



# Company I Poopsheet



Company I, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne

August-September 2005

**Harry and Joanie Nivens**, 1130 Monroe Ave, Saint Cloud, FL 34769 July 1, 2005, Thanks for the great work you and Bob are doing in keeping the newsletter going. My niece received the enclosed copy of email from our French friends in Carentan, France. Feel free to email them as they would be happy to hear from anyone connected to Co I, 502. Anouchka and Georges are getting married this month. We were invited to their wedding, but we are unable to go. They are a great family, Anouhka and Georges speak good English, her mother, Brigette, speaks some, Grandmother, Jacqueline, speaks none, but we feel we are with our family when they are with us. Best Regards, Harry & Joanie Nivens

Email June 6, 2005, from France to Harry and Joanie Nivens for all their airborne friends,

Hello, How are you? We are fine and we prepare our wedding. We are creating a website about the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne in Carentan and we seek testimonies of American veterans who fought for the release of Carentan. We know that Harry is a member of the American Association of the 101 veterans. Can he transfer our message? We also wish that Harry transmit to us his own testimonies. It is important for us to make live the duty of memory for the younger generations and it's thanks to these various testimonies that the difficult days will not be forgotten. Thank you very much. Anouchka, Georges, Anne Sophie, Jacqueline and Brigette.

We extremely think of you all. Website Internet address (for the moment it's only in French, but soon it will be in English <http://amisdel101airborne.free.fr>

*Editor Note: These wonderful French people are trying to keep the memory alive. If you can contribute your story and picture to their website, here is an email address for Anouchka and Georges: [silicate@free.fr](mailto:silicate@free.fr) or send it to Harry Nivens at the above Florida address and he can forward to them.*

**Wanda (Mrs. Clyde D.) Cater**, 20751 Livengood Way, Bend, OR Ph. 541-383-3525 June 24, 2005, Thank you for still sending me the Poopsheet. I will send you another check as soon as I can. I moved from La Pine on March 1, 2005 to Bend, and on March 21 I got a new right knee. I have been missing

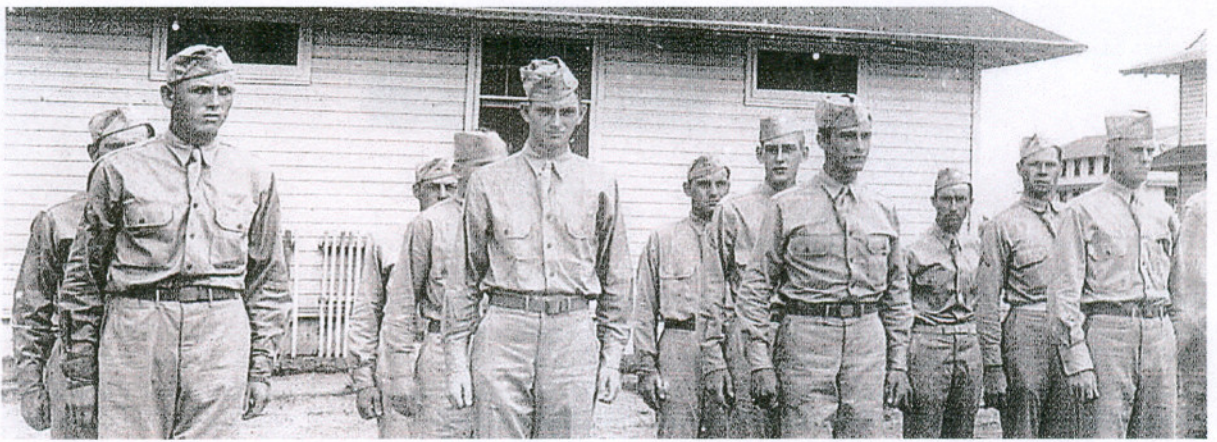
Clyde more the last few days as June 21 was our 36<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. I don't think there is anyone left who remembers him as he was not there long. Here is my new address. Wanda

**Mrs. May Schultz-Junkin** (Charles A. (Artie) Schultz, Jr.) of 34122 28<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Federal Way, WA 98023 has a change in phone area code no: 253-952-5626 Email: [MayWA@aol.com](mailto:MayWA@aol.com) Thank you, Betty. I really would love to go to the reunion in FL in Feb. but doubt very much that we would make it. It's been 15 years since Artie passed away. If he were alive today, I'm sure that would be something that we would make an attempt to attend. However, my present husband and I are both in our 80's (as most of Co. I Paratroopers are) and our traveling has been curtailed considerably. I would appreciate being on your "tidbit" list. You are doing a great job with the Poopsheet. Bob Hartzell has done a terrific job of finding and getting Co. I soldiers together for many years. I'm sure he has no idea of the impact it has had on the lives of these men and their families. I remember how emotional it was for Artie to go to the reunions and be able to associate in person with those who went through the war like he did. I save all the copies of the Poopsheet and hope that it might be of interest to some of my grandchildren. Keep up the good work. I'm putting a check in the mail toward the expenses of the Poopsheet. Sincerely, May (Schultz) Junkin

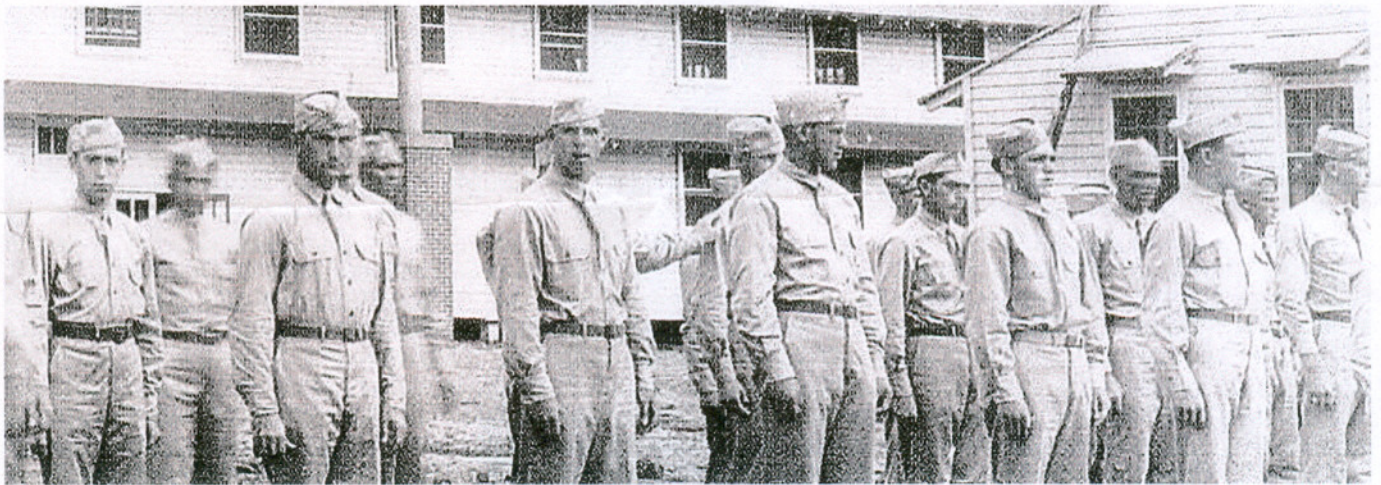
**Lori Novotini**, niece of Pvt. Edward Sowder, 3901 Lori Dr #10, Erlanger KY 41018 Ph: 859-727-0854 [Lnovotni@insightbb.com](mailto:Lnovotni@insightbb.com)

Hi Betty, Sorry it's taken me so long to write back with some things about my uncle. I've worked 4 weeks straight and this is the first day off me

Edward Sowder was born in Rockcastle County KY. He joined the army in 1941. He was killed in Carentan, Normandy on June 11, 1944 In our family, he was always known for being the funny guy. Always pulling pranks on family members and he always had a smile on his face. He never married or had any children. He was 2 months shy of his 25th birthday when he was killed. I am very anxious to see if anyone recognizes themselves in the photos! (see photos on another page)



Pvt. Edward Sowder, (front second from left front row above) in early training picture. Courtesy of Lori Novitini, his niece. Bob Hartzell and Earl Kelly have reviewed several pictures and they didn't recognize any Co. I men except for Sowder. Probably these men scattered to various units after completion of their training. Pvt. Edward Sowder served with Company I, 502 PIR. He was killed in action in Normandy, France, on June 11, 1944. Pictures below are unidentified.



## News from Screaming Eagle website:

July 31, 2005 - Some in Co I/502 knew Ray Calandrella, 506, from reunions. He was a close friend of June and Joe Hennessey, I/502, in Connecticut, and also of Petra Wenstedt-Pulles, Holland, among others of 101st.

Raymond E. Calandrella 506/3HQ - Entered into rest eternal on July 8, 2005. Ray was buried with military honors in Beaverdale Memorial Park (Hamden, CT). Ray was part of the D-Day invasion at Normandy before being captured by the Germans and becoming a POW. After 3 months he escaped and was hospitalized in England before opting to return to the battlefield where he became part of the Battle of the Bulge. After his honorable discharge, he conducted a transcription service for reporters in CT and NY. In addition to serving as a Eucharistic Minister for St. Stephen's Church for over 20 years, Ray is considered one of Connecticut's top blood donors, having donated over 20 gallons of blood.

Within the 101st ABN Assn, Ray was best known as the man behind the camera. He must have taken miles of film at reunions, trips to Europe and other "Airborne" occasions. I first met Ray in 1969, in Holland. I was 11 years old and, like all little girls, was drawn to Ray like a magnet, due to the fact that he was drawing large parachutes on little girls' arms signed with his name. My teacher was furious with me and my friend for not wanting to wash our arms for weeks.

Ever since that first meeting, Ray became a very special friend. Gentle, full of humor, and very sincere. It was hard to imagine he had been a tough paratrooper in bloody battles. This contradiction was caused by his deep religious way of life. Few people knew the profound sadness in his life of having lost the girl he was to marry during the war. A British girl, who died in her sleep, while Ray was on the other side of the English Channel, in the middle of a bloody war. Being the loyal man he was, he never married. In 1977, when I was a foreign exchange student in Maryland, Ray had offered to drive down from Connecticut to pick me up in order to attend the dedication of the 101st ABN Memorial at Arlington, VA. My host mother called my father, Pete Pulles, to ask him if I would be in good hands. My father answered: "The best".

Over the years, I lost track of Ray C., after he withdrew from public life having lost most of his eyesight. But when I read an article by George Koskimaki in The Screaming Eagle a few years back, I immediately called Ray. And the friendship

continued like before.

For months I tried to convince Ray to come with me to the dedication of the WWII Memorial in Washington DC in May 2004. He went "nuts" with me nagging him with plans that I would come and pick him up from his home and drive him back. Trying to convince him that all his friends in the 101st would be so happy to see him, talk to him, be with him. But in his most gentle ways he refused, telling him he didn't want to be a burden to anyone. I'm still sorry that I couldn't persuade him and convince him of my opinion that he could never be a burden to anyone, even if he tried.

Instead, my daughter and I drove up to Connecticut to see him after the dedication. It was to be our last meeting, but a great occasion for my daughter to meet this wonderful man. She and Ray immediately took to one another. It was to be a lasting impression because it became clear that his eyesight was all that Ray had lost - not his charm, nor his humor, nor his ability to converse. Ray will be sorely missed - may the good Lord give him the peace he so richly deserves.

Petra Wenstedt-Pulles, [Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation, Eindhoven, The Netherlands](http://www.geocities.com/screamingeagles.nl)  
[www.geocities.com/screamingeagles.nl](http://www.geocities.com/screamingeagles.nl)



Left to right: Leoni Wenstedt-Pulles, June Hennessey, Ray Calandrella, Joe Hennessey  
May 2004

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**Robert and Alicia Tripp**, Box 27 Heath, MA 01346  
Ph 413 337 4964 In a phone call August 10, 2005, Bob and Alicia send their love to everyone. Their daughter, Roberta, was overseer of their huge blueberry crop this year, and they're all picked for the season. Bob said he will have test results in a few days, and will probably be undergoing radiation

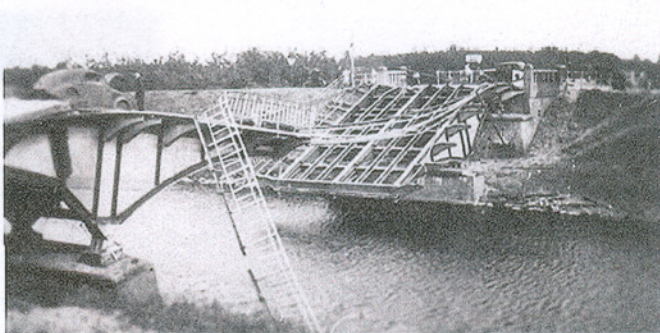
known of it before, and I provided information regarding his death previously unknown to us. Paul's wife, Edna, lives in Texas City, TX, I want Edna to know that this note from the past is very important to me today. We received other letters in 1944 from all the men with Lester in this picture which was taken in the spring of 1944 at Chilton Foliat.

*Dunbar, West Virginia, Dec. 27, 1945 Dear Mrs. Taylor, I received your letter today and am only too glad to write you of what I know about your husband and my friend, Lester. I was with him when he was killed in Holland, and I want you to know first that he died instantly. We were holding a road block near Best and Eindhoven, Holland, and the Germans had us surrounded. We were waiting for some British tanks to come to our rescue. They were late of schedule so things looked bad for us all. Lester was going after a German machine gun when he was killed. He was surely a brave boy and seemed to know no fear. He finished his job but was killed by fire from the German guns. I am sure he was awarded a medal for bravery in his death. I can imagine what a loss it was for you, but to every man in Co. I, 502 it was the same to us. He was such a wonderful fellow and such a good soldier. We had the misfortune of losing many men in Holland as in all our missions, but never have I felt the loss as much as I did of Lester. He and I were very close friends for as long as I knew him. As you know, he came to us at Ft. Bragg, N.C. I am sorry I haven't written you before now, but in our later actions I lost all my addresses. I wrote his sister while still in combat, but since then I have lost her address also. I was discharged August 3, 1945, but since then I have re-enlisted and am home now on a furlough. My furlough ends Feb. 1, so you can answer to this address if you wish. I join every man in the 502 in sending my deepest sympathy to you in your loss of our best friend and your husband, Lester A. Taylor. Sincerely yours, Paul*



Chilton Foliat, March 24, 1944, Standing L-R, Glenn

Moe, John Lachkovic, James Franklin. Kneeling, Left, Paul Cooney, Right. Lester Taylor.



This is the destroyed bridge across the Wilhelmina canal in Best (on the mainroad Eindhoven to Hertogenbosch. A very important point during 1944.

On September 18, 1944, Co I 3/502, was sent to defend a roadblock on a major road (named above). This was part of the effort in defending the Bridge at Best across the Wilhelmina Canal. In recent email from Best Holland, here is a 1944 picture of that intersection where the roadblock was located.

Dear Betty, Regarding information about the circumstances of death of your brother, he was most probably killed around the crossroads from north (direction Den Bosch) to south (direction Eindhoven) highway and a small east (direction Sint Oedenrode) to west (Direction Best) road. Included is a scan of a photo of these crossroads made during 1944 the picture is made in the direction of Den Bosch.



Regards, Harrie and Christian (son) Dijkhuizen  
[hdijkhuizen@home.nl](mailto:hdijkhuizen@home.nl)

reatments. He receives his food thru a tube. His spirit is upbeat and he promised that he will keep us posted on his progress.

**Robert Hartzell**, 314 Wentz Street, Tiffin, OH 44883, Ph. 419-447-0448. August 10, 2005, Bob said he's doing well, but been a bit "down in the dumps" lately. Not able to get around as much so when there's more time to think, it's easy to have some "blue" days. This day his spirits were good, and he was ready to do another Poopsheet.

UPDATE: Editor's note: August 29, Bob's notes from you for the Poopsheet can be included in a next issue. He hasn't been feeling well enough recently to get them compiled and sent to me.

**Joe and June Hennessey** have a new address: 114C Heritage Village, Southbury, CT 06488, Ph. 203-264-2790. They're enjoying their new smaller home. Be sure to phone ahead when visiting Joe and June Hennessey! They recently had guests from Holland drop in unannounced, only to find them not at home. Matthew and Ria van Luyt, (he is president of the Dutch Airborne 101<sup>st</sup> Association), drove 2 hours from the Hartford airport during a stop-over from Holland to Florida on August 9<sup>th</sup>. They were on their way to the National reunion in Tampa, Florida. Later, June phoned them at the reunion hotel to invite them back by there on their way home.

**Warren Shook**, 1811 Union Grove Rd., Lenoir, NC 28645, Ph: 28-728-9577 *ashley haskett* *skstorm97@charter.net* wrote:

August 10, 2005, Hello Betty, I just came from Warren Shook's house. He is doing great working in the garden and yard everyday. I don't know how he does it in this 90-100 degree heat. Thanks for all the updates, I will keep all these men in my prayers. Take Care, your friend, Ashley Haskett

**Ed Mobley**, P.O. Box 648, Lawtey, FL 32058, Ph 904-782-1378. In email August 11 from Barbara Glover (daughter) Hi everyone, We have good news from Florida. It is so nice to say both men in my life, my dad, Ed Mobley, and husband, Cecil Slover, are doing well. Dad went to the Dr last week and all is well with him. The hot weather gets to him, so he comes outside later in the evening when it is cooler. That way it is only 89 instead of 90 deg. Cecil is so much better. He is almost back to normal, well he never felt normal... he is back to the man you all met in FL. He can walk without giving out of breath. the

defib--pacemaker sure did the job it is suppose to do. I give all the praise to our Lord and Master. Love, Barbara

**Patrick and Teresa Callery**, 629 Park Ave., W. Hempstead, NY 11552 Ph: 516-486-7439 August 12, 2005, Hi Betty, I had angioplasty and am going back to have another blockage taken care of. I feel great. We are going to my son's house for a week before I go back to the hospital. He lives in Conn. We would like to have Joe Hennessey's address and phone number as he live close to my son's home before he moved. Love, Teresa and Pat

UPDATE: August 25, Hi Betty, thanks for the prompt reply. We went to Conn. Last week and called Joe Hennessey. They came over to my son's house. We had a great visit. I had angioplasty on Monday and came home Tuesday. I feel great and am breathing better. Pat and Teresa

**Mabel Howell (James K. Howell)**, Box 528 Binford Road, Aberdeen, MS 39730 Ph: 662-369-4395 Hello from Mississippi. Think of you guys very often. Jim loved you all so very much and stayed in touch with so many, just wish I was better at keeping up. So sorry about Jim Norris's illness, will call his family this weekend. We got to meet up with him and his family when they were traveling to England, and they went out to eat with my daughter and her family. Chuck got them housing on the Base for a night. Such a lovely time for all of us. Sure hate to hear that news. Been doing fine here, travel some, but daughter and husband have left Scott AFB, and are now stationed at McGuire AFB for their next tour. Will not be traveling there as much. Do plan to fly to DC for a family wedding and will go on to NJ in Oct. Hope all is well and love to hear from you all. Take care and will keep better in touch. Love Mabel

**James S. Norris**, 452 Richardson Dr., Roanoke, VA 24019, Ph: 540-992-1846 We learned through Earl Kelly that Jim is sick. In my phone conversation with Jim on August 29, Jim sounded strong. Said he "had felt worse" and he is taking "breathing medicine". He sends his love and good wishes to all. Please remember him in your prayers.

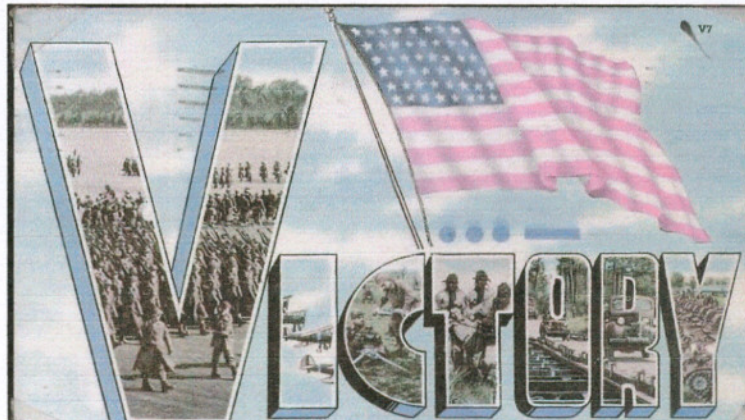
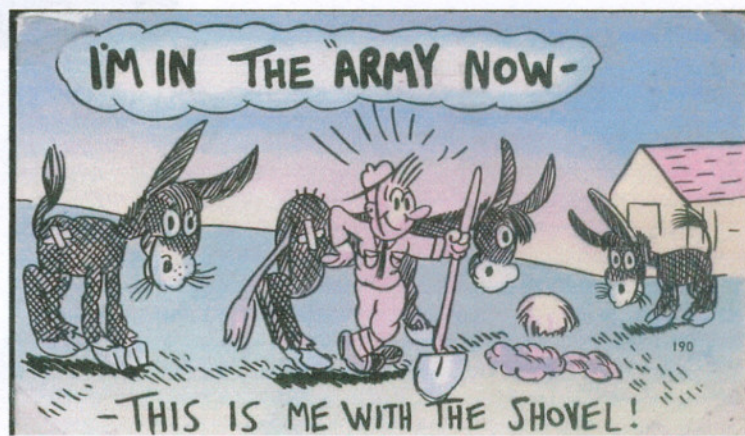
**Betty Taylor Hill, sister of Lester A. Taylor**, who was killed in action near Best, Holland, September 19, 1944. Just recently the family of my brother's widow sent me the following letter that was written to her in 1945 by his Co I friend Paul Cooney. I had not

**Frans Kortie**, born on January 6, 1920, passed away on Thursday August 11, 2005. Mister Airborne was his nickname given by the many US WWII veterans. They gave him that nickname because of his tremendous work for the US veterans who visited Eindhoven during the Liberation festivities every year on September 1. In 1966 the 101st Airborne Association was founded and Frans was the resident until 1995. After the liberation of Eindhoven, Frans was given the task (as a town official) to maintain the contacts with the US soldiers who were stationed in Eindhoven, because he was the only town official who spoke English. Also, after WWII he kept on working for the veterans who visited Eindhoven. In 2004 he wrote a small book about the liberation of Eindhoven. A modest man and an outstanding Eindhoven citizen is no longer among us. *Photo*



and message courtesy of Peter van de Wal, Eindhoven.

Remember the WWII postcards.... Here's a few from my collection... (Betty)



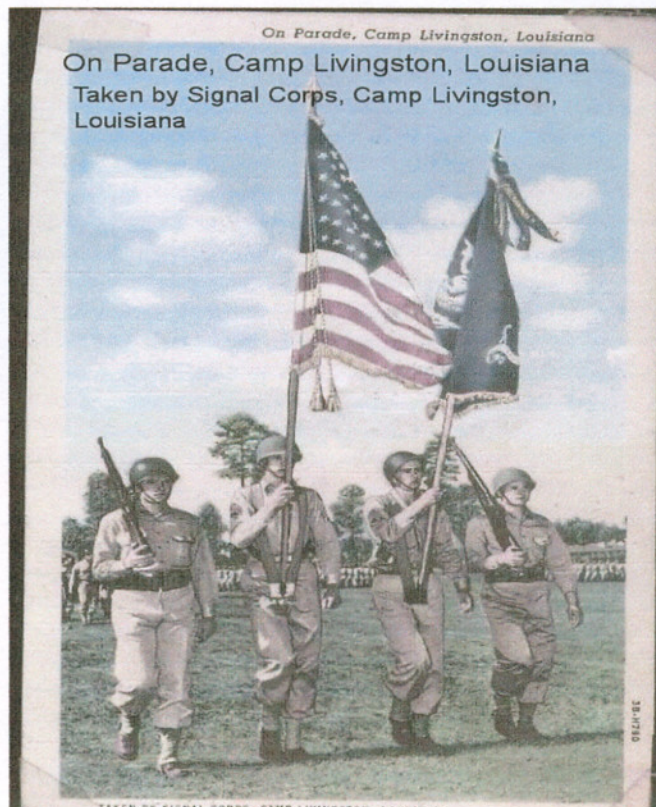
**Mrs. Mary H. (Frank) Smaldino-Patterson**, 667 Glenn Haven Lane, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 Two issues ago, the Poopsheet was returned without a forwarding address. Since then, we received the above new address.

The following names have been removed from mailing list:

- Mrs. Louis J. (Pauline) Stranzl, at Diane Stranzl's request
- Mrs. Clayton c. (F.) Kent, returned, marked deceased
- Mrs. Fred A. Wilhelm, returned, no forwarding address

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE POOPSHEET FUND.**

Feel free to send your notes for the Poopsheet to Betty Hill, at 2222 Settlers Way, # 914, Sugar Land, TX 77082, or [bjth23@yahoo.com](mailto:bjth23@yahoo.com) Phone: 281-277-3787. We love your messages. Let's remember those who are "under the weather" in our prayers.



Just for fun.....Do you remember these?

PASSING CARS

WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE  
MAY GET YOU A GLIMPSE  
OF ETERNITY

~Burma-Shave~

AROUND THE CORNER

THEY WENT WHIZZIN'  
THE FAULT WAS HERS  
THE FUNERAL HIS'N

~Burma Shave~

THE ONE WHO DRIVES

WHEN HE'S BEEN DRINKING  
DEPENDS ON YOU  
TO DO HIS THINKING

~Burma-Shave~

Burma-Shave was created by the O'Dell brothers who lived in Minneapolis and had a little plant in the Bryn Mar district. On Mondays, they would drive along the highways near a town and place these signs. Then they would proceed to the next town and repeat the process. Late on Thursday and into Friday, they would backtrack and call upon the local drug store(s) asking, "No doubt you have had calls for Burma-Shave." They would take orders and leave the merchandise along with reorder forms. That's how they got started in the thirties, and they did it for years. Finally in the 60's, Philip Morris became interested in this little Burma-Shave company. As you remember, the company's sales were about \$900,000 a year when the business was sold to Philip Morris. Philip Morris then proceeded to buy a series of one-minute TV commercials on NFL football, which cost something like \$150,000 each. This decision actually destroyed a good little profit-making company in one football season. You might say it went up like smoke!

BURMA SHAVE MADE THEIR SALES

USING SIGNS, POSTS AND NAILS

PHILIP MORRIS TRIED TV

AND NOW YOU NO LONGER SEE

~Burma-Shave~

2006

## SNOWBIRD REUNION COMPANY I REUNION

Think about it now..... The 2006 Snowbird Reunion where Company I gets together annually will be February 3 - 4, 2006. More information to follow as it becomes available. We hope to see many of you at our reunion in February. Encourage your family and friends to be there with you. We enjoy the fellowship of our Company I folks, as well as meeting and greeting old and new 101 friends.

A truly interesting early 1940's postcard....



Parachute Trooper "Bails Out"



## 101st Airborne Division Medal of Honor Recipients



### World War II

\*LTC Robert G. Cole  
\*PFC Joe E. Mann

3/502 Infantry  
3/502 Infantry

### Vietnam

PFC Webster Anderson  
CPT Paul W. Bucha  
SP4 Michael J. Fitzmaurice  
\*CPL Frank R. Fratellencio  
\*1LT James A. Gardner  
\*SSG John G. Gertsch  
\*SP4 Peter M. Guenette  
SP4 Frank A. Herda  
SSG Joe R. Hooper  
PFC Kenneth M. Kays  
\*SP4 Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr.  
\*PFC Milton A. Lee  
\*LTC Andre C. Lucas  
SGT Robert M. Patterson  
SGT Gordon R. Roberts  
\*SSG Clifford C. Sims  
\*SP4 Dale E. Wayrynen

2/320 Field Artillery  
3/187 Infantry  
2/17 Cavalry  
2/502 Infantry  
1/327 Infantry  
1/327 Infantry  
2/506 Infantry  
1/506 Infantry  
1/506 Infantry  
1/506 Infantry  
2/17 Cavalry  
2/506 Infantry  
2/506 Infantry  
2/17 Cavalry  
1/506 Infantry  
2/501 Infantry  
2/502 Infantry

\* Posthumous Award

This is a page from the program at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne in Tampa Florida, August 10-14, 2005. This reunion was a big success with more than 500 attendees, the majority attending were from the Vietnam era, which means the torch is being passed. Next year in August, this National Reunion will be in Minneapolis, MN.





In Care of:  
 Betty T. Hill  
 2222 Settlers Way Blvd. # 914  
 Sugar Land, TX 77478

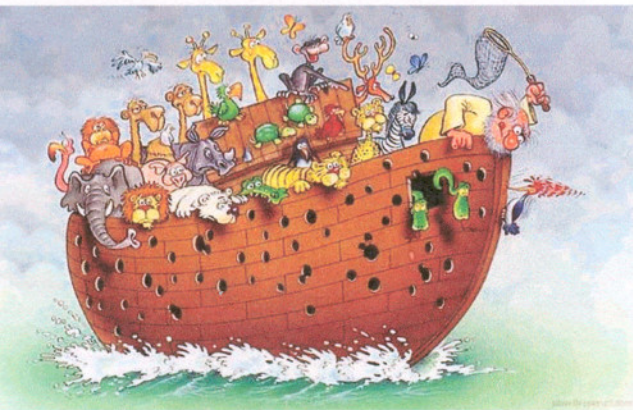
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



### Calendar note:

**NOWBIRD REUNION - FEBRUARY 3-4, 2006**

### THE WOODPECKERS MAY HAVE TO GO!



Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark... **One:** Don't miss the boat. **Two:** Remember that we are all in the same boat. **Three:** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark. **Four:** Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big. **Five:** Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done. **Six:** Build your future on high ground. **Seven:** For safety sake, travel in pairs. **Eight:** Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs. **Nine:** When you're stressed, float a while. **Ten:** Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals. **Eleven:** No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

**Quote of the Day:** On a road trip, an older couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant and resumed their trip. When leaving, the woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until after they had been driving about twenty minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses. All the way back, the husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. He just wouldn't let up. To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. And as she got out of the car and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her ..... "While you're in here, you might as well get my hat and credit card."