The Last Mission

Mr Bud Markel
461St & 484th BG

Dear Mr Markel:

This is to inform you that my cousin Al Mai passed away February 23, 1985 after a four months fight with cancer. We have been unable to locate any papers, documents, photo graphs, or memorabilia pertaining to Al Mai's stint in the Air Force. Al was a widower, his wife Grace passed away in January of 1977. He leaves a sister Helen C. May, myself and one other cousin Raymond F. Mai.

Yours very truly,

Theodore N. Baldwin

Editors Note: Abert E. Mai, a member in good standing from the 765 Squadron, had attended every reunion of the Association. He was heavy set with a ruddy complexion and always sported a good natured outgoing expression. He could be easily spotted in a crowd as he favored white or bright colored clothing. He will be missed by all of us.

James Gough Jr, a member of the 825 squadron, succumbed to cancer this last January. He was a Bombardier, who on a mission February 27, 1945 was saved by his bomb sight and oxygen mask from a burst of flak. The explosion shattered the glass of the bomb sight, tore a hole in his mask sprinkling his face with glass splinters narrowly missing his eyes. He completed his 35 missions on April 9, 1945 just prior to the end of European hostilities in May 1945. His decorations included the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Heart and the DFC.

After the war he went back to school and obtained many degrees culminating with a Ph.D. in linguistics from Harvard in 1965. He spoke fluent German, Spanish, Russian, and Dutch. At Georgia Tech he shared professorships in the Department of Modern Languages and the School of Information and Computer Science. He was 63.

William Mocha, Bombardier on crew #13, piloted by Robert Sayre 764 Squadron. A member, he attended the reunions in Williamsburg and Orlando. His widow Susie lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Edwin W. (Pat) Grogan, (0-274185) reported sick in issue #10 of the Torretta Flyer is dead at age 82. He was made executive officer of the 461St Bomb Group in August, 1943 having served in various capacities first as an enlisted man and then as an officer receiving his commission in 1930 in The United States Army Infantry Reserve. His military experience in Adjutant General's Office and as an administrative inspector.

Ronald C. Lung, age 41, son of Raymond C. Lung Jr. 767 squadron, has died of injuries sustained in a traffic accident that also seriously injured his father Raymond C. Lung. He is survived by his parents, a wife, a sister and two children.

Walter M. Zaharevitz, a member from the 825 Squadron, and a Bombardier on crew #40 passed away recently. He last lived in Camp Springs, Maryland. Louis J. Yuhasz, 764 Squadron a member, second engineer on Robert Sayre's crew passed away of cancer.

Professor James Gough