyes are now well into their 90s and their numbers are dwindling. Being able to spend time with them and their families at various cities throughout the country provided new friendships and wonderful memories for us and enabled Ray to reunite with his comrades. The Deadeyes were treated with reverence and respect everywhere we went. At the WWII Memorial in DC, a group of high school students who were on a field trip, as well as other visitors, formed a receiving line so they could shake hands with the Deadeyes and thank them for their service. There are similar stories from all of the reunions. And, who can forget the ladies from "Letters From Home" pulling Ray on stage and his "Oscar-worthy" performance at the DC Reunion.

I am sad to lose Ray and I am going to miss my buddy, but we should all be thankful for his 94 years of a wonderful life well lived.

Sincerely,

Dave Gerson
Rochelle Park, NJ
April 18, 2018



Ray Radzivila





Deadeye News & Features

Kilroy Who???

REMEMBER KILROY?

I'm sure most of you remember seeing this character in your younger years (drew a few myself).

He is engraved in stone in the National War Memorial in Washington, DC- back in a small alcove where very few people have seen it. For the WWII generation, this will bring back memories. For you younger folks, it's a bit of trivia that is a part of our American history. Anyone born in 1913 to about 1950, is familiar with Kilroy. No one knew why he was so well known- but everybody seemed to get into it. So who was Kilroy?

In 1946 the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the real Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article. Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, Massachusetts, had evidence of his identity.

'Kilroy' was a 46-year-old shipyard worker during the war who worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. He would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the riveters wouldn't be counted twice. When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a

second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then he realized what had been going on. The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk. He continued to put his check mark on each job he inspected, but added 'KILROY WAS HERE' in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message

Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks. Ordinarily, the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With the war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them. As a result, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced.

His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific.

Before war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long hauls to Berlin and Tokyo. To the troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that someone named Kilroy had "been there first.." As a joke, U.S. service-

men began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, the Statue of Liberty, the underside of the Arc de Triomphe, and even scrawled in the dust on the moon.

As the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

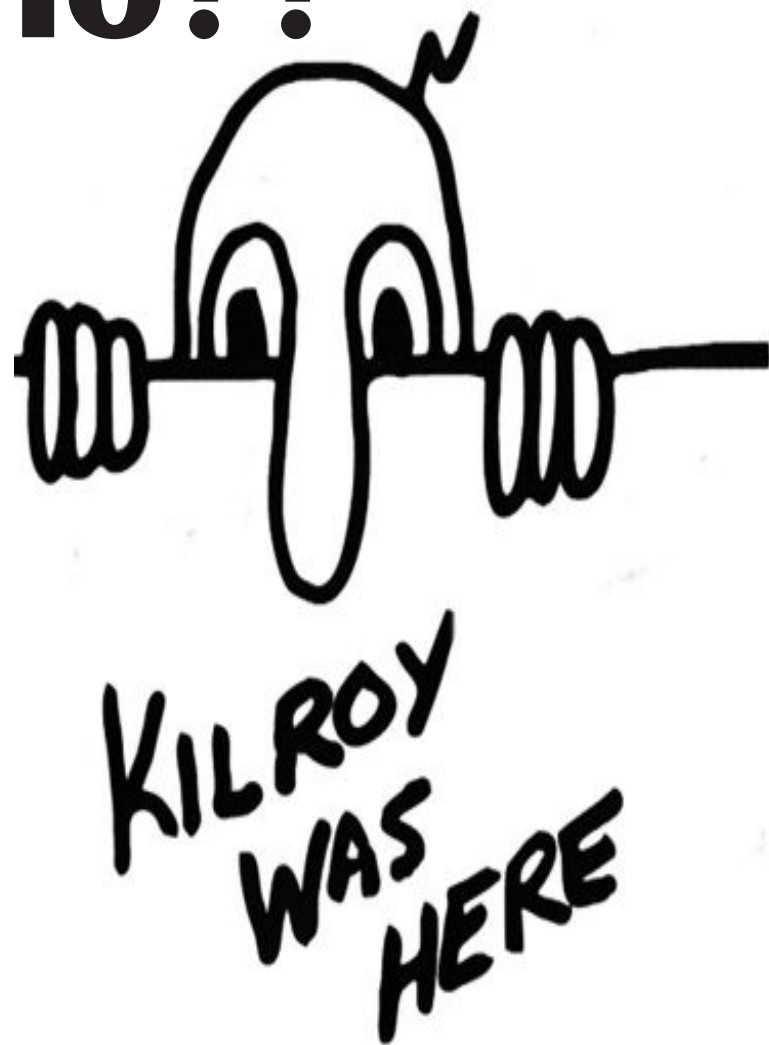
In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. Its first occupant was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?"

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he gave to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy yard in Halifax, Massachusetts

And The Tradition Continues...

EVEN Outside Osama Bin Laden's House!!!

- Submitted by Jim Collins -



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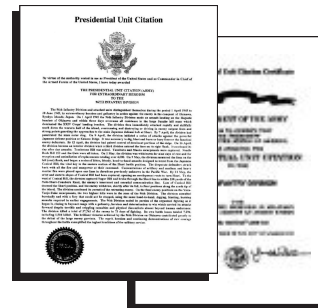
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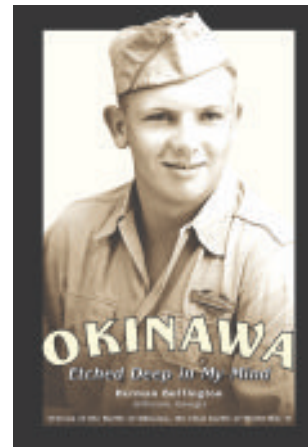
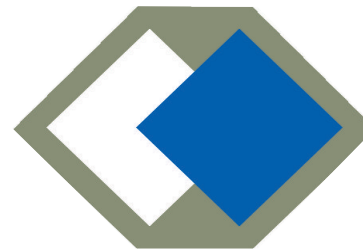
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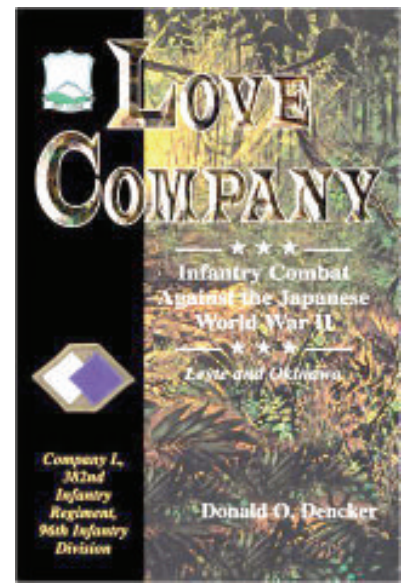


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