

DAYS OF OUR LIVES #222

MAIL-bag - PRESERVING FORGOTTEN MEMORIES OF TURKEY

I welcome articles, BIO's, articles, stories, etc and certainly hope that all ASA Turkey Vet's will contribute and make the DOOL worthwhile. You can write whatever message you would like, and it will show up right here for all ex-ASA'ers to read and enjoy! I will respond to all e-mails and will assist whenever needed, but reserve the right to edit for content and clarity and welcome any errors or imperfections that may appear herein.

THE EDITOR: Elder RC Green, 3094 Warren Rd., Indiana, PA 15701, 724-349-7395 or cell 724-388-2510, asagreenhornet@comcast.net

TAPS

LAS, Walt, DOB: 23SE1939, DOD: 11SE2011 at his home with his extended family at his bedside, RA12645469, E3-E5, 058, Det 27, NO62-AU64, (Theresa), 2 Vincent Dr., Parsippany, NJ 07054, 973-263-0911, wrl300m@yahoo.com

In DOOL #220 I included the announcement from Ken & Judi Whitman that our dear friend Walt Las was undergoing Chemo treatment for Liver Cancer. And now I list the obituary for Walt:

Walter R. Las, Age 71, passed away on Friday, March 11, 2011, at his home. Interment is in East Ridgelawn Cemetery, Clifton, N.J. Walter was born and raised in Passaic, N.J., before moving to Parsippany, N.J., 32 years ago. He served in the United States Army from Nov. 21, 1961, until being honorably discharged on Aug. 24, 1964. Walter was a member of the United States Army Security Agency (ASA) which from 1945 through 1976 was the United States Army's signal intelligence branch. Its motto was "Vigilant Always." He was the sales manager at Benedict-Miller, where he worked for over 50 years. Survivors include his wife, Theresa (nee Wierzbicki); his sons, Walter A. Las and Andrew Sadowski and his wife, Lisa; his daughters, Laura J. Strunck, Lucy E. Ricker and Maureen E. Hornecker and her husband, Richard; his mother, Helen (nee Burgess) Las; his sister and brother-in-law, Laraine and William Brower, and his grandchildren, Matthew, Stephen, Kara, Christopher, Lucas, and Anya.

On 13 March 2011 I received the following up-date from Maureen: [edited] Thank you so much for sending the death notice to those who knew my father from the ASA reunions. I cannot express to you how much ASA meant to my father. He passed away with his wife, daughter & son-in-law, step-son & daughter-in-law and step-daughter around his bedside. His son and daughter are in Texas & Illinois (there are 5 of us total). Thank you for sending out the call for pictures. I have already seen responses and I could not be more grateful.

I don't think that there were any stories that I enjoyed more than hearing about all of you. Thank you so much. Maureen

Below is a collage of Photo's of Walt and Theresa Las from my reunion files. Please note the almost constant smile on Walt's face. It is with regret that Patty and I will no longer see Walt Las at the ASA Turkey reunions.





FM Hank Rotzal henryrotazl@comcast.net

Hi Elder,

So sorry to hear of Walt's passing. We remember him well from the 2010 ASA reunion in Toledo, Ohio. Here are some photo's that we took of Walt at the reunion, I have also sent the pictures to Theresa (Walt's Daughter).

Hank & Helena Rotzal

RASMUSSEN, Ted, YOB: 1944, RA13765437, E3-E4, 058, Det 27, 5AP63-16SE64, (Marianna), 1182 Maple Ave, Lancaster, PA 17603, 717-394-7026, theoraz@comcast.net

Hi Elder - This is the news I didn't want to hear. Walt and I were fairly close at Det. 27 and I can tell you he was a class act. We had been emailing over the past several years and had planned to meet at the halfway point between Parsippany and Lancaster, PA in the near future for a visit. I found out he was sick and the several calls I made were not answered. All of us who knew Walt at Det. 27 and everyone at home who knew him will feel a large void with his passing. May he rest in peace. Ted Rasmussen

VANDEVER, John J. DOB: 20AU1940 DOD:7FE2011 Det 4,
I sent this to you earlier, but just noticed in the DOOL that I had the wrong address...sorry about that. Cheers, Gary Winch, Det 27

Hi Elder! I didn't know Jack Vandever and am not sure he is on your membership list, but noted that he was Army and spent a year at Sinop so thought I'd pass this item along. The "Phoenix Society", as you may know, is the NSA retired folks' organization. Keep up the great work and best wishes! Cheers, Gary Winch

VANDEVER, JR., JOHN JOSEPH "JACK", 70, a resident of Pasadena, MD, died on 7 February 2011 after a six year battle with esophageal cancer. He was born on 20 August 1940, to Helen and John Vandever of Haddon Heights, NJ.

Jack graduated from Haddon Heights High School in 1958 and went on to Gettysburg College, PA, where he majored in English and graduated in 1962. Jack was active in Sigma Chi fraternity beginning while he was at Gettysburg. He also met his wife, Judith Curchin Vandever there; they married after graduation in 1962. In 1979, he received his Master of Arts in Management and Supervision from Central Michigan University.

After receiving his US Army commission in the fall of 1962, he remained on active duty for 20 years. He had various assignments during those years - some of the more memorable are an assignment to Arlington Hall Station, VA, in 1962-63, where their daughter, Lesley, was born, and where they saw President Kennedy lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier shortly before he was assassinated; a 3 year stint in Fairbanks, Alaska, where their son, Jay, was born; a tour in the Republic of Viet Nam where Jack served as a senior intelligence advisor; three years at Fort Knox, KY, where the family bought their first boat and enjoyed camping and fishing at the "Land

between The Lakes"; **an unaccompanied year in Sinop, Turkey**; another three years with the family in Stuttgart, Germany; and finally to Fort Meade, MD where he retired in 1982 from the US Army Intelligence and Security Command. Jack then went back to work for the US Air Force and spent another 13 years there as a civilian employee before retiring again.

Jack's interests were many. He was an Eagle Scout, and a member of the Order of the Arrow. He attended the the Ranch in NM. He served on the Supervisory Committee for Tower Federal Credit Union from June 1999 until May 2006, and was Chairman from 2002 to 2006. He was on the Gettysburg College Alumni Board from 1996 - 2006, and he was active in the Northern Anne Arundel County Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association where he served as treasurer from 2002-2006. He enjoyed boating, fishing, camping, reading and travel.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Judy; daughter Lesley and her partner, Jennifer Wilson; son Jay and his wife, Valerie, and three grandchildren, Shannon, Tarah and Jonathan. In addition he leaves a brother, Jim and his wife Judy; a sister, Jane MacKenzie and her husband Kenneth, and a sister-in-law, Pat Curchin. Jack was predeceased by a brother, Richard C. Vandever, who died in 1980.

Jack's ashes will be incorporated into a reef ball which will become part of The Eternal Reefs restoration project in the Chesapeake Bay.

2011 ASA TURKEY REUNION
Radisson Hotel
Valley Forge/King of Prussia, Pennsylvania
8-11 September 2011
Room rate: \$82.80 + tax = \$90. + hot breakfast

To make reservations: 610-337-2000

And state that you will be attending the ASA Turkey reunion
All individual reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card and will not be charged until check out. Anyone can cancel 24 hours before scheduled arrival without penalty.

So make your Radisson reservations now.

Getting to the Valley Forge area

There are 6 major highways approaching from virtually every direction. It's served by exits 326 thru 343 of the PA Turnpike (I-76) & I-476. I-95 is nearby. The GPS for the Radisson is: 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia, PA
The Hospitality Room will be in Suite 1417



What's on the agenda to do

I suggest that all google Valley Forge for things to do & make your plans ahead of time as there are many historical sites to visit.

1. A visit to the QVC studio in West Chester, Pa.
2. A bus trip to/from Philadelphia points of interest
3. A tour of the 3600 acre Valley Forge National Historical Park & encampment area where General George Washington forged his Continental Army into a fighting force in the winter of 1777-1778
4. Visit the King of Prussia Mall. It is the East Coast largest retail shopping mall. It has 8 major department stores & 365 shops & 40 restaurants. It is 3 minutes from the hotel & the hotel vans will take you to/from the mall.

The QVC Studio is a 20 minute/15.05 miles from the Radisson Hotel. It is a popular destination & is a one-of-a-kind guided walking tour thru electronic retailing at its best. You will see QVC programs in progress. The daily tours are every hour on the hour from 10 am to 4 pm

Mike & Jane Comroe are working on the details of this visit to QVC.

For those of you not attending, this will be your chance to support the ASA Turkey reunion group by making a donation to the General Fund to Hal Winkler, the ASA Turkey Treasurer, at 12195 Thames Place, Cincinnati, OH., 45241, 513-489-5308

MAIL call

ASPINWALL, Paul, Supply Det 4, 13JAN65-22DEC65, 14 Quail Ridge Dr., Madison, WI

BLANCHARD, Sherman, MP Det 4, JL62-63, Tampa, FL

Brooke. Dennis, 058, Det 27, SE62-MR64, Naperville, IL

BROWN, David, 76Y/76S Det 4, JA68-JA69, Clallam Bay, WA
GLUBKA, Roger, 72B, Det 27, FE64-6AU65, Sierra Vista, AZ

GREENE, John

GREGG, Cecil N., Det 4, 59-60, Pueblo, CO

LARSON, Larry, 058/059, E3-E4, Det 4, MY59-MY60, Ames, IA

RODRIGUES, Charlie, Supply Det 4, 59-60, Syracuse, NY

RUPP, Wayne, 056, Det 4, AU63-JL64, Mechanicsburg, PA

WADLEY, Jeff, 058, TK#4, Det 27, SE62-FE64, Oro Valley, AZ

MAIL CALL - IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

ASPINWALL, Paul C YOB: 1942 2LT-1LT, 9620 Supply Det 4, 13JAN65-22DEC65, 14 Quail Ridge Dr., Madison, WI 53717, 608-831-0670, asp@us.ibm.com
BS Math from U of Wisconsin 1964 Army Security Agency August, 1964 - August, 1967
Fort Benning Infantry School 8/64-10/64 Fort Devens ASA School 10/64-12/64 Sinop
TUSLOG Det 4 1/65-12/65 Bangkok RRU 5 2/66-8/66 Clark AFB Philippines 8/66-8/67
IBM 9/67 to present 3 kids (Amy born 10/76, Adam 3/79, April 12/80)

In DOOL#221 Dick Martindale wanted to know the name of the commander who replaced Col Robert Fechtman at Det 4. It was Lt Col Robert Lewis who replaced Fechtman. Other information in DOOLs suggested that Lewis transferred to Det 27 sometime after I left Sinop in Dec 1965. My 11 months and ten days were from Jan 12, 1965 to December 22, 1965.

Regards, Paul C Aspinwall
Process Architect, IPD BPE Staff
720/396-2052 Tie 938-2052
Fax 608/270-4403 Madison, WI
Paul Aspinwall/Somers or asp@us.ibm.com

BLANCHARD, Sherman J., E2-CPL, MP Det 4, JL62-63, 12018 Evanshire Ct., Tampa, FL 33626, 813-451-8689, docblanchard01@verizon.net USA Ret Col

Ron Sowinski found him and suggested that I contact him. On 2 March 2011 I called and had a very interesting chat with Colonel Blanchard. He enlisted in the US Army at Fort Des Moines, IA. During his processing it was suggested that he sign on for duty with the Army Security Agency and it was suggested by his scores that he request training as a Traffic Analyst. After basic was sent to Sinop in July 1962. At that time there was a shortage of MP's as several were busted for drugs

Thanks Elder.

Time goes by so fast and the we are no longer here. Nice to think back on those "Times Gone By" Doc Blanchard

Brooke. Dennis, YOB 1843, RA17608528, E3-E5, 058, Det 27, SE62-MR64, (Barbara), 1720 Fender Rd., Naperville, IL 60565, 630-983-7296, vu73@yahoo.com

Elder,

Just finished the new #221 DOOL. Excellent as always. I find that I am filling my days with lots of meaningful minutes as I am very nervous about an upcoming triple bypass on March 10, 2011. While searching and getting all my copies of DOOL up-to-date I ran across this website. I strongly recommend for all to visit:

<http://www.merhabaturkey.com/index2.html>

And especially take time to look at the memorial page by clicking on Memorial!
Beautiful job done by these people! The memorial page is:

<http://www.merhabaturkey.com/memori.htm>

I don't know... some say life is too short, others say it is too long, but I know that nothing that we do makes sense if we don't touch the hearts of others... while it lasts!

That's all I have for now, wish me luck, as I am about as nervous as I was when I was a 19 year old heading for a remote part of the world called Det#27 in far off Turkey.

Sincerely, Dennis Brooke

[I called Dennis a week ago and he informs that his coronary artery bypass surgery was successful and that he is recovering at home with TLC from his wife Barbara. Denny informs that he was frightened to undergo the surgery, but that it had to be done! He had plaque buildup in his arteries and when under the knife (so to speak) they found blockages in all 3 coronary arteries and 1 branch. Thus he underwent a quadruple bypass surgery and looks forward to hearing from his old Det 27 friends/ gH]

BROWN, David H E4 76Y/76S Det 4, JA68-JA69, (Rebecca), PO Box 371 Clallam Bay, WA 98326, 360-963-3112, dh.brown@dhbrownbooks.com

Received a call late Sat evening that my elderly Brother was knocking at the door to the other side. We dropped everything and drove to Seattle. He passed away Tuesday in the early AM. He was a tail-gunner in B-17s during the war. Flew 25 missions over Europe then re-enlisted and did the same in B-29s out of Guam against the Japanese.

Packed up and left the condo in Seaside OR very early this morning well before dawn; skipped the last stop of the winter and came straight home.

Both felt the need of our own quiet nest. Have to head out again in a couple of days for a family service.

We're both tired and mentally exhausted. I'll get to all the piled up email ASAP. Sorry.

Be well

GLUBKA, Roger, YOB 1944, E1-E3-E1, 72B, Det 27, FE64-6AU65, (Michelle), Sierra Vista, AZ

Elder, I'm trying to hop back over to Korea and was wondering if you needed any of those patches that I've purchased for you before. I can't afford to donate them like I did with the first batch but let me know. I fly out of Davis Monthan if I make the Space A flight on a KC-10 into Travis and hopefully I can get out of there. I'll keep you posted and will be using my HOTMAIL email account:

Glub44@hotmail.com

1-210-859-2581 (cell)

GREENE, John, ASA Frankfurt, Germany, Comm Ctr

Elder, I always enjoy your "Days of our Lives" newsletters.

I was so taken today by your posting information about my good friend and now deceased ASAer Mike Osboe. Mike and I became great friends at Ft. Devens and later in Frankfurt; and we returned together to my hometown and entered and completed college at our Eastern Kentucky University. We both met Kentucky girls and married them and stayed in Kentucky most of the rest of our working careers. We lost touch for a while but got back together often after Jo and I moved to Lexington, Kentucky in the late 1990's. The pictures you posted were taken by me of Mike - the first one when we were on a leave together in Denmark, Norway and Sweden in 1961 or 62 before we returned to the States. The second picture was also taken by me during a visit to our lake house, just north of Georgetown/Lexington, KY on my pontoon boat. What memories I have of Mike and our mischievous times together when we were off duty. We both liked our beer and bourbon and consumed much in those days. We grew up pretty fast after some of those bad nights back in Gutleut Kasserne, etc. We did not want to repeat those times after we returned - however, we probably did not totally complete the punishment to our bodies until a bit later and a but more mature.

John

GREGG, Cecil N., Det 4, 59-60, 235 S. Circle Dr., Pueblo, CO 81009, 719-547-0325, cecilgregg@aol.com

LARSON, Lawrence N., (Larry), YOB 29DE1935, RA17531385, 058/059, E3-E4, Det 4, MY59-MY60, (RoDean- dec), 3316 Woodland St., Ames, IA 50014, 515-292-3306, On 12 March 2011 I received a call from Larry Larson who wanted to know if I was the one to contact regarding his time at a place called Sinop and Det 4. I replied yes and then proceeded to ask questions about his tour at Det 4.

During the course of our chat I learned that Larry had graduated from Iowa State University in Ames IA in 1958 and had lost his draft defernment. He debated whether to take his chances at not being drafted or joining up. He opted for enlistment and selected ASA as his choice and was inducted on 8 September 1958. Took BCT at Fort Collins at Colorado Springs, CO. He had expected to be sent to Monterey, CA for training in the Russian Language. But that was not possible as there were no slots available and he was sent to Fort Devens, MA where he learned that he would be trained as a dit – dot intercept operator. He did not mind and successfully completed the morse code training and was awarded the MOS of 058. It is interesting to note that he was first in his class and had the choice of assignments to either Korea or Turkey and he chose Turkey and never regretted it.

He was the only one from his class to be assigned to Det 4. He flew from Ankara to Sinop on the L-19 aircraft.



From the left: UNK, ? Crosby, Don Elkins fm GA, Larry Larson & Tom Lynch

Small-town grocery Larry Larson makes big impact in Slater



[Click here for larger image](#)
[Purchase Photos Here](#)

Town and Country Market, a small grocery store in Slater owned by Ames resident Larry Larson, sometimes records more than 800 sales a day.

By Bob Zientara

Published: Friday, December 17, 2010 12:03 PM CST

SLATER — Larry Larson took a break from cutting meat behind the display case in the Town and Country Market butcher shop.

An oldies radio station played selections by Chicago ("Twenty-Five or Six to Four") and Three Dog Night ("Celebrity Ball").

Up at the front checkout, Heather Beaird waited on customers.

"I was here at 5 a.m., unloading a truck," Larson said.

"It was a short night, so I went home for a nap so I could come back in the afternoon to work."

The small-town grocer has done his share of work over the past 30-plus years. He's owned and operated the thriving store since the mid 1970s. Town and Country Market records about 300 cash register transactions each day, he said.

"Just before big snowstorms, we sometimes get up to 800 (transactions)," Larson said.



"It's getting busier with school about to start. There's been a lull since the Fourth of July, but it's picking up."

An Ames resident, Larson and his wife, RoDean, live on Woodland Avenue, and are the parents of two grown children.

Politics is part of Larson's resume, too. He served three terms on the Story County Board of Supervisors, the first from 1977-80, and the next two from 1989 to 1996.

"I left the courthouse for the last time in 1996," he said, showing an Ames Tribune story written by Marty Helle.

"When I left, I'd been connected with politics in some way for 25 years, and I see that I had hair back then," said Larson

The Board of Supervisors wasn't Larson's only experience with politics. As a Democratic state representative, Larson represented part of Ames, a large portion of southern Story County and part of Jasper County in the General Assembly.

"And I had the store the whole time," he said.

Larson's career in the grocery business began four years after his father, who ran the West Street Grocery in Ames, died in 1957.

In 1961, Larson, fresh out of the U.S. Army Security Agency, went to work in the store and ran it until it closed in 1972 – "although I did take two years off to go to graduate school (where he majored in political science)," he said.

It seemed that politics and groceries were still in Larson's blood, because after the Ames store closed, he bought the one in Slater (from former owners Ed and Doris Hulme) in 1976, and has been running it ever since.

"Ed Rood ran a newspaper in the building next door for quite some time," Larson said.

The paper is gone, but the grocery store survives. In fact, Larson got a building permit this year for a new, 20-foot-by-40-foot stock room, where he plans to have a warehouse and a place to store his forklift.

Town and Country Market's main floor covers about 24,000 square feet, including dry goods, produce, non-perishables and the butcher area, stocked with fresh meats, cold cuts and bulk cheese.

On the front wall of the store, Larson planted Boston ivy, which grows thickly up the wall and around the display windows. He has also built up a thriving garden business in an open space just to the east.

"We do a lot with plants in the spring," he said.

And even in August, there's a large selection of shrubs and annuals.

Steady customers come mainly from Slater, although there are regulars from Madrid, Huxley and Cambridge, too, Beard said.

"The job is easy to do, and I get along with everyone," she said.

Over the years, Town & Country Market has acquired its own personality, Larson said.

"We don't sell alcohol or tobacco, but we do sell lots of food," he said.
"A big shipment of Halloween candy just came in, and I'll be working on that later today."

The store may be getting some extra help. Mounted over a calendar in the back room is a small statue of St. Adrian.

"He is the patron saint of butchers, arms dealers and prison guards," Larson said.

.



Larry Larson at the checkout station

A neighborhood grocery store would often unify the neighborhood because nearly everyone living in the area eventually passed through its doors. A Chicago woman called the store once, asking if anyone there had seen her son. He was unknown to the Larsons, but they posted a sign on the cash register as she requested, telling the missing young man to “call home.” Larry reports that over the years there were several burglaries.

In 1976, Larry purchased a store in Slater and has owned and operated Slater Town & Country Market ever since. (2011)



***Larson's Grocery, Two blocks west of West Gate Hall
This photo faces east with West Street barely visible at left.***



family photos courtesy of Larry Larson

**Guy and Esther Larson surrounded by their children
Ken at left, Larry at right, Cliff and Bethine in back**

RODRIGUES, Charlie YOB 1939 E4 Supply Det 4, 59-60, (Patricia), 210 Benham Ave.,
Syracuse, NY 13219, 315-487-1195, crod21359@yahoo.com

Hi Elder.....Thanx for your continued work on the DOOL's, for all us Turkey vets. The last had a pic of the chapel, that was just finished the year before I arrived.Do you or anyone that has returned to Sinop know the status of the chapel? Hope they didn't make it a shiskabob house.....or even worse....a Burger King. I spend the winter in Leesburg, Fl, close to the Villages, and just curious if there are any Sinop vets in the

area. If so, give me a buzz @ 315-530-5913, and "bat the breeze". Will head back to "sunny Syracuse" late April. Charlie Rodrigues Sinop 59-60

RUPP, Wayne M YOB: 1944, RA13778486, E3, 056, Det 4, AU63-JL64, (Nancy),
Townhouse #2, 5211, E Trindle Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050, 717-790-9054, ,
wayne.rupp@verizon.net

Elder,.....I seem to have fallen off the list for mailing, if you could put me back on the list I would appreciate it. Thinking about making the reunion in Valley Forge this year, the oldspooks and spies (southeast Asia ASA vets) reunion is in Wisconsin this year and too far to drive (cant stand airplanes anymore :-)).

Thank You,
Wayne Rupp
Det 4 Sinop 056 63 - 64 / 3rd RRU Saigon VN 64 - 65

Link to our website:
<http://www.oldspooksandspies.org/>

WADLEY, Jeff, YOB 1940, RA16713260, E3-E5, 058, TK#4, Det 27, SE62-FE64,
(Marcia), Oro Valley, AZ 85737, 520-498-5078, jeffwadley@msn.com
Hello Elder, Haven't heard from you in awhile. Was wondering how you and Patty are getting along. Just received the new dool and want to say thanks for all you guys do in getting all the information regarding ASA out to us. Take care. Jeff & Marcia Wadley.