

Ode To The Service

Come, step up my friend and quench your thirst
While I tell you the story of the 341st,
A double one, Barkeep, a beer for my friend
While I give you the yarn from beginning to end.

T'was early in spring of the year '42,
All hell was a popping across the deep blue;
It seemed that the Heinies as well as the Japs,
Had been setting our boys on the rear of their laps.

Wake Island fell first with a hll of a thud,
Bataan followed suit though they paid well in blood;
It soon looked like all off our far western lands
Were destined to end up in enemy hands.

Air fields were needed and needed damn fast,
As bases from which our big bombers could blast;
In the middle of all this strife and commotion
The powers that be, in their head got a notion.

Not far from Japan, up near the North Pole,
We held the trump card, that old ace in the hole.
Alaska, from whence fire and death we could send,
Till old Hirohito called things to an end.

Only one thing was lacking and that was a "road",
'Cause airplanes and ships could not carry the load;
Trucks and more trucks going morning and night
Would soon lick the Jap dogs and put them to flight.

Fort St. John, B.C., was the jumping off place,
The cold and the snow were our foes in the race;
Thru spruce, pine, and hemlock, thru poplar, and brush,
We ploughed on like demons, our byword was -RUSH!

Swamp holes and muskeg both small ones and large,
Soon dried up and died, onward, onward, we'd charge
With shovel and picks, with axe and saw,
Till backs cried in pain and hands blistered raw.

Shoovel and carrier, D4, 8 and 7,
Turned hell holes of mud into roads fit for heaven,
We slept in the open, our roof was the sky,
With a log for a pillow on pine boughs we'd lie.

We ne'er saw a woman, not even a squaw,
No whiskey or beer tho' our tongues hang out raw;
"Skeeters" and black flies, wood ticks and gnats,
They buzzed and they bit 'till we thought we'd go bats.

What's that you ask lad? How was the food?
T'would take too long to tell and I'm not in the mood.
All these things I heard as I sat face to face
With the man and the lad in Smokey Joe's Place.

(OVER)

How did the road go? Did they finish on time?
You'll never find out by reading this rhyme,
For their voices dropped lower, then rose with a roar,
And the younger of them lay prone on the floor.

A round bluish hole right square in his head,
Wrote an end to that friendship, the poor lad was dead.
What was the reason? It's a mystery to me,
I've since racked my brains but none do I see.

Unless there's a clue in the last words they spoke,
All the kid said was this, perhaps he was rash,
"My Dad is a packer of canned corn beef hash".

---Pvt. T. Kane, # 341st Engrs.

What do you think of that poem? That's what I have been
saying all along.

Monday I met a fellow from La Salle, Illinois. He seemed to
know every tavern in LaSalle and Bureau Counties. He said
that he knew Mr. Tieman.

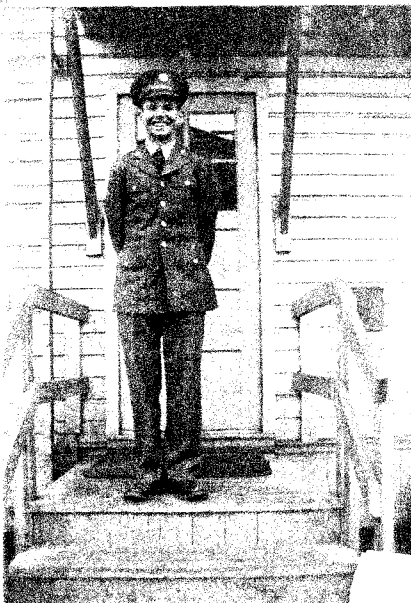
Well I'll have to be closing now 'cause I spent nearly
3hrs. typing this already.

So Long For Now,
Your Son,
Ellsworth Croissant.
"Blackie"

P.S. Sorry to hear about Mrs. Huettemann and Mr. Chiado.
I didn't think he was that though.
I made out an allotment yesterday, which probably
won't go into effect until August '42.

~~xxxxxx~~
We'll be having blueberry and blackberry pie at 10 p.m.
so I'll have to be closing now for sure. O

P.S. Excuse the writing I mean the typing.



CERTIFICATE



OF VALOR

ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT
1st Lt. 0785572

AWARDS
Air Medal with two
Ox Leaf Clusters

Major General Nathan F. Twining, Commanding Fifteenth Air Force
has directed that this certificate be presented you:

ACHIEVEMENTS
21 Combat sorties
over enemy territory

IN RECOGNITION OF
COURAGEOUS SERVICE

AERIAL COMBAT

J. C. BAILEY, 1st COL., AC
459TH BOMBARDMENT (HV)

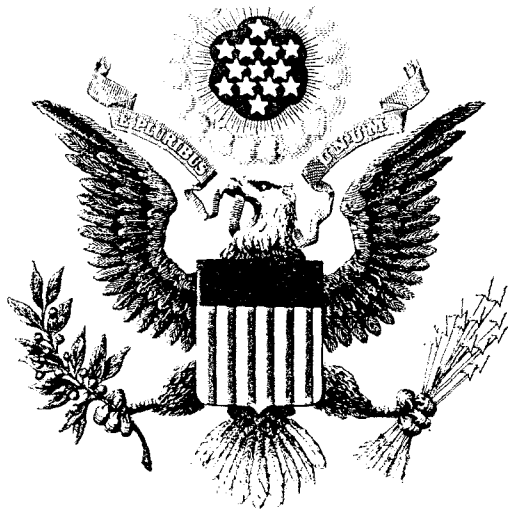
Commanding
Group

European-African-Middle Eastern
Theatre ribbon with Bronze Battle
Participation Stars for North
Apennines, Po Valley and Rhine-
land Campaign

W. R. MOUTZ

LT COL., AIR CORPS
304TH BOMBARDMENT WING (HV)

Commanding



IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF

First Lieutenant Ellsworth L. Croissant

WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY

in the American Area, September 22, 1945.

HE STANDS IN THE UNBROKEN LINE OF PATRIOTS WHO HAVE DARED TO DIE

THAT FREEDOM MIGHT LIVE, AND GROW, AND INCREASE ITS BLESSINGS.

FREEDOM LIVES, AND THROUGH IT, HE LIVES—

IN A WAY THAT HUMBLER THE UNDERTAKINGS OF MOST MEN

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Harry Truman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the signature.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APRIL 7, 1942

On behalf of the Officers and Non Commissioned officers of this company, I want to thank you men for the fine spirit of co-operation you have shown during this training period.

We are proud of your accomplishments here and know you will be a credit both to us and your new organization.

When you leave here it is with my personal wishes for the best of luck - always.

Kenneth R Johnson

Kenneth R. Johnson, Capt. D.C.
COMMANDING

Farewell Dinner



COMPANY "D".
30th. MEDICAL TRAINING BATTALION
CAMP GRANT, ILLINOIS

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

To: *Commander Croissant*
Ellsworth L
 From: *APD 15855114*
7, Postwar
21 Jan 45

GREETINGS FROM ITALY

DEAR			
Mother	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Dad	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Wife	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Sweetheart	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Sis	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Brother	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Friend	<input type="checkbox"/>		
HOW ARE YOU?			
I AM			
Missing you	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lonesome	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Well	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Happy	<input type="checkbox"/>		
WISH I HAD			
You	<input type="checkbox"/>		
More sleep	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Someone to love me	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Some kisses	<input type="checkbox"/>		
More ambition	<input type="checkbox"/>		
DOING LOTS OF			
Sight seeing	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Thinking of you	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Work	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Loafing	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Sleeping	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Nothing	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Movies	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Everything	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Traveling	<input type="checkbox"/>		



HOPE YOU HAVE

Everything you want

Behaved yourself

Been having fun

Kept well

Been true to me

Not forgotten how to write

ITALY IS

Sunny

Beautiful

Hot

Smelly

Picturesque

THE FOOD IS

Fair

Lousy

Good

Dehydrated

ARE YOU

Going out with a girl on

Spending my allotment

money

Saving out late at night

Missing me

Happy

THINGS ARE

Fine

Rough

Slow

Exciting

WILL BE

Going to work

Thinking of you

Wearing you again

Going to bed

I HAVE SEEN

U. S. O. Shows

Fights

Baseball Games

Lots of good looking

girls

YOURS

Till the cows come home

With love

Sincerely

Forever

NAME _____

AMERICAN RED CROSS
 ITALY
V-MAIL

ALLOTTER CROISSANT ELLSWORTH L 0-785572
 (Last Name) (First) (Middle) (Army Serial Number)

GRADE OR RANK 2ND LT \$ 150.00 1/45
 (Monthly Amount) (Beginning 1st Day Of)

CREDIT OF _____ 20 JAN 45
 (If Allottee Is Bank) (Acknowledgment Date)

IMPORTANT
 First payment on this allotment will be made on or about
15 FEB
 Subsequent payments will be made shortly after the beginning of each succeeding month

ALLOTTEE:
 MRS HARRIET M CROISSANT
 WEBSTER PARK
 SPRING VALLEY ILLINOIS

COMMANDING OFFICER OR ALLOTTER:

WD ODB Form No. 230
 Revised Nov. 1943

21-3-E-922 **MAIL TO THIS ADDRESS PLEASE READ REVERSE SIDE**

SEASONS GREETINGS
45-Cen 1779928945

CALENDAR FOR 1943

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

JANUARY	APRIL
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
FEBRUARY	MAY
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
MARCH	JUNE
SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

AMERICAN RED CROSS

**Assembly Entertainment Course
Hall Township High & Vocational School**

The bearer Ellsworth Croissant

is a paid member of the Hall Township High and Vocational School Entertainment Course

For the school year 1939-1940

J. Hayes

PERSONAL AFFAIRS SECTION
CHANUTE FIELD, ILL.

JOSEPH A. STRADLEY
MAJOR AIR CORPS
PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

CHANUTE FIELD 1234
EXT. 306

FRANCIS T. GRABOWSKI
CAPTAIN, AIR CORPS
ASST. PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

WAR DEPARTMENT—AAF Form No. 28-B
(Revised 1 November 1943)—(Front)
ARMY AIR FORCES
PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST AND RECORD CARD

Name Ellsworth Croissant Rank or grade A/C
(First) (Last)
Age 20 yrs. Height 71 in. Serial No. 1653896

CUMULATIVE RECORD

Test No.	STATION	Squad-ron	Date	Wt.	P. Physical F. Fitness R. Rating
1	PEARSON COLB	A	1/25/40	148	58
2	"	C	1/25/40	152	58
1	MAXWELL	B-7	1/25/40	152	63
2	MAXWELL	"	1/25/40	152	63
1	TOWNELL	D	1/25/40	152	60
2	"	D	1/25/40	152	63
1	CARLSBAD	44-12	1/25/40	152	72
2	CARLSBAD	44-12	1/25/40	152	78

1
2
3
4
5

SCORING PROCEDURE.—John Doe makes the following record: He sits-up 37 times, circles score @ (does not circle performance record); chins 8 times, circles score @; runs the shuttle-run in 53 seconds, circles score @; adds the three scores: 52+49+56=157; locates 157 (the nearest number is 150) in "Sum of Scores" in column under P. F. R.; circles the P. F. R. score @, which is to the right of 150. Thus 52 is the Physical Fitness Rating of John Doe, which places him in the "Good" category. Whenever the number which represents the performance record, or sum of scores is not listed, select the nearest number and properly record.

PHYSICAL FITNESS PROFILE.—To make profile, connect each circle with a straight line.



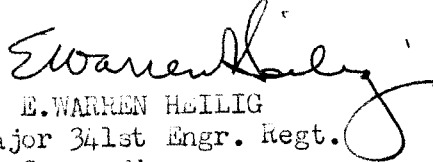
HEADQUARTERS 341ST ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. 996 c/o Postmaster
Seattle, Washington

April 1, 1943.

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Pvt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, 16053806
TO : President, Aviation Cadet Examining Board.

As Commanding Officer of this regiment, I have had frequent contact with Pvt. Ellsworth L. Croissant and had ample opportunity to observe his work.

I am completely confident that Private Croissant possesses all the physical and mental qualities necessary to successfully complete the Aviation Cadet Training Course. His character is excellent, he is trustworthy, honest and has always performed his present duty in a capable manner.


E. WARREN HELLIG
Major 341st Engr. Regt.
Commanding

MEDICAL DETACHMENT
341st ENGINEER REGIMENT (GS)
A.P.O. 996, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON


April 20, 1943

SUBJECT: Recommendation For Appointment As Aviation Cadet.

TO : The Commanding General, Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas, Utah.

1. Application of Pvt. ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT (16053806). Medical Detachment, 341st Engineer Regiment (GS), approved.

2. Private Croissant is of good character, very responsive, has the ability to grasp and retain whatever taught. As medical aid man in my Battalion Aid station he has always shown good judgement with a cool and collected attitude, irregardless how serious the condition. With these characteristics and the tremendous interest that he has for aviation, I believe he is a good candidate for aviation cadet training.


CHARLES J. ANTONNI
Captain, M. C.
Battalion Surgeon.

C0

MEDICAL DETACHMENT
341st ENGINEER REGIMENT (GS)
A.P.O. # 996, SEATTLE, WASH.

1 April 1943.

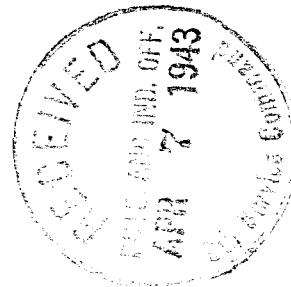
SUBJECT: Recommendation For Appointment As Aviation Cadet.

TO : The Commanding General, Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas,
Utah.

1. Application of Pvt. ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT (16053806), Medi-
cal Detachment, 341st Engineer Regiment (GS), approved.

2. This soldier is young, energetic, and very anxious to improve
himself in the Army. It is believed that he is definite material for
Aviation Cadet training, and if considered, would be a credit to the
service. The undersigned is glad to recommend him for this training.

J. Lester Harwell
J. LESTER HARWELL
Major, M.C.
Commanding.



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1204

SYMBOLS

- DL = Day Letter
- NT = Overnight Telegram
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

OK NL

Nashville Tenn 1-10-44

Mrs Walter Crossant

Route 1 - Spring Valley Ill

*Couldnt make pulas on account
2:00 3:00 eyes was classified as Bomb-
dier going up for processing to-
morrow morning will write wife
later*

A/S E L Crossant

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

8 19-44



United States Army Air Forces

The Army Air Forces

Bombardier School

f

Carlsbad, New Mexico

announces the graduation of

Class 44-12

Saturday morning, September second

Nineteen hundred and forty-four

Carlsbad, New Mexico

E. L. CROISSANT

LIEUTENANT, AIR CORPS
ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

*Harold,
See you in the Valley
Sept 5 to Sept 13. Be there
if you can.*

*Lt. (Blanchard)
Croissant*

BACK of CARD

SENT to HAROLD CROISSANT

United States Army
Air Forces
Bombardier School

Be it known that

AVIATION CADET ELLSWORTH LAVERNE CROISSANT, 16053806

Has satisfactorily completed the course of instruction

PRESCRIBED FOR

Aircraft Observer Bombardier

at Carlsbad Army Air Field, Carlsbad, New Mexico

In Testimony Whereof and by Virtue of Vested Authority

I DO CONFER UPON HIM THIS



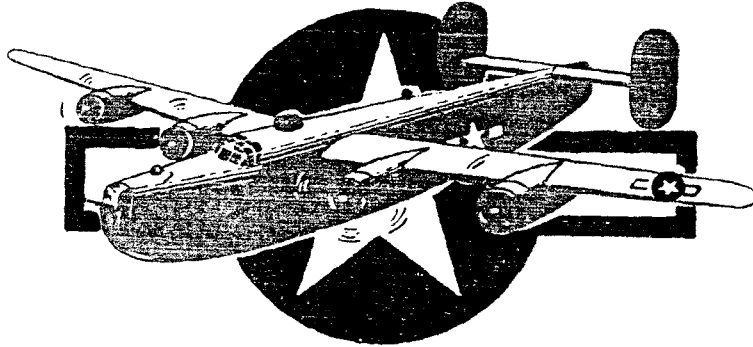
Given at A.A.F.B.S., Carlsbad, New Mexico this SECOND day
of SEPTEMBER in the year of our Lord one thousand
nine hundred and FORTY-FOUR.

Attest:

J. P. RYAN
COLONEL, AIR CORPS
COMMANDING

JOHN P. McCORRY
MAJOR, AIR CORPS
FOR THE OBSERVATIONS

213th Combat Crew Training Station
Mountain Home Air Field
Mountain Home, Idaho



This is to Certify, That _____

2ND LT ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT 0785572

has satisfactorily completed the course
of training for combat crews
as prescribed by Headquarters, Second Air Force
and given at

Mountain Home Army Air Field, Idaho

Given on this _____ day of _____ in the
year of Our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and forty-four.

Attest:

John T. Compton
Major, Air Corps
Director of Training

William H. ...
Colonel, Air Corps
Commanding

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

1204

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

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C FR 205-203 GOVT

AG SIOUX FALLS SDAK 130P SEPT 23 1945

MRS HARRIET MAY CROISSANT
SPRING VALLEY ILL

S F GF3735 PERIOD I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SON 1ST LT ELLSWORTH LEVERNE CROSSANT 0785572 HAS BEEN KILLED DUE TO AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT STOP PLANE ON WHICH YOUR SON WAS A PASSENGER CRASHED THREE MILES WEST OF ARLINGTON WISCONSIN AT 340PM 22 SEPTEMBER 1945 STOP ALL ABOARD WERE KILLED INSTANTLY STOP LETTER FOLLOWS STOP DECEASED IS NOW AT FITCH-LAWRENCE FUNERAL DIRECTORS 626 UNIVERSITY AVE MADISON WISCONSIN STOP KINDLY WIRE COLLECT TO COMMANDING GENERAL TRUAX ARMY AIR FIELD MADISON WISCONSIN WHETHER YOU DESIRE REMAINS WHICH WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY ESCORT SHIPPED DIRECT HOME OR DIRECT TO A NATIONAL CEMETERY STOP NATIONAL CEMETERY NEAREST YOUR HOME IS ROCK ISLAND NATIONAL CEMETERY ROCK ISLAND ILLINOIS STOP IF SHIPMENT HOME IS DESIRED PLEASE FURNISH NAME AND ADDRESS OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR SELECTED BY YOU TO RECEIVE REMAINS AT DESTINATION STOP IF SHIPMENT DIRECT TO NATIONAL CEMETERY IS DESIRED PLEASE DESIGNATE BY NAME NATIONAL CEMETERY TO WHICH REMAINS SHOULD BE SHIPPED STOP FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARD INTERMENT EXPENSES STOP KINDLY INCLUDE IN YOUR WIRE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF A PERSON DESIGNATED TO INCURE THESE INTERMENT EXPENSES STOP MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO YOU AND OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY AT THIS TIME

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

ROBERT E TRAVIS BRIG GEN AG COMDG

71-3005

HEADQUARTERS
SIOUX FALLS ARMY AIR FIELD
Office of the Commanding General
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

23 September 1945

Mrs. Harriet May Croissant
Webster Park
Spring Valley, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Croissant;

With keenest regret I confirm the telegram informing you of the untimely death of your son, Lieutenant Ellsworth Laverne Croissant, who lost his life as a result of an aircraft accident while participating in a routine flight on September 22, 1945, near Madison, Wisconsin.

It has been brought to my attention that your son's performance of duty was marked by persistent, energetic endeavor to attain a superior military record and that he lived up to the best traditions of the Army Air Forces.

Little can be said at this time to relieve your grief but may the memory that your son answered his country's call and gave his life for its cause be of increasing consolation as time goes by.

If there is any way in which I may be of service to you, I shall consider it a real privilege to be able to be of assistance.

Very sincerely,



ROBERT F. TRAVIS
Brigadier General, Air Corps
Commanding

Lt. E. L. Croissant Dies in Plane Crash

Young Webster Park
Officer Expected
Discharge this Week



1st Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Croissant, Webster Park, and a veteran bombardier-navigator with the 15th air forces overseas, was killed instantly at 3:40 p. m. Sunday when a transport ship, on which he was aboard, crashed three miles west of Arlington, Wis., near Madison, killing all seven aboard.

Lt. Croissant, who had been awarded the Air medal with three Oak Leaf clusters and three battle stars for participation in the North Appennine, Po Valley, and Rhineland campaigns, expected to be discharged from the air corps this week.

Word of the tragic event reached his parents at 9:30 p. m. Sunday in a telegram from Brig. Gen. Robert E. Travis, commanding officer at the Sioux Falls, S. D., air base. The plane was a twin-engined transport and was en route from Sioux Falls to an undisclosed destination.

Lt. Croissant enlisted at Camp Grant Feb. 5, 1942, and received his basic training in the medical corps there. In April, he was transferred to the Alcan highway project in Alaska where he served for 16 months. He was honorably discharged from the medical corps in August 1943 whereupon he joined the air corps.

Overseas In January

After extensive training at Keesler Field, Miss.; Miami Beach, Fla.; Maxwell Field, Ala.; and Tyndall Field, Fla.; he was sent to Carlsbad, N. M., where he was commissioned, Sept. 4, 1944. He was sent to Mt. Home, Idaho, and then overseas in January, 1945.

He returned from Italy, July 1, 1945, and spent 30 days at home before going to Sioux Falls. Lt. Croissant, in addition to other awards, holds the presidential unit citation, and was recently awarded a Certificate of Valor for achieving 21 combat sorties over enemy terri-

tory.

Lt. Croissant was born in Peru, July 3, 1923, and received his early education there. He is a graduate of the Hall township high school, Spring Valley.

Before enlisting in the army he was employed at the Braida oil station in Webster Park.

He is survived by his parents, and the following brothers and sisters: Pfc. Harold Croissant, Cape May Point, N. J.; Donald, Delbert, Florence, Romilda, Sally and Bernadine, all at home. His maternal grandmother, Mrs. Eva Klein, resides at Yuma, Ariz.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete pending arrival of the body from Madison. The body will be taken to the family home in Webster Park and burial will be in the Peru city cemetery.

LT. E. L. CROISSANT

Funeral services for 1st Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, Webster Park, who died Sunday afternoon in a crash of a transport plane near Arlington, Wis., will be held at 1:30 p. m. Thursday from the family residence at Webster Park. The cortege will then move to the Spring Valley Congregational church for services at 2 p. m. in charge of the pastor, the Rev. William T. Hosking. Burial will be in the Peru city cemetery.

Military burial rites will be according the young flier at the grave by members of the Dominic O'Berto post, American Legion, Spring Valley.

Details of the crash are not known but it was learned that the plane was en route to Truax Field, Madison, Wis., approximately 20 miles from the spot where the crash occurred. Lt. Croissant was believed to be en route to his home in Webster Park. He expected a discharge this week after a period of combat service with the 15th air force in Italy.

Accompanying the body as a military escort from Madison, Wis., were two "buddies" of Lt. Croissant. They were Lt. W. C. Johnson, Manistee, Mich.; and Lt. R. J. Kashnig, Sheboygan, Wis. Both officers had seen overseas service with the Webster Park officer and have been stationed with him at the Sioux Falls air base.

LT. E. L. CROISSANT

Funeral services for 1st Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, Webster Park, 15th air force veteran who died in a plane crash Sunday, will be held at 1:30 p. m. Thursday from the family home to the Spring Valley Congregational church, where the pastor, the Rev. William T. Hosking, will officiate at services starting at 2 p. m. Burial will be in Peru city cemetery where members of the Dominic O'Berto post, Spring Valley American Legion, will conduct military rites.

Sept. 26, 1945

Stewart and Miss Wilson.

Call Service Men

Commander Ed J. Coveny of the Dominic Oberto Post, American Legion, today asked all members of the post and all members of the armed forces of World War II who are home on leave or furlough to meet at the American Legion hall at 8 o'clock Wednesday night.

A service party is to be made up to go to the Croissant home at Webster Park to pay respects at the bier of Lt. Ellsworth Croissant, who was killed in a transport crash near Madison, Wis.

Servicemen are also being asked to make plans to form an honor assembly at the funeral services.

1st June

TO VISIT CROISSANT BIER

Members of the Dominic Oberto Post, American Legion, and all servicemen home on leave and furlough have been asked to meet tonight at 8 o'clock at the American Legion home here. The group will go to Webster Park to pay respects at the bier of Lt. Ellsworth Croissant, who lost his life in a plane crash near Madison, Wis.

Sunday.

Writes Tribute To Lt. E. Croissant

Atty. Martin Croissant, Pittsburgh, Pa., has written the following tribute to Lt. Ellsworth Croissant, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Croissant, Webster Park, who was killed in an airplane accident in Wisconsin Sept. 22.

Somewhere,
Somewhere beyond the sunset
Where loveliness never dies,
Where days are everlasting
'Neath the blue of the wondrous sky;
Where love and understanding
Live on forever more,
He lives in a home of Glory
And dwells at last with God.

WEBSTER PARK YOUNG AIR MAN DIES IN CRASH

Lt. Ellsworth Croissant Killed In Army Plane Crash

First Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Croissant, Webster Park, Spring Valley, veteran of overseas combat service who expected to receive his discharge from the Army Air Forces, on October 1, was one of seven men killed in the crash of a twin-engined army transport plane 20 miles north of Madison, Wis., Saturday.

The plane was en route from Sioux Falls, S. D., but Brig. Gen. Vincent J. Meloy, commander at Truax Field, Wis., said its mission was unknown to authorities there.

Mr. and Mrs. Croissant at 9:30 o'clock Sunday night received a telegram from Brig. Gen. Robert E. Travis, commanding officer at Sioux Falls, informing them that their son had been killed three miles west of Arlington, Wis., at 3:40 p. m. Saturday.

Lt. Croissant had last written his parents Sept. 12, informing them that he expected a discharge next week.

The Webster Park serviceman enlisted at Camp Grant Feb. 5, 1942, and he received his basic training there in the army medical corps. In April, 1942, he was transferred to the Alcan highway project in Alaska, and he served there for 16 months. He was honorably discharged from the medical corps in August, 1943 and thereupon enlisted in the air corps.

After extensive training at Keesler Field, Miss.; Miami Beach, Fla.; Nashville, Tenn.; Maxwell Field, Ala., and Tyndall Field, Fla., he was sent to Carlsbad, N. M., where he was commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded his wings Sept. 4, 1944. He was then assigned to Mt. Home, Ida., where he remained until December, and was sent overseas in January. It was during his last overseas service that he was promoted to first lieutenant.

As a bombardier-navigator on a B-24, he served six months with the 12th Air Force. He was awarded the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters and three battle stars for participation in the North Appennine, Po Valley and Rhineland campaigns, and also held the Presidential Unit citation. He had recently been awarded a Certificate of Valor for 21 combat sorties over enemy territory.

Lt. Croissant returned to the U. S. from Italy last July 1 and spent a 30-day leave at home before going to Sioux Falls.

The young man was born in Peru July 3, 1923, and received his early education in Peru and Spring Valley. He was graduated from Hall township high school in 1941. Before he enlisted he was employed at the Braida service station in Webster Park.

Surviving are his parents and the following brothers and sisters: Pfc. Harold Croissant, Cape May Point, N. J.; Donald, Delbert, Florence, Romilda, Sally and Bernadine, all at home. His maternal grandmother, Mrs. Eva Klein, resides in Yuma, Ariz.

A military funeral was held Thursday afternoon from the home at Webster Park. The cortege moved to the Spring Valley Congregational church for services at 2 p. m. in charge of the pastor, the Rev. William T. Hosking. Burial was in the Peru city cemetery.

Military burial rites were in charge of members of the Dominic O'Berta post, American Legion, Spring Valley.

Accompanying the body as a military escort from Madison, Wis., were two "buddies" of Lt. Croissant. They were Lt. W. C. Johnson, Manistee, Mich., and Lt. R. J. Kashing, Sheboygan, Wis. Both officers had seen overseas service with the Webster Park officer and have been sta-

DEATHS and FUNERALS

Last Rites Held For Lt. Croissant

Funeral services for 1st Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, Webster Park, were held at 1:30 p. m. Thursday in the family home with the cortege moving to the Spring Valley Congregational church for services at 2 p. m. in charge of the pastor, the Rev. William T. Hosking. Burial was in the Peru city cemetery.

Services at the grave were in charge of the Dominic O'Berta post, Spring Valley American Legion, which also provided an honorary military escort.

Pallbearers were, T/5 Jack Greener, Pfc. Edward Trillet, S/Sgt. John Tieman, Bruno Bernabei and Thomas Cassidy. The latter two are discharged veterans of World War II.

Those from out of town attending the final rites for the young flier were Mr. and Mrs. John Croissant, and Mrs. Ruth Washkowiak, Fairmount, Minn.; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Klein, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lundahl, and William Lundahl, East Moline; Mrs. Eva Klein and Fred Klein, Yuma, Ariz.; and the flier's brother, Pfc. Harold Croissant, stationed at Cape May Point, N. J.

Information reaching here confirmed the fact that Lt. Croissant was en route home for a short leave when the transport ship crashed near Madison, Wis., last Sunday afternoon. He was to have landed at Truax Field, Madison, and journeyed home by train.

A farmer near the scene of the crash reported that rain was falling at the time and the area was covered with a heavy fog. Aboard the ship were two army captains, two majors, and an army private, the latter en route home, having been discharged at Sioux Falls, S. D., that morning. All were killed in the crash.

Sept. 27, 1945

Son of Sterling Man Is Killed Sunday in An Airplane Crash

1st Lt. Ellsworth L. Croissant, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Croissant of Spring Valley was killed Sunday in a plane crash at Appleton, Wis.

Lt. Croissant enlisted in the medical corps in February, 1942, and was sent to Camp Grant for training in April, 1942. He was transferred to Fort Ord, Calif., for two weeks and then transferred to the Alcan highway, which was completed in 1943. He was then transferred to the air corps. He received his training at Nashville, Tenn., then sent to Montgomery, Ala., then to Florida and received his commission and wings at Carlsbad, N. M. He was home on leave for a few weeks, then was sent to Mt. Home, Idaho, and in December, 1944, was sent to Italy.

He served as a bombardier with the 15th air force and returned to the United States July 1, 1945. He was home until August 1, when he was sent to Sioux Falls, S. D. A letter was received from him a week ago. A few days ago a letter was returned from him from Sioux Falls.

Lt. Croissant is survived by his parents and the following brothers and sisters: Pfc. Harold Croissant, who is with the coast artillery at Camp May, N. J.; Bernadine, Sally Jane, Florence Romilda, Donald and Delbert, all at home.

He is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Croissant. Mr. Croissant is employed by the Rock Falls works of the I. H. C., and resides at the Galt hotel. He and his daughter, Bernadine, were formerly employed by G. R. O. P., for over two years.

The funeral will be held at Peru, Ill., Thursday or Friday.

Military Services

Peter Ternetti was in charge of military services conducted by Dominic Oberto Post, American Legion, during the funeral of Lt. Ellsworth Croissant, who was killed in a plane crash.

Pallbearers were Thomas Cassidy, S Sgt. John Tieman, 1st Sgt. Robert Saffron, T/5 John Greener, Pfc. Edward Trillet and Bruno Bernabei.

The firing squad consisted of Edward Wosick, John Peterson, Fred Parochetti, Ralph Engelman, William Doig, Arthur Norberg, Louis Enrietto and Albert Cavalca. Color bearers were Arthur Chiesi, Raymond Casford, Charles Eschenbaum, Charles Noe, Roy Conway, Lloyd Pierson and Peter Hollerich.

Edward J. Coveny was commander, with James Doyle as chaplain and William Booker bugler.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1204

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Shtp Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

G FR 5 TOUR

PHILADELPHIA ~~XXR~~ PENNA 336P SEPT 24 1945

MRS WALTER CROISSANT
WEBSTER PARK

WILL BE HOME TUESDAY MORNING

HAROLD

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

EVERETT M. DIRKSEN, M.C.
16TH DIST. ILLINOIS

October 1, 1945

WENDELL E. CABLE
SECRETARY

My dear Mr. and Mrs. Croissant:

Please accept my sincere sympathy in
your bereavement.

Sincerely,

Everett M. Dirksen
Everett M. Dirksen

Trux Field Misc 506 p Sept 24 1945

Mrs Crossant

HQ 9-552 remains of 1st Lt Ellsworth Lawrence Crossant have been prepared for burial placed in casket is being shipped at Government expense in accordance with your request. Arrival at LaSalle is scheduled for approximately 130am 25 Sept 1945 via Rock Island R.R. train No 5

Second Lt Robt J Kasmit will accompany remains as escort undertaker is being furnished this information check covering \$50.00 govt allowance toward burial expense will be forwarded upon execution of certificate which follows with letter

Vincent J. Miloy.

Bridg. Gen. J.S.A. Comdg.

PERSONAL AFFAIRS SECTION
SCOTT FIELD, ILLINOIS

APA/WBC/dsh

21 November 1945

Mrs. Harriet May Croissant
Webster Park
Spring Valley, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Croissant:

It is with regret that the Personal Affairs Section at Scott Field has learned of the death of your son, 1st Lt. Ellsworth Leverne Croissant, in the service of his country. Please accept our deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Acting on behalf of the Army Air Forces, this office wishes to render all assistance possible to you in settling promptly and efficiently his personal affairs.

In the near future, a representative from this office will call at your home to answer any questions connected with the government benefits to which you are entitled, and to advise you regarding other matters which need attention at this time.

Very truly yours,



WILLIAM B. COOKE
Major, Air Corps
Personal Affairs Officer

HEADQUARTERS
SIOUX FALLS ARMY AIR FIELD
Office of the Personal Affairs Officer
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

4 October 1945

Mrs. Harriet May Croissant
Webster Park
Spring Valley, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Croissant:

We wish to add our own expression of sympathy to those you have already received.

May we take this opportunity to acquaint you with the mission of the Personal Affairs Program, which is to render all available advice and assistance to the next-of-kin of Army Air Force casualties. The law provides that as the parent of a man whose death occurred in the military service, you may be entitled to certain benefits.

We have informed The Adjutant General of your son's death and upon completion of certain necessary records, The Adjutant General will issue certificates of death to the agencies which are responsible for making payment to the beneficiaries of deceased members of the armed forces. The pay accounts of your son will be settled by the Office of Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York 5, New York, while insurance benefits and pension are administered by the Veterans Administration in Washington and New York City.

Within the next few days you may expect to be contacted by a Personal Affairs Officer from a nearby Army Air Forces installation. As a result of this contact, which may be by personal contact or communication by letter or telephone, you will receive information and offer of assistance in connection with allowable Government benefits and the settlement of related personal affairs. It will not be necessary for you to pay a fee to any firm or individual in order to obtain payment of monetary benefits to which you are, or may be entitled.

Please call upon us if we of the Army Air Forces can be of any assistance to you or members of your family.

Very sincerely,

Charles G. Snell, Jr.

CHARLES G. SNELL, JR.
1st Lt., Air Corps
Base Personal
Affairs Officer

HEADQUARTERS
SIOUX FALLS ARMY AIR FIELD
Office of the Commanding General
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

5 October 1945

Mr. & Mrs. Walter C. Croissant
RFD #1
Spring Valley, Illinois

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Croissant:

Answering your letter of 24 September, which was for some reason delayed in reaching me, the effects of your deceased son, First Lieutenant Ellsworth L. Croissant, have been taken charge of by the Summary Court Officer, Major Ralph A. McGinnis, and are in the process of being shipped to you. The two books about which you inquired were found among your son's effects and are being forwarded. There is a slight possibility of some effects being received from Madison, Wisconsin; if any are received they will be shipped to you at once.

The requested list of the names of the other men who were killed in the same crash with your son and the addresses of the next of kin of each is being enclosed.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT F. TRAVIS
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Base Commander

1 Incl-List of names
and addresses

HEADQUARTERS
SIOUX FALLS ARMY AIR FIELD
Courts and Boards Section
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

RAK/wam

24 October 1945

Mrs. Harriet M. Croissant
Webster Park
Spring Valley, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Croissant:

I have delivered today to the station Transportation Office, for shipment to you, one box containing the effects of ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT, ASN O-785572, 1st Lieutenant, deceased. When this package arrives, please check the contents with the list of effects shown on the enclosed "Inventory of Effects". If this list is correct, kindly sign both copies of the inventory at the places checked in pencil, and return them to me.

The South Dakota Certificate of Auto Title listed on the "Inventory of Effects" was delivered to 2nd Lt Robert J. Kashnig in accordance with the arrangements made between you and Lt Kashnig.

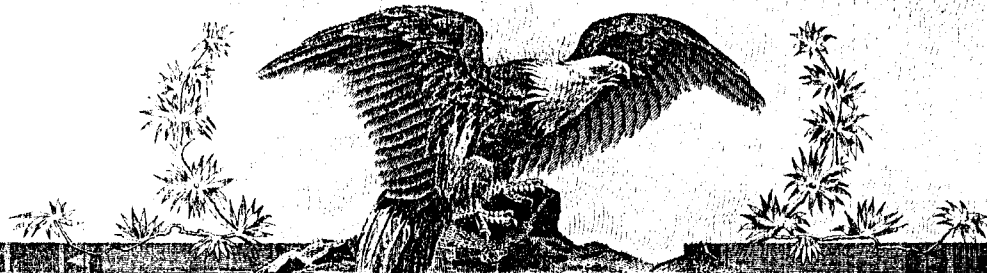
Also enclosed is a Bank Money Order in the sum of \$61.85, which represents the amount of money found in your son's effects. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any discrepancies or if I can be of any further service to you.

Sincerely,



RALEIGH A. MC GINIS
Major, Air Corps
Summary Court Officer

REGISTERED
Return Receipt Requested



★ Ellsworth D. Croissant

In Memoriam

Be it known unto you by these Presents, that we, the members of Piercy-Ward Post No. 3666, Veterans of Foreign Wars, of Spring Valley, Illinois, wish to express to you our sympathy in your great loss. To him, who gave his life to preserve our American way of life, we pledge that we shall, forever, do all within our power to see that our dead shall not have died in vain.

A man's life is not judged by its quantity of years, but by the quality of that life. His was the quality of which we all pray to attain. Though passed from this earthly life, we know from the Divine promise of One who also gave His life that others might live, that he has been called to some higher task and for some nobler enterprise. We shall never lose the spirit of his example which shall always be an inspiration to us and for generations to come.

May the Almighty God, who has received him into His fellowship, grant to us all the courage and strength to work continually toward the attainment of all those hopes and ideals for which so many have given their all.

In Testimony Whereof, We the Officers of Piercy-Ward Post, No. 3666, Veterans of Foreign Wars, affix our seal and signatures in Spring Valley, Illinois, on the *Twenty Second* day of *December* in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty *Five*.

Mark A. Coyne Commander *Frank A. Krummreich* Adjutant



ELLSWORTH CROISSANT
GRADUATION PICTURE - 1941
HE GOT THE SUIT FROM
JOHN BRAIDA - (NOTICE THE
SCARS FROM PLAYING
FOOTBALL)



ELLSWORTH
AT
CAMP GRANT
1942



SEPT. 1944



HOTEL PERU

COFFEE SHOP
DINING ROOM
COCKTAIL LOUNGE

PERU, ILLINOIS

Member of the Crew

St Earl W Adams O-82881
1404 W Indiana Ave, Spokane, Wash

St Robert J Kashnig O-929279
1731 S. 7th St Sheboygan, Wis

St William C Johnson O-023099
262 Sixth Ave Manatee, Mich

S/Sgt Richard J Hayes 33676408
Highland, Ill

S/Sgt George Seroka 15014611
Clarence, Pa.

S/Sgt Lester L. Gobeck 33937932
Rt #1, Hanover, Pa

S/Sgt J. P. Nelson 36765442
Aston, Ill

S/Sgt William C Moss 17208421
Hempfle, Mo.

S/Sgt Wallace C Smith, Jr. 15109698
519 Dupage St, Michigan City,
A Friendly Hotel Indiana



1404 St. Indiana
Spokane (Id.) Wash.
January 15, 1945

Dear Mrs Croissant,
I am enclosing pictures
of the crew — taken's
they perfect?

My husband is first
pilot, and commanding
officer of the crew. I
met your son in Mt.
Home, Idaho.

The officer next to your
son is Bill Johnson, the
navigator. Then comes Bob
Kashig the co-pilot. And
my husband.

I have ^{not} had any news
as yet, but I know it
won't be long now.

Sincerely,
Mrs Earl Adams

Dombador - Etchworth, Brassart, Payne & Williams, James,
Left for overseas duty - France.

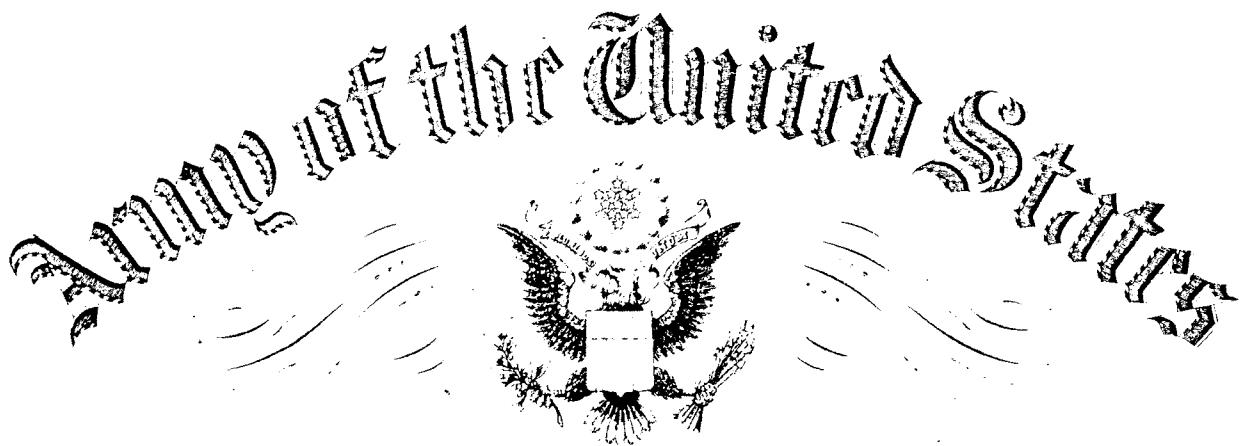
Paul Starnum - State, Roberts
Walter Starnum - Mission, Williams, James

Jackie Robertson - George Decker
Walter Starnum - James - J. D. G. G. G. G. G.



These are they to all the memory, 6, 1945





Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

ELLSWORTH L. CROISSANT

16 053 806

Aviation Cadet

3009th AAF Base Unit, Section I

Army of the United States

*is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the
United States of America*

*This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful
Service to his country.*

Given at AAFBS, CAAF, Carlsbad, N. M.

Date 1 September 1944

Wilbur W. Weed

WILBUR W. WEED
Major, Air Corps

RATED A.O. (30143) ORDERS

PERSONNEL ORDERS)
No. 46)

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY AIR FORCES WESTERN FLYING TRAINING COMMAND
1104 West 8th Street, Santa Ana, California
2 September 1944

E X T R A C T

* * * *

29. Pursuant to authority contained in Paragraph 8a(1)(e)2 AAF Regulation 50-7, 1 June 1944, the following-named Second Lieutenants, Army of the United States (Air Corps), graduates of Class WFTC 44-12, AAF Bombardier School, Carlsbad Army Air Field, Carlsbad, New Mexico, are rated Aircraft Observer (Bombardier) under the provisions of Army Regulation 95-60, 20 August 1942, and Paragraph 3j(2)(b), AAF Regulation 50-7, 1 June 1944.

Robert Paul Adkins 0785556
Garlan Free Bailey 0785557
Sam Mathew Barber 0785558
John Edward Bartels 0785559
Bernard Paul Beine 0785560
Robert Thomas Braun 0785561
Grover Truman Breckenridge 0785562
Joseph William Brooks 0785563
David Raymond Brown 0785564
Leonard Sidney Brown 0785565
Frederick Londis Brusher 0785566
John Charles Carabello 0785567
Robert G Carlson 0785568
Richard Stiteler Carroll, Jr. 0785569
Ardrey Ross Cherry 0785570
Raymond Myrle Cobb 0785571
Ellsworth Leverage Croissant 0785572
Bruce Evans Davis 0785573
Charles Patrick Davis 0785574
Harrison Walthall Eppes 0785575
Albert Famie 0785576
Herbert Eugene Farrell 0785577
Reuben Adolph Feld 0785578

Kenneth Ferguson 0785579
Leon Finkelman 0785580
Ralph Finnicum, Jr. 0785581
George Herman Fischer, III 0785582
Winfield Scott Garland 0785583
Harris John Genarie 0785584
William Herman Gietter 0785585
Samuel Leonard Goetz 0785586
William Samuel Guth 0785587
Russell Walter Hanlon, Jr. 0785588
Paul Harvey Heidenreich 0785589
Gordon Burnham Hutchison 0785590
Allen Smith Kaltenbach 0785591
John Martin Kolb 0785592
Frank Bucha Martin 0785593
Gilbert Charles Martinez 0785594
Harrah Vardell Mathis 0785595
James Edward McLaughlin 0785596
Roland Joseph McLean 0785597
Joseph Francis Mercurio 0785598
John Wilbur Mills 0785599
Wallace Earl Moore 0785600

Robert M Moreman 0785601
Melvin Francis Moxley 0785602
Donald Edward Murphy 0785603
Hugh Joseph O'Brien, Jr. 0785604
Harold Warren Oehmke 0785604
James Curtis Ogle 0785605
Kenneth Pehr Olson 0785606
Max Leland Olson 0785607
Fred Ong 0785608
Robert Carl Osborne 0785609
Jules Robert Pincus 0785610
Adolph Earl Schultz 0785611
Jack Reed Slosson 0785612
Frederick William Smickle, Jr. 0785613
Irving Abraham Sokoloff 0785614
Henry Peter Sokolowski 0785615
Solomon Ephraim Spector 0785616
Richard Marion Szybinski 0785617
Vincent Vernon Vranas 0785618
Charles Richard Watson 0785619
Herbert William Wells 0785620
John Miller Wolfe 0785621

* * * *

By command of Major General COUSINS:

OFFICIAL:

T. R. HORNADAY,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General



L. A. WALTON,
Brigadier General, GSC,
Chief of Staff

Post the complete address in plain letters in the proper column and your return address in the proper column in the right hand space. Do not use any other marks or symbols in the address or return space.

RECEIVED
BASE 9
OCT 18 9
1952

TO: PO BOX 215
3751 MILLS DISTRICT

FROM: LT. E. CRUISSANT
7128 G ST NW
WASHINGTON DC

19 OCT 1952

Mr. Zelt, Having a wonderful time in the
this time. Well, your letter and glad to hear you
probably got that 1952. Well, the way to know
and you should be in the air soon. I imagine you
over would get out that time and soon as they get
you imagine they'll make that. But make sure the
the a copy of your 42.

That No. 3 was the time a will have with you
Given, thought I'd better have all of mine. I don't
Peter. There is no way it is over this a mile or
also. I don't see why the old 8 got in the 3
of the PX. Well, you would send a letter to
you a money order. I am so 3 or 5 times again.
I'll see what the money order I should be.
now just missing Tuesday or Wednesday. I
should be something next week. Sorry to hear
news - your time now. I don't know.

HAVE YOU MADE UP COMMENTS
APPROX. AT 1952

V-MAIL

RECEIVED
BASE 9
OCT 18 9
1952

TO: PO BOX 215
3751 MILLS DISTRICT

FROM: LT. E. CRUISSANT
7128 G ST NW
WASHINGTON DC

19 OCT 1952

Mr. Harold, just a few lines in French time
to write the young people of St. Paul. Really
all today.
Pappy line to the 1000 get in trouble but
to didn't say what he did it was by you find out
let me know. I would mind you to please.
any day.

And by the way, I'm excited to still going strong.
Kinds about I understand you. Tomorrow will be
just a war. This is today was a nice one just
time that I didn't see any place. I would be in
progressive one.
I want to go to the hospital quickly with you. I
will. But I know you by getting yourself up at
that time. Just what the time I got myself up by
to my very own place. Well, I don't know.
I don't know if you get.

HAVE YOU MADE UP COMMENTS
APPROX. AT 1952

V-MAIL

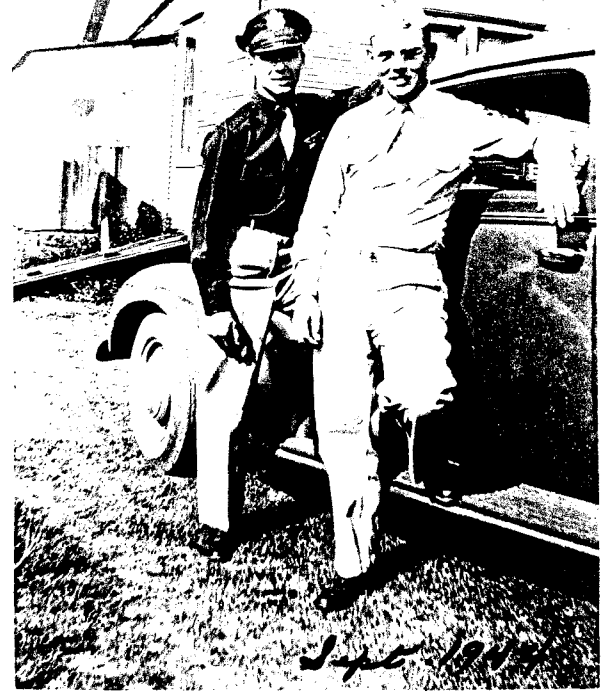
The
EARLY
YEARS



COMBAT CREW 8431 Mt. Home Idaho
B. Johnson - E. Croissant - Pilot Adams -
Co Pilot Kashnig Dec. 1944



SKINNY IS HAROLD



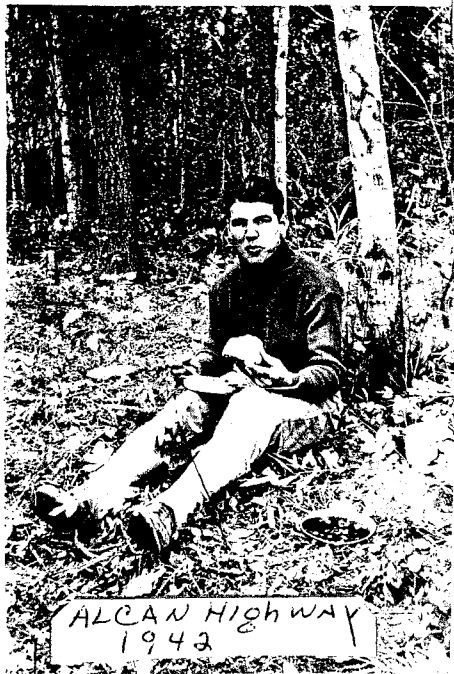
JAN 1945



ELLSWORTH T
FISH - ALCAN
HIGHWAY - 1942



HAROLD BOWLING
FORT MILES DEL
1943



ALCAN HIGHWAY
1943



HAROLD AND
HOWARD GARROU
FORT MILES DEL



Bombardier
GEAR - CARLSBAD
N MEX



Ellsworth Croissant
at Camp Grant, B.C.
March 1942

Fishing was good
in
Canada - 1942



CAMP GRANT - 1942

Put Ellsworth
Croissant
washing privy
in Mt. Stream
in
British Columbia
Oct. 1942
ALCAN Highway
Project.
Medical Corp.



Shoveling snow off Mission Hut

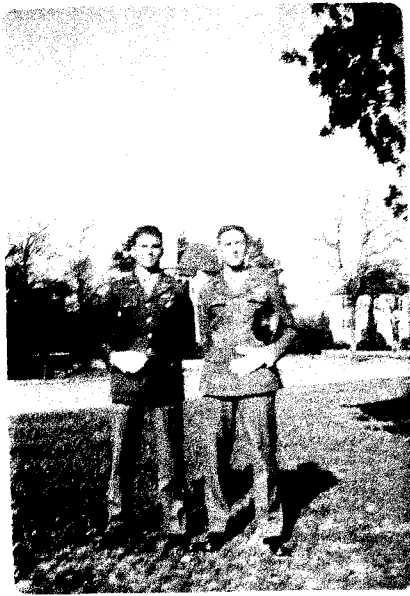
Cold day in Canada



FEB 1943



FEB 1943



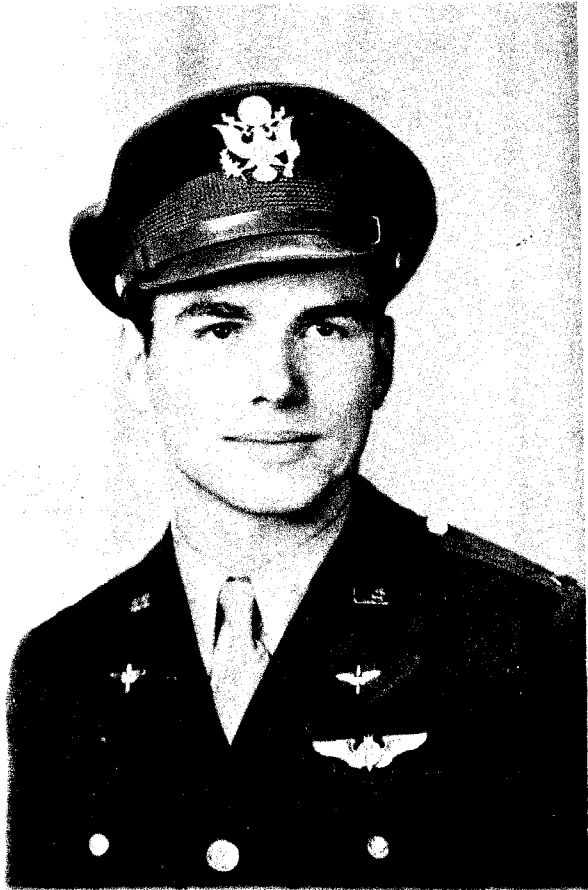
A/C
IN
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G



A/C ELLSWORTH CROISSANT
TAKING REELS OUT OF
SHOES GILLESPIE AIRWAYS
Nov. 1943



ELLSWORTH FLORENCE DELL MA
TAKEN AT AUNT BELLES HOUSE



Hall High School Students/World War II Veterans
Who Gave Their Lives For Their Country

Willis Anderson

John Boroski

Barret Corneille

Ellsworth Croisant

Vernon Dezutti

Earl Eiberger

Harry Glover

Carl Krayauskas

Eugene Kuhre

Joseph Lucas

Blain Manahan

Albert Mazzorana

Arnold McElroy

Arnold McNally

Fred Nestler

Andrew Robich

Harold Russell

Thomas Salmon

Raymond Theodore

George Trillet

Andrew Vaseleski

Glen Vogt

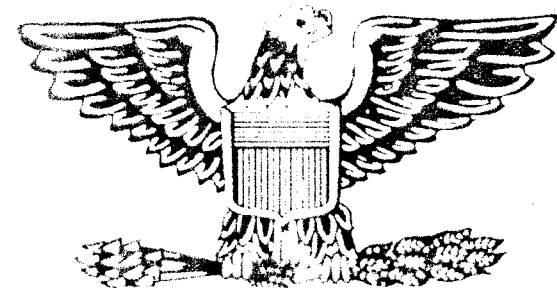
Walter Waite

Robert Wallace

World War II Memorial
Rededication Ceremony

Friday, November 10, 2000
2:30 P.M.

Hall High School District
#502



November 26, 1946

Dear Parent,

Beginning at the north end of the campus the trees are planted in memory in the same order as herein listed.

1. Willis Anderson
2. John Boroski
3. Barrett Corneille
4. Ellsworth Croissant
5. Vernon DeZutti
6. Earl Eiberger
7. Harry Glover
8. Carl Krayauskas
9. Joseph Lucas
10. Blaine Manahan
11. Albert Mazzorana
12. Arnold McElroy
13. Fred Nestler
14. Harold Russell
15. Eugene Kuhre
16. Thomas Salmon
17. Arthur McNally
18. Raymond Theodore
19. George Trillet
20. Andrew Robich
21. Andrew Vaseleski
22. Walter Waite
23. Robert Wallace
24. Glenn Vogt

Sincerely,

Cecil A. Sharpe
CECIL A. SHARPE
PRINCIPAL

CAS:mln

Hall High pays respects to its war dead

By Daren Blomquist
NewsTribune Reporter

Twenty-four former Hall High School students killed during World War II were honored Friday, continuing the legacy of a community that will not let their sacrifice be forgotten.

The memory of the lost veterans has flickered several times in the decades since 24 trees were planted for each former student that died during the war. But members of the community always have stepped forward to revive the memory.

"We have remembered, we do remember and you will remember," Hall superintendent Bob Verdun told students filling bleachers in the school's gym during a ceremony to rededicate the living memorial. Three new trees recently were planted in place of three that had died.

Three sisters of Ellsworth Croissant haven't forgotten about his service to the country. A plane crash in a Wisconsin farm field ended the bombardier's life as he was returning from Italy eight days before his scheduled discharge. Croissant's tree was one of the three that died and was replanted for this year's ceremony.

"I don't think people knew (why the trees are there) because we talked to people and they never knew about the trees," said sister Sally Walter.

But school board member Tom Vallero knew about the trees. He raised the matter with the rest of the school board when he noticed some of the trees dying. According to Verdun, that set in motion plans for Friday's ceremony, which included a presentation of colors and a firing squad salute by the Ladd American Legion Post 938, as well as a rendition of "Taps" by two alternating high school trumpet players.

Although it is dwarfed by the Norwegian Spruce trees planted in the late 1940s, Croissant's three sisters think their brother's new tree looks beautiful and reminds them of a Christmas tree.

"I don't look at it as a tree. I look at it as all those students standing there," sister Bernadine Posevina said.

In 1969, almost 20 years after the school planted trees, many in the community already had forgotten their significance. But another Hall High School student changed that.

That year, 15-year-old Kim Cabodi needed to find a community service project that would qualify him for the Boy Scouts' honored Eagle award.

"People had forgotten the purpose of the trees," Cabodi said in a telephone interview Friday. "And that was my hope, that it would never be forgotten."

His father put the idea in his head one day when they were talking about possibilities for his project.

"My dad was pretty instrumental in the project," said Cabodi, now 47 and a lawyer in San Clemente, Calif.

Cabodi said the project had a long-lasting influence on his life.

"What really impacted me was how World War II impacted our town through the losing of the lives of those boys," he said. "I could see 24 families in town that were forever touched."

So, Cabodi set about making the project a reality, finding out the names of all 24 former students and pursuing money to buy a plaque to put the names on.

"I had to petition the school board to put a plaque up there," he said.

He found a boulder, and with help from the city of Spring Valley, was able to move it to where it now sits next to the flagpole in front of the school. The owner of a cemetery helped him order a plaque to put on the rock.

Later, the Harold E. Russell, Post 938, Ladd American Legion — named after the first Ladd resident to die in the war — replaced Cabodi's plaque, which was being vandalized, with the more durable plaque now attached to the rock.

Although he is happy the trees and memorial rock and plaque have been maintained, Cabodi knows and experiences the bittersweet memories they evoke.

"It's also really sad, too, when you

realize that for every tree, there's a young boy who died," he said.

Verdun shared with the veterans, family members and students in the gym that the ceremony had a special meaning for him. His father, a World War II veteran who landed on Omaha Beach, now lies in a coma in a Peoria Hospital.

"I don't even know that I said thank you at all for his work in the war," said Verdun, who emphasized the importance of passing on the memory of the war to future generations, especially with the average age of World War II veterans climbing.

"We have precious little time to show our appreciation to the living as well as the dead," he said.

Cabodi offered his help and involvement with possible memorial services in the future. Although short notice for Friday's service prevented him from making the trip, he said he has never forgotten the trees and the sacrifice they represent.

"On Memorial Day and Veterans Day, those guys are always in my prayers," he said.

1945 15

Local Registrar's No. _____

1. PLACE OF DEATH:

(a) County Columbia
(b) Township _____
or
City or Village Arlington
(c) Name of hospital or institution _____

2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:

(a) State Illinois (b) County Bureau
(c) Township _____
If rural give township
or
City or Village Spring Valley
(d) Street No. Webster Park
(e) If foreign born, how long in U. S. A.?

3. (a) Full Name Ellsworth L. Croissant

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

173-4

3. (b) If veteran, name war World War II 3. (c) Social Security No. _____

4. Sex Male 5. Color or race White 6. (a) Single, widowed, married, divorced Single

6. (b) Name of husband or wife _____ 6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive _____ years.

7. Birth date of deceased July 3 1923
(Month) (Day) (Year)

8. AGE: Years Months Days If less than one day
22 2 19 hr. min.

9. Birthplace Illinois
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

10. Occupation and industry or business Officer - U S Army

11. Name Walter Carl Croissant

12. Birthplace Peru, Illinois
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

13. Maiden name Harriet May Klein

14. Birthplace Butler, Kentucky
(City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)

15. (a) Informant Official Records

(b) Address U S Army

16. (a) Burial (b) Date thereof 9/27/45
(Burial, cremation or other) (M., D., Y.)

(c) Place: burial or cremation Peru, Ill.

17. (a) Signature of funeral director J. L. Lamm

(b) Address Madison, Wis.

18. (a) Sept. 26, 1945 (b) E. Q. Bethel
(Date received local registrar) (Registrar's signature)

(c) _____ (d) _____
(Date received sub-registrar) (Sub-registrar's signature)

19. Date of death: Month Sept Day 22 Year 1945

20. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from _____ 19____
to _____, 19____; I last saw him alive on _____, 19____
and that death occurred on the date stated above at 3:40 P.M.

Immediate cause of death (1) Compound skull fracture with evisceration of brain (2) Amputation of right foot (3) Multiple compound fractures. Duration _____

Other conditions _____
Include pregnancy within 3 months _____

Name of operation _____

Major findings: Of operation _____

Of autopsy _____

21. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following:

(a) Accident, suicide or homicide Accident (b) Date 9-22-45

(c) Where did injury occur? Arlington, Columbia, Wis.
(City, village or township, county and state)

(d) Did injury occur in or about home, on farm, in industrial place, in public place? Farm While at work? Yes
(Specify type of place)

(e) Means of injury Airplane crash
(Falls? Auto? Machinery? etc.)

22. Signature James S. Caldwell M.D.

Address Truax Field Madison, Wis. Date signed 9-23-45

UNCERTIFIED
NOT VALID FOR
IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES

Underline the cause to which death should be charged statistically.