

# 380<sup>TH</sup> BOMB GROUP



HERKY-528.LIL BEAVER-529,BUGS BUNNY-530, DONALD DUCK-531 SQUADRONS

*This Newsletter is Dedicated to:*

*Forrest E. (Tommy) Thompson, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)  
and  
Helen H. Thompson*

*They had the foresight, perseverance, and love of the 380th  
Bombardment Group (H) and its history, traditions, and person-  
nel to organize, succor, and guide the*

*380th Bombardment Group Association, Inc.*

*our predecessor organization, for the past eighteen years  
(1982-1999).*

*Our everlasting thanks and love go out to them.*

**THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION  
5th AF - RAAF**

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

*The Flying Circus*  
208 CHIPPEWA ST.  
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47906-2123

**NEWSLETTER #16**

August 2003

Compatriots and Friends:

We look forward to a wonderful reunion in Williamsburg. Touring the Colonial Area and taking part in the tours arranged by Pat should be most enjoyable and allow us to renew our Colonial Roots.

We must ask a favor of all of you taking pictures for the December issue. We are very short of money for color in *THE FLYING CIRCUS* because of the high use of it for last year's Reunion issue -- more than twice our expected cost. Our printer will not give us an estimate of the final cost so we have no way of knowing the final expenditure until presented with the bill. As a result, we cannot use color in the December 2003 issue.

Therefore, I would like to ask that you take lots of outdoor group pictures instead of the banquet shots we have emphasized to date. In black and white, these are too dark to distinguish faces of your subjects. The better light outdoors should result in a much better *FLYING CIRCUS* for you. Colonial Williamsburg should provide many opportunities for good backgrounds.

We expect to have the Philippines aircraft and the Ground Staff Rosters plus all the Mission maps there for all you 380th history buffs to review.

See you all in Williamsburg!

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. (Ted) Williams



528<sup>TH</sup>



529<sup>TH</sup>



530<sup>TH</sup>



531<sup>ST</sup>

**HISTORIANS**

Glenn R. Horton, Jr.  
Gary L. Horton

**HISTORIAN, AUSTRALIA**

Bob Alford

**EDITORS, HISTORY PROJECTS  
AND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

Barbara J. Gotham  
Executive Secretary  
Theodore J. (Ted) Williams  
Operations Officer

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[http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/  
IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html](http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html)



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## ***B-24 MODEL OF "CARROT TOP"***

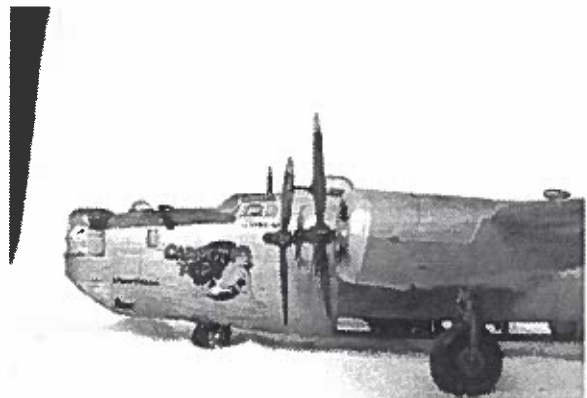
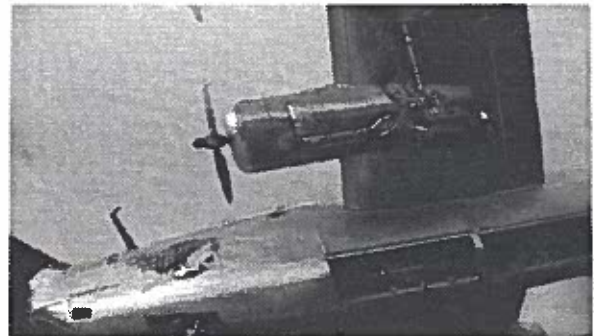
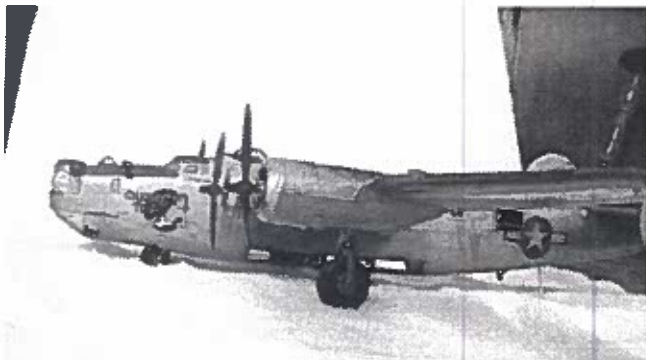
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Irving C. ("Pappy") Rowe has sent us pictures of a model of "CARROT TOP," given to him 25 years ago by his stepson and Elgin (Illinois) firefighter Steven Berry. Steven and a fellow firefighter built the model and hand-painted "CARROT TOP" and names on the plane as it was at Fenton. At present, three members of "CARROT TOP" are still alive (to Pappy's knowledge) -- Sheehan (Pilot), Schmitz (Navigator), and Rowe (Bombardier).

"CARROT TOP" was painted at Fenton Field for Sheehan's red-haired wife, Norma, by their waist gunner, Eugene Bucki in 1944. Bucki had been an outdoor sign artist and employed in Buffalo, New York, prior to being inducted.

Thanks, Pappy, for sharing these photos with us!

These pictures will appear in color on our website.



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**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION**  
**2003 REUNION INFORMATION**

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**  
**WILLIAMSBURG, VA**  
**SEPTEMBER 10-14, 2003**

(See note on next page about changes to this schedule from the June FLYING CIRCUS)

**Wednesday – September 10**

9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Registration in Hotel Lobby
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Optional Tour of Colonial Williamsburg
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
6:30 pm	Welcome Dinner
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open

**Thursday – September 11**

9:00 am	Optional Tour of Colonial Williamsburg
	Other Optional Tours:
	8 am – noon - 4 hour Plantation Tour
	1 pm – 3 pm - 3 hour Jamestown Tour
9:00 am – 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
	Dinner on your own

**Friday – September 12**

9:00 am	Buses depart for Langley Field
10:00 am	Memorial Service at Langley Field Chapel
11:30 am	Lunch at Officer's Club – Langley Field
1:00 pm – 3 pm	Tour of Virginia Air & Space Museum
4:00 pm	Buses return to hotel
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
Approx. 5:00 pm	Militia Retreat Ceremony, your presence is encouraged
	Dinner on your own
7:30 pm – 10 pm	Optional Evening at The Music Theatre
	“Blue Moon” music from the ‘40s through the late ‘70s

**Saturday – September 13**

10:00 am	Meeting of Members
Noon	Optional cruise on York River
	Optional tour of Colonial Williamsburg
Noon – 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
6:30 pm	No-host cocktails
7:00 pm	Dinner Dance

**Sunday – September 14**

Departure day

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## **Williamsburg Reunion Information**

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**General weather info for Williamsburg in September:**

Average high - 80 degrees

Average low - 67 degrees

**Ground Transportation Information:**

Newport News/Williamsburg Int'l Airport - 20 min away  
Norfolk Int'l and Richmond Int'l - both about 50 min away

Williamsburg Airport Shuttle service - *reservations required*

Phone: 757 218-9539

Contact: Steve Urban

Will service all airports

Newport/Williamsburg:

Single 1 way: \$30 rd trip: \$50

2 pp 1 way: \$35 rd trip: \$60

3 pp 1 way: \$40 rd trip: \$70

4 pp 1 way: \$45 rd trip: \$80

Norfolk & Richmond:

Single 1 way: \$40 rd trip: \$70

2 pp 1 way: \$50 rd trip: \$90

3 pp 1 way: \$65 rd trip: \$110

4 pp 1 way: \$75 rd trip: \$130

Since Norfolk, VA is served from a number of cities by Southwest Airlines, Carnevale Travel has secured a discount for this event. Save 10% off most Southwest fares, including the fully refundable senior fares. Call them at (800) 659-8808.

**Air transportation and rental cars may be secured through Carnevale Travel - (800) 659-8808.**

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The 380th BG has traditionally held their Memorial Service and luncheon on Thursday and this year that date is September 11th. Langley AFB has scheduled a base-wide commemoration of the 9/11 tragedy and therefore the Chapel and Chaplain were not available to us. We have moved the Memorial Service to Friday, September 12th and all tours that were scheduled for Friday have been changed to Thursday, September 11th.

Unless you have a schedule conflict you do not need to contact Carnevale & Associates. We will automatically change your tour request to Thursday.

There is an updated Schedule of Events in this newsletter. The registration form in the newsletter reflects the schedule changes and only needs to be completed by those who have not yet sent in their form.

In another issue, we have just been informed that Colonial Williamsburg no longer has two day passes. Those of you who have ordered 2 day passes may either receive a refund of \$2 per person or you may send in an additional \$7 per person and get the Freedom Pass which is good for a year.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may bring but both issues were beyond our control.

Pat Carnevale  
President  
Carnevale & Assoc., Inc.



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**Attendees to the Williamsburg Reunion  
As of July 28, 2003**

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**528<sup>th</sup> SQUADRON**

Dex Baker & Jo Berrett  
    Dexter & Georgia Baker  
    Gregory & Crystal Baker  
Bill Bever  
Harold "Gimp" Clapsaddle  
Joe & Irene Dally  
Robert English  
    Wendell & Margaret Snodgrass  
Bill & Barbara Fortenberry  
Gloria Leghart & Deborah Cornfield  
John & Dolores Lento  
Murray & Alice Marks  
    Donald & Dolores Foster  
Lloyd & Donna Oakes  
Ray & Janie Oeth

**529<sup>th</sup> SQUADRON**

Paul & Barbara Beilstein  
Jim & Sara Bejoin  
Richie & Olga Bill  
Carl Borgstrom  
    Terry & Terry Snyder  
Marvin "Pete" Burris & Ginny Roper  
Lloyd Fry & Marian Robinson  
Werner & Ruth Homuth  
Leonard & Jimmie Lou Kroes  
Pete & Marie La Lena  
Joe & Betty Maloney  
    Anne Dee Watson & Jo Ellen Mitchell  
Sly & Alice Nemcek  
Bud & Kathleen Offerle

**530<sup>th</sup> SQUADRON**

Nick & Nikki Chrisantho  
Marvin Gardner & Darlyne McKell  
    Bryan & Kathleen Clements  
    Lawrence & Lana Gardner  
    Marvin A. Gardner & Fran Allor  
Gordon & Norma Goecke  
Cal Killingsworth & Joan Pounsett  
Jim & Jeannie Meredith  
Charles Taylor  
Jim Wright

**531<sup>st</sup> SQUADRON**

John Annesser & Marian Hritz  
Dick & Claire Benson  
Tom Hunt  
Al & Paulette Jansen  
Samuel & Miriam Leiner  
William & Verna McCrea  
Jim & Annabelle Scalese  
OM & Mary Schoenemann  
    Brian & Nikki Schoenemann  
    Debra Campbell & Klayton Barrows  
Lyle & Clara Sears  
John Shultz Sr.  
    John & Donna Shultz Jr.  
    John & Andrea Shultz III  
    Michael & Lisa Shultz  
    Catherine Rein  
    Steve & Jen Galos  
    Dave & Sherri Johnson  
    Joseph & Linda Childers  
Edward & Barbara Walford  
Ted & Isabel Williams  
Joe Wells

**RAAF**

Angus (Gus) Cameron  
John Carroll

**ASSOCIATES**

Barb & Doug Gotham  
Joseph & Ruth Guida Jr  
Joan Murphy & Patricia Rice  
Viola Peterson & Gladys Brandt  
Nancy Walsh



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## BEST WESTERN PATRICK HENRY INN

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York and Page Streets, Williamsburg, Virginia 23647  
Phone: 757-229-9540, Toll Free Reservations: 800-446-9228 Fax: 757-220-1273

Located just across the street from Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area, the Best Western Patrick Henry Inn is within walking distance to this major attraction. Thrills and adventure await you in Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Water Country USA, located just five minutes from the Inn. You can also experience the charm and history of Jamestown and Yorktown, both within 15 minutes of the Inn, along the lovely 23-mile-long Colonial Parkway. Our knowledgeable and informative Guest Services staff handles attraction tickets, helps you with directions and stands ready to make your stay at the Best Western Patrick Henry Inn and the Williamsburg area as complete as possible.

**Number of Rooms:** 301      **Number of Floors:** 4

**Credit Cards:** Amoco Multi, Amoco Torch, American Express, Master Card, Carte Blanche, Diners Club, Discover Card, Visa

**Cancellation Policy:** Cancellation policies vary from hotel to hotel. Most current and accurate cancellation policies will appear on your confirmed reservation notification.

**Check In:** 3:00 p.m.

**Check Out:** 11:00 a.m.

**Time Zone:** Eastern Standard Time

**Airports:** Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, Norfolk International Airport, Richmond International Airport

**Pet Policy:** Small pets welcomed with a \$15 one-time pet fee.

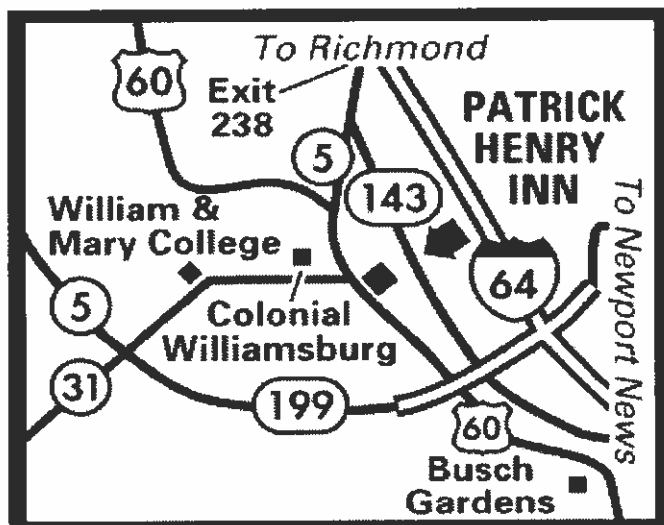
### AMENITIES

#### Hotel Amenities

- Complimentary deluxe continental breakfast
- Patriot's Dining Room
- Outdoor heated pool
- Children's playground
- Game room
- Meeting room accommodates up to 400
- Banquet facilities and services
- Coin laundry/valet services
- Children 12 and under stay free
- Elevator
- Free parking

#### Guest Rooms

- 25-inch remote cable television
- AM/FM clock radio
- Coffee/tea maker
- Hairdryer
- Iron and ironing board
- In-room safe
- Individual climate control
- Two extra long double beds
- Message alert service
- Rollaway beds available, however they do not fit in king rooms
- King whirlpool rooms are oversized and include a 2-person whirlpool
- Rooms for physically challenged guests available, 3 rooms with roll in shower
- Non-smoking rooms available



### DIRECTIONS

Take Interstate 64 Exit 238, and at the end of exit ramp there is a traffic light. Count it as number one and go to fourth light by turning left. The Best Western Patrick Henry Inn is on your left side.

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**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION**  
**2003 REUNION INFORMATION**

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**HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM**  
**BW Patrick Henry Inn**  
**Williamsburg, VA**

**September 9-13, 2003**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or  
Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rate: \$77 (single or double occupancy) + 9.5% room tax (Total \$84.32 per night)  
This rate includes a continental breakfast each morning.

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Room type: S = one person, one bed; D = two people, one bed; D/D = two people, two beds  
(Circle Choice)

Special Needs: H=Handicap facilities; N/S = Non-smoking; S=Smoking; K=King bed  
(Circle choice)

Guarantee by credit card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Please print

Cancel policy for this event: 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid penalty  
Reservations made after August 22 are subject to availability and possible rate change

Please mail or fax reservation form to: Carnevale & Associates, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1230  
Sonoita, AZ 85637  
fax: 520- 455-5866  
phone: 800-659-8808  
e-mail: carne@dakotacom.net

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As full service travel agents, we are also able to assist you with your travel arrangements  
including **air and rental cars.**

**“ONE PHONE CALL DOES IT ALL”**  
(800) 659-8808

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**380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION  
2004 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Squadron \_\_\_\_\_ 380th Duty \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if you are a \* Regular Member \_\_\_\_\_ or an \*\*Associate Member \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Associates: 380th Veteran's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Sqdn: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

\* *Regular member* means an original member of the 380th Bomb Group.

\*\**Associate member* means a family member (or other affiliation) of an original member. If you are an Associate, please give the name of the original member, your relationship to that person, and his squadron number.

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Annual payment of \$20 payable to **Carnevale & Associates** will help defray costs of mailings throughout the year. Please mail your registration form and check to:

**Carnevale & Associates  
P.O. Box 1230  
Sonoita AZ 85637**

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*Membership runs from Reunion to Reunion.*

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## B-24 LIBERATOR HISTORIC CALENDAR

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The B-24 Liberator Club has changed its name to "Bomber Legends." They are once again producing a "2004 B-24 Liberator Historic Calendar." It is packed with color and black & white photos, historical descriptions, and dates. The cost is \$10.00 plus \$2.50 shipping per calendar. The 380th will receive \$0.50 for each copy that our members purchase. Please be sure to put our organization code (380BG) on your order.



**Order your copy today!**

**\$10** (plus \$2.50 shipping & handling)

**Make your checks payable to:**  
"Bomber Legends"

***This NEW 2004 calendar is packed with photos and historical information.***

*Bomber Legends*  
**B-24 Liberator Club (380BG)**  
1672 Main Street, Ste. E - 124  
Ramona, CA 92065

As in the past, your organization will receive a portion of the sale of each calendar through Feb. 2004. We track sales by the special code in the ( ) following "B-24 Liberator Club" below.

This will probably be the last "B-24 Liberator Historic Calendar," since as noted above the organization has changed its name to "Bomber Legends" from "The B-24 Liberator Club." The editor is planning a much expanded magazine from the previous *BRIEFING* published by the B-24 Liberator Club. Including all bombers would, of course, provide a much wider range of topics for inclusion but lose the B-24 emphasis previously there.

So buy one now while you can!



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## **"FINDING BILLY"**

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Here's a description of a new book that will be published soon entitled "FINDING BILLY: An Internet Odyssey," by Diana Thompson Dale, which may be of interest to our membership.

When Billy Wisner's P-38 fighter plane disappeared over the Italian Alps in 1944, all the U.S. Government would tell his mother was that he was "missing, presumed killed." She never found out what had happened to her son. Heartbroken and frantic, she wrote letters to everyone she could think of but never got an answer. She died still desperate to know.

But we never know what legacies we leave and, unwittingly, she had passed her determination to find the truth to her granddaughter. Fifty-six years after Billy vanished, Diana Dale took advantage of the instant communications miracle of the Internet and discovered a tantalizing clue to her uncle's fate.

A government memo written in 1952 said Billy's ID bracelet and some remains had been found, a fact never revealed to Billy's family. But where? Why? How? The mystery deepened when Dale found that the government had lost the file bearing the answer. Reaching out across cyberspace, she found and enlisted the help of a far-flung network of strangers who dedicated themselves to finding Billy.

The group's only connection was the Internet, and their story shifts back and forth from the U.S. to Europe and up and down the remote Alps of northern Italy on a suspenseful digital quest for the truth.

The result is a compelling blend of history, mystery, discovery, and loss, as unlikely friendships are forged across cultures and continents.

And a life-long enigma is solved at last.

Even though Billy didn't serve in the Pacific, there may have been members of the 380th who were at Eagle Pass with Billy (or perhaps Perrin Field or the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center). He was in class 44-B.

The book is priced at \$16.95, but is offered at a pre-publication price through September 30, 2003, of \$12.95 (plus \$3.00 shipping). It's 384 pages, ISBN 0-974-15963-8. Please check out Diana's web site, [www.findingbilly.com](http://www.findingbilly.com), for more information. You can also contact her directly by email at [dianadale@viawest.net](mailto:dianadale@viawest.net) or by mail at 15 Corona Street, Denver, CO 80218-3803.

## TAPS

*Day is done, gone the sun, from the lake from the hill  
from the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.  
Thanks and praise for our days 'neath the sun, 'neath  
the stars, 'neath the sky. As we go, this we know  
God is nigh.*



## LEST WE FORGET



*529th Baldwin, Albert ("Red"), Crew Chief (Bail-out Belle), Warrior, Alabama, DOD 05/13/2003, reported by Albert "Andy" Andrews*

*529th Quigg, Earl L., Maintenance, Mill Hall, Pennsylvania, DOD 06/06/2003, reported by Albert "Andy" Andrews*

*531st Hogan, Edward S., Navigator, Cook's Crew (112), Sidney, New York, DOD 06/09/2003, reported by his widow, Ellen*

*531st Meserve, Harold ("Jim"), Armament/Armorcr, DOD 06/24/2003, Saugus, Massachusetts, reported by Joseph Palmer*

Please send TAPS information to:  
Theodore J. Williams, 208 Chippewa St..  
West Lafayette IN 47906-2123  
Phone: 765/494-7434, 765/463-7828



