
The Last Mission



Bud Holland, 80, Upper gunner, 826 Sq

Floyd Creasman's crew 826 Sq
October 29, 1915 - February 24, 1996

Timothy James "Bud" Holland native resident of Meeker, died Saturday morning, February 24, 1996. He was 80 years of age. Mr. Holland was born in Meeker to the late Archie and Josephine Holland.

Bud married Maxine Hoge on December 29, 1945. They recently celebrated 50 years of love together. Known throughout Northwest Colorado for his love of the Old West life style, being a Cowboy was one of his favorite pastimes. He cherished the White River Valley and knew every mountain and stream by name.

Bud served his country proudly during World War II as a sergeant in the United States Air Force from 1941 to 1945. His service included flying gliders into Germany and B-24 bombers over Italy and the oil refinery at Ploesti numerous times. He received numerous medals, including the bronze star for valor. Mr. Holland served the Meeker area as Hospital Administrator, Real Estate Broker, Rancher, Employee of the United States Post Office and the Oil Fields at Wilson Creek.

An active member of the community, Mr. Holland was a member of the V.F.W; Lions Club; Range Call Rodeo Committee; Rio Blanco County Cattlemen's Association; Meeker Volunteer Fire Department; Saddle Club and Curtain Call Theater Group. Bud was honored to have been the Grand Marshall of the Range Call Parade in 1982. Mr. Holland is survived by his wife, Maxine Holland; 2 daughters and sons-in-law: Kathy and Gerry Turner of Long Beach, California; Sally and John Merriam of Florence, Colorado; granddaughters Tani and Kristi Merriam of Florence, Colorado; brother, Barney Holland of Meeker; sisters, Mary Murray of Meeker, and Norine Holland of Grand Junction, Colorado. He will be greatly missed by his devoted family and many friends.

Joseph J Pastelak Engineer 824 Sq

Joseph Pastelak, 73, of Hershey's Mill, Pennsylvania, East Goshen and formerly of Pottstown died Friday, Aug. 16, 1996 of leukemia at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

He was the husband of Pat O'Rourke Pastelak. He was born in Pottstown. He received a MS in 1960 from the University of Pennsylvania and a BS degree in 1949 from Millersville University.

He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a flight engineer

on Vincent DeMaio's crew in the 824th Squadron and flew combat missions from January, 1945 to May, 1945. Before going into combat with the 484th Bomb Group at Torretta, Italy, attended aircraft mechanic school at Keesler Field, MS, gunnery at Laredo, Texas, and phase training at Davis-Monthan, Arizona.

He was a teacher and department head of the Lansdowne Aldan High School from 1955 to 1984; and also taught at Collingdale High School from 1949 to 1955. He taught metal and woodshop for 35 years. He campaigned early and successfully to have girls as well as boys take wood shop. He taught nearly 9,000 students over the years. He retired to Hershey's Mill where he continued to run a wood shop for the last eight years.

He was a 4th-degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Nancy Lobo; two sisters, Anne Stettenbaure and Jeanette Sikora; three brothers, Michael Pastelak, Edward Pastelak and Eugene Pastelak; and two grandchildren.

William Wiegmann, 74 Navigator, 827 Sq

Services for William Wiegmann, 74, of Forked River, a researcher for Bell Laboratories, was held at Layton's Funeral Home, 250 Lacey Rd., Forked River, NJ

Mr. Wiegmann died Saturday, September 20, 1997 at his home.

He joined Bell Laboratories as a trainee in 1941.

At the outbreak of World War II, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps where he served as a navigator on B24s with the 484th Bomb Group, 825th Bomb Squadron, 15th Air Force, flying 33 missions out of Torretta, Italy. The pilot of his crew was Robert Sanderson.

After his discharge, Mr. Wiegmann returned to Bell Laboratories in Manhattan, later relocating to Murray Hill, where he became an associate member of the technical staff in the research department.

Mr. Wiegmann participated in numerous projects in both solid state and laser physics. He was included as a co-author on over 100 technical articles and was listed as an inventor of over 11 patents.

He retired from Bell Laboratories in 1985.

Mr. Wiegmann was a trustee of the Middlesex Elks Club and was a member of the Bell Systems Pioneers and the Old Guard of Forked River.

Born in Middle Village, Queens, N.Y., he lived in Middlesex before moving to Forked River in 1990.

Surviving are his wife, Frances Marie, three daughters, Mrs. Joanne Mullowney, Mrs. Susan Thatcher and Gail; a son, William; a brother, Henry, and five grandchildren.