

★ ★ ★
★ 1994 ★

Re-Union Bulletin

The 776th
TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



"The Vandals"



CAMPAIGNS



TUNISIA

16th March '43 - 9th May '43



NAPLES - FOGGIA

16th September '43 - 21st January '44



ROME-ARNO

22nd January '44 - 9th September '44



RHINELAND

30th October '44 - 21st March '45



CENTRAL EUROPE

22nd March '45 - 8th May '45



PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

"A" and "C" Companies - 63rd Division - Seigfried Action
"A" Company - 2nd Battalion, 114th Infantry - Schalbach, France
"C" Co., 1st Platoon - 1st Bn., 114th Inf. - Enchenburg, France



UNIT MERITORIOUS SERVICE PLAQUE

Headquarters Company

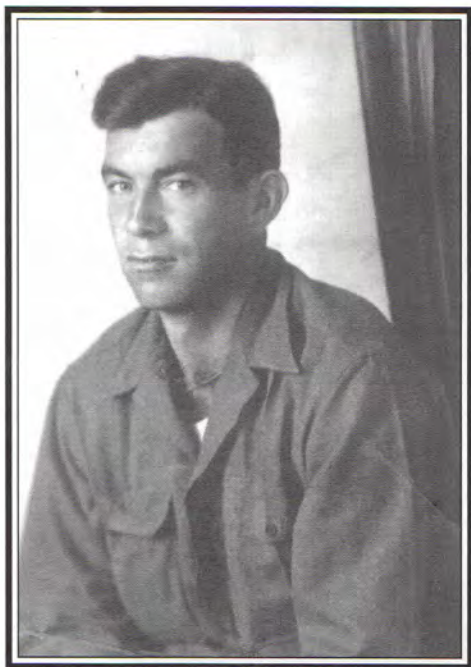


COMMENDATIONS

1st Armored Division
34th Infantry Division
2nd Division Infantry Moroccan
Combat Command "B", 1st Armored Division
85th Infantry Division
91st Infantry Division
5th United States Army



1994 REUNION BULLETIN IS DEDICATED TO EDWARD ETHEN TOLLEY, NORTH DAKOTA



Ed Ethen, Tolley, North Dakota died February 24, 1994. He was a member of "C" Company of the 776th T.D. Bn.

In his will he left the 776th T.D. a sum of money to be used for a party at our next reunion. He also requested Betty Liegl to take care of this money and party.

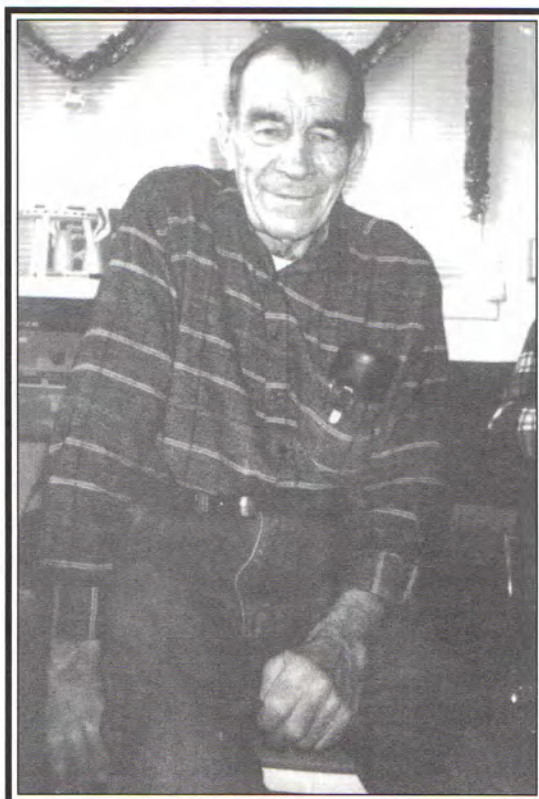
Knowing that a good number of you were unable to attend the 1994 Reunion, I decided it was a good time to print a bulletin for everyone on the 776th Mailing List and mail them all compliments of Ed Ethen. The rest of the money could be used to have a party.

Reunion date of September 20, 1994 was declared Ed Ethen Day and we had a party ALL DAY LONG!!! Our bus trip and noon meal was paid for by Ed. Also the Tuesday evening Hors d'oeuvres were compliments of Ed Ethen.

As we all gathered in the Hospitality Room that Tuesday evening we had a Memorial Service to honor all 776th T.D. deceased members. Leland Elliott and Leo Maynard conducted the Service. All the names on the deceased list were read by Company. Service was ended with the playing of TAPS.

Knowing that Ed Ethen would not want us to end our evening on too somber a note, two Nostalgia Articles were read, they will be printed in the next Tiger Tracks.

**THANK YOU ED ETHEN FOR
REMEMBERING ALL OF US.**



776th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

1994 Reunion in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

MINUTES OF 1994 REUNION

Leland Elliott opened our business meeting after our noon luncheon on September 21, 1994.

Report was given on the placement of plaques honoring the 776th TD. The Idaho plaque has been placed with the National Guard at Boise, Idaho. The North Dakota plaque will be at Cemetery until National Guard is ready to display it.

Your help is needed to help pay the expenses of having these two plaques made. You may send your contribution of \$1 on up to whatever you want to donate, to Betty Liegl. If donations exceed the costs of the two plaques, the extra money will be placed in 776th T.D. Tiger Tracks fund.

Location of next reunion was dis-

cussed. No one volunteered to host as discussion and suggestions of Arizona, North Dakota and Twin Cities and Oklahoma were made. Then Don Anderson asked if they enjoyed having it at the Sheraton Hotel in Cedar Rapids this 1994 year. They shouted their approval and then were asked if they wanted to return in 1996. They voted yes. We immediately contacted the hotel sales lady to see what dates were open in 1996. We booked the hotel and reserved the dates of September 16th, 17th, and 18th, 1996. With your help, the Liegl family will host the reunion.

Election of Officers are President, Leo Maynard; Vice President, John P. Wiltenmuth; and Secretary, Betty Liegl.
Betty Liegl, Secretary

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Hdq. Co. Men: left to right; Albert Liegl, Steve Karwowski, Bryan Barnard, Robert Greenway. Absent: Ed Fergason.



"A" Co. Men: 1st row left to right; Martin Tobiassen, Norvin Black, Etlar Henningsen, Ray Hansen, Donald Beberg. 2nd row left to right: Ken Backlund, Paul Sundberg, John P. Wiltenmuth, Norman Lunde. Absent Lou Wadle, Dahlen Jensen.



"B" Co. Men: Seated left to right: Lavall Thompson, Reuben Jodsaas, Barney Brunton, Lloyd Hegle, Ralph Ljunggren. 2nd row left to right: Merlin Park, V.L. Anderson, C.P. Kujawaski, Lowell Hilton, Joe Slatkoski, Robert Gallup, Andy Bartha. 3rd row left to right: Don Anderson, Fritz Carroll, Leland Elliott, John Love, Harold Gall.



"C" Co. Men: left to right; Ted Bodling, Orville Polzin, Elmer Wipf, Leo Maynard, Frank Wilson, Louis Barone.



Recon. Co. Men: 1st row left to right; Eldon Post, Ed Backman, Orlando Nickel, Paul Gibbs. 2nd row left to right: John Nicholls, Rico Benedetti, Ed Eden, Vince Peters.



Hdq. Ladies: left to right; Betty Liegl, Mercedes Hoeppner a guest, Evelyn Fikejs, Helen Karwowski, Dorothy Barnard, Mary Greenway.



"A" Co. Ladies: left to right; Lucille Tobiassen, Mary Lunde, Eddie Sundberg, Sylvia Hansen, Esther Beberg, Lil Backlund.



"B" Co. Ladies: Seated left to right; Lois Laffoon, Florienne Grundhoefer, Alice Kujawaski, Ollie Brunton. 2nd row left to right: Wilma Jodsaas, Eileen Hilton, Shirley Alger a guest, Phyllis Anderson, Minnie Gall, Jean Elliott. 3rd row left to right: Gladys Park, Margaret Bartha, Inez Ljunggren, Helen Love, Elda Hegle.



"C" Co. Ladies: left to right: Violet Barone, Ruth Polzin, Jessie Wilson, Joan Maynard, Eunice Bodling.



Recon. Co. Ladies: left to right; Bea Dempsey, Mabel Eden, Betty Benedetti, Laura Gibbs, Mae Backman, Doris Nicholls.



'94 Reunion Scrapbook

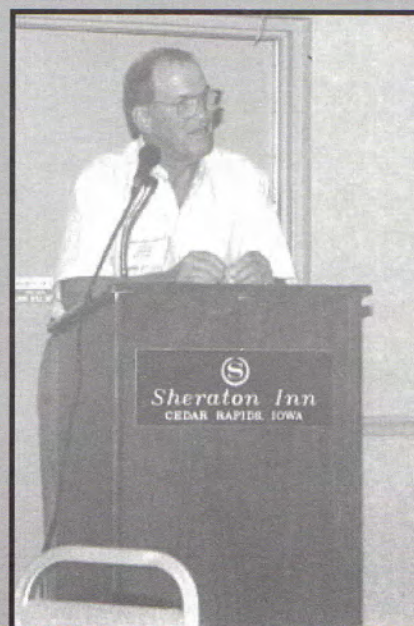
Clockwise from upper left- Time
for dinner at the Amanas.

Frank and Jessie Wilson won
the Door Prize.

Frank Wilson, Martin Tobiassen,
Don Anderson, C.P. Kujawaski,
Albert Liegl, Lou Wadle, Etlar
Henningsen.

Leland Elliot conducting the
business meeting.

Noon dinner at the Amanas.





'94 Reunion Scrapbook

Clockwise from upper left- Norvin Black found a dance partner, Madelyn Grundhoeffer. Telling stories, Merlin Park and Harold Gall. Leo Greco & Jim Doyne from WMT, broadcasting live from our reunion.

Mary & Norman K. Lunde, Lillian & Kenneth Backlund (Are you going to eat all of that dessert?)

Don Anderson on air with Leo Greco.





'94 Reunion Scrapbook

Clockwise from upper left-
Betty Liegl presenting flow-
ers and stein to Bridgett
Ross.

Memorial Park, Cedar Rap-
ids, Iowa.

Thanks for your help at 776
reunion Pam Liegl and Dot
Barnard.

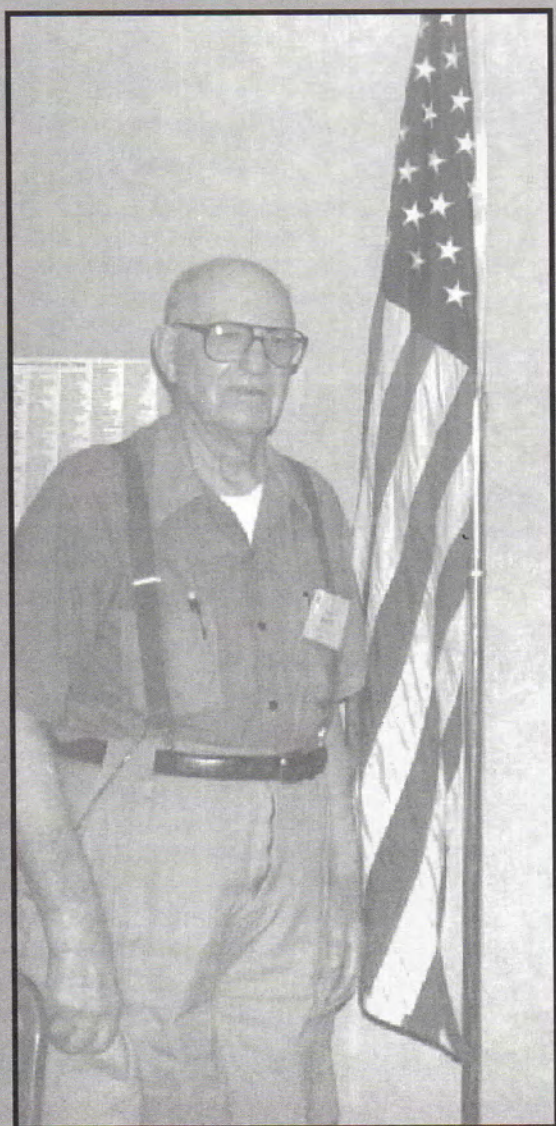
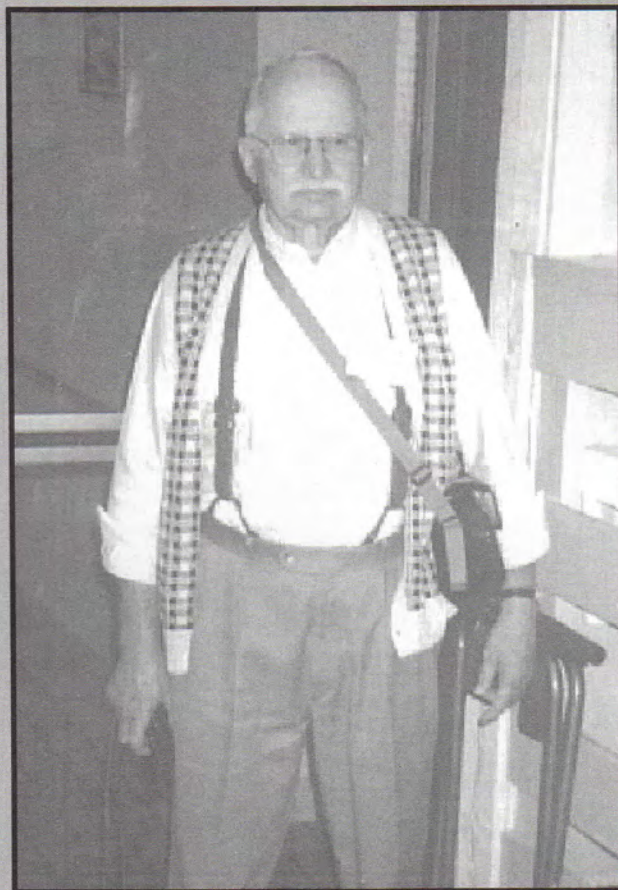
Albert and Betty Liegl.

John Love and Albert Liegl
dressed for Memorial
Service.



**Men Absent When
Company Pictures
Were Taken**

Clockwise from right- Dahlen Jensen, A Company; Ed Fergason, Hdq. Company (with Albert Liegl.) Lou Wadle, A Company.



IN FLANDERS FIELDS - by John McCrae

The Author and the Poem - It was Spring 1915. In front-line First Aid Station, dug into a Belgian hillside. John McCrae (1872-1918), a doctor in the Canadian Army, worked tirelessly, dressing wounds and comforting the dying. The battle - one of the bitterest of World War I - had raged for over three weeks. The number of casualties mounted steadily. Day after day, from the hillside dugout, John McCrae looked out on Flanders Fields - on the row upon row of white crosses. Each day they stretched farther toward the horizon. "Have we been sacrificed in vain!" the dead seemed to ask. "You, the living, must continue the struggle for freedom and justice." That was the message which Flanders Fields had for John McCrae. And the message inspired these verses, which have become one of the immortal poems of World War I.

**In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row.
That mark our places; and in the sky
The Larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce hear amid the guns below.**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe!
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high!
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.**

**We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow
Loved and were loved; and now we lay
In Flanders Fields.**

IN MEMORIAM

PFC Ardine M. Harstad
PFC Nils Eidsness
T-5 Lloyd Holland
Sgt. Robert F. Jones
S-Sgt. James G. Newman
1st Lt. Edward S. Kafka
Pvt. Robert H. Burns
T-5 Kurt Wasel
S-Sgt. Doyle D. Grimm
T-5 Harold H. Stickel
Sgt. Millard E. Stigen
Sgt. Raymond E. Larson
S-Sgt. Harold T. Brown
T-5 Jesse L. Anderson
1st Lt. John P. Hughes

Cpl. Donald F. Ramhorst
PFC Norman Togstad
Pvt. William R. Hanson
T-4 Albert Colaianne
Pvt. Carl A. Applequist
S-Sgt. Oscar E. Lystad
T-5 Gustave Hager
Sgt. Harold F. Mooney
Cpl. Henry G. Popp
Sgt. Ernest E. Parris
2nd Lt. John B. Haywood
Sgt. Sigval M. Carlson
Sgt. Francis M. Zerr
T-5 Norman C. Dutoit
Pvt. Dale H. Ellingson

PFC Woodrow Milligan
Pvt. Edward P. Paddock
Capt. Paul R. Brunt
Sgt. Arthur Mygland
1st Lt. Harold O. Weisweiver
Cpl. Clarence A. Larsen
Pvt. Ferdinand J. Schmidt
T-5 Arnold E. Freeland
S-Sgt. Eric A. Antonson
Sgt. Robert C. Elihaj
Cpl. Stanley E. Hams
S-Sgt. Alvin K. Waggoner
Sgt. Arthur B. Rossland
PFC Henry O. Stenberg