



528TH



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531ST

THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 5th AF - RAAF

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

The Flying Circus

NEWSLETTER #53

Spring 2013

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HISTORIANS

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HISTORY PROJECT

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2013 REUNION COORDINATOR

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Seattle, Washington

31 July - 4 August 2013

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PRESENTATION OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD TO TED WILLIAMS, APRIL 12, 2013

On April 12, 2013, the Golden Eagle Award was presented to Captain (Dr.) Theodore J. Williams by his friend and crewmate, Mr. Joseph H. Wells, Armed Forces Community Relations Council (Ohio). This Award was originally planned to be given to Ted at the Banquet during the 2012 New Orleans 380th Reunion, but was postponed due to an unfortunate mishap with the Golden Eagle trophy just prior to that event.

The Golden Eagle Award is given annually by the Armed Forces Community Relations Council (Columbus, Ohio) to an individual who has substantially contributed to the cause of freedom.

The inscription on the Award reads:

Armed Forces Community Relations Council
MAN OF THE YEAR
2012
Theodore J. (Ted) Williams
Patriot - Professor - President
WWII Navigator B24 Liberator Bomber
Professor Purdue University
President, 380th Bomb Group 1999-2006
Many Military and Professional Awards
Joseph H. Wells, AFCRC President

The ceremony took place at University Place, West Lafayette, Indiana. Family, friends, and former Purdue University associates were present. The Air Force was represented by Col Seth Bretscher, Commander, AFROTC Detachment 220, and Professor of Aerospace Studies, Purdue University. Other members of the Air Force ROTC Detachment present were SSgt Robert Sawtell, and Cadet Jeff Kendzior, Cadet Anthony Lopez, Cadet Mitch Redmond, and Cadet Matthew Stopka (Members of the Honor Guard).

Opening remarks and introductions were made by Theodore J. Williams, Jr.

Remarks and presentation of the Golden Eagle Award were made by Joe Wells, who, along with Ted, were the last surviving members of Crew 91 of the 531st Bomb Squadron, 380th Bombardment Group (H). Joe, a Staff Sergeant at the time, was waist gunner and assistant flight engineer on the Magee Crew and was with Ted (who was the navigator) for all of his combat missions.

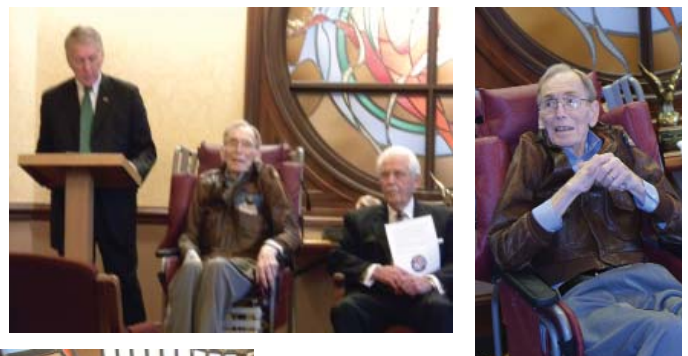
Col Bretscher and his staff were instrumental in the arrangements for this ceremony and making it a very special occasion with a close connection to the United States Air Force. Col Bretscher spoke about Air Force Heritage, and how today's AF wouldn't be what it is without the dedication and sacrifices made by the WWII generation.

He said that he and Dr. Williams share AF Heritage because they were both "navigators." In his B-24, Captain Williams flew a 17-hour mission, mostly over water, to attack Japanese oil facilities in Borneo. To get there, and back to Australia, he relied on celestial navigation to guide his B-24. Col Bretscher related his own experiences in basic navigator training and how incredibly difficult it is to have to "dead reckon" (i.e., predict or "guess") where the aircraft will be based upon time, speed, heading and winds. One simple plotting, reading, or math error throws the whole thing off and you're lost. In a B-24, on a 17-hour mission over water, the survival of the entire crew rests with the navigator.

Col Bretscher said that today's AF "stands on the shoulders" of men like Ted Williams, SSgt Joe Wells and the rest of the "Sad Sack" B-24 crew. He is a proud AF navigator today because of the direct influence of men like Capt Williams.

Dr. Williams was unable to make remarks to express his appreciation for this award himself, so his son, Ted, delivered them for him. He first thanked his dear friend and fellow airman, Joe Wells, with whom he has been friends since the early 1940s, a friendship forged in the skies over the Pacific.

Thanks were given to Col Seth Bretscher, the Purdue Air Force ROTC Honor Guard, and Detachment 220, the Purdue ROTC unit, for their participation in the event; to the Armed Forces Community Relations Council for this recognition; and to all who were able to attend.



Photos from Michael Lenehan and Barbara Gotham

THEODORE J WILLIAMS (1923 - 2013)

I am sorry to report that yesterday (April 27) our father, Ted Williams, passed away peacefully at the University Place Health Center in West Lafayette, Indiana, where he had been living following a hip fracture in January.

As you may know, Dad grew up on a farm in western Pennsylvania and flew 36 missions, including 23 combat missions, as a navigator with the 380th Bombardment Group (H) in the southwest Pacific during World War II. He earned a doctorate in chemical engineering from Pennsylvania State University and a master's in electrical engineering from Ohio State University.

Dad was a pioneer in the development and application of automated systems for industry, health related services and the military. Beginning in the late 1950s, he pioneered the first use of computers in process control, which now touch our lives every day. He was the author or co-author of 10 books, 483 technical papers, and 213 technical reports.

He was honored for his contributions at the highest levels, to include being recognized as one of the 50 most influential individuals in the science of measurements and controls. Among this list are Admiral Hyman Rickover, Dr. Wernher von Braun and the Wright brothers. During the Ford administration, he was appointed to the Naval Research Advisory Committee and sailed from San Diego to Pearl Harbor on the USS Preble to learn about Navy weapons systems and the opportunity to automate certain functions.

He retired in 1994 from Purdue University as Professor Emeritus and Director Emeritus of the Purdue Laboratory for Applied Industrial Control.

Yet, despite all of these accomplishments and accolades, he never boasted and did not have an ego. He cared about those around him and did what he could to address their concerns and support their goals.

Above it all though, he was our father who set an example of what it means to do the right thing, no matter what the consequences. He worked tirelessly for all four of his children and our mother to provide the best life possible. In each of our own ways, we have always tried to do our best to make both of our parents proud.

Now that Mom and Dad are together again, we will not waiver in our efforts to make them proud of us, because we loved, respected and were proud of them.

Ted

Theodore J. Williams, Jr.
St. Louis, MO



2012 New Orleans Reunion



Williams Family - 1994 - Ted's retirement party
(Purdue University)

THEODORE J WILLIAMS (1923 - 2013)

Theodore J. Williams, 89, died on April 27, 2013, at University Place in West Lafayette, Indiana.

A recognized leader in industrial process control and computer integrated manufacturing, he joined the faculty of Purdue University in 1965 and retired in 1994 as Professor Emeritus of Engineering and Director Emeritus of the Purdue Laboratory for Applied Industrial Control.

He received bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in chemical engineering from Penn State, and a master's degree in electrical engineering from Ohio State.

He was the author or co-author of 10 books, 483 technical papers, and 213 technical reports.

He served as president of the International Society of Automation (ISA), president of the American Federation for Information Processing Societies (AFIPS), and president of the American Automatic Control Council (AACC). He was also chairman of the Automation Research Council, a national body funded by the National Science Foundation. He served as consultant to national and governmental bodies in Argentina, Australia, Chile, England, Finland, India, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Norway, the People's Republic of China, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

During World War II, Dr. Williams served in the Pacific on B-24s as a navigator on the Magee Crew in the 531st squadron of the 380th Bombardment Group (H). He flew 36 missions, including 23 combat missions, in 1943 and 1944. He was decorated with the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He retired from the Air Force in 1956 with the rank of captain. Reflecting his interest in the shared experiences of those who served in WWII, Dr. Williams was president of the 380th Bomb Group Association, now a veterans organization, from 1999 to 2006. Along with Barbara J. Gotham, he was author of two volumes concerning the history of the 380th entitled *We Went to War*.

In the 1970s he was invited to sail on the USS PREBLE from San Diego to Pearl Harbor to observe and learn about Navy weapons systems and the opportunity to automate certain functions. He was also a past president of the Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Dr. Williams' wife of 65 years, Isabel McAnulty Williams, died in 2012. He is survived by his children: Theodore J. Williams Jr. and wife, Sherri, of St. Louis; Mary Williams and husband, Michael Lenehan, of Chicago; Charles A. Williams and wife, Jody, of West Lafayette, and Elizabeth Williams McPherson and husband, Neil, of Laramie, Wyoming; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; two sisters and a brother. He was buried in Blairsville, Pennsylvania, next to his wife.

Published in the Lafayette (IN) Journal & Courier from April 29, 2013



2007 Dayton Reunion

PHOTO TRIBUTE TO TED WILLIAMS' SERVICE TO THE 380th



2000 Reunion
San Antonio



2001 Rededication of 380th Plaque
at US Air Force Academy, Colorado
Springs

2001
Dayton
Reunion



2002 Salt Lake City Reunion



2003
Reunion
Williams-
burg VA
with
Cecelia
Meade



2004 Boston Reunion
with Paul Beilstein, Bill Gordon,
Cliff Toepperwein



2008 Tucson Reunion



2005 San Diego Reunion with Joe Wells



2006 Plaque Dedication at Hill
AFB Chapel (Utah) with Curt
Chamberlain, Tom Hunt, Mar-
vin Gardner



2009 Savannah Reunion
with Tom Hunt



2010
Branson
Reunion



2011 Colorado Springs Re-
union with Elizabeth Williams
McPherson & Mary Williams



2012 New Orleans Reunion with
Ed Walford, George Lim Poy,
Wayne Olson



Ted and Isabel received a special gift in honor of their 60th anniversary (July 18, 2006). Joe Wells arranged to have a U.S. flag flown over the U.S. Capitol on their anniversary. They were presented with this flag and a plaque during the Banquet at the 2006 Reunion in Washington DC (also in photo, Barb Gotham, Elizabeth Williams McPherson, Joe Wells, Scott Meade)

FEATURED CREW

531st Squadron
Magee Crew (91)

Seated L-R

Tech Sgt Robert R. Ogilvie - Radio Opr
Staff Sgt Maclovio Martinez - Nose Gunner
Staff Sgt Robert H. Marz - Tail Gunner
Staff Sgt Joseph H. Wells - Asst Engr
Staff Sgt Raymond E. Sepulveda - Waist Gunner

Standing L-R

1st Lt Carl D. Magee - Pilot
2nd Lt William R. Wassner - CoPilot
2nd Lt Theodore J. Williams - Navigator
2nd Lt Milton D. Wilkinson - Bombardier
Tech Sgt Raymond A. Prew - Engineer



The plane is the SAD SACK.

This picture was taken just before they took off on their 25th mission.

380TH COMMEMORATIVE BRICK

Last Fall the 380th Bomb Group Association ordered a commemorative brick to be placed on the sidewalk outside the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. Our brick reads:

380TH BOMB GROUP
RAAF/5TH AIRFORCE
SW PACIFIC 1943-45

It is now installed on the sidewalk outside of the Museum along Magazine Street in the following section: NF 23,18.

If anyone is visiting New Orleans in the next few months, please take a photo of our brick and send it to Barb Gotham for placement in an upcoming newsletter!

2014 REUNION

Discussions regarding the 2014 Reunion will be held during the 2013 Reunion in Seattle. If the group decides to go forward with another reunion, it will be on the East Coast.

Barb Gotham is attempting to collect information from potential cities, including Myrtle Beach, SC; Orlando, FL; Virginia Beach, VA; Bangor, ME; Portland, ME; the Outer Banks, NC; and Delaware.

If you have any other suggestions for possible locations, please contact: Barbara Gotham by email at 380th.ww2@gmail.com or send a note to 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906-1209

HOPi CODE TALKER 2013 EVENT

The Hopi Tribe held its second annual Hopi Code Talker Day on April 23, 2013. Photos and related story in the next newsletter!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. William C. Meadows, Professor, Missouri State University—Sociology and Anthropology. He presented his research on the Native American Code Talkers and his article: "Honoring Native American Code Talkers: The Road to the Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-420)"

MAIL CALL

Apr 30, 2013

I got word last week that the interpretive signage at the crash site of B-24 "Milady" on Cox Peninsula west of Darwin is being renewed and the site restored. I will let you know when this project is completed.

I did the signage for this way back in 2002 and had forgotten about it but I attach a painting I did of "Milady's" action (see Glenn Horton's Best in the Southwest) for your interest and the 380th files.

Cheers,
Bob Alford



Mar 26, 2013

Good-day, my dad R F Clemow (known as Fred) was trained & flew missions with the US380th 531sqn Liberators at Fenton in the Northern Territory Australia. Then with 21sqn to Morotai. Nx4400775 as part of F/o Gillespie's crew. Please see to verify <http://cas.awm.gov.au/item/OG2446>

I happened upon the 380th web site and appreciated seeing it. Noticed that dad's name was spelt Clemeau - if possible could you please correct to Clemow.

And yes he went on those "impossible" long runs to bomb Balikpapan and shipping. After training at Parkes New south Wales, as wireless operator and navigator, Fred had a fairly quiet opening to the war flying in Avro Ansons on anti submarine patrols from Laverton in Victoria with 67sqn.

His identical twin Bill (WJ Clemow) copped the rough end of the pineapple, going to the UK after further aircraft training in Canada. While serving with RAF Sqn221 was kila 27 April 1943 over the Mediterranean near the Sicilian straits.

After this Fred couldn't get into European theatre due to the Japs being Australia's priority but he transferred to Liberator training when the opportunity arose.

As I understand it Fred & Adam Gillespie hit it off upon their first meeting and flew together for all but a couple of missions. Fred also took hundreds of photographs of island terrain, shipping, aircraft, destruction after bombing runs and the troop landings at Balikpapan, some of which are in his album.

Cheers & thanks
Bob Clemow (Son of late Robert Frederick Clemow)

Clemeau, R. F(red) / 531 / (RAAF) / Bombardier, Gillespie's Crew (94) / - / MILADY

MAIL CALL

Mar 6, 2013

My name is Carl James Baldwin. I am the son of Caroline Jean Holt. My uncle is James Carl Holt. My uncle's plane went down near Ceram Island, an island in the Moluccus Group. Would anyone have any information about my uncle?

This appeared in the local paper, would anyone know Lt. J.B. Hershberger?

Ridgway Record – June 9, 1944

RIDGWAY FLIER MAY BE SAFE

Mrs. Carl Holt of Sherman Avenue, has received a letter from Lt. J.B. Hershberger, a member of the crew of the bomber on which her son, Sgt. James C. Holt, was a radio operator. The information gives her great hopes for the safety of her son, reported missing in action in the South Pacific May 8, while serving at Ceram Island 1,000 miles north of Australia.

Lt. Hershberger, who was not aboard the plane because of a mangled foot, said that information brought back to camp was that the plane made a water landing when only 30 miles from land and could have drifted to land as there was land on four sides of them.

Lt. Hershberger is enroute to the states and he advised Mr. Holt that he will give her further information when he arrives.

Any information anyone has would be appreciated.

Thank-you

Carl

Mar 20, 2013

I'm searching for the origin of the use of "Herky the Clown", mascot of the 528th. Any leads would be appreciated.

Keith Herkalo

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

News #53 - SPRING 2013



529th - Dokken, Forrest G., Navigator, Watkins' Crew, DOD 1966, Whittier, California, reported by his son, Forrest "Skip" Dokken Jr.

531st - Williams, Theodore J., Navigator, Magee's Crew (91), DoD April 27, 2013, West Lafayette, Indiana, reported by his son, Theodore J. Williams, Jr.