

# Baseball in Wartime Newsletter No. 60 January 2026



North Shore Regiment's Sacrifice at Juno | Pitcher, Pilot, Patriot: The Legacy of Bill McLaughlin  
Diamonds and Duty: The Ralph "Rocky" Mountain Story . . . and much more inside.

# Welcome!

Welcome to a new edition of the *Baseball in Wartime* newsletter—the first since June 2022. Although the newsletter has been quiet for a while, the work behind the scenes has been anything but. Over the past months I've continued to uncover and preserve the stories of professional ballplayers who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the armed forces. Since the last issue, 21 new biographies have been added to [www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com](http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com), and you'll find several of those accounts highlighted in this newsletter.

Much of my time has also been devoted to revisiting and expanding *Baseball in World War II Europe*, first published back in 2000. That book has long been out of print, but new research and discoveries have breathed fresh life into its pages. One particularly moving story I've been working on is the tale of the Canadian North Shore Regiment baseball team—champions of the 1942 Canadian Army Overseas tournament in England. Just two years later, those same young men were storming the beaches of Normandy and fighting their way across Europe. Their journey reminds us how closely the joy of sport and the tragedy of war can intertwine.

On the publishing front, I'm pleased to share that my two most recent books—*Aloha and Sayonara: The 1940 Keio University Baseball Tour of Hawaii* and *Baseball in Hawaii During World War II*—remain available worldwide through Amazon. Both explore fascinating corners of baseball's wartime history and continue to spark interest among readers who enjoy the game's global story.

I hope you find this newsletter both informative and inspiring. While I can't promise a perfectly regular schedule, I do intend to bring you updates more frequently than before. And as always, I'd love to hear from you—your feedback, thoughts, and stories help keep this project alive and meaningful. If this edition has reached you, please drop me a line and let me know.



[info@baseballinwartime.com](mailto:info@baseballinwartime.com)  
[www.baseballinwartime.com](http://www.baseballinwartime.com)  
[www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com](http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com)

## What's inside?

North Shore Regiment's Sacrifice at Juno	Pages 2 to 5
Pitcher, Pilot, Patriot: The Legacy of Bill McLaughlin	Pages 6 to 7
Diamonds and Duty: The Ralph "Rocky" Mountain Story	Pages 8 to 10
From the Mound to the Meuse: The Journey of Carlos Hammond	Pages 10 to 11
Major Martin: A Fresno Star in a Vietnam Generation	Pages 11 to 13
Buck Greene: The Long Road from Black Mountain	Pages 13 to 15
Swede Andro: The Game He Loved, The Country He Chose	Pages 15 to 16
A Life Carried with Honor: Glen Callaway	Pages 16 to 17
The 187: Baseball's Fallen in World War II	Pages 18 to 24

## What's on the cover?

A digitally reworked press photo of Bill McLaughlin (on the right) at Villanova in 1937. The catcher is Mike Garbark who went on to play for the Yankees in '44 and '45.

# North Shore Regiment's Sacrifice at Juno



Canadian troops landing at Juno Beach on D-Day June 6, 1944

**N**ew Brunswick sits tucked between Quebec, Nova Scotia, and the Maine border. A place where small towns once breathed baseball the way other places breathed industry. By the early 1900s, the sport wasn't just a pastime there; it was part of the cultural fabric. St. Stephen, Chatham, Woodstock, Marysville, Fredericton, Moncton - each town built its own baseball dynasty, its own legends, its own Saturday-afternoon heroes.

Then came September 1939. War. And almost overnight, recruiting stations across the province filled with volunteers, many of them the same men who had spent summers on dusty diamonds, chasing pennants and bragging rights. They signed up for the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment, a unit with deep roots stretching back to the 73rd Northumberland Regiment formed in Chatham in 1870. The regiment hadn't fought as a whole in the First World War, but its men had spilled blood at Arras, Hill 70, Passchendaele, and Amiens. By 1922, the old Northumberland name was gone, replaced by the one that would soon be etched into D-Day history: the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment.

In 1939, the regiment gathered in Woodstock, just a stone's throw from the Maine border, to begin training. And it was there - amid drills, mud, and the growing tension of a world sliding toward chaos - that Reverend Raymond Hickey and former semi-pro pitcher Jim Morrell decided the troops needed something familiar, something grounding. They formed a baseball team.

Hickey, the chaplain, saw baseball as a way to keep spirits up. Morrell brought the firepower: he'd pitched Newcastle to a provincial title in 1931 and helped St. Stephen/St. Croix win back-to-back Maritime Senior Championships in '38 and '39. Together, they built a roster that would have made any civilian league nervous.

There was Hazen Archer, Willie Jardine, and Harold "Ya" Russell from the 1936 champion Loggieville Bisons. Bill Harvey, the Campbellton Cubs pitcher. George Cripps, the sharp-fielding third baseman from Saint John's YMCA teams. And the Daley brothers - Harold, Bud, and Alden - from Chatham. With talent like that, it's no wonder everyone wanted to see them play. As Hickey later put it, "Many a soldier cancelled his weekend leave, just to stay and see the ball game."



The North Shore Regiment baseball team—1942 Canadian Army Overseas champions.

(Back row, left to right: Frank "Cuffy" McLaughlin OF, Hazen Archer C, Harold "Ya" Russell 2B, R.J "Bobby" McIntyre 3B, Percy Lanteigne, Harold Daley OF, Jim Morell P, and Rev. R.M. Hickey (Coach). Front Row: Edward "Ned" Rigley OF, Jim Daley, Willie Jardine SS, Matthew "Mac" Barry OF, and Gouchie Veniot. Seated: Bobby Robichaud.

In December 1940, the regiment moved to Camp A-30 in Sussex, where the team kept playing right up until July 18, 1941, when they boarded the SS *Duchess of York* and sailed into the unknown. Twelve days later, they stepped onto the docks at Liverpool, England, or what was left of them. German air raids had torn the city apart. Warehouses were twisted skeletons of steel. Ships lay half-submerged along the shoreline. Whatever illusions the men had about the war evaporated in that moment. They were in it now.

From Liverpool, the regiment moved to Aldershot in southern England. Training was relentless, and for a while there was little room for sport. But by the winter of 1941–42, hockey crept into their spare time, and the North Shore team won the 3rd Division Championship. They even made it to the Canadian Army ice hockey playoffs, losing a best-of-five series to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg. The next year, the two teams toured Scotland, billed as "Canadian professionals," drawing crowds who came to see these mysterious stick-wielding athletes from across the Atlantic.

By spring 1942, the regiment had shifted to Hailsham on England's southeast coast, and Hickey and Morrell revived the baseball team. That summer, the North Shore squad tore through teams from the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Canadian Divisions. Then came a challenge from the Seaforth Highlanders of British Columbia - a showdown for the title of Canadian Army Overseas champions.

On game day, the Seaforths marched into the stadium in spotless white uniforms, backed by 5,000 cheering fans. The North Shore boys didn't look quite as polished. Hickey joked they resembled "a bunch of deserters from a gypsy camp," with mismatched sweaters and Jardine wearing his beloved hockey socks.

But once the game began, appearances didn't matter. The North Shore Regiment played with grit, precision, and heart. They won 7-4, and even the Seaforth supporters roared their approval. Unable to accept defeat, the Seaforths team demanded a best-of-three series - a move Morrell later called "dirty," but the North Shore team accepted. They won the second game 8-6 and claimed the 1942 Canadian Army Overseas baseball championship.

After that, baseball slowly faded into the background. Training intensified. Rumours of an invasion grew louder. The stakes shifted from games to survival.

And by late May 1944, the North Shore Regiment found itself at Chilworth Camp near Southampton, one of the final assembly points for D-Day. The bats were packed away. The gloves were stowed. Ahead lay the beaches of Normandy, and a chapter of history none of them could yet imagine.

In the early hours of June 6, 1944, the English Channel was anything but calm. Waves rolled and broke in white foam against the Normandy coast, as if the sea itself knew what was coming. Through that wind-whipped chaos, the landing craft of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division pushed forward, steel hulls shuddering, engines straining, men gripping their rifles and trying not to think too far ahead. At the very front of the assault was the North Shore Regiment, heading straight for a stretch of sand the world would soon know as Juno Beach.

At 8:10 a.m., the ramps dropped. The North Shore Regiment became the first Canadian troops to step into the storm of machine-gun fire and mortar blasts pouring from the pillboxes and high ground above Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer. The sun was bright, almost deceptively so, but the wind howled across the beach, swallowing the thunder of British naval guns hammering the German defenses. It was a strange, disorienting mix of sunlight, smoke, and the unmistakable crack of deadly gunfire.

By the end of that first day, thirty-four men of the regiment were gone. Among them were ballplayers Harold Daley, Ned Rigley, and Rupert Clancy - men who had once played under summer skies back home, now fallen on a foreign shore. Robert "Bud" Daley, serving as a stretcher-bearer, found his brother Harold's body. He later said, "I got his personal belongings and a few things to send home, and then I had to push on." There was no time to grieve. Not on D-Day.

And while others sought cover, Reverend Hickey did the opposite. He stayed on the beach, moving



Rev. R.M. Hickey

through the surf as bullets snapped around him. He pulled wounded men from the water, offered last rites to those slipping away, and tended to anyone he could reach. His courage that morning earned him the Military Cross, though he never spoke of it as anything more than doing what needed to be done.

Six days after the liberation of Saint-Aubin-sur-Mer, the regiment lost another teammate - outfielder Matthew "Mac" Barry. And the fighting only intensified. On July 4, during Operation Windsor - the assault on the Carpiquet airfield - the North Shore Regiment suffered nearly 130 casualties. Pitcher Bill Harvey was among those killed. From there, the regiment pushed through Caen and across France, fighting in Ranville, Bourguébus Ridge, Falaise, Quesnay Wood, the Laison, and Chambois. They cleared the French coast in late August and early September before advancing into the Netherlands.

The losses continued. Second baseman Harold "Ya" Russell was killed on August 8, 1944. Third baseman Bobby McIntyre was wounded the same day. Then came August 23, when catcher Hazen Archer - the man pitcher Bud McLean called "the best catcher I ever saw... a pro by any standard" - was killed in action. Archer had already survived a shrapnel wound to the shoulder on July 4, spent weeks recovering in England, and returned to his unit on August 21. Two days later, he was gone.

The final blow to the North Shore Regiment's wartime baseball family came on September 18, 1944. The regiment was pinned down during an attack on a fortress at La Trésorerie, north of Boulogne. Third baseman George Cripps was sheltering in a bunker under heavy fire. When he made a run for a better position, a German sniper - patient, hidden, waiting - ended his life in an instant.

Ordinary New Brunswick men had carried baseball into war. Childhood teammates from local fields had landed at Juno Beach, fought across Europe, and many never returned. Their friendships, forged on diamond and battlefield, left a lasting mark on the North Shore Regiment's history.

#### **Known members of the North Shore Regiment baseball team between 1940 and 1942**

Pvt Archer, Hazen - Catcher (Killed in action on August 23, 1944)

Pvt. Barry, Matthew "Mac" - Outfield (Killed in action on June 12, 1944)

Pvt. Clancy, Rupert (Killed in action on June 6, 1944)

Craig, Dina

Pvt. Cripps, George - Third Base (Killed in action on September 18, 1944)

Cpl. Daley, Alden (Wounded in action)

Pvt. Daley, Harold - Outfield (Killed in action on June 6, 1944)

Sgt. Daley, Jim (Wounded in action on July 8, 1944)

Fliegher - Outfield

Harrison - Pitcher

Pvt. Harvey, Percy "Bill" - Pitcher (Killed in action on July 4, 1944)

Rev. Hickey, R.M. - Coach

Pvt. Jardine, Willaim E. "Willie" - Shortstop

Lanteigne, Percy (Wounded in action on D-Day)

McIntyre, R. J. "Bobby" - Third Base (Wounded in action on August 8, 1944)

Sgt. McLaughlin, Frank "Cuffy" - Outfield

RQMS Morell, Jim—Pitcher

Nowland—Pitcher

Sgt. Rigley, Edward "Ned" - Outfield (Killed in action on June 6, 1944)

Rioux, Jack

Robichaud, R.J. "Bobby"

Sgt. Russell, Harold "Ya" - Second Base (Killed in action on August 8, 1944)

Veniot, Gouchie

# Pitcher, Pilot, Patriot: The Legacy of Bill McLaughlin

Bill McLaughlin's early life was shaped by the influence of his father and an older brother, carrying him from local fields to Villanova and, eventually, into the orbit of professional scouts. His story in those days looked much like that of many promising young athletes - full of possibility, shaped by talent and opportunity - yet even then, the choices he made were quietly steering him toward a future far removed from the ballparks that first defined him.

William E. "Bill" McLaughlin was born on October 19, 1916, in the quiet town of St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, the son of Edward and Mary McLaughlin. His father, Edward, had once swung a bat for a mining team in the coalfields of northeastern Pennsylvania, where baseball was as much a release as it was a passion. The family's fortunes carried them westward to St. Mary's, and soon after, opportunity drew them east again to New Jersey. In Collingswood, the McLaughlins put down roots, and it was here that Bill's older brother Tom made his mark as a gifted left-handed pitcher at Collingswood High. Professional scouts came calling after Tom's graduation in 1932, but instead of signing a contract, he accepted a scholarship to Holy Cross - arranged by none other than Connie Mack of the Philadelphia Athletics. Tom's promising arm faltered, yet his love for the game endured in semi-pro diamonds across New Jersey, before he turned to teaching.



By the time Bill reached high school, the family had settled in Camden. Like his brother, he was a southpaw, but his talents stretched far beyond the pitcher's mound. At Camden High, he lettered in four sports - baseball, basketball, football, and track - embodying the athletic spirit of the Depression-era youth. In those years, both Bill and Tom lent their arms to Bucky Lai's Hawaiian All-Stars, a barnstorming team stitched together from Hawaiian-born players and local talent. Lai himself had once played in the minors and for the famed Brooklyn Bushwicks before assembling his traveling troupe. On one tour through New England, Bill's pitching silenced a top-rated team, much to the dismay of radio star Rudy Vallée, who had wagered on the opposition. Vallée confronted the young hurler with a sharp quip: "You don't look like no damn Hawaiian to me."

Graduating in 1934, Bill advanced to Villanova College (now Villanova University), where his left arm continued to draw the attention of major league scouts. In 1939, he signed with the St. Louis Cardinals and was sent to the Cambridge Cardinals of the Class D Eastern Shore League. His rookie season was

impressive: an 18–11 record, a 2.57 ERA across 38 appearances, and a respectable .241 batting average. The following year, he climbed to the Rochester Red Wings of the Class AA International League, even

facing the Philadelphia Phillies in spring training. His journey carried him west to the Sacramento Solons and then south to the New Orleans Pelicans, where he posted a 3–5 record. The promise was there, but history had other plans.

In December 1940, with Europe at war, Bill put his baseball career on hold and entered the US Navy. By April 1941, he was a commissioned aviator, earning his wings at NAS Jacksonville, Florida. Even in uniform, baseball remained close. He pitched for the Jacksonville team under former major leaguer George Earnshaw before taking to the skies in PBY Catalina flying boats, patrolling for submarines. The war years transformed him from ballplayer to aviator, and when peace returned, he was nearly 29, too old to rekindle a professional baseball career. Instead, he stayed with the Navy, serving at Pensacola, Virginia Beach, and later Alameda, California, where he built a family life with his wife Barbara and their children Diane, Robert, and Stephen.

By 1953, Commander McLaughlin was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Essex (CV-9), leading Fighter Squadron 64 (VF-64), a unit flying Grumman F9F Panther jet fighters. In February 1955, the Essex played a pivotal role in the Cold War, covering the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from the Dachen Islands off Taiwan. VF-64 provided air cover, escorted transports, and patrolled against Communist threats, ensuring the safe withdrawal of soldiers and civilians under fire.



Bill McLaughlin (right) with catcher Mike Garbark at Villanova.

Tragedy struck only weeks later. On March 9, 1955, Commander McLaughlin prepared for takeoff from the deck of the Essex. Standard procedure called for full thrust from the Panther's turbojet, aided by the carrier's catapult. But the engine faltered. His signal to abort came too late. The catapult hurled the stricken jet forward, and it plunged into the sea. Neither Bill nor his aircraft were ever recovered.

A memorial mass was held at Holy Saviour Roman Catholic Church in Westmont, New Jersey on March 15, 1955. Today, his name is remembered at Arlington National Cemetery and Calvary Cemetery in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. A ballplayer turned naval aviator, whose life bridged the golden age of baseball and the dawn of jet-powered naval aviation, and whose story reflects both the promise and the peril of his generation.

## Diamonds and Duty: The Ralph "Rocky" Mountain Story

In the final weeks of his life, Rocky Mountain was far from the ballfields that had once defined him, serving as a first sergeant with the 7th Cavalry Regiment in the Philippines. To understand how a popular outfielder from Los Angeles came to be leading soldiers on the island of Luzon, you have to follow the winding path that carried him from semi-pro diamonds to the Pacific Coast League, from beer trucks to military ballfields, and ultimately from the game he loved to the responsibilities of war



Ralph W. "Rocky" Mountain, the son of Ralph and Mamie Mountain, was born on August 30, 1913 in Los Angeles, California. His father was a truck driver for a local brewery, and he had one sibling, his sister Mildred who was a year older.

A talented catcher, Ralph attended Fremont High School and was playing semi-pro baseball with the Santa Monica Mystery when he was invited to spring training by the Class AA Los Angeles Angels of the Pacific Coast League. Although he was released in April and went back to the semi-pro ranks, the Angels hadn't lost interest in the youngster. He was back at Wrigley Field for spring training in 1935, and sent to the Ponca City Angels of the Class C Western Association. Ralph appeared in eight games and was hitting only .143 when Ponca City released him on May 17 as the roster was trimmed to 15, but he continued playing throughout the summer in California with the Los Angeles Angels Rookies.

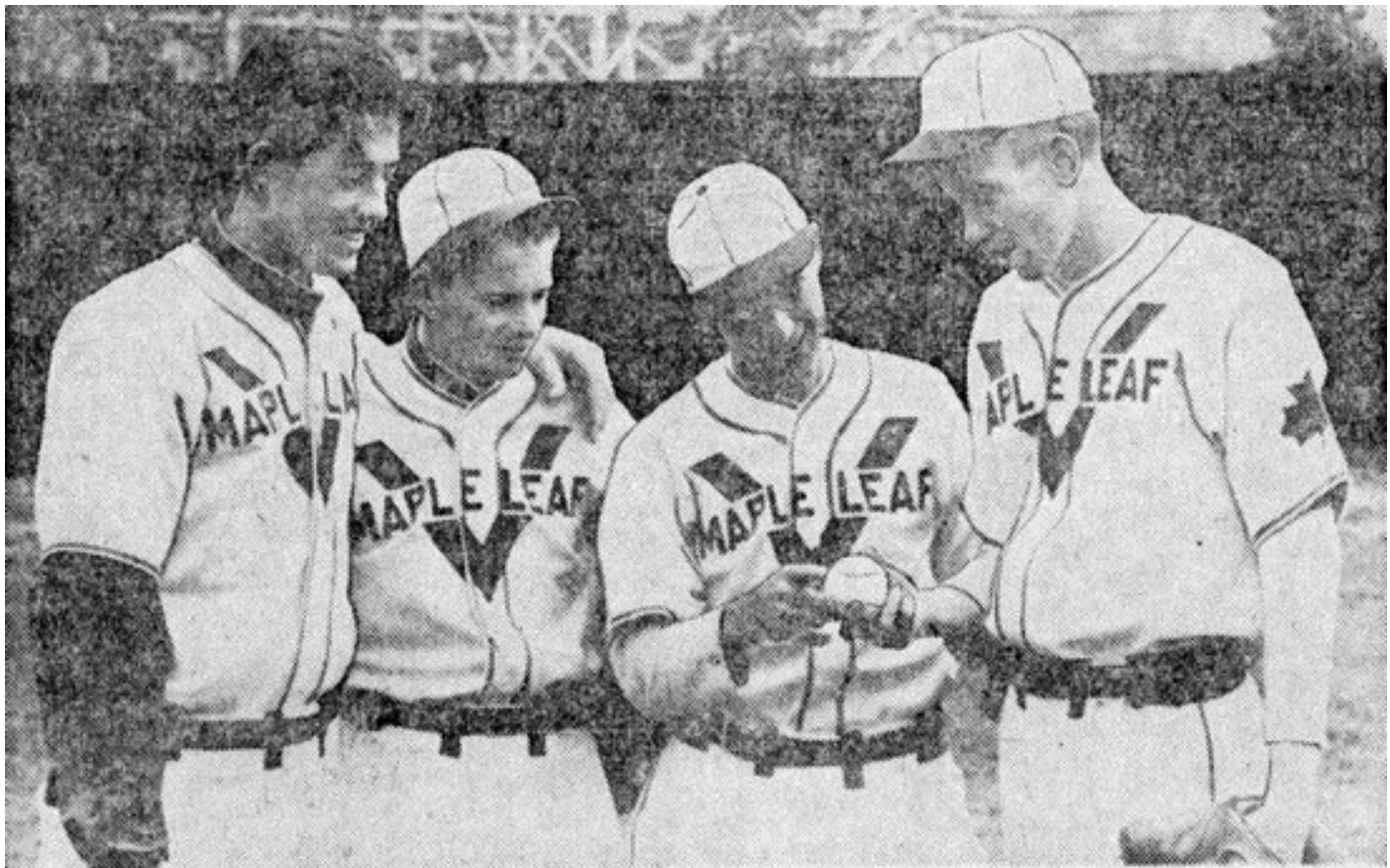
In early 1936, the 22-year-old was playing semi-pro baseball in Long Beach with Houghton Park before returning to the Western Association, this time with the Hutchinson Larks. Appearing in 17 games with the Larks, Ralph was again cut when the squad size was reduced, and he joined the Bartlesville Bucs of the same league, playing just three games before finishing the season with the Jeanette Little Pirates of the Class D Penn State Association.

In March 1937, Ralph was signed by the newly formed Vancouver Maple Leafs for the inaugural season of the Class B Western International League. Billy Finlay, sports editor of the Vancouver Sun stated at the time that Mountain "looks like the best [catcher] seen here for many a day."

Ralph moved to the outfield shortly after the season got under way to make room for Ralph Samhammer, former back-up catcher with the Pacific Coast League's Portland Beavers. Mountain played 125 games and batted .295 with 82 RBIs.

Back with Vancouver in 1938, Ralph had a sensational season, leading the team with a .308 batting average while driving in 64 runs in 124 games. In June, he was presented with a gold watch for hitting a jeweler's sign on the outfield fence at Vancouver's Con Jones Park, and he was selected for the league's all-star team.

The 25-year-old had proved to be a valuable commodity and in December 1938, Ralph was one of four Vancouver players purchased in a cash deal by the Tacoma Tigers of the same league. He played 139 games with the Tigers, batting .274 while driving in 76 runs. He was hit by a pitch 13 times to lead the league.



Ralph "Rocky" Mountain (first on left) with the 1937 Vancouver Maple Leafs. The other players are Ralph Samhammer, Johnny Kerr, and Rex Cecil.

Ralph returned to Los Angeles during the winter of 1939/40, where he drove a beer truck. In January 1940, he made the surprising move to quit Organized baseball due to impaired vision. Elliott Metcalf, sport editor of the Tacoma Times, wrote on January 31, 1940: "Ralph Mountain's decision to retire because of failing eyesight brings regret to many Tiger baseball fans. The lanky outfielder rates one of the most popular players in years, a grand fellow personally who played the game for all it was worth. Ol' Rocky is too finer chap to get such a tough break."

He went back to driving beer trucks and was in Meridian, Mississippi, when he decided to try his hand at baseball one more time. Ralph signed with the Meridian Bears of the Class B Southeastern League in March 1940, and hit the ball well in spring training. But he struggled at the plate when the season got under way and was released in mid-May.

Later in the year he was back in California, working for the General Brewing Corporation in San Francisco, where he registered for the Draft - the first peacetime conscription in the United States - requiring all American men between the ages of 21 and 35 to register and be placed in order for call to military service. Ralph's call to service came in July 1941.

By 1942, he was at Camp Roberts in San Diego, where in addition to learning to be a soldier he was playing baseball with Earl Johnson of the Boston Red Sox, and minor leaguer Larry Powell. Serving with

Battery D of the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion at Camp Roberts, military life seemed to suit Ralph, he quickly attained the rank of sergeant and in November 1942, he was elected secretary of the newly formed Non-Commissioned Officers Club at Camp Roberts. The club had 1,500 members by June 1943.

Ralph continued to play baseball with Earl Johnson at Camp Roberts in 1943, and he married Anna Marie McGimsey of Maryville, Tennessee, on June 12, 1943 in Los Angeles.

In 1944, Ralph was still playing baseball at Camp Roberts, although Earl Johnson was no longer with the team (he would soon be in Europe where he would earn a Silver Star and a battlefield commission). His new teammates included Aldon Wilkie of the Pirates, Johnny Welaj of the Athletics, and minor leaguers Denny Horton and Lou McCollum,

After three seasons of military baseball in California, Ralph was sent to the Philippines with the 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. As a first sergeant, he was the backbone of troop leadership, handling administration, discipline, and logistics.

In January 1945, the 7th Cavalry Regiment was part of the "Flying Column" that attacked Japanese forces from the Lingayen Gulf area of Luzon. 31-year-old 1st Sergeant Ralph Mountain was killed in action on February 24, 1945. He is buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Ralph Mountain.*

## **From the Mound to the Meuse: The Journey of Carlos Hammond**

**Carlos Hammond grew up in the small community of Cambridge, Ohio, where work, family, and baseball shaped his early years. Moving between semi-pro diamonds and brief stints in the minor leagues, he built a life defined by persistence more than headlines. His path would eventually lead him far from the mills and ballfields of home, but the qualities forged there remained with him as his story unfolded.**

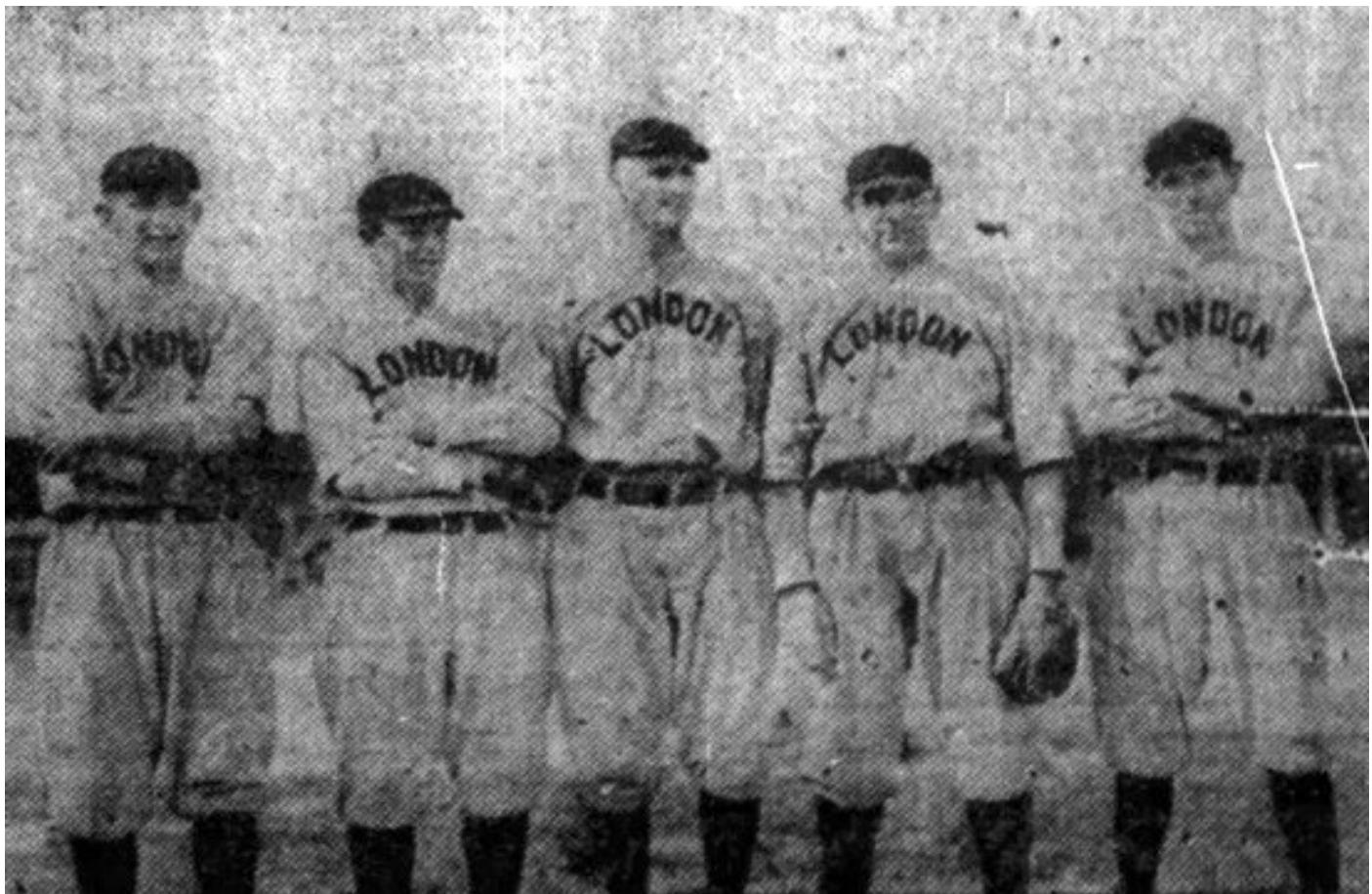
George Carlos "Cuz" Hammond, the son of Jacob and Sarah Hammond, was born on July 6, 1891 in Cambridge, Ohio.

After leaving high school, Carlos worked as a laborer in a saw and planing mill while pitching for the local semi-pro baseball team. In September 1911 he joined the Wheeling Stogies of the Class B Central League for a tryout and although unsuccessful he was invited back to the team the following spring. Carlos signed with the Stogies in early 1912 but was released in April after making a couple of appearances. He was signed by the Albany Senators of the Class B New York State League in 1913, but just like the year before, he got his release papers in April.

Carlos returned to Ohio where he pitched for the Cambridge-Byesville semi-pro club. By mid-September he had started and completed 20 games and not allowed more than six hits in any game.

Minor league baseball came knocking again in 1914, and Carlos signed with the London Tecumsehs of the Class B Canadian League in January. He had a strong season with the Ontario-based team posting a 12-10 won-loss record in 29 appearances. Back with the Tecumsehs in 1915, he was 9-14 in 25 games. On July 19, he hurled a three-hitter over the Guelph Maple Leafs: "Few pitchers in the Canadian League hurled more successfully than did Carlos Hammond of the London Tecumsehs," declared the Hamilton Spectator the following day.

With the First World War in full swing, Carlos was invited back by the Tecumsehs in 1916, but a salary dispute meant he didn't report and instead went to work as a machinist for the Natural Mortar Company of New Castle, Indiana.



The pitching staff of the 1914 Canadian League London Tecumsehs. Left to right: Heine Steiger, Bobbie Heck, Ben Beebe, Doc Reisling, and Carlos Hammond.

Carlos registered for the Draft in June 1917 and was soon called into military service. He served with the Medical Detachment of the 60th Infantry Regiment, 5th Division. The regiment participated in the campaigns of St. Mihiel, Alsace and Lorraine and finally in the Meuse–Argonne offensive, where 27-year-old Private Hammond was killed in action on October 15, 1918.

Carlos Hammond's remains were returned to the United States after the war. He is buried at Northwood Cemetery in his hometown of Cambridge, Ohio.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Carlos Hammond.*

## **Major Martin: A Fresno Star in a Vietnam Generation**

**Major Martin was one of Fresno's standout young athletes. His early years followed a familiar rhythm of school, sport, and opportunity, the kind that often leads to long careers or quiet, steady lives close to home. But as the 1960s unfolded and the conflict in Vietnam deepened, the world around him began to shift in ways that would reach directly into his plans, drawing him onto a path far different from the one he first imagined.**



John Major Martin, the son of John and Mary Martin, was born on January 30, 1944 in Bend, Oregon. The family moved to Fresno, California, when Major was a child.

Major attended Roosevelt High School in Fresno, where he was a baseball and football star in 1960 and 1961. He earned all-city honors in football in 1960 as a two-way guard and was chosen to the North team for the Shrine Football Classic in Los Angeles. As a catcher-outfielder he won all-city honors in 1961.

Major attended Fresno City College in 1961, helping coach Len Bourdet's team to the first of two straight Northern California Junior College baseball championships. He was also a line standout on the football team.

The 19-year-old signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1963 and was assigned to the Kingsport Pirates of the Rookie-level Appalachian League. He appeared in three games with a double in 11 plate appearances, finishing the season with the Fresno Giants of the Class A California League where he made just one appearance.

In 1964, he was signed by the Los Angeles Dodgers and played five games for the St. Petersburg Saints of the Class A Florida State League, before getting his release.

Major hoped to return to baseball in 1965, but in the meantime, he worked as a sales assistant at Coffee's clothing store in Fresno.



Fresno City College baseball team 1962. Major Martin is back row, third from left.

The Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964 had escalated the United States involvement in Vietnam into full combat operations. This meant draft calls increased sharply over the coming years and Major was soon in military service.

He graduated from officer candidate school in early 1967, and his tour in Vietnam started in September of the same year. On February 13, 1968, as a first lieutenant with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry of the 1st Cavalry Division, Major Martin died of fragmentation wounds during the Tet Offensive when a short round from one of his own mortars dropped near him.

"This is a real shock," said his high school coach Jake Abbott. "Major was one of the finest kids I ever had to coach. He always gave you 100 per cent, a real competitor."

Major Martin was buried at Belmont Memorial Park in his hometown of Fresno on February 28, with a military service at Roosevelt High School auditorium. His friends and family later organized the "Major Martin Scholarship Fund" in his honor at Roosevelt High School.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Major Martin.*

## **Buck Greene: The Long Road from Black Mountain**



**Buck Greene grew up in the small mountain town of Black Mountain, North Carolina, where family, hard work, and baseball shaped his early years. A tall right-hander with promise, he chased a place in professional baseball before returning home to build a life rooted in the community that raised him. His story would eventually carry him far beyond those familiar hills, into a very different kind of service and responsibility.**

William V. "Buck" Greene, the son of William "W.C." and Florence Greene, was born on April 29, 1907, in Black Mountain, North Carolina, about 15 miles east of Asheville.

His father was a building contractor, while Florence worked at home as a dress maker. Buck – who often used his middle name, Vernon, in his youth – was their first child, followed by Richard in 1909, and Lynette in 1919.

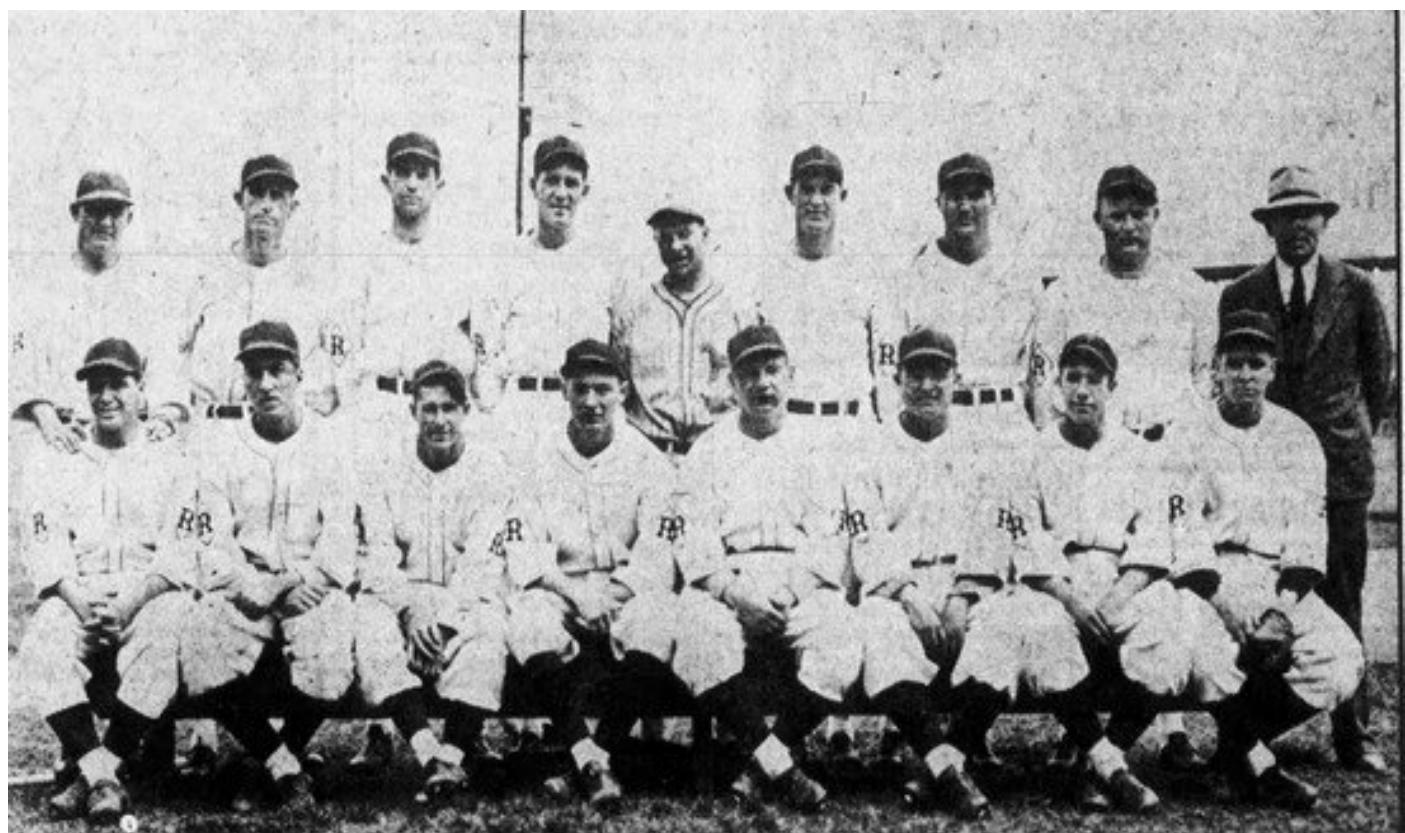
Buck graduated from Black Mountain High School in 1927 and attended Presbyterian College in South Carolina. But in February 1928, he ended his education and signed with the Asheville Tourists of the Class B South Atlantic League. "If Buck makes good," declared the Asheville Times on February 10, 1928, "Black Mountain is a 20 to 1 bet to elect him mayor, fire chief, city commissioner, justice of peace, special night officer, deputy sheriff and custodian of the city parks."

Whilst impressing the Tourists' management in spring training and the early season, the 6-foot-4-inch right-hander was optioned to the Durham Bulls of the Class C Piedmont League in June for further seasoning. In 1929, he was back with Asheville and made 20 appearances for a 1-5 record, but it was the following season that Buck found his true form. Pitching for Asheville in 1930, the 23-year-old was 13-8 in 24 appearances when he was traded to the Brooklyn Dodgers on July 12. There were expectations he might be called to Brooklyn immediately, but in the meantime, he joined the Macon Peaches – also of the South Atlantic League – where he continued to dominate Class B hitters. On August 14, he held the Charlotte Hornets to no hits over nine innings, allowing a single in the tenth, but winning the game, 3-1,

thanks to former major leaguer Johnny Mann's walk-off home run in the bottom of the frame. Buck finished the season with a 20-13 record over 38 games. The Peaches clinched the league title but were defeated in the playoffs by the Greenville Spinners in six games.

With high expectations from the Brooklyn Dodgers' organization, Buck joined the Hartford Senators of the Class A Eastern League in 1931 but struggled to get into condition throughout the season and finished the year with a disappointing 3-10 record and 4.81 ERA over 20 games.

Buck returned to the Hartford Senators for 1932, showing much more promise with a 10-5 record before being sent to the Jersey City Skeeters of the Class AA International League in July. Buck made five appearances with the Skeeters – just one level below the big leagues – for a 1-1 record.



The 1934 Richmond Colts of the Piedmont League. Buck Greene is back row, fourth from left.

The 26-year-old, now a veteran of five minor league seasons, began 1933 with Jersey City but was released in April, and joined the Wilmington Pirates of the Class B Piedmont League, making just eight appearances for a 2-1 record. In 1934, his final year in Organized baseball, Buck made five appearances for the Richmond Colts of the Piedmont League for an 0-4 record.

Buck returned to the family home in Black Mountain, North Carolina, after his baseball career and worked as a carpenter for his father's construction business. His father was also a town alderman at this time and served three terms as mayor of Black Mountain in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Aged 33, Buck was one of more than 16 million Americans who registered for the draft in 1940. He entered military service on March 9, 1942, just three months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and trained at Camp Polk, Louisiana, Camp Young, California, and Fort Benning, Georgia. During this time, he met and married the former Alma Mae Bryant of Florida.

Buck went overseas in May 1944, with Company B of the 33rd Armored Engineer Battalion, 7th Armored Division. Arriving on the Queen Mary at Greenock, Scotland, the Battalion moved to Tidworth Barracks in Wiltshire, England, before crossing the English Channel to France in August 1944.

Buck was Company B's First Sergeant - the senior enlisted leader responsible for discipline, administration, logistics, and the welfare of enlisted personnel within the company. As well as supervising the distribution of supplies, equipment, and rations, Buck played a key role in preparing the company for movement, and combat operations.

The 33rd Armored Engineer Battalion was highly mobile and operated alongside tank and infantry units, constructing and repairing roads and bridges, and clearing minefields. The First Sergeant's ability to maintain order, readiness, and morale was essential in these situations. Though not typically leading combat missions, Buck was often near the front lines and was wounded in action shortly after arrival in France on August 18, 1944.

In early December 1944, the 33rd Armored Engineer Battalion was stationed in eastern Belgium, preparing defensive positions near St. Vith. The Germans made their last major offensive in this area (later known as the Battle of the Bulge) on December 16, and the battalion was thrust into action, working under extreme conditions of cold, fog, and deadly artillery fire.

On December 23, 1944, First Sergeant William "Buck" Greene was one of three Company B soldiers killed in action in the vicinity of Beho, Belgium (the other men were Sgt. Howard A. Fox, and T/5 Lucious Sumrall). Initially, they were reported missing, and their deaths were not confirmed until March 1945.

Buck's remains were returned to the United States in 1948, and he now rests at Mountain View Memorial Park in Black Mountain. His widow Alma Mae Greene operated the Greene Beauty Salon in Asheville, North Carolina, after the war. She succumbed to lung cancer on March 31, 1950, aged 38.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Buck Greene.*

## **Swede Andro: The Game He Loved, The Country He Chose**

**German-born Swede Andro fell in love with America's game. But when duty called, he gave up the diamond to fight against his homeland, choosing principle over origin.**

Herbert P. "Swede" Andro, son of Ernest and Caroline Andro, was born in Berlin, Germany, on August 9, 1920. The family moved to the United States when Herb was three years old, and settled in Los Angeles, California, where Ernest worked as a cabinet maker.

Herb was an infielder who played second, third and shortstop, and often led-off because of his speed. In 1936, aged sixteen, he was with the Brainard All-Stars, and joined the Associated Dairies team in 1937. He played semi-pro ball with the Seattle Juniors in 1938, and was at spring training with the Pacific Coast League Seattle Rainiers in 1939. A strong prospect, he was slowed down by an ankle injury and released in March.

In 1940, Herb (aged 18) was playing for the Cincinnati Reds Rookies, a team of Reds' prospects based in California because there were no spaces available on minor league clubs.

In 1941, Herb joined the Anaheim Aces for spring training in the newly formed Class C California League. He played six games in the regular season, and was a teammate of World War II amputee Bert Shepard. Batting just .182, Herb was released on April 29.



In 1942, Herb was working at Bullock's Department Store in Los Angeles. He enlisted in the Navy on March 31, 1942, and was assigned to the destroyer USS Buck (DD-420) on September 2, 1942. The Buck was undergoing repairs in Boston at the time and returned to Atlantic convoy escort duty that winter, guarding convoys to European waters until June 1943, when she was ordered to the Mediterranean for patrol duty out of Tunisian and Algerian ports.

In September 1943, the Buck supported the Allied landings at Anzio. While on patrol off the coast of Salerno, Italy, on October 9, the Buck was torpedoed by the German submarine U-616. The destroyer flooded quickly and sank within four minutes. A huge underwater explosion killed and wounded many sailors. Ninety-seven crew members were rescued. Torpedoman 2nd Class Andro was among the 163 that did not survive (including infielder Joseph Rodgers, who played for the Hornell Pirates of the Class D PONY League in 1942). Andro's body was never recovered and he is memorialized at the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery in Nettuno, Italy.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Swede Andro.*

## **A Life Carried with Honor: Glen Callaway**

**Promising ballplayer Glen Callaway traded bats for bravery, serving in Italy in 1944 as a frontline litter bearer with the Army.**

Glen Callaway, the son of James and Mary Callaway, was born on June 3, 1919, in Holdenville, Oklahoma - about 80 miles southeast of Oklahoma City.

Glen had eight sisters and four brothers. Three of his brothers were ballplayers and played for Moss High School. Glen also played baseball at Moss, as well as basketball and competing in track. Additionally, he

played for the Holdenville team in the local Ban Johnson League, and the Holdenville American Legion junior baseball team that were Oklahoma state champions in 1936.



Glen graduated from high school in 1938, and was playing with the Hulsey Community baseball team in 1939, with his brothers. Grady, known as "Hook," was a pitcher, Edmond, known as "Bud," was the catcher, Lenard played the outfield, and Glen played third base.

In 1940, the 20-year-old signed with the Muskogee Reds of the Class C Western Association. The Reds were managed by Jack Mealy, who was also from Holdenville, and had been a catcher in the minors since 1922. Even at the age of 40 in 1940, he played over 70 games behind the plate.

Callaway was released early in the season by Muskogee, but was soon picked up in May 1940 by the Fayetteville Angels of the Class D Arkansas-Missouri League – a Brooklyn Dodgers farm team. Although stats are incomplete for the league, Callaway appeared in at least 21 games and was batting over .340 when the four-team league folded.

Brooklyn sent the youngster to the Newport Dodgers of the Class D Northeast Arkansas League, where he finished the season appearing in a further 51 games and batted .230.

In 1941, Brooklyn assigned Callaway to the Big Spring Bombers of the Class D West Texas-New Mexico League, where he played a handful of games before being released. The following month he was back in Holdenville, playing for the local team before joining the National Guard. Callaway married the former Helen Story in March 1942, and their son Bobby was born in November of that year.

After 18 months in the National Guard, Glen enlisted with the Army in October 1942. He served with the 350th Infantry Regiment, 88th Infantry Division, and trained with the medical detachment at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He went overseas in December 1943, and was in action in Italy as a litter bearer from January 1944. A litter bearer was a frontline medic responsible for carrying wounded soldiers on stretchers ("litters") from the battlefield to aid stations. It was one of the most dangerous roles in combat - often under fire, unarmed, and driven by sheer courage and compassion.

Technician Fourth Grade Callaway was killed in action July 10, 1944, near Villamagna, during the US Fifth Army's push towards the River Arno. His remains were returned to Holdenville in June 1949, with funeral services at the First Baptist Church and burial at Holdenville Cemetery on July 1, 1949. Glen's younger brother, Grady, signed with the Ada Herefords of the Class D Sooner State League in March 1947, but did not appear in a regular season game.

*Many thanks to Jack Morris for initially identifying Glenn Callaway.*

# The 187 Baseball's Fallen in World War II

Since the early 1990s, I have been gathering information and compiling biographies of baseball players who lost their lives in military service. What began as research for a book on those caught up in World War II in Europe soon expanded to include players who died in other theaters of the war—the Mediterranean, the Pacific, and even on the home front.

I quickly realised that no one had ever attempted to keep comprehensive records of these players. Beyond a scattered list of about twenty names, their stories were largely forgotten. Determined to take things further, I created Baseball's Greatest Sacrifice, a website that now records 187 professional ballplayers who lost their lives during WWII, along with 34 semi-pros, 56 college players, 88 amateurs, 71 professional Japanese players, and 11 Japanese college players.

The project has since grown to cover other conflicts. It includes 75 players from the First World War—49 of them professionals—alongside 16 who died in the 19th century, 25 from the 20th and 21st centuries, 24 from the Korean War (21 professionals), 15 from the Vietnam War (9 professionals), and 7 who were killed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

And the search continues. I cannot say if or when the list will ever be complete. New tragic losses will inevitably be added, but just as often, forgotten names—sometimes buried for more than a century—resurface as I dig through archives.

The purpose of this work is simple: to ensure their sacrifice is never forgotten.

*"They gave their today for our tomorrow."*

Rank	Name	Baseball Experience	Position	Service	Location	Cause of Death	Date
Pvt.	Charlie A. Frye [1]	Major League	P	US Army	Hickory, NC	Died from Illness	May 25, 1945
Cptn.	Elmer J. Gedeon	Major League	OF	USAAF	France	Killed in Action	Apr 20, 1944
1/Lt.	Harry M. O'Neill	Major League	C	USMC	Iwo Jima	Killed in Action	Mar 6, 1945
Col.	Richard T. "Dick" Aldworth	Minor League	P	USAAF	Kelly Field, TX	Died of Illness	Sep 18, 1943
1/Lt.	Lee "L.V." Allen	Minor League	SS	USAAF	France	Killed in Action	Dec 31, 1943
TM2	Herbert P. "Swede" Andro	Minor League	IF	US Navy	off coast of Italy	Killed in Action	Oct 9, 1943
Pvt.	Jerry M. Angelich	Minor League	P	USAAF	Hickam Field, Hawaii	Killed in Action	Dec 7, 1941
S/gt.	Herman A. Bauer	Minor League	C	US Army	France	Died from Wounds	Jul 12, 1944
Pvt.	Fred W. Beal	Minor League	P	US Army	Camp White, OR	Bleeding Ulcers	Jan 23, 1943
Ensign	Constantine G. "Gus" Bebas	Minor League	P	US Navy	off Barber's Point, Hawaii	Plane Crash	Jul 19, 1942
2/Lt.	Hugh P. Bedient, Jr.	Minor League	P	USAAC	Queens, NY	Plane Crash	Jun 17, 1940
Sgt.	Leonard E. "Link" Berry	Minor League	P	US Army	English Channel	Killed in Action	Dec 24, 1944
1/Lt.	Keith F. Bissonnette	Minor League	OF/IF	USAAF	Burma	Killed in Action	Mar 28, 1945
Pfc.	W. Davis "Buddy" Blewster	Minor League	P	USMC	Guadalcanal	Killed in Action	Oct 22, 1942
Pfc.	George E. Bogovich	Minor League	P	US Army	Okinawa	Killed in Action	Apr 26, 1945
Ensign	Joseph S. Boren	Minor League	P	US Navy	Trinidad, West Indies	Plane Crash	Jul 12, 1942
T/5	Charles W. "Chuck" Bowers	Minor League	2B	US Army	Germany	Killed in Action	Apr 15, 1945
Pfc.	Richard H. "Dick" Brang	Minor League	3B	USMC	South Pacific	Died of Illness	Jan 15, 1944
Pfc.	John Brzinski	Minor League	SS	US Army	Italy	Killed in Action	Oct 28, 1944
Pvt.	Forrest V. "Lefty" Brewer	Minor League	P	US Army	France	Killed in Action	Jun 6, 1944
MM/3c	Edward A. Brock	Minor League	2B	US Navy	Pacific Ocean	Killed in Action	Feb 26, 1945
Ensign	Murill J. Brown	Minor League	P/OF	US Navy	Jacksonville, FL	Plane Crash	Sep 1944
Sgt.	Sheldon G. Brunner	Minor League	P	US Army	France	Killed in Action	Sep 8, 1944
Pfc.	Charles W. "Kelly" Buddhu	Minor League	SS	US Army	Tunisia	Missing in Action	Apr 2, 1943
S/1c	John E. Bunnell	Minor League	P	US Navy	South Pacific	Killed in Action	Jul 28, 1945
Pvt.	Eldred H. "Whitey" Burch	Minor League	SS/2B	USAAF	nr. Albemarle, NC	Military Accident	Nov 29, 1941
T/4	Glen Callaway	Minor League	3B	US Army	Italy	Killed in Action	Jul 10, 1944
Pfc.	Douglas K. Campbell	Minor League	2B	USMC	Tarawa	Killed in Action	Nov 20, 1943
S/Sgt.	George W. Chandler, Jr.	Minor League	SS/C	USAAF	nr. Plain Dealing, LA	Plane Crash	Sep 20, 1942
2/Lt.	Floyd E. Christiansen	Minor League	IF	USMC	Moore, OK	Killed in Action	May 1, 1945
Pfc.	Frank J. Ciaffone	Minor League	P	USMC	Iwo Jima	Killed in Action	Mar 3, 1945
1/Lt.	Ordway H. "Hal" Cisgen	Minor League	P	US Army	France	Died non-Battle	Jul 11, 1944
Pfc.	Kenneth E. Clark	Minor League	SS	US Army	Luxembourg	Killed in Action	Dec 10, 1944
Pfc.	Clarence W. Clayton	Minor League	2B	US Army	Czechoslovakia	Killed in Action	May 1, 1945
Cpl.	Lester O. "Les" Clotiaux	Minor League	C	USAAF	nr. Smiley, TX	Plane Crash	Aug 9, 1945
Pfc.	Olan Dabbs	Minor League	3B	US Army	Germany	Killed in Action	Apr 6, 1945

[1] Charlie Frye was honorably discharged from the Army in December 1944 but was extremely overweight at the time and died from a ruptured gastric ulcer a few months later.

Sgt.	Eugene L. Dellinger, Jr. [2]	Minor League	1B-OF	US Army	Died Not in Battle	Tuscaloosa, AL	.Jan 31, 1946
S/Sgt.	Howard W. DeMartini	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	English Channel	Dec 24, 1944
2/Lt.	Harold B. "Hal" Dobson	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	Silver Lake, CA	May 23, 1943
Lt (jg)	Clarence R. "Mike" Dolan	Minor League	P	US Navy	Lost at Sea	New Caledonia	May 14, 1944
2/Lt.	James J. "Jim" Donovan, Jr.	Minor League	2B	US Army	Military Accident	Ft. Benning, GA	Jun 23, 1943
Lt(jg)	Norman J. Duncan	Minor League	SS	US Navy	Kamikaze Attack	off coast of Okinawa	Apr 12, 1945
MoMM3c	Franklin K. Edginton	Minor League	1B	US Navy	Killed in Action	off coast of Matuwa Island	Jun 1, 1944
Pvt.	Louis E. Elko	Minor League	SS	USMC	Illness	Streator, IL	Apr 2, 1944
Cpl.	Charles "Chatty" Etherton, Jr. [3]	Minor League	P	US Army	Suicide	Jefferson City, MO	Dec 27, 1945
Lt(jg)	Charles H. "Herb" Fash	Minor League	1B	US Navy	Explosion	Pacific Ocean	Jan 21, 1945
Pfc.	Frank Faudem	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Philippines	Jan 12, 1945
Sgt.	Samuel W. Fayonsky (Fay)	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Nov 10, 1944
S/Sgt.	John H. Fessler	Minor League	SS	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jun 10, 1944
1/Lt.	Ernest B. "Ernie" Ford, Jr.	Minor League	P	USMC	Military Accident	Corpus Christi, TX	May 4, 1945
Lt. Col.	Samuel W. Freeny	Minor League	1B	USMC	Murdered	Philippines	Dec 23, 1944
Pfc.	Troy L. Furr	Minor League	2B	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jan 3, 1945
Sgt.	Eugene J. Gabrych	Minor League	SS	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jul 5, 1944
2/Lt.	George E. Gamble, Jr.	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Killed in Action	French Indo-China (Vietnam)	Dec 4, 1944
2/Lt.	Robert W. Gary, Jr.	Minor League	IF	USAAF	Plane Crash	McNary, TX	Feb 4, 1944
S/Sgt.	Conrad W. "Connie" Graff	Minor League	1B/OF	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jul 8, 1944
2/Lt.	Alan S. Grant	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	Wales, United Kingdom	Dec 29, 1943
1/Sgt.	William V. "Buck" Greene	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Dec 23, 1944
Civilian	James M. Grilk [4]	Minor League	C	USAAF	Auto accident	Sacramento, CA	Jul 16, 1942
Cpl.	Robert J. Gruss	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Tonopah, NV	Aug 19, 1944
2/Lt.	Frank C. Haggerty	Minor League	SS	USAAF	Plane Crash	Charlotte, NC	Sep 23, 1942
Sgt.	William F. "Bill" Hansen	Minor League	OF	US Army	Died from Wounds	Germany	Dec 17, 1944
AM/3c	William J. "Billy" Hebert	Minor League	2B	US Navy	Killed in Action	Guadalcanal	Oct 21, 1942
Pvt.	Manuel P. "Nay" Hernandez	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Mar 22, 1945
Lt(jg)	Robert K. Hershey	Minor League	1B	US Navy	Killed in Action	NAS Trinidad	Jul 31, 1943
Lt(jg)	Roswell G. Higginbotham	Minor League	IF/OF	US Navy	Died after Surgery	Quonset Point NAS, RI	May 23, 1943
2/Lt.	Frank D. Hines	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Afton, VA	Sep 4, 1943
Pvt.	Ernest J. Holbrook	Minor League	1B	US Army	Killed in Action	Luxembourg	Dec 16, 1944
2/Lt.	Robert D. Holmes	Minor League	P	USMC	Died from Wounds	Iwo Jima	Feb 22, 1945
2/Lt.	Gordon E. Houston	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	Tacoma, WA	Feb 10, 1942
Pfc.	Ernest Hrovatic (Hrovatich)	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Jan 14, 1945
Pvt.	Harry N. Imhoff, Jr.	Minor League	C	USMC	Killed in Action	Okinawa	Jun 3, 1945
T/Sgt.	Frank D. Janik	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Okinawa	Apr 29, 1945

Lt(jg)	Edward J. Jelen	Minor League	2B	US Navy	Died in Hospital	Norfolk, VA	April 8, 1945
Cpl.	Ardys B. "Art" Keller	Minor League	C	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Sep 29, 1944
Lt(jg)	Stanley P. Kiores	Minor League	1B	US Navy	Killed in Action	Leyte	Dec 3, 1944
Ensign	Carlyle J. "Curly" Kopp	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Plane Crash	nr. St. Paul Park, MN	Jul 21, 1943
T/5	Clifford C. Kraemer	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Mar 16, 1945
Pvt.	John J. Labetich	Minor League	3B	US Army	Illness	Monterey, CA	Feb 20, 1944
S/Sgt.	Harry B. Ladner, Jr.	Minor League	UMPIRE	US Army	Killed in Action	Okinawa	Apr 18, 1945
1/Lt.	Walter E. Lake	Minor League	C	US Army	Died from Wounds	France	Jul 26, 1944
Pfc.	Harlan D. Larsen	Minor League	C	USMC	Killed in Action	Philippine Sea	Jul 30, 1945
Lt.	Felix A. Little	Minor League	P	US Navy	Plane Crash	Brazil	Dec 18, 1944
1/Lt.	Walter G. "Whitey" Loos, Jr.	Minor League	C	USAAF	Plane Crash	Suriname, South America	Jan 16, 1944
1/Lt.	Andrew J. "Jack" Lummus, Jr.	Minor League	OF	USMC	Died from Wounds	Iwo Jima	Mar 9, 1945
Pfc.	Theodore C. "Ted" Maillet	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Apr 7, 1945
2/Lt.	Dom P. Malchiodi	Minor League	C	USAAF	Plane Crash	Holland	May 31, 1945
2/Lt.	William A. Marzalek (Marszalek)	Minor League	P	US Army	Accident	Fort Huachuca, AZ	Oct 6, 1942
AMM/2c	Henry "Marty" Martinez	Minor League	IF	US Navy	Died of Wounds	Philippines	Jan 5, 1945
T/5	Arthur R. "Lefty" Mckay	Minor League	P	US Army	Gun Shot	Myrtle Beach, SC	Jun 5, 1943
1/Lt.	John W. "Duck" McKee	Minor League	OF	US Army	Died of Wounds	Belgium	Mar 6, 1945
Sgt.	William M. "Bill" McNulty	Minor League	3B	US Army	Killed in Action	New Guinea	May 29, 1944
T/5	Paul V. A. Mellblom	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Jan 14, 1945
Pvt.	George A. Meyer	Minor League	OF/SS	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Jan 15, 1945
2/Lt.	Louis I. Miller	Minor League	3B	USAAF	Killed in Action	nr. Lae, New Guinea	Mar 3, 1943
Pvt.	Joseph T. Moceri	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jun 30, 1944
1/Lt.	John T. "Jack" Moller	Minor League	P/OF	USAAF	Killed in Action	nr. Gaile, New Guinea	Aug 8, 1943
1/Sgt.	Ralph W. "Rocky" Mountain	Minor League	C/OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Luzon, Philippines	Feb 24, 1945
PhM1C	Frank Myers (Frank M. Myernick)	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Killed in Action	off Okinawa	Apr 29, 1945
Pfc.	Walt Navie (Walter J. Nawiesniak) [5]	Minor League	P	US Army	Suicide	El Paso, TX	Oct 5, 1945
Pvt.	Jack A. Nealy	Minor League	1B	USMC	Killed in Action	Iwo Jima	Mar 2, 1945
Seaman	Edward S. Neusel	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Heart Disease	St. Louis, MO	Jul 31, 1944
Cpl.	Robert F. "Bob" Nieman	Minor League	SS	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Muroc AAF, CA	Aug 23, 1944
Pfc.	William F. "Bill" Niemeyer	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Mar 4, 1945
Sgt.	Henry S. "Hank" Nowak	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Jan 1, 1945
Cpl.	William L. "Bill" Padar	Minor League	2B	US Army	Killed in Action	Tunisia	Dec 2, 1942
T/5	Louis A. "Lou" Paganello	Minor League	2B	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Mar 5, 1945
F/O	Joseph M. Palatas	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Died from Wounds	Germany	Apr 11, 1944
Pfc.	Jack H. Patterson	Minor League	P	USMC	Accident	Guadalcanal	Nov 2, 1944
S/Sgt.	Metro Persoskie	Minor League	P/OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	England	Feb 22, 1944

[5] Walt Navie had served with the US Army at Guadalcanal in 1942. He was still in the Army when he committed suicide in October 1945.

Pvt.	Charles R. "Charlie" Pescod	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Dec 2, 1944
T/Sgt.	Clarence Peters, Jr.	Minor League	IF	US Army	Died from Wounds	France	Jul 8, 1944
T/5	John J. "Joe" Pinder, Jr.	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jun 6, 1944
S/Sgt.	Jack E. Pinion	Minor League	C	USAAF	Plane Crash	North Africa	Dec 7, 1942
AMM/1c	Henry R. "Bob" Price	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Lost at Sea	Pacific Ocean	Dec 31, 1944
Pfc.	Luster Pruitt	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Jan 11, 1945
Pvt.	Ernest R. Raimondi	Minor League	3B	US Army	Died from Wounds	France	Jan 26, 1945
T/Sgt.	John J. Regan	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	India	May 25, 1944
Pvt.	Charles J. "Pete" Rehkamp	Minor League	P	USAAF	Auto Accident	Mount Clemens, MI	Sep 9, 1942
Ensign	John Q. "Red" Roberts	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Killed in Action	at sea near Midway	Jun 4, 1942
1/Lt.	James G. "Jim" Robertson	Minor League	C	USMC	Plane Crash	off Green Island, Pacific Ocean	Apr 20, 1944
S/2c	Joseph W. Rodgers	Minor League	IF	US Navy	Killed in Action	off coast of Italy	Oct 10, 1943
Pfc.	Chester J. "Chet" Romanowski	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jul 10, 1944
S/Sgt.	Milton "Rosey" Rosenstein	Minor League	P	US Army	Died from Wounds	Leyte, Philippines	Nov 28, 1944
RM1c	Walter L. Rougeux	Minor League	3B	US Navy	Killed in Action	Okinawa	May 12, 1945
T/4	Herman P. Rush [6]	Minor League	C	US Army	Died from Wounds	Modesto, CA	Dec 7, 1945
T/4	Michael L. Sambolich	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Accident	Belgium	Nov 4, 1944
2/Lt.	Glenn F. Sanford	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	Suisun Bay, CA	Nov 6, 1943
2/Lt.	William A. "Bill" Sarver	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Apr 6, 1945
Ensign	Walter J. Schmisseur, Jr.	Minor League	C	US Navy	Killed in Action	Bonin Islands	Feb 20, 1945
Cpl.	Robert C. "Bob" Schmukal	Minor League	OF	US Army	Died Not in Battle	France	Oct 3, 1944
Pfc.	Edward N. "Bud" Schohl	Minor League	SS	US Army	Died from Wounds	Italy	Nov 1, 1943
2/Lt.	Franklin C. Schulz	Minor League	P	USAAF	Killed in Action	Samar, Philippines	Jun 17, 1945
Pvt.	Carl H. "Kappy" Scott	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jul 26, 1944
Pfc.	Marcello L. "Major" Serventi	Minor League	P	US Army	Auto Accident	Oakland, CA	Jul 5, 1941
S/Sgt.	Donald R. Shelton	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Italy	Sep 15, 1944
F/O	Harold H. Sherman	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	China	Jul 7, 1945
Lt(jg)	Jack C. Siens	Minor League	OF	US Navy	Plane Crash	England	Sep 10, 1943
T/5	Arthur H. "Art" Sinclair	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Italy	Jan 26, 1944
S/Sgt.	John M. "Mason" Smith	Minor League	P	USAAF	Killed in Action	France	Nov 4, 1944
Ensign	Norman K. Smith	Minor League	P	US Navy	Killed in Action	off Savo Island, Pacific Ocean	Aug 9, 1942
Cptn.	Marshall M. Sneed	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Killed in Action	Tunisia	Feb 22, 1943
Sgt.	Daniel W. Snell	Minor League	2B/3B	US Army	Died from Wounds	Germany	Mar 11, 1945
Sgt.	Rodney L. Sooter [7]	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	Germany	Feb 1, 1946
Major	William B. "Billy" Southworth Jr.	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	Flushing Bay, NY	Feb 15, 1945
T/Sgt.	Cecil L. Spittler	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Nov 30, 1944
Sgt.	Earl V. "Lefty" Springer	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Jan 25, 1945

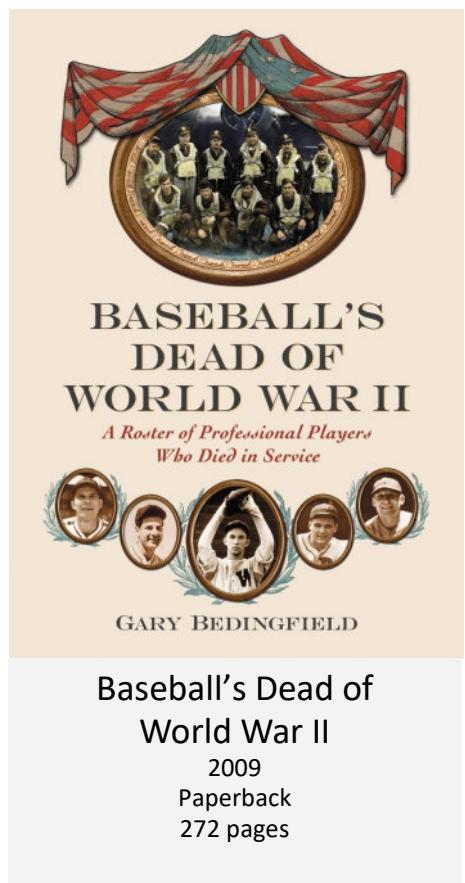
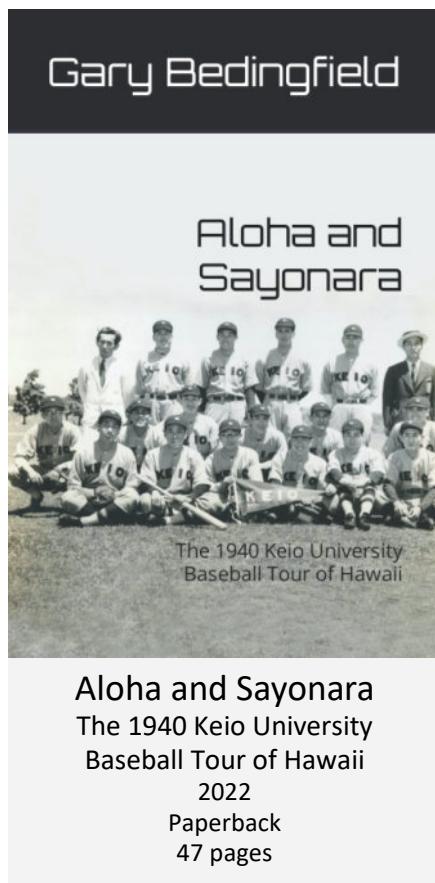
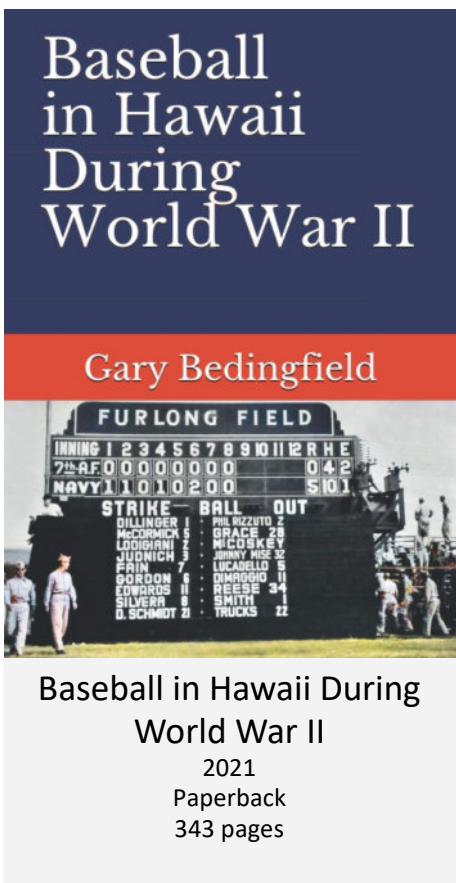
Cpl.	Gene Stack (Eugene F. Stachowiak)	Minor League	P	US Army	Pneumonia	Michigan City, IN	Jun 26, 1942
Pvt.	Donald A. Stewart	Minor League	UMPIRE	Can Army	Killed in Air Raid	Scotland	Mar 13, 1941
Pvt.	James E. Stewart	Minor League	P	USMC	Killed in Action	Iwo Jima	Mar 22, 1945
Cpl.	Alvin "Bus" Stiewe	Minor League	SS	US Army	Killed in Action	Italy	Feb 15, 1945
Pvt.	Errol J. Stoner	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Philippines	Dec 12, 1941
2/Lt.	Sylvester H. "Syl" Sturges	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Killed in Action	France	Jun 7, 1944
Av. Cadet	Frederic W. Swift	Minor League	P	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Blanco, TX	Apr 23, 1944
Cpl.	Johnny P. Taylor	Minor League	3B	USMC	Killed in Action	Guam	Jul 26, 1944
Pfc.	Stephen J. Toner	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Belgium	Dec 16, 1944
Cpl.	Steve L. Tonsick	Minor League	1B	US Army	Killed in Action	Tunisia	Mar 28, 1943
Pvt.	James Trimble III	Minor League	P	USMC	Killed in Action	Iwo Jima	Mar 1, 1945
Pfc.	George Emmett Tully	Minor League	P/1B	USAAF	Homicide	Savannah, GA	Jan 13, 1943
Av. Cadet	Edgar W. Tuttle	Minor League	P/OF	US Navy	Plane Crash	Jacksonville, FL	Jun 11, 1942
1/Lt.	Wirt B. "Beecher" Twitchell, Jr.	Minor League	1B/P	US Army	Killed in Action	Saipan	Jul 7, 1944
Pfc.	Lou Vann (Luigi G. Varanese)	Minor League	IF	USMC	Accident	San Diego, CA	May 21, 1943
T/3	Joseph Vecchio	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Nov 16, 1944
S/Sgt.	Armando J. "Pete" Viselli	Minor League	SS	USAAF	Plane Crash	Philippines	Dec 12, 1941
1/Lt.	Arthur C. Vivian, Jr.	Minor League	P	USMC	Killed in Action	Guam	Aug 1, 1944
S/Sgt.	Elmer J. Wachtler	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Luxembourg	Jan 5, 1945
1/Lt.	Leo M.H. Walker	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Georgetown, CA	Nov 2, 1941
S/Sgt.	Carson "Kit" Walsky	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Feb 26, 1945
Pfc.	Roman E. "Chipper" Wantuck	Minor League	P/OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Biak Island, New Guinea	Jun 16, 1944
ARM1C	Jack W. Weller	Minor League	SS	US Navy	Plane Crash	Bolling Field, Washington DC	Mar 24, 1943
1/Lt.	Millard M. "Mermie" White	Minor League	SS	USAAF	Plane Crash	Montoya, NM	Jul 3, 1945
S/Sgt.	James J. Whitfield	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Angaur, Palau Islands	Sep 22, 1944
T/5	Richard L. "Dick" Williams	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Philippines	Feb 21, 1945
Pvt.	Robert J. "Bob" Williams	Minor League	1B	US Army	Illness	Ft. Bliss, TX	Jan 14, 1943
Pfc.	Lester R. Wirkkala	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Sep 7, 1944
2/Lt.	Stanford G. Wolfson	Minor League	OF/IF/P	USAAF	Murdered	Germany	Nov 5, 1944
Lt(jg)	Thomas J. Woodruff	Minor League	SS	US Navy	Lost at Sea	Pacific Ocean	Nov 14, 1944
Cpl.	Alan Wray (Alan W. Lightner)	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Germany	Jan 12, 1945
S/Sgt.	Elmer P. "Elmer" Wright	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Jun 6, 1944
S/Sgt.	William H. Yarewick	Minor League	P	USAAF	Lost at Sea	off Japan	May 23, 1945
Pfc.	Frederick J. Yeske	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	Italy	Dec 21, 1943
Pfc.	Marion P. "Spud" Young	Minor League	IF	USMC	Kamikaze Attack	Philippines	Dec 13, 1944
S/Sgt.	Veito R. Zande	Minor League	P	US Army	Killed in Action	France	Aug 10, 1944
Cpl.	Peter J. Zarrilla	Minor League	OF	USAAF	Plane Crash	nr. Smiley, TX	Aug 9, 1945

T/5	Lamar A. "Dutch" Zimmerman	Minor League	OF	US Army	Killed in Action	Luxembourg	Jan 24, 1945
2/Lt.	John J. Zulberti	Minor League	IF	US Army	Killed in Action	Italy	Jan 21, 1944
Pfc.	George C. Zwilling	Minor League	SS	US Army	Killed in Action	Tunisia	Mar 31, 1943

If you can add to this list or have information on any of these players that should be included in their biographies  
 please get in touch with me by email [info@baseballinwartime.com](mailto:info@baseballinwartime.com)



## Books by Gary Bedingfield



***All books are available worldwide through amazon.***

## What else does Gary Bedingfield do?



Gary Bedingfield isn't just a baseball researcher—since 2009, through Gary Bedingfield Training, he has worked with organisations across the private, public, and third sectors to provide innovative, cost-effective business skills courses that support staff training and professional development. His expertise spans Train the Trainer programmes, staff and career development, employment advice, and coaching, all underpinned by a deep understanding of learning strategies and a commitment to helping people reach their full potential. This approach has made his services increasingly sought after nationwide, with clients ranging from BBC Scotland, and BP to the Ministry of Defence, NHS

Scotland, universities, and major companies such as Arnold Clark and Tunnocks. In short, he plays a vital role in helping Scotland's workforce grow, adapt, and thrive.

[www.garybedingfield.co.uk](http://www.garybedingfield.co.uk)