



# Company I Poopsheet



502 PIR, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, US Army, WWII

May 2015



**Edward M. Augustynowski**, 95, Westerfield, CT, I-502, passed away on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, after a brief illness, at Hartford Hospital. He was born on November 24, 1919 in Passaic, New Jersey, the son of the late Michael and Catherine Augustynowski. Edward was a paratrooper, in Item Company, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division from 1942-1945. Notably, he fought in Holland and the Battle of the Bulge.

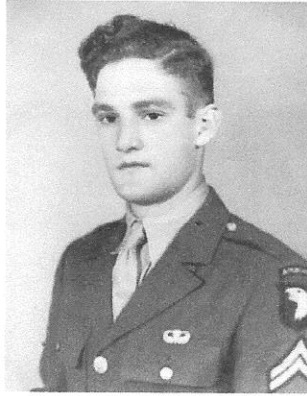
Edward was united in marriage to Marie Augustynowski. She predeceased him. Edward was an accountant, employed at Aetna Insurance Company in Hartford for over 20 years, until his retirement. He was a longtime parishioner of the Church of Incarnation in Wethersfield.

Edward was a member of the 101st Airborne Division Association, New England Chapter; The Retired Officers Association; and 82nd Airborne Division Association.

His gentle manner and positive attitude will be missed by family and friends.

He is survived by his brothers, Richard August of Marietta, GA and Chester August of Jewett City; and several nieces and nephews. Interment and a Mass of Christian Burial with full military honors took place on Friday, March 13, 2015 at St. Mary's Church, Jewett City.

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**Earl Ralph Kelly** of Aberdeen, MD (I-502) passed away on April 9, 2015. He was 93. He was the husband of the late Virginia O. Kelly.

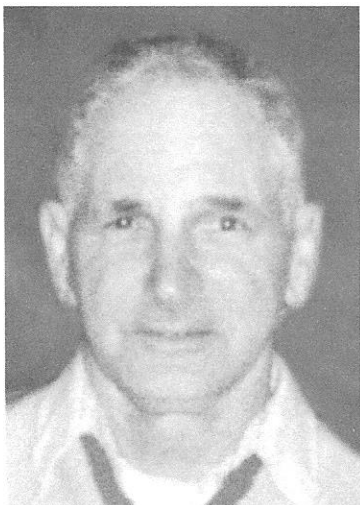
Mr. Kelly was born in Maine to the late George Lloyd and May Victoria Kelly. He was the father to Millicent A. Sarvas, Anthony John Kelly, Peter Michael Kelly and the late Charles Joseph Kelly and the late Sharon Virginia Kalmbacher. He was the Grandfather of Fourteen, Great Grandfather of Twelve and Great-Great Grandfather of One.

Mr. Kelly was one of the "Greatest Generation" and fought bravely during the WWII. He entered military service in October of 1939 with Co. E. 118th Infantry, 29th Division. In the spring of 1942, he became a qualified parachutist and was assigned to 502nd Parachute Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. He participated in two parachute invasions (D-Day on June 1944 and Holland on September 1944) and fought in four major infantry operations, including; Normandy, Holland, Ardennes and Central Europe. His decorations earned include the Bronze Star, 3 Purple Hearts, ETO Medal with four Battle Stars and two Spearheads, Parachute Badge,

Combat Infantry Badge, Netherland Orange Lanyard, French Croix de Guerre with Palm and Belgian Fourragere of 1940. He was also awarded the French Croix d'Honneur, naming him as a Knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honour, the highest decoration given by France. Although highly decorated, Mr. Kelly was always humble and quick to remember his brave friends who lost their lives during the war and loved sharing his amazing stories about his life growing up and his time as a soldier who among many feats, stormed Hitler's "Eagle's Nest", liberated Nazi concentration camp and participated in one of the only fixed bayonet charges of WWII.

He retired from the Aberdeen Proving Ground as an Aviation Weapons Systems Instructor. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the 29th Infantry Association. A Viewing was held on Friday, April 17, and Funeral Service on Saturday, April 18, 2015, at the Zellman Funeral Home, P.A., 123 S. Washington Street, Havre de Grace, MD 21078. Interment at Darlington Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers friends and family may make contributions in memory of Earl R. Kelly to Operation Comfort, 4900 Broadway, Suite 100, San Antonio, TX 78209



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**Louis B. Dunch** of Sharon, PA I-502, passed away Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015, in UPMC Horizon, Greenville. He was 93. He was born Dec. 18, 1921, in Sharon to Nicholas and Rose (Gruber) Dunch, the sixth of

eight children. He was a 1941 graduate of Sharon High School and volunteered to serve his country during World War II as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne with Item Company, 502nd Infantry Regiment. For his service, he was awarded the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

He was married to Mary Ann Feedler. She died Aug. 4, 2013. They raised five children, John Dunch and his wife, Kathryn, Hubbard; Louis Dunch, Sharon; Karen McLusky, and Jeff Dunch and his wife, Kim, all Oxnard, Calif.; and Mary Jane Richartz and her husband, Scott, Fountain Valley, Calif. He also leaves: 10 grandchildren, a sister, Agnes Gilliland, and a brother, S. Frank Dunch, both Hermitage. He was an active member of the former Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Farrell.

He was a member of American Legion Post 299, Sharon, and Hickory Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6166, Hermitage.

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**Mario Joseph Patruno**, a WWII Veteran, F-506, and "Screaming Eagle" paratrooper with the 101st Airborne "Soared with the Eagles" March 10, 2015, at the Bailey Center in Florida. He was born in 1921 in

Holyoke, Mass., and would have been 94 on April 8. Mario is survived by his wife, Ruth, of 38 years; his brother Dominic, sons Richard, Danny, Michael, and Dennis; daughters Linda Tefft, Dinah Thomas, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Burial was March 23 at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

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## An Irishman's First Drink With His Daughter

I was reading an article last night about fathers and daughters, and memories came flooding back of the time I took my Daughter out for her first drink.

Off we went to our local Pub, which is only two blocks from the house.

I got her a Guinness Stout. She didn't like it - so I drank it.

I got her an Old Style - she didn't like it either, so I drank it. It was the same with the Coors and the Bud.

By the time we got down to the Irish whiskey . . . I could hardly push the stroller back home.

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### Salute to the Women in War

Things were "tough and very good" for a female Marine who taught men how to navigate the skies of World War II.



Iris Nigg Lundin, who is nearly 97 and lives in Savoy, NY, enlisted in the Marines in 1943 and was one of the first four women to earn wings for teaching navigation, meteorology and radio/laser technique to male pilots.

She mastered state-of-the-art technology and then passed it on to pilots, bombers and navigators. "There was enough in there that it was the equivalent of a Ph.D.," she says now.

Women transported planes but did not serve in combat in that war.

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### Medal of Honor Recipient

Mary Walker, a surgeon with the U.S. Army and the only woman ever to receive the Medal of Honor. Mary volunteered with the Union Army at

the outbreak of the Civil War and served as a surgeon. She was captured by Confederate



forces after crossing enemy lines to treat wounded civilians and arrested as a spy. She was sent as a prisoner of war to Richmond, Virginia until released in a prisoner exchange. After the war, she was approved for the highest United States Armed Forces decoration for bravery, the Medal of Honor, for her efforts during the Civil War. She is the only woman to receive the medal and one of only eight civilians to receive it.

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### How to enjoy old age.....

Yesterday I was at my local Kroger's buying a large bag of Purina Dog Chow for my loyal pet, Jake, the Wonder Dog, and was in the check-out line when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What did she think.. I had an elephant? So because I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog, I was starting the Purina Diet again. I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in the hospital last time, but that I'd lost 50 pounds before I awakened in an intensive care ward with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms.

I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet and that the way that it works is, to load your pants pockets with Purina Nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in line was now enthralled with my story.) Horrified, she asked if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food

poisoned me. I told her no, I stopped to pee on a fire hydrant and a car hit me. I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard. Kroger's won't let me shop there anymore.

Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of crazy things to say.

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### Two ways to tell you're getting old...

1. It's scary, when you start making the same noises as your coffee maker.
2. About half the stuff in your shopping cart says, 'For fast relief.'

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## The Netherlands to Give a Face to 10,000 Killed U.S. WWII Soldiers

Published: Thursday, March 12 2015



Thousands of white marble crosses and Stars of David, row after row. This is what one sees when overlooking the American War Cemetery in the town of Margraten, the Netherlands. The markers are testimony to the sacrifices made by many young American men and women for the freedom of Europe during World War II.. Through The Faces of Margraten project in May 2015 the Dutch will pay special tribute to these soldiers by decorating their more than 10,000 graves and names on the Walls of the Missing with personal photos of the soldiers. The project has started a quest to locate more soldiers' photos.

Currently, there is a personal photo available for about a third of the 10,023 American soldiers

buried in or memorialized at the cemetery. "We have been impressed by all the support for the project so far," says Sebastiaan Vonk, chairman of the Foundation United Adopters American War Graves, which is organizing The Faces of Margraten tribute. "Many of the graves' adopters, the soldiers' relatives, veterans, and others have contributed by submitting a personal photo of a soldier in the past months, all joining us in remembering these brave men and women, finally putting a face to the names of our liberators."

However, thousands of photos are still missing. "Maybe you're related to one of the soldiers, and have a photo tucked away in an album you haven't looked through in years. Please look again, and if you find one, help us honor the sacrifices of thousands of other Americans by contributing the photo to The Faces of Margraten," said Vonk. "Each photo matters, even if the quality is not great, because it means another soldier who will be honored," Vonk added. Display 1Photos can be submitted through the project's website, [www.TheFacesOfMargraten.com](http://www.TheFacesOfMargraten.com).

All submitted photos as well as other information on these soldiers can already be found in the foundation's Fields of Honor - Database. The photos will be placed next to the headstones from May 2-5, when the Netherlands observes the 70th anniversary of its liberation.

"If you look at all the photos, you will see many young men and women, sometimes with their parents, with their brothers and sisters, their friends, sometimes with their own children. Looking at these photos makes you realize that they were not just soldiers; they were young individuals like us with a family, friends, interests, and dreams. We could have been them had we lived in a different time and place," Vonk remarks.

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**"If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask, the answer is always no. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place." – Nora Roberts**



**Neal Burkett, George Cruz, John Clark, Alfred Simmons.**I-502, (on horses, unknown) Burkett was the guy who played his record player in the barracks after a day's work at Fort Bragg. In England, he wired the entire 3rd Battalion 502 with speakers and did this on a much larger scale. (Photos from Stephen Harzell)



**Ward Faulkenberry, Everett Hoskinson, Lou Dunch, Alfred Simmons** All of I-502

### **We are in trouble!!!**

The population of this country is 310 million.  
160 Million are retired.  
That leaves 140 million to do the Work.  
There are 85 million in school. Which leaves 55 million to do the work.  
Of this there are 35 million employed by the federal Government. Leaving 20 million to do the work.  
2.8 million are in the armed forces preoccupied With killing terrorists. Which leaves 17.2 million to do the work.  
Take from that total the 15.8 Million people who work for state and city Governments. And that leaves 1.4 million to do the work.  
At any given time there are 188,000 people in hospitals. Leaving 1,212,000 to do the work.  
Now, there are 1,211,998 people In prisons. That leaves just two people to do the work.  
You and me.  
And there You are, sitting on your ass reading jokes. Nice. Real nice!

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**Retirement is Different for Everyone...**

One day, while going to the shop, I passed by a retirement village. On the front lawn were six old ladies, lying naked on the grass. I thought this was a bit unusual, but continued on my way. On my return trip, I passed the same retirement village with the same six old ladies lying naked on the lawn. This time my curiosity got the better of me and I went inside to talk to the retirement village Administrator, and asked her, "Do you know there are six ladies lying naked on your front lawn?" ""Yes," she said, "aren't they darlings? They're retired prostitutes - they're having a yard sale."

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**"Waiting around for someone else to make you happy is the best way to be sad."**

**"The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything but they make the most of everything." – Sam Cawthorn**

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**101st airborne has lost a dear friend. Many will remember Loretta from the Snowbird Reunions. She was a member of the New Jersey Chapte of 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Associationr.**



Loretta Minotti, 94, of Bethlehem Twp., passed away on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Old Orchard Manor Care.

Loretta was born on August 5, 1921 in Upper Black Eddy, Pa. She worked for the Medical Lab of Easton, as a

Secretary for many years. Loretta was a volunteer for the VNA of Easton, was a member of the 101st Airborne Division Screaming Eagles Support Fund and was a Eucharistic Minister at St. Anthony's.

She was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Easton.

She is survived by her step-daughters, Joanne and Marie, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Carl whom passed away in 1994.

A Funeral Service was on Friday January 23, 2015 in the Finegan Funeral Home - See more at of Padua Catholic Church, Easton, PA with burial at St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Ottsville, Pa. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the 101st Airborne Division Association 32 Screaming Eagle Blvd. P.O. Box 929 Fort Campbell, KY. 42223 or [www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org) -

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**101st AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
 70TH Annual Reunion and Fort Campbell  
 Kentucky's "Day of the Eagle"**

**July 29- Aug. 1, 2015, Nashville, TN  
 Airport Marriott Hotel -- Information  
 and Registration forms available online at  
[www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org)**

### **The Hotel Bill**

An older lady decided to give herself a big treat for her 75th birthday by staying overnight in a really nice hotel. When she checked out the next morning, the desk clerk handed her a bill for \$250.00. She demanded to know why the charge was so high. "I agree it's a nice hotel, but the rooms aren't worth \$250.00 for just an overnight stay! I didn't even have breakfast."

The clerk told her that \$250.00 is the 'standard rate', and breakfast had been included had she wanted it. The lady insisted on speaking to the Manager

The Manager appeared and, forewarned by the desk clerk, announced: "This hotel has an Olympic-sized pool and a huge conference center which are available for use." "But I didn't use them," she said.

"Well, they are here, and you could have," explained the Manager. He went on to explain that she could also have seen one of the in-hotel shows for which they were so famous.

"We have the best entertainers from the world over performing here," the Manager said. "But I didn't go to any of those shows," she said. "Well, we have them, and you could have," the Manager replied.

After several minutes of the same and with the Manager still unmoved, she decided to pay, wrote a check and gave it to him.

The Manager was surprised when he looked at the check. "But madam, this check is for \$50.00."

"That's correct I charged you \$200.00 for sleeping with me," she replied. "But I didn't!" exclaimed the very surprised Manager.

"Well, too bad, I was here, and you could have."

*Don't mess with Senior Citizens!!*

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**The nation's oldest female military veteran is dead. Lucy Coffey, 108, died March 19, 2015**



died March 19, 2015 in San Antonio, TX. She had been sick for about a week. The Indiana-born farm girl was working at a Dallas grocery store the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. The San Antonio Express-

News reports that she quit the store in 1943 to join the new Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, which stationed her around the Pacific. Coffey was one of 400,000 American women who served during World War II.

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### **The Last Favor**

Two 90-year-old women, Rose and Barb, had been friends a lot of their lives. When it was clear that Rose was dying, Barb said, "Rose, we both loved playing women's softball. If you can, please do me one favor; when you get to Heaven, let me know if there's women's softball in Heaven." Rose looked up at Barb from her deathbed and said, "Barb, if it is at all possible, I'll do this favor for you." Shortly after that she passed on.

At midnight a few nights later Barb was awakened from a sound sleep by a bright flash of white light and a voice calling out to her, "Barb! Barb!" and, she replied, "Rose! Where are you?" "In Heaven," said Rose. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," said Barb. "The good news", Rose said, "Is that there's softball in Heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before us are here too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And best of all we can play softball all we want, and we never get tired." "That's fantastic," said Barb, "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So, what's the bad news?" "You're pitching next Tuesday."

### **Police Work at its Best...**

Two policemen (Constable Ken and Bob) call the station on the radio.

"Hello. Is this the Sarge?" Reply, "Yes?" "We have a case here. A woman has shot her husband dead for stepping on the floor she had mopped."

"Have you arrested the woman?"

"No sir. The floor is still wet."

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### **Power Outage**

A gentleman reported the following: "I had a power outage at my house this morning and my PC, Laptop, TV, DVD, iPad and my new surround sound music system were all shut down. Then I discovered that my iPhone battery was dead.

To top it off, it was raining so I couldn't go for a walk, bike or run. The garage door opener needs electricity so I couldn't go anywhere in the car.

I went into the kitchen to make coffee and then I remember that this also needed power, so I sat and talked with my wife for a few hours.

She seems like a really nice person.

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**For all who were there D-Day, June 6, 1944, we thank you. Here is an excerpt from Jenny Lasalla's "Comes a Soldier's Whisper":**

### **MY SILK IS MY SILENT WEAPON**

These were words written by my 101st Airborne father, David Tharp one month before jumping on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

At this time 71 years ago, Dad was writing back home not quite realizing what was in store for the paratroopers. They had finished their long sea transport to England and await their orders. He wrote several hundred letters to our mother who kept them tucked away. In one letter he would later write, "Ever hear about a man whose life hangs by a thread? Well, my silk parachute is my silent weapon, and my life hangs by it's thread". Truer words could not be spoken, as all of their lives hung by a thread. Dad would next write about 10 days after his jump:

"The people seem very glad we are here. But my French not being very good, I can't understand but damn little. I've been taking

some pictures of everyday life, some of my buddies and me. The countryside is covered with hedgerows much the same as England only the hedges are higher and the fields are smaller. They have their small villages, which seem rather nice, or rather I should say, I imagined they used to be".

On June 20, 1944, Dad would write again: "I suppose you've heard through the news broadcast or in the papers about what the troopers have been doing over here. Well, here is a bit of news. Our unit has been awarded the Presidential Citation for extraordinary service and heroism in performing our duties on June 6, 1944, something to be proud of". The 101st Airborne Division first saw combat during the Normandy invasion, June 6, 1944. The division, as part of the VII Corps assault, jumped in the dark morning before H-Hour to seize positions west of Utah Beach. Given the mission of anchoring the corp's southern flank, the division was also to eliminate the German's secondary beach defenses, allowing the seaborne forces of the 4th Infantry Division, once ashore to continue inland. The Screaming Eagles were to capture the causeway bridges that ran behind the beach between St. martin-de-Varreville and Pouppeville. In the division's southern sector, it was to seize the la Barquette lock and destroy a highway bridge northwest of the town of Carentan and a railroad bridge farther west.

Dad would also later write, "So they are praising the paratroops back home, are they? Well, I can say they deserve it and then some. As for me, I'm mystified with my life and body intact. Keep that chin up. I'll be back someday". And he came



back indeed, miraculously making it through D-Day, Carentan (Purple Heart Lane), Holland and the Battle of the Bulge. Little did he know that his letters and sentiments would be whispered 70 years later in dedication and tribute to all who served in the book, *COMES A Soldier's Whisper*.

The photo shows General Dwight D. Eisenhower giving the paratroopers their send off before making history. My father was in that group of men. Thank you, Dad and to all of the men and women who fought to protect the world from tyranny on that day!

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**Current r roll-call o our f I-502 veterans.....**

- Brqangwin, Joe, Ridgecrest, CA
- Clark, Jack R., New Castle, PA
- Elliott, Chester, Birch Tree, MO
- Hennessey, Joe, Sarasota, FL
- Nivens, Harry, St. Cloud, FL
- Penkwitz ,William, Mishhicot, WI
- Taylor, Floyd M, Oklahoma City, OK
- Vaccaro, Richard, Cottonwood, AZ

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***Grandma's boyfriend***

A 5-year-old boy went to visit his grandmother one day. Playing with his toys in her bedroom while grandma was dusting, he looked up and said, 'Grandma, how come you don't have a boyfriend now that Grandpa went to heaven?' Grandma replied, 'Honey, my TV is my boyfriend. I can sit in my bedroom and watch it all day long. The religious programs make me feel good and the comedies make me laugh ... I'm happy with my TV as my boyfriend.'

Grandma turned on the TV, and the reception was terrible. She started adjusting the knobs, trying to get the picture in focus. Frustrated, she started hitting the backside of the TV hoping to fix the problem. The little boy heard the doorbell ring, so he hurried to open the door and there stood Grandma's minister. The minister said, 'Hello son, is your Grandma home?' The little boy replied, 'Yeah, she's in the bedroom bangin' her boyfriend.'

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**"Life goes by fast. Enjoy it. Calm down. It's all funny." – Joan Rivers**



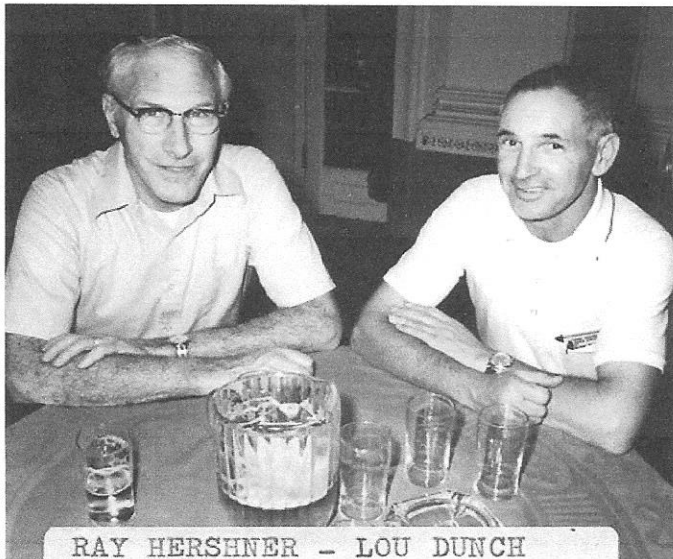


Philadelphia Reunion 1962  
 Earl Kelly- Nick Marocich-Joe  
 Garcia-Bob Hartzell-Lew Roush  
 Charles Olson- Mike Olesh-Jim  
 Morrell-Woody Cumming-Bob Tripp  
 Joe Hennessey-Louis Mete

Men of Company I, 502 PIR at Philadelphia reunion 1962... the names read: **Earl Kelly, Nick Marocich, Joe Garcia, Bob Hartzell, Lew Roush, Charles Olson,, Mike Olesh, Jim Morrell, Woody Cumming, Bob Tripp, Joe Photo Hennessey, Louis Mete.**

Right: Same reunion - Hennessey somehow got Cumming to give up his prized hat!

Below: **Ivan Ray Hershner and Lou Dunch**  
*Photos courtesy Stephen Hartzell*



RAY HERSHNER - LOU DUNCH

Mark Bando comments on these men::

Medic **Lou Mete** told me that on Bloody Sunday, he was attending wounded from the bayonet charge on exposed ground. He had to chase after his helmet several times, when it was shot off his head. As you can see, Lou was a little guy, which made him a smaller target when he was treating the wounded under fire. **Bob Tripp** was a very modest guy and although I did a

video interview wit him, he spoke very little about his own deeds. Others in Item Co. told me stories about him. One story was, while in a defensive position north of Bastogne, Bob got the idea of selecting a large tree on a likely avenue of approach, for a German attack. He tied a jerrycan full of gasoline up in the branches and zeroed a machine-gun in-on the can. When the Germans launched an infantry attack after dark, he set the can on fire with tracers and dumped burning fuel onto the attackers. **Earl Kelly** told me that story and he marveled at this, asking "How did Tripp know, to DO that?"

Lots of brave troopers here, who made the 101st a winning team on the battlefields.

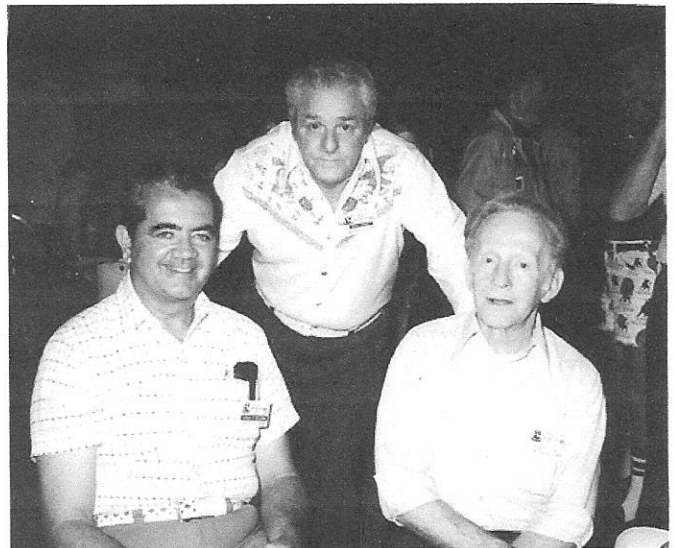
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I-502 buddies **Joe Zamblauskis, Charles Johnson & Bob Hartzell** at Johnson's Long Beach, CA home in 1968. Photo from Stephen Hartzell



I-502 buddies **Walter Presley, Willie Steadman, Cory Shepard and wife, and Champ Baker**, Houston, TX 1973.



I-502, **Jim Gleason, Bill Purdy & Charles Young** at a reunion. (Photo from Stephen Hartzell)

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### Can Cold Water Clean Dishes?

This is for all the germ conscious folks that worry about using cold water to clean.

John went to visit his 90 year old grandfather in a very secluded, rural area of Saskatchewan. After spending a great evening chatting the night away, the next morning John's grandfather prepared breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast. However, John noticed a film like substance on his plate, and questioned his grandfather asking, "Are these plates clean?"

His grandfather replied, 'They're as clean as cold water can get em. Just you go ahead and finish your meal, Sonny!'

For lunch the old man made hamburgers. Again, John was concerned about the plates, as his appeared to have tiny specks around the edge that looked like dried egg and asked, 'Are you sure these plates are clean?'

Without looking up the old man said, 'I told you before, Sonny, those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don't you fret, I don't want to hear another word about it!' Later that afternoon, John was on his way to a nearby town and as he was leaving, his grandfather's dog started to growl, and wouldn't let him pass.

John yelled and said, 'Grandfather, your dog won't let me get to my car'.

Without diverting his attention from the football game he was watching on TV, the old man shouted! 'Coldwater, go lay down now, yah hear me!' Meet Coldwater !

**Author, historian, Mark Bando remembers Earl Kelly I in his TrigerTime forum:**



“ **Earl Ralph Kelly**, of Item Co. 502, the Greatest-Ever story teller of the WWII Deuce regiment has passed away. I met Ralph at a Snowbird Reunion, almost 20 years ago and over the years, our friendship evolved and he eventually trusted me enough to give me a great interview, on video. Some of those stories appeared in 'Avenging Eagles'. Earl was a genuinely tough man and shaking hands with him was like grasping a block of rough wood. He did not give his respect or friendship easily and I think the only people he truly looked-up to in this world, were his paratrooper buddies of I Co. He told their stories with a love and regard that he extended to no other category of people on this planet. Ralph spoke with awed respect about '**Chief Benny McIntosh, Bob Tripp, Bill Cady, Beverly Hollingsworth, Everett Dye, Chester Elliott** and many others, whose level of toughness and courage amazed even a guy like him.

Thanks to Kyle Hatzinger, we were able to bring Ralph to Ft Campbell to tell some of his amazing stories to the active duty Deuce soldiers, in 2009. They loved his forbidden tales.

Thanks Ralph, for enriching my life and books with your friendship and stories. A salute from the Trigger Time family-you will be missed.”

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### **Older Women...**

After being married for 50 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, "Fifty years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 23-year-old girl.

Now ... I have a \$750,000 home, a \$45,000 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 73-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 23-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

Aren't older women great? Ohey really know how to solve an old guy's problems!

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### **The Explanation**

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so, too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full.

Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

**SO THERE!!**

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### **PLEASE DO YOUR PART!**

Today is one of the many National Mental Health Days throughout the year. You can do your bit by remembering to send a note to at least one unstable person. My job is done!

Life is too short for negative drama and petty things. So laugh insanely, love truly and forgive quickly! I hope everyone is happy in your head - we're all doing pretty well in mine!

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God bless you and your's.....

Honoring I-502, WWII and the late  
Robert J. Hartzell, Founder Editor

First Class Mail



Betty T. Hill, Current Editor  
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Cole monument at Carentan

#### CONSIDER THIS:

- ~Going out is good. Coming home is better!
- ~You forget names ... But it's OK because some people forgot they even knew you!!!
- ~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything like golf or singing but do it anyway.
- ~You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV 'ON' than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep".
- ~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch..
- ~You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?" ... "when?" ...
- ~You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!!!
- ~What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
- ~Everybody whispers.
- ~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet ... 2 of which you will never wear.
- ~But Old is good in some things: Old Songs, Old movies, and best of all, OLD FRIENDS !!
- ~ It's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.
- ~ Do Not Regret Growing Older. It is a Privilege Denied to Many.
- ~Remember to thank God for your many blessings and to be content in all things!

TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN, YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE; SO  
ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS.