



Company I Poopsheet



Company I, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne

November 2005



Donald W. and Betty B. Lichtenthaler, 1811 Johnson Dr., Newberg, OR 97132-1158. September 5, 2005. We appreciate receiving the Poopsheet and enjoy reading it. We have an address correction (above) and enclosed is a donation. Thank you, Don Lichtenthaler (*Editor: Don & Betty, thanks for both.*)

Hank and Trudy van Zelder, Jacksonville, FL (formerly of Best, Holland) September 9, 2005. Last week I received the Poopsheet and when I looked through it I instantly recognized the bridge in Best and the intersection. It sure brought back memories from days long past. Betty, I will send you some money to cover some of the cost for mailing the Poop sheet. Trudy is getting tired of the hurricanes and said maybe we should move from FL after we sell the house. Thanks again. Hank

Mary M. (Michael W.) Cavanaugh, 954 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA 18704. September 8, 2005, as always it is nice to hear from you and hear about all those left in 101st. I wish everyone the best. Thank you for your great work. Sincerely, Mary Cavanaugh. *Enclosed was a donation to the Poopsheet*

California Highway re-named for Screaming Eagles Through the efforts of the 101st Airborne Division Association, Southern California Chapter and Representative Tony Strickland. The California Assembly and Senate, enacted bill number: ACR 54 dedicating the 101 highway that runs through Ventura County to honor the 101st Airborne Division and changing the name to the "SCREAMING EAGLES HWY." The dedication of the Screaming Eagle Highway (US HWY 101) was held Saturday, September 17, 2005 at the Palms Gardens Hotel in Thousand Oaks (California) on the 61st Anniversary of the Freedom of Holland. The Screaming Eagles Hwy starts at The Ventura County Line in Thousand Oaks California going north and some three miles past Carpinteria coming south

Petra Wenstedt, Eindhoven Holland wrote us this note of an experience she and Joe Bossi, a Vietnam 101st veteran had during September's 61st anniversary in Holland.

9/28/2005 Joe and I had a rather eye-opening experience in Best. Joe had mentioned to me that in the 1970's, a Vietnam vet named Joe Hooper, had taken off his medal of honor while standing underneath the white Joe Mann monument in Best. In honor and respect for Joe Mann (also a medal of honor recipient). Hooper had climbed up the monument and hung his medal off it. After that happened, the medal was been taken down by the Council of Best and put on display in the town hall of Best. On later trips, Joe had seen it. I wanted to see it too, so off we went to Best last Thursday. The old town hall had been torn down and the medal was no where to be found in the new building. They have a beautiful glass case with items on Joe Mann in it, but no Hooper Medal of Honor. So we asked - and nobody new. Harry Dijkhuizen was called, but he didn't know. A guy from the council, who happened to hear our question, and whom we explained to meaning and importance of this medal, promised us to dig into it and call back. He did call last Wednesday, and the medal was found in the archives in a small cigar box! The story around it had been lost, the people who knew about it had either retired or died (as did Joe Hooper in 1979). Now, we have the wonderful promise of the Council of Best that the medal will be placed in the glass case with Joe Mann's stuff, together with the story of Joe Hooper. Driving home from Best last Wednesday, Joe and I at the same time said: "mission accomplished!"

A loved one isn't dead, unless nobody remembers...
Airborne love, Petra

Earl Kelly, 3 Morgan Lane, Aberdeen, MD 21001, Ph. 410 272 3330. October 16, 2005 phone call... Earl is feeling better after a series of three recent trips to the hospital emergency room because of high blood pressure, finally, a medication has it lowered. Sends his best wishes to everyone. We noted that his name is not on the Pre-Normandy roster, however, he was there.

Ed Mobley, P.O. Box 648, Lawtey, FL 32058, Ph. 904 782 1378. October 19, 2005 email from his daughter, Barbara Slover. Some men from the history channel came to his home to interview him about the war. It was an interesting two hour interview We heard some things we had not heard before. I guess you had to know the right questions to ask him. The show will be on **Dec 18** this year They were going to see Harry Nivens also. Dad was his usual talkative self. We're hoping some will be edited out! Barbara

Marvin and Charlotte Cartwright, Box 212, Elk Mound, WI 54739, Phone 715 879 5241.

June 27, 2005, Hi Bob We just read the June Poopsheet and enjoyed it so much. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Enclosed is a donation for the Poopsheet. Our love, Marv & Charlotte

October 18, 2005, Hi Betty, We are still on our feet and able to take nourishment. Been terribly busy, but after today maybe we can catch our breath and relax a bit. Our ladies at church are going to serve the local Red Cross their meal tonight. They are having their annual meeting at our church. They have requested chili, a soup, crackers & buns, relish trays, bars, hot apple cider and coffee. Marv & I are making the soup--vegetable with ham and homemade noodles. We have all the veggies cut up and taking a short break before cutting up the ham. We will both be there to help serve it. Nice to have a couple men there to help with the lifting. Marv has no time for the Red Cross, as no one who has been in the Service does, but quickly consented to help. We are enjoying wonderful fall weather here. The leaves are so pretty. Take care. God Bless! Love, Marv & Charlie

Note: This is one busy couple! They canned 330 quarts of dill pickles this summer, in addition to all the other garden goodies.

October 27 email: Hi Betty, We've sold over 200 of those quarts of pickles! Don't know if we will be able to do this another year. Time will tell! We've been married 54 years today, and we wonder where those years have gone. It was a beautiful, sunny day 54 years ago, just like today. Our love, Marv & Charlotte



**“But, they that wait upon the
Lord shall renew their
strength, they shall mount up
with wings as eagles.”
Isaiah 40:31**

Edwyn D. Cahow, 1470 Birch Ave, Wellman, IA,

passed away on May 29, 2005. In a note from his daughter-in-law, she writes: .

August 29, 2005, Hi, I am writing to let you know another of your men has passed away. My father-in-law; after failing health these past three/four years. He made it through heart valve surgery, 2 by-passes, 6 weeks in Intensive Care and 3 weeks in rehab. I took him home on Friday, May 27th; we drove by all his fields that his neighbor had planted for him and around his farm to check on the cattle. He was doing well on Saturday and Sunday morning he didn't answer the phone and had passed away. There was no sign of distress, he had his oxygen on and he just didn't wake up. I guess he just wanted to get home. His wife Navada had passed away 11 months earlier on June 24 of 2004. The one thing I wish I could have done was take him to one of your reunions. I wanted to take him in February but he just wasn't able. He so looked forward the your "Poopsheet" he saved a lot of them and I have read most of them. When I was going through things I found a picture of Ed and two other guys, I will scan it when I bring the picture home and send it to you. Would it be possible for me to receive the "Poopsheets"? Thank you so much for the great job you do. It meant so much to my father-in-law! Joyce Rossie, 614 Grant Street, Iowa City, IA 52240 Ph: 319/335-9743

email joyce-rossie@hawkeyesports.com

Eldon Ray Abrahamsen, 352 South 5th St., Bayport, MN 55003, born Ord, Nebraska, March 10, 1925, died at the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN, October 2, 2005 at the age of 80 years. A memorial service was held on Thursday, October 6, 2005, 12:45 pm. at historic Fort Snelling Chapel, Hwy 5 & 55 West Minneapolis, MN. Officiating was Reverend Roger Kuhn. Interment was in Fort Snelling National Cemetery with full Military Honors.

Eldon Ray Abrahamsen was born on May 10, 1925 to Hans and Carie Kappel Abrahamsen in Ord Nebraska. His family moved to Askov, Minnesota in 1928 where he attended school and graduated from Grand Rapids High School. He enlisted in the Army and served his country during World War II from the Spring of 1943 to November 1945. He parachuted into Normandy at 12:46 a.m. on D-Day as a member of the 101st Airborne Division "The Screaming Eagles" 502 Parachute Infantry Regiment, I Company and fought at the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne. In addition to the Purple Heart, Eldon was awarded the Bronze Star. Eldon retired as Assistant Director of

Correctional Industries after a long career with the Minnesota Department of Corrections. He enjoyed hunting, horseshoes, camping, gardening, traveling and his family. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Choochie; two daughters, Sharon and Lynn Abrahamsen of St. Paul; son, Eldon (Raenne) Abrahamsen of Esko; three step children, Lisa (Kenny) Ross of Napa, CA, Aaron Jastrow of Chicago, IL, Lon Gunderson of Thief River Falls; and grandchildren, Katie (Matt) Dean, David Steffes, Chelsea and Alexis Abrahamsen and Lainy Ross; brother, Hans (Phyllis) Abrahamsen of W. St. Paul; three sisters Lillian Johnson of Stillwater, Mildred Hooper and Alice Peterson both of Sandstone; and many nieces and nephews.

Choochie Abrahamsen wrote us, "Just a note to let you know Eldon fought his final battle and is now at peace." Sincerely, Choochie Abrahamsen.

May (Charles A. Schultz, Jr.) Junkin, 34122 28th Ave. SW, Federal Way, WA 98023. Aug 1 Bob, enclosed is a contribution to add to the "kitty". You have done a terrific job in getting Co I/502 together for many years. It has meant a lot to these brave men who fought in WWII. There is an enormous bond between these great soldiers. Many thanks to you and your efforts. May Junkin.

Joe and June Hennessey, 914 C Heritage Village, Southbury, CT 06488 Ph 203-264-2790. July 16, 2005, We are fine and finally in our condo. We both love it. Our daughter is doing fine. I'm sure all the prayers helped her. She is working but only when she wants to. She is her own boss and on salary, so she's not overdoing it. We thank God. We lived with her for 6 months. Do you remember Ray Calendrella? He died on July 8th. He was 506 and was a good friend of ours from CT. He was a great person. He was a POW but escaped and spent sometime in the hospital and returned to fight in the Battle of the Bulge. He lost his sight about 2 years ago. Enclosed is a contribution for the Poopsheet. We saw Ed Augustynowski at Ray's wake. He is o.k. and still driving. I guess he could use company. We might go visit sometime. It's hard when you have no family. Bob, please take care of yourself and hope your family is well. Love, June and Joe

Petra (Ralph) Casas, 601 Lance Dr., Barstow, CA 92311, Ph. 760 256 1338 Hi Bob, Hope this finds you enjoying good health once again. From reading

the Poopsheet I just received, it sounds like you are. I'm glad that your daughter and grandchild are living with you. I wish at least one of my girls lived nearby. I just turned 82 the 15th of this month and still live alone, by choice. I told all three of them that as long as I can take care of myself I prefer it this way. I note that our Co I coffers are running low, and I so enjoy the Poopsheet, so am sending a donation to help in a small way. My best to you and yours.

Editor's Note: All contributions are deeply appreciated. Your personal notes can affect everyone who is a part of this airborne family, and your sentiments spread warmth and love to all. This is why we enjoy sharing your expressions thru the Poopsheet.

Donald O'Neill, 2312 Elfin Way, Sarasota, FL 34231 Ph 941 923 0145. May 5, 2005 Dear Ones, the memorial service for Patricia is scheduled for May 19th, 2005 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church on Gulfgate Dr. Sarasota, Fl., Your prayers are welcomed. Don

June 23, 2001. Dear Bob, was good talking to you. Enclosing a check for the Poopsheet. Am still getting used to Pat being gone. She fought the good fight for a number of years.

The item from Ashley Haskett in an earlier Poopsheet brought up a point. I've been approached by 4 or 5 people from England and Holland to tell them about D-Day and Market Garden. (I missed Market Garden) from a trooper standpoint. Mr. Haskett's request is the first I've seen from the U.S. I think the main reason is the way history is creatively taught in schools now. The people in Europe saw things first hand, while our people now see it from the "Harvard - Yale standpoint". (We were the bad guys!) I volunteer as a reading teacher and I can see how WWII is distorted. I also have given lectures on Veterans Day and I'm amazed how history is distorted. There are not too many of us left to tell the real story. Take good care of yourself and keep up the wonderful job you've done to keep "Item" alive. Don O'Neill

Josephine Kocol (Louis T. Morong), 4112 S. 40th Ave. Omaha, NE 68107. June 27, 2005, Dear Bob, It's hard to believe my brother, Lou Morong will be gone 12 years July 5th. In his memory, please accept the enclosed donation to the Company I Poopsheet. It's such a pleasure receiving this lovely newsletter. God bless all the folks who contributed their time and effort to keep this tradition alive. Thank you. Stay well and best wishes from Omaha. Josephine Kocol

Lola ((James L.) Calderhead, 778 Mans-Lucas Rd., Manfield, OH 44903 Ph 419 524 7460. June 29, 2005, Bob, Our family would like to thank you and others for the condolences sent in memory of Jim. I'm enclosing the check toward printing and mailing of the news sheet. I keep in touch with the Cartwright's and also Ervin Boone in S.C.. Thank you, Lola

Note: Below is a portion of a Mansfield newspaper article Lola sent to Bob. She stated that Jim would not like the attention and the article wasn't for the newsletter, but we thought you would enjoy the WWII part of it. The article appeared at the time of Jim's funeral. We printed Jim's obituary in a recent Poopsheet.

"When he was just a little boy, Scott Calderhead asked his father a priceless question, "Did you kill anybody in the war?" Scott said his father, James, a veteran of the 101st Airborne Division who fought from Normandy to Germany in WWII never spoke about his wartime experiences. But this one time, he told his son, "War is a funny thing. They come at you shooting and you shoot back, and you see them fall, but you don't know if you killed them or not." And that, Scott Calderhead said, is where his father let the matter rest. "What we know about his war is what we had to learn from his friends" Scott said, "We know he made four combat jumps and was in eight campaigns. We know he was taken prisoner once, but got away before the Germans could get him to a POW camp. "I heard one story that when his division was surrounded (Bastogne) he was down to just two bullets when another American division broke through."

Bob Forer (Leon Forer), 11300 W. Olympic Blvd. # 605, Los Angeles, CA 90064. June 22, Bob, Here is a check for the Poopsheet. Bob Forer

Below is a request to Bob from a young teen interested in WWII. If any of you would write to Michael, I'm sure he would be thrilled.

Michael Aschieris, 4311 Gleneagles Court, Stockton, CA 95219

Dear Mr. Hartzell, Two years ago for my 14th birthday, my parents got my brother and I several books about the 101st in WWII. Since then, my brother and I have been very interested with the 101st in WWII. This summer, my brother, Dad, and I were invited to tour Europe everywhere the 101st was from Normandy to Austria. About Christmas time, I sent Mr. Hershner a

letter to ask him a few questions about I Company. I received a letter from his son telling me that his father had just died. However, he did include a few addresses of other I Company men I could write to. I was wondering if it would be o.k. if I could ask you a few questions? Sincerely, Michael Aschieris

Gary R. and Kathleen Hershner, 2504 Brookwood Road, Richmond, VA 23235, Ph 804 320 4737. February 27, 2005, Dear Mr. Hartzell: I am enclosing for you a copy of my father's obituary. I thought you should know that he always spoke very highly of you and, of course, loved all the men from I Company. Yours truly, Gary Hershner

Note: We printed Capt. Hershner's obituary in an earlier Poopsheet.

SNOWBIRD NOTES

We hope to see many of you at the Snowbird Reunion, February 1 = 5, 2006. We will look for Co I folks in the hotel lobby near the registration table. The registration form is a bit different this year, however, the cost of the lunches, hospitality room and Saturday night banquet remain the same.

The reunion planners have added some events on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights, all are optional.

Note on the registration form that if you need to cancel, you must have purchased the insurance in order to get a refund. (and, no later than 3 days before the event)

Please call me, 281 277 3787, if I can be of any assistance with your registration. Betty Taylor Hill



HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL AS WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE BEAUTIFUL DAY AND MANY BLESSINGS GOD HAS GIVEN US.

New Address: Mrs. Gino Salvati, 2415 Ridge Road Ext., Ambridge, PA 15005

VETERANS EUROPEAN TOUR, 2006

If you are a veteran who has dreamed of returning to Normandy, Holland and Belgium fields of battle, or one who wishes to go again, you must read this message. This is a wonderful chance for 20 veterans who wish to go in 2006, expenses paid. Contact Tim Davis right-away for more information.

The Greatest Generations Foundation

Timothy Davis, <timothy_davis@thegreatestgenerations.org> wrote:

To All associated with the the US Military, Veterans and families,
The Greatest Generations Foundation "TGGF", an International non profit organization based in Denver Colorado that "Remembers Those Who Served". TGGF, has been provided full-funding to assist and accommodate the return of 30 American/Canadian servicemen of World War II, back to the European theater next year for the 62nd Anniversary of the invasion of Normandy. This trip is a once in a life time journey for a veteran who would like to return. The trip will consist of 12 days, traveling throughout beautiful France, Belgium and Holland.

TGGF will be participating in several International commemoration events from Normandy to Bastogne to St Vith to the death camp of Mitz. We are asking for your assistance is finding 20 Veteran (s) that would like to return back to the European Theatre to commemorate this event with our foundation. TGGF will cover all expense's (Flights, Hotels, Food and Beverage). TGGF will have a film crew traveling with us to record this return trip for family and friends who could not join us.

You may go to the TGGF website: www.thegreatestgenerations.org and download the Veterans Application form* and mail it back to TGGF in Denver Colorado.

If you know of a veteran(s) that would like to be apart of this commemoration event in 2006, please contact Timothy Davis at **720-296-3715** or info@thegreatestgenerations.org

Thank you,
Timothy Davis, President
The Greatest Generations Foundation



Carentan, France, June 2004. The town celebrated their 60th anniversary of liberation. The mayor bestowed medals from the town honoring veterans represented at the celebration. Harry Nivens is presented a medal honoring his service in Normandy June 1944



Right: Harry and Joan Nivens, (Co I 3/502) seated at the right side of the picture

Above and 1944 photos courtesy of Peter van de Wal.



Carentan sign displayed in the town.

The big sign reads: "Here on June 12, 1944 after 5 days of furious battles and wild bayonet charge the 101 Airborne Division opened to American Army the Glorious Way of Victory"

Veterans, be sure to check out The Greatest Generation Foundation's information in this issue for your chance to visit sites such as these in 2006.

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

2006 SNOWBIRD REUNION EVENTS

Orlando, FL ~ February 1-5, 2006

EVENT A: EARLY BIRD TOUR: PIRATE'S DINNER ADVENTURE

Wednesday, February 1st (5:00pm-9:00pm) www.piratesdinneradventure.com

This is a dinner show attraction that puts you right in the middle of all of the swashbuckling action. You, the beautiful Princess, and her court are hostages of a band of pirates led by the dastardly Sebastian the Black who will stop at nothing to plunder, pillage and steal! Your evening will begin with a bountiful appetizer buffet of assorted salads and snacks. You will then enjoy a plentiful buffet with an array of entrees, side dishes and desserts. Sit back and enjoy the feast while the musical comedy, swashbuckling stunts and live action performances take place aboard the pirate galleon. This is wonderful way to enjoy Orlando with your friends and family.

EVENT B: SLEUTH'S DINNER SHOW

Thursday, February 2nd (5:00pm-9:00pm) www.sleuths.com

Bring your investigative skills and your appetite, and be prepared to laugh your way through the evening. You will be kept on the edge of your seat as this mystery unfolds. Can you guess "whodunit?" You will enjoy both hot and cold d'oeuvres, followed by a four course dinner. Dinner includes salad, cheese and crackers, entrée and dessert. You will also receive unlimited beer, wine or soft drinks throughout the evening. Don't miss the chance to become a detective to help solve the crime in this comedy-mystery dinner show.

Please select Event C or Event D for daytime Friday tours.

EVENT C: NASA - CAPE KENNEDY TOUR AND IMAX MOVIES

Friday, February 3rd (8:30am -4:00pm) www.kennedyspacecenter.com

Board your luxury motor coach and get ready to see history being made at the most prolific launch site in the world. You may choose the riding tour of this space complex which will surely thrill and amaze everyone. You'll view the Launch Complex 39 Observation Platform, Apollo/Saturn V Center, and the International Space Station Center. There are 2 excellent *IMAX* movie presentations that will take you to the outer limits, several exhibits and shows. This is a most unusual and interesting tour at an easy pace. There are plenty of options for lunch on your own at the Space center. Don't miss it!

OR

EVENT D: ORLANDO WINERY TOUR

Friday, February 3rd (12:00pm 4:00pm) www.lakeridgewinery.com

If you dabble in the arts of wine tasting, are a wine connoisseur, or just love a good glass of wine, you will enjoy an afternoon at this Florida Winery and Vineyard, located in Clermont, just west of Orlando. Here you will take a guided tour of Florida's largest premium winery and enjoy a wine tasting in their extensive tasting room. You can also purchase the wines you have tasted right there at the winery. After your tour and tasting, visit the gift shop or relax and immerse yourself in the beautiful sights of this 127-acre estate of gently rolling countryside

EVENT E: DIXIELAND STAMPEDE DINNER & SHOW

Friday, February 3rd (5:00pm-9:00pm) www.dixiestampede.com/orlando.php

A stampede of buffalos, southern belles, and the statute of Liberty are just some of the highlights of this unique show. Dolly Parton's *Dixie Stampede* features 32 magnificent horses, trick riding, fun animal races, specialty acts, comedy, singing and dancing, not to mention plenty of audience participation. You will also enjoy a four-course feast featuring soup, hot home-made biscuits, tender whole rotisserie chicken, hickory smoked barbecue pork loin, buttery corn on the cob, herb-basted potatoes, hot flaky apple pastry, and unlimited beverages. This will be an evening out like you've never had before.

Please Choose either Event F or Event G for Saturday daytime Tours

EVENT F: ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

Saturday, February 4th (9:00am-12:00pm) www.thehistorycenter.org

Travel back in time 12,000 years to discover Central Florida's first peoples and their initial encounter with the Spanish. Fast forward to the 19th century and experience the Seminole Wars and the challenges of Central Florida's early pioneers. Hear first hand accounts from a cattleman of what life was like on the wide-open cattle a range of the 1880s. Find out about the Big Freeze in the 1890s that devastated the new citrus industry and sent many packing. Move into the 20th century and experience Central Florida booms and busts and the importance of the Orlando Air Base during World War II. From a replica WW II B-17 bomber and a two-story dome featuring over 150 unique Central Florida icons to the restored 1927 Courtroom B and the outdoor Heritage Square courtyard, a wealth of fascinating sights and experiences awaits at The History Center. You will have plenty of time to visit the museum at your own pace. Several museum experts will be available in every exhibit to answer questions and give you further insight into the history of this area.

OR

EVENT G: RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Saturday, February 4th (9:00am-12:00pm) www.riplevsorlando.com

This unusual museum is located in the *Orlando Odditorium*; a building which appears to be sinking into one of Florida's infamous sinkholes. *Ripley's Believe it or Not* displays unbelievable, inexplicable, and one-of-a-kind exhibits. For over forty years the adventurous Robert Ripley explored the uncanny and amazing mysteries of the earth. His travels took him around the world in search of the unbelievable and inexplicable. This museum offers you some of his fantastic collection of the world's strangest oddities! Some of the things you will see include a shrunken head, and the 1907 Rolls Royce made from 63 pints of glue and 1,106,711 ordinary matchsticks. You will have plenty of time to visit the museum at your own pace.

EVENT H GALA BANQUET DINNER

Saturday, February 4th (7:00pm at the hotel)

Join your friends for the annual 101st Airborne Division banquet. Entrée choices are Roast Prime Rib of Beef, Chicken Boursin (Breast of Chicken stuffed with a garlic cream cheese), or Pork Loin Dijonnaise (Roast pork loin with a Dijon Mustard Sauce). Please make your selection on your reservation form.

TOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE

Should an emergency arise or you need to cancel your reunion meals or tour reservations for health or any other reason, you can relax. With the purchase of this insurance you will be eligible for a full refund up until three (3) days prior to the start of the reunion. If you need to cancel – please call our office immediately (817-251-3551) for a cancellation number. If you have not purchased cancellation insurance all tour and meal money is non-refundable 6 weeks prior to the reunion.

Note: Tours may be cancelled if minimums are not met. In this case, full refunds will be given.