Vernon Garrison

Vernon Garrison, 67, 765 Squadron, passed away September 3, 1989 after a long illness due to cancer. He was born August 25, 1922 and was a decorated veteran of World War II and Korea. A command pilot for 28 years, he flew the B-24 Liberator with the 461st Bomb Group. He and his crew were identified with ship #28 "Plastered Bastard". He ended his Air Force career flying B-52's in 1968.



Upon his retirement he returned to college on the GI Bill receiving a masters degree from the University of Texas at Austin and then launched a second career as a senior counselor with the Texas Rehabilitation Center. He was honored by his peers upon his retirement in 1987 with the naming of the "Vernon Garrison Workshop" in Houston.

For the past 20 years, Vernon was an avid genealogist making several contributions to the Clayton Historical Library and many other genealogical libraries, as well. A member of the National Genealogy Society, and the Illinois Genealogy Society, his love of his hobby took him around the country and Europe, chronicling Garrison family history.

As a member of the 461st & 484th Bomb Groups Association, he supported the Association, the scholarship program, and attended many reunions with his wife Edie. He first became a member in 1982.

Vernon was preceded in death by two sons, Charles Mark Garrison in 1959, and Larry Wayne Garrison in 1969. He is survived by his wife Edith Larie, one daughter, two sons, 11 grandchildren, and twelve great grandchildren.

Clarence C Young

Clarence C Young, 827 Squadron, passed away September 18, 1989 due to a heart attack. He had not been ill up to the time of his death.

He served as a Bombardier on Aaron Scharf's crew. His crew departed the United States in July of 1944 to deliver aircraft B-24J 42-30970 to Gioia, Italy. Other members of the crew are: Arron Schrarf-Pilot, Donald S Rogers-Co/pilot, Leslie H Kummer-Navigator, William A Rau-Engineer, John H Nicolai-Radio/Operator, John J Jennings-Gunner, Robert E Gilley-Gunner, Oran Patillo Jf-Gunner, and Robert L Meinhold Jr,-Gunner.

He contributed many documents, photographs, negatives and maps to the Association's library. He and his wife, Helen, attended many of the earlier reunions. He was soft spoken with a ready smile, and exuded a joy of life.

Joel Moe

Joel Moe, 825 Squadron, We were notified on February 8, 1989 by the United States Postal Service that Joel was deceased. He was the 825 squadron commander and flew Moe's Meteor #300

Photo (right) Joel Moe.

Photo (below) a late model B-24L, one of the squadron "mickey ships" so called because it was equipped with H2X radar navigation/bombing electronics.





James David Gunnels



James David Gunnels 64, ASN 38441436, 824 Squadron, passed away March 8, 1989 from complications following eye surgery. He was born in Big Lake, Texas on February 1, 1925. He grew up in McCamey, Texas, where he worked as a projectionist at a local movie theater. Immediately following graduation from high school, Jim was called to service in World War II.

Photo (above) Jim Gunnels

He joined the Army Air Corps hoping to become a pilot, but washed out because he was color blind. He became a radio operator on a B-24 bomber crew with the Italian based 484th Bomb Group at Torretta, just outside of Cerignola, Italy.

The pilot of Jim's crew was J E White, (now Col Ret USAF/Ret) who conducted Jim's funeral service. Jim flew 24 combat missions and he and his crew had their share of close calls but the entire crew came home together unscathed.

Jim joined the Air Force reserve following his release from active duty, and in December 1954, the Air Force tapped him to help with the implementation of its new general accounting system. The recall was for two years, but at the end of that