

THE LAST MISSION

The following statement by the Flyer staff expresses their sentiment regarding the loss of comrades and family, and the increasing frequency of these passings. It is best said by the belief that through memory we live on for those that have gone before us. What we want to emphasize is that these individuals existed and were part of our lives for awhile and should not be forgotten,

When you notify the Association of deceased members you should write of what you remember of them, their habits, their wants, desires, and dislikes, Write of their accomplishments and disappointments. Write about their families, their losses and gains, and always emphasize the positive. The loss we suffer is only of the present and future, the past cannot be taken away.

This is expressed by the survivors of Robert Kime's crew 824 Squadron who wish to remember their departed comrades with the following quote attributed to 'Ettienne De Grollet.

*"I shall pass through this world but once,
any good that I can do
or any kindness that I can show
to any human being,
Let me do it now.
Let me not defer it or neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again."*

Dr George Bouras

Dr George Bouras 64, 824 Squadron, the Navigator on Robert Kime's crew, and a Philadelphia ophthalmologist passed away March, 21, 1989. He was born in Newmarket, New Hampshire. He was wounded in action receiving the Purple Heart, and also was awarded the Air Medal, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He graduated in 1955 from the University of Vermont College of Medicine, moved to the Philadelphia area and opened a private practice in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, after serving as a volunteer ophthalmologist in Honduras.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, a sister and two daughters Jane and Elizabeth Bouras.

John P O'Neil

John P O'Neil, 824 Squadron, Tail Gunner on Robert Kime's crew, John had been in poor health in his later years and had been living in a rest home at the time of his death. George Bouras prior to his death, and Adolph Marcus kept in touch with John over the years and visited him at the rest home on many occasions.



John B O'Neil (left) and George Bouras (right) Photo taken in New York, 1946.

Walter L Bruesch, 826 Squadron, the Bombardier, on Bob Meyer's crew, said it too with his own tribute to his Co/Pilot Bob Meyers.

ODE TO BOB MEYERS

He was the co-pilot on a B-24 named 'Miss Fire.' and the Germans learned during the war not to raise her ire. Robert flew with 'Old Hat' precision and never lacked the right decision.

He flew on missions to Wiener Neustadt, Friedriechaven, and Ploesti and believe me, the later was no cup of tea.

After combat, he returned to civilian life, but was called back to duty during the Berlin strife.

Bob returned to everyday life and raised his three children with his lovely wife.

Now that most of us are now about ready to go, Robert, the crew wants you to know, get in your old seat on 'Miss Fire'.

Start the engines get up her fire and fly us up high to that beautiful spot in the sky.

(See Bob Meyer's obit in Torretta Flyer No# 16 page 31)

Arthur W Bettinger

Arthur W Bettinger, 765 Squadron, Crew #90, passed away September 12, 1989. Art attended the 1986 reunion in San Antonio.



(Photo above) Art was the Radio/ Operator on Arthur L Hughes crew (#2 top row) :Arthur W Bettinger-Radio/Operator (4th from left bottom row), Bates Boles-Bombardier (#3 top Row), Wayne W Boyce-Nose Gunner (2nd from left Bottom row), Joe R Bryant-Tail Gunner (2nd fom right bottom row), William C "Bill"Hart-Navigator (not pictured), Arthur L Hughes-Pilot (No #2 top row), Dewey E Large-Upper Gunner (right bottom row), Douglas "Bud" Meifort-Ball Gunner (left bottom row), Robert L Scanlon-Engineer (3rd from left, bottom row) Wes Wager-Co/Pilot (#1 top row). This was the crew per Special Order 141 HQ 461st BG September 2, 1944 when the crew had finished its tour and was being rotated back to the States.