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## *The Last Mission*



*From top left: Joe Costick-P, Milan Hibben-CP, Ray Hert-B, and Jim Schoonover-N. Bottom Row: Clarence Young-B/T, Jack Tomick-W/G, John Johnson-N/T, Ed Wojtkowski-E, Buck Lawenowski-T/T, Herman Walitalo-R/O.*

### ***Joe Costick- 825 Sq.***

Joseph Costick, a retired accountant and a former Yonkers and Nyack resident, died Saturday, Nov. 29, 1997, at Rex Health Care Center in Raleigh, N.C. He was 75. Joe Costick worked as an accountant for Burroughs Welcome & Co. in Tuckahoe. He transferred to the company's Raleigh office in 1970. He retired from the company after working for about 40 years.

He was born Oct. 28, 1922, in Brooklyn, to James and Gertrude Tomec Costick. He graduated from Spring Valley High School and attended Pace University in White Plains for two years, studying accounting and business administration.

Joe Costick was a B-24 pilot with the Army Air Corps during World War II, and flew 21 combat missions in the Mediterranean with the 825th Bombardment Squadron. He participated in raids over Vienna, the Po Valley, Linz, the Brenner - Pass, and southern Germany. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with one cluster, and the European African Middle Eastern Service Ribbon. He also was an avid chess player. He flew as a private pilot and owned his own Cessna. He also did volunteer work for the Republican Party in Yonkers.

He married Suzy Vicki at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Nyack on April 17, 1943. She died on March 25, 1971

He lived in Nyack for three years before moving to Yonkers about 1950. He moved from Yonkers to Cary, N.C. in 1970. He is survived by two daughters, Diane Johnson of Cortlandt and Jeanette

Giannelli of Mahopac; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Submitted by Jim Schoonover, crew navigator.

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### ***Charles J. Osborne 827 Sq.***

Charles J. Osborne 75 died at home in his sleep in November, 1997. Mr Osborne, had been in ill health for several years.

Mr. Osborne headed the insurance/real estate firm that his father, Nelson Osborne, had begun.

Unless you knew him personally, most clients seated at his desk would not have thought of the quiet and reserved gentleman who was drawing up their policy as someone who was adventurous and particularly brave. In truth, he was both. "He had a very spirited nature," his nephew Tom Osborne said.

From the time he was a child, Mr. Osborne was an accomplished rider who owned his own horse and competed in rodeo events at Deep Hollow Ranch in Montauk. He even trained his horse to set out the second he got one leg barely up and over its back. If you did not know that before you tried to mount his horse, as his sister Eleanor Ratsep once did, you had a pretty good chance of ending up in the pasture.

Mr. Osborne also participated in rodeos at Madison Square Garden where he was not averse to try riding bulls. For a few seconds one time, he even managed to stay on a Brahmin bull.

Mr. Osborne maintained a lifelong affinity for the world of