

Their dad's brick house is still standing in Endicott.

You have done a wonderful job chronicling your family and your career. It is incredible and impressive. How many kids got to fly in a Converted B-26 across the states at 12 years old! I knew that Al and Billy lived in Colorado or someplace close to you. It was sad to see that Al passed away so young also. In searching for them in census reports they were hard to find after 1930. Their names were misspelled. In the 1940 census in Alvene the v looked like an o Aloene.

After high school I enlisted in the army for choice of school 1955-58. After completing helicopter maintenance and repair school at Edward Gary AFB near San Marcus TX I flew out to Germany on a MATS C-118. I was stationed at Coleman Barracks near Mannheim an Army A/C Heavy Maintenance Depot, at a small airfield across the runway from Stuttgart International Airport and at Messerschmitt Field in Augsburg. It was a great time for a kid stationed in Germany. Four mark twenty pfenning to a dollar, gas was 15 cents a gal on base or any Esso service station.

I took a Troop Ship home carrying about 500 dependents in the cabins and 1000 troops in the holds of the ship. It's hard to believe they were rotating troops a couple of times a month. In the middle of the ocean we passed Elvis going over to Germany. As we passed his troop ship our Capt. blew the horn twice and we all hollered as loud as we could, Elvis you will be sorry. The skipper of his ship then blew his horn real loud twice.

I got my A&P in Spokane and worked for Inland Helicopters for a while and then went to work for Boeing at Renton on the flight line. My last assignment was Hardware Manager for the F-22 responsible for machined parts. I retired in 1995 with 33 years and a golden hand shake for 5 more at age 57.

My pleasure, hope this brought a smile. Larry 360-388-7150



Ps I forgot to add that General John F. Kinney, a Marine fighter pilot whose father farmed next to Litz's farm was on Wake Island when the Japanese captured it. He use to watch the Litz brothers fly and it sparked his interest to fly. He writes about it in his book Wake Island Pilot. He also flew with Joseph W. Fanazick in Endicott in his Waco.

My cousin Maj. Wesley D. Schierman made a run in a Thud over Hanoi. Prior to the mission they hung some new ordinance on his A/C. He complained and said it did not seem right. He said they hung up or had a short fuse and exploded under him. The official report was he was hit by flack. He spent 7 ½ years in a cell next to John McCain. He said the rope torture was insane. That is all he would say. He passed several years ago. Wes Flew DC 3's, 4's after Nam 727's and 747's for NW. You can read his Bio on line if you like.