World War II 1941 to 1945

Albert Hans Rasmussen

BORN: April 6, 1904, Brooklyn, NY
DIED: April 20, 1942
CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Killed in Action, ship torpedoed by German U-boat. Body not Recovered
WHERE: No record. Merchant Mariners were listed as MIA until one year after the war was over, they became KIA.
BRANCH: US Merchant Marine
RANK: Master or in the US Navy he is called Captain
OUTFIT OR UNIT: Captain of Freighter SS Chenango loaded with ore, torpedoed by U-84. The ship sank 60 miles from Virginia Beach, VA.
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: American Merchant Marine Memorial, Wiggins Park, Camden, NJ
Merchant Marine did not have Service Numbers.
LAST RESIDENCE: 609-45th Street, Brooklyn, NY and Freeport, LI, NY
RELIGION: Unknown
OCCUPATION: Merchant Marine
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: No
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: No
NOTES: Rasmussen died at the age of 37. In 1988, members of the Merchant Marines who served on ocean-going merchant ships between Dec. 7, 1941, and Aug. 15, 1945, were granted veteran status.
World War II 1941 to 1945

Irving Reich

BORN: January 20, 1925
DIED: November 29, 1944
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action
WHERE: European Theater Operation, Battle of the Bulge
BRANCH: US Army, Infantry
RANK: Private First Class, 6th Grade E-3
OUTFIT OR UNIT: Served as an Infantryman
Service Number 32985021
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Wellwood Jewish Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY
Block 9, Row 1, Grave 1, Plot D25
Company B 378th Regiment 95th Infantry
LAST RESIDENCE: 148 Pine Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Jewish
OCCUPATION: Student
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: He graduated Freeport High School in 1943
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Reich was awarded the Purple Heart. He enlisted July 15, 1943 and died at the age of 19.
Hebrew translation: Here lies Yisroel Yitzehak son of Mendel Wolf Halevi departed 27 Kislev 5755. May the soul be bound up in eternal life.
World War II 1941 to 1945

Alva W. Rodriguez

BORN: July 12th 1917

DIED: November 10, 1943

CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Killed in Action

Body not Recovered

WHERE: North Pacific Theater Operation, Aleutian Islands

BRANCH: US Army Air Force Fighter Pilot

RANK: Second Lieutenant 0-1

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 344th Fighter Squadron, 343rd Fighter Group, 11th Air Force, Alexal Field, Attu, AK. Service Number 0-793538

Memorial @ Honolulu Hawaii

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: “Court of the Missing”.

LAST RESIDENCE: 205 South Grove Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Unknown

OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Hempstead High School

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Rodriguez was awarded the Purple Heart and the Air Medal. He died at the age of 26.
World War II 1941 to 1945

Mortimer Richard Salmon

BORN: March 30, 1903
DIED: May 20, 1942, Cremated
CAUSE OF DEATH: Died Non Battle-Heart Attack
WHERE: American Theater Operation, Governors Island, NY
BRANCH: US Army, Dental Corps
RANK: Captain 0-3 Dentist
OUTFIT OR UNIT: US Army Dental Corps, Post Hospital Fort Jay, Governors Island, NY. Service Number 0-282039

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Ferncliff Cemetery Mausoleum, Hartsdale Greenburgh, NY Crypt 26, Alcove DD, Unit #3

LAST RESIDENCE: 130 Putnam Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Christian Scientist
OCCUPATION: Dentist
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Salmon died at the age of 39.
COPY.

SALMON—Captain Mortimer R., suddenly, May 20, devoted husband of Muriel, loving father of Lawrence and dear son of the late Dr. M. M. and Mrs. Caryl Salmon. Services, Friday afternoon, Stephen Merritt Chapel.
World War II 1941 to 1945

John (Jack) A. Schlegel

BORN: June 25, 1924
DIED: March 15, 1945

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action-Artillery hit tank
Body Recovered
WHERE: European Theater Operation, Belgium

BRANCH: US Army Armor
RANK: Corporal 5th Grade, E-4, Tank Gunner

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, US 3rd Army
Service Number 32985122

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Reinterred 12/19/1947
Greenfield Cemetery, Uniondale, NY
Section 83, Site 162, Grave 1

LAST RESIDENCE: 49 Rosedale Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Protestant
OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Freeport High School 1943

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Schlegel was awarded the Purple Heart. He died at the age of 20. His tank was the first tank to cross the Remagen (Railroad) Bridge when it was hit by German 88's artillery and destroyed. He was interred in Belgium. This bridge was the first bridge, taken that crossed the Rhine River leading into Germany. At the time of his death, he was engaged to be married.
Sources:
Hager, Fred and Isabelle Drach. Freeport It’s a Wonderful Town. Freeport, NY
Alvin R. Schumacher

BORN: April 1st 1924
DIED: January 1, 1945
CAUSE OF DEATH: Died Non Battle
Body Recovered
WHERE: European Theater Operation, Belgium
BRANCH: US Army, Field Artillery
RANK: Technician 5th Grade E-4
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 731st Field Artillery Battalion, 97th Infantry Division, Third Army
General Patton.
Service Number 32718280
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Reinterred 1947-1950, Luxembourg American Cemetery,
Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
Plot E, Row 13, Grave 15
LAST RESIDENCE: 69 Hallock Street, Farmingdale, LI, NY
349 Bedell Street
RELIGION: Unknown
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Reinterred 1947-1950, Luxembourg American Cemetery, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
Plot E, Row 13, Grave 15
George A. Schutte

BORN: January 7, 1922
DIED: February 12, 1945
CAUSE OF DEATH: Died Non Battle
Body Recovered
WHERE: European Theater Operation, Luxembourg
BRANCH: US Army Ordnance
RANK: Second Lieutenant 0-1
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 776th Ordnance Battalion, Light Maintenance Company,
76th Infantry Division, US Third Army
Service Number 0-547938
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Reinterred 04/05/1949, Long Island National Cemetery,
Farmingdale, NY
Section J, Site 13962
LAST RESIDENCE: 100 Wilson Place, Freeport, LI, NY
RELIGION: Unknown
OCCUPATION: Student
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: He was the President of the National Honor Society in his senior year. He graduated Freeport High School in 1940.
NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes
NOTES: Schutte died at the age of 23. He was the President of his senior class at MIT Cambridge MA in 1944.
Sources:

“Gives Life.” 6 March 1945. [Copies of Local Newspaper Clippings from WWII, Freeport Memorial Library].
World War II 1941 to 1945

William A. Serby

BORN: July 11, 1917 Washington, DC
DIED: October 26, 1942 / February 3, 1943
CAUSE OF DEATH: Missing in Action/Killed in Action
Body Not recovered
WHERE: Southwestern Pacific Theater Operation, Espiritu Santo
BRANCH: US Army Corps of Engineer
RANK: Private 7th Grade E-2
OUTFIT OR UNIT: USS President Coolidge Troopship ship American mine in Espiritu Santo Islands. Service Number 32335568

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: East Coast Memorial, Battery Park, New York, NY

LAST RESIDENCE: 24 High Place, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Jewish
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: He graduated Freeport High School 1935

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Serby was awarded the Purple Heart. He died at the age of 26. The USS President Coolidge was a converted luxury liner, that hit an American mine during the war located in the Southwestern Pacific. The Espiritu Santos Islands were British owned.
World War II 1941 to 1945

Walter George Sheard

BORN: May 20, 1891 Milanville, PA
DIED: June 9, 1943

CAUSE OF DEATH: Died Non Battle-Illness, Tuberculosis
Body Recovered

WHERE: American Theater Operation, Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, CO (place of death).

BRANCH: US Marine Corps in both WWI and WWII
RANK: Lieutenant Colonel 0-5, Recruiter
OUTFIT OR UNIT: New York US Marine WWII Recruiter New York City
Service Number 0-882 issued in 1920.

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Interred 06/16/1943
Greenfield Cemetery, Uniondale, NY
Section 26, Lot 69, Grave 2

LAST RESIDENCE: 86 West Seaman Ave, Freeport, Long Island, NY.
RELIGION: Baptist
OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Graduated Freeport High School in 1909

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Sheard died at the age of 53 of tuberculosis. He and his wife Marie are buried side by side. Sheard was a heavy smoker. He was the 882 US Marine to receive a service number. The marines started issuing service numbers in 1920s. In 1936, Sheard was decorated by the Nicaraguan government for heroic service rendered during an earthquake at Managua.
Sources:

Newspaper clippings (in booklet format), many written by William E. Golder located in the Long Island Room.
World War II 1941 to 1945

Jerome John Simandl

BORN: February 4, 1900
DIED: July 31, 1942-Crashed on land.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Died Non Battle-Electric Storm
Body Recovered
WHERE: American Theater Operation, Newark, NJ

BRANCH: US Army Air Force
RANK: Major 0-4 Post Exchange Buyer

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Bolling Air Force Base, USAF PX Merchandiser, Washington DC.
Service Number 0-906716

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington VA
Section 2, Marker 4740

LAST RESIDENCE: 242 West Lena Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Catholic
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: No

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Simandl died at the age of 40. In WWI he was in the US Marine Corps. He
died while catching a military hop from Washington, DC to Mitchel Field in Uniondale,
NY to be with his family for the weekend.
Sources:

Photographs and information from the Simandl Family.