

The Thirty-Eight

ABOVE and BEYOND

"...WE WERE YOUNG.
WE HAVE DIED.
REMEMBER US.

...OUR DEATHS ARE NOT OURS;
THEY ARE YOURS;
THEY WILL MEAN WHAT YOU MAKE THEM...

...WHETHER OUR LIVES AND OUR DEATHS
WERE FOR PEACE AND A NEW HOPE
OR FOR NOTHING
WE CANNOT SAY;

IT IS YOU WHO MUST SAY THIS.
...WE LEAVE YOU OUR DEATHS.
GIVE THEM THEIR MEANING.
WE WERE YOUNG...
WE HAVE DIED.
REMEMBER US." ¹

WAFS/WASP/WASP TRAINEES KILLED IN SERVICE TO THEIR
COUNTRY

JANE DOLORES CHAMPLIN

Class 43-W-4 Trainee

Born: May 14, 1917
Chicago, Illinois

Graduate: Arcadia College
St. Louis University

Jane entered flight training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on February 21, 1943. On the night of June 7, she and her instructor were killed in a BT-15 while on a training flight near Avenger Field.



SUSAN PARKER CLARKE

Class 44-W-2

Born: 1918
Cooperstown, New York

Graduate: High school, Cooperstown Attended:
Secretarial school, NY City.

Susan entered WASP flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in September, 1943 and graduated on March 11, 1944. She was then stationed with the 33rd Ferrying Group at Fairfax Field, Kansas City, Missouri. She lost her life on July 4, 1944 when the BT-13 she was ferrying crashed near Columbia, South Carolina.



MARJORIE LAVERNE DAVIS

Class 44-W-9 Trainee

Marjorie learned to fly in Sparks, Nevada, and entered training to become a WASP at Avenger field, Sweetwater, Texas in June, 1944. She was killed on the night of October 16, 1944 while on a cross country training flight in an AT-6 near Walnut, Mississippi.



KATHERINE 'KAY' APPLEGATE DUSSAQ

Class: 44-W-1

Born: Dayton, Washington

Graduate: Harrington High School
Attended: Stanford, Washington State College,
Pullman, WA,
and Whitman College, CA.

Kay entered flight training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on August 9, 1943, and graduated on February 11, 1944. Her first duty station was Sioux Falls Army Air Base, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She was then transferred to Randolph Army Air Base, San Antonio, Texas (HQ/CFTC), then to Fort Worth, Texas (FTC, Hq.) She was killed when the AT-6 she was flying on an administrative cross-country flight crashed on the night of November 26, 1944 near New Carlisle, Ohio.



MARJORIE DORIS EDWARDS

Class: 44-W-6 Trainee

Born: September 28, 1918 Fullerton, California

Graduate: Anaheim Union High School and Santa Barbara State College

Marjorie entered WASP flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on December 7, 1943. She died in

the crash of an AT-6 near Childress, Texas, while on a cross-country training flight.

[Fred Edward's Article on his sister](#)



JAYNE ELIZABETH ERICKSON

Class: 44-W-6 Trainee

Born: April 24, 1921
Seattle, Washington

Graduate: High School:
Issaquah, Washington

Attended: University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

Jayne reported for WASP flight training to Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in January, 1944. While flying an AT-6, she was killed in a mid-air collision in the traffic pattern at Avenger on April 16, 1944.



CORNELIA FORT

Class: WAFS

Born: February 5, 1919
Nashville, Tennessee

Graduate: Ward-Belmont and
Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY.

Cornelia reported for duty as a WAFS in October, 1942. She lost her life on March 21, 1943 in a mid-air collision near Abilene, Texas, while on a ferrying mission in a BT-13. Cornelia was the first casualty of an American woman pilot on active duty.

Her death was attributed to the 'pilot error' of a young male pilot flew too close to her plane...causing a mid-air collision and Cornelia's death.

["At Twilight's Last Gleaming"](#)

Cornelia's terrific article from 1943

[Dudley Fort's page](#)

[PBS article](#)



FRANCES FORTUNE GRIMES

Class: 43-W-3

Born: Deer Park, Maryland

Graduate: High school,
West Virginia
West Virginia University
University of Pittsburgh

Frances entered WASP flight training at Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on January 15, 1943 and graduated at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, July 3, 1943. Her active duty assignment was to the 5th FG/ATC at Love Field, Dallas, Texas. She was killed shortly after take-off from Otis Field, Massachusetts in an A-24 attack bomber on March 27, 1944.



MARY E. HARTSON

Class: 43-W-5

Born: January 11, 1917
Portland, Oregon

Graduated: Washington High School, Portland, Oregon

Mary entered flight training to become a WASP on April 6, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas and was graduated on September 11, 1943. She was progressively stationed at four different bases: Dodge City Army Air Base, Kansas; Coffeyville Army Air Base, Kansas; Independence Army Air Field, Kansas and Perrin Army Air Base, Sherman, Texas. She was killed on August 14, 1944, while flight testing a BT-13 at Perrin.



MARY HOLMES HOWSON

Class: 44-W-4 Trainee

Born: February 16, 1919
Wayne, Pennsylvania

Graduate: Smith College

Mary began her flight training to become a WASP on November 1, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas. While returning from a cross-country flight in a PT-19, Mary was killed in a mid-air collision in the traffic pattern at Avenger Field, on April 16, 1944-- just three weeks before her scheduled graduation.



[tribute](#)
[mom's interview on video](#)

EDITH 'EDY' CLAYTON KEENE

Class: 44-W-1

Born: Canton, Montana

Graduate: Pomona schools
Pomona Junior College and UCLA

On August 9, 1943, Edith arrived at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas to begin training to become a

WASP, and graduated on February 11, 1944. She was assigned to Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Texas and later transferred to Moore Army Air Base, Mission, Texas. She was killed on April 25, 1944 while on a routine flight in an AT-6 that crashed near Mission.



KATHRYN BARBARA LAWRENCE

Class: 43-W-8 Trainee

Born: December 3, 1920
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Graduate: High school, Grand Forks University of North Dakota

Kathryn entered training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on July 10, 1943. She was killed on August 4, 1943, while flying a PT-19 on a routine training flight at Avenger Field.



HAZEL YING LEE

Class: 43-W-4

Born: August, 1912
Portland, Oregon

Attended: Commerce High School, Portland

Hazel entered WASP flight training on February 21, 1943 and graduated from Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on August 7, 1943. She was assigned to the 3rd Ferrying Group, Romulus, Michigan. While flying a P-63, she was killed in a mid-air collision on the final approach at Great Falls, Montana, November 23, 1944.



PAULA RUTH LOOP

Class: 43-W-2

Born: August 25, 1916
Wakita, Oklahoma

Graduate: Manchester H.S., OK
Oklahoma College for Women
Attended: Oklahoma A&M

Paula began her training to become a WASP on December 19, 1942 at Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas and graduated at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on May 28, 1943. She was then stationed at Romulus Army Air Base, Michigan, with the 3rd FG/ATC, as a ferry pilot. She was killed in the crash of a BT-13 near Medford, Oregon on July 7, 1944, while on a ferrying mission.



ALICE E. LOVEJOY

Class: 43-W-5

Born: Scarsdale, New York, 1919

On April 6, 1943 Alice entered WASP flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas. She graduated on September 11, 1943. Her first assignment was to the 3rd Ferrying Group, Romulus, Michigan, later being transferred for pursuit training to Brownsville, Texas.

During a training mission near Brownsville on September 13, 1944, she was killed in a mid-air collision in an AT-6.

[article by Julia Lauria-Blum](#)



LEA OLA McDONALD

Class 44-W-3

Born: October 12, 1921
Hollywood, Arkansas

Graduate: High school, Plainview, Texas
Attended: Wayland Baptist College
West Texas State Teachers College

Lea entered WASP flight training at Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on January 15, 1943. She graduated at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on April 5, 1944. After graduation, she was stationed at Biggs Army Air Field, El Paso, Texas, and was killed while flying an A-24 attack bomber on a practice flight on June 21, 1944.



PEGGY WILSON MARTIN

Class: 44-W-4

Born: Feb 8, 1912
Seattle, Washington.

Peggy entered flight training to become a WASP on November 1, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, and graduated on May 23, 1944. She was stationed at Marianna Army Air Base, Marianna, Florida. She was killed while engineering test flying a BT-13 on October 3, 1944.



VIRGINIA C. MOFFATT

Class: 43-W-2

Born: Los Angeles, California area.

Graduate: Fremont High School, Los Angeles

Virginia reported to the Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on December 19, 1942 to begin her flight training to become a WASP, and was in the first class of women to graduate at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, May 28, 1943. She was then assigned to the 6th Ferrying Group, Long Beach Army Air Base, California. She was killed while flying a BT-15 on a routine flight, 5 October 1943.



BEVERLY JEAN MOSES

Class: 44-W-5

Born: December 21, 1923, Des Moines, Iowa

Graduate: North High School
AJB Business School.

Beverly entered training to become a WASP on December 7, 1943 and graduated on June 27, 1944 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas. She was stationed at Las Vegas Army Air Field, Nevada. While flying as the co-pilot in an AT-11, she was killed in a crash in the mountains near Las Vegas on July 18, 1944.



DOROTHY MAE 'DOTTIE' NICHOLS

Class: 43-W-2

Graduate: UCLA

Dottie reported to the Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on December 19, 1942 to train to become a WASP. She was a member of the first class to graduate at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on May 28, 1943. She was assigned to the 6th Ferrying Group at Long Beach Army Air Field, California. While ferrying a P-39 from Buffalo, New York, she was killed just after take-off outside Bismarck, North Dakota on June 11, 1944.



JEANNE LEWELLEN NORBECK

Class: 44-W-3

Born: November 14, 1912, Columbus, Indiana

Graduate: Columbus High School
Washington State College, Pullman, Washington.

Jeanne entered WASP flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in October, 1943 and graduated on April 15, 1944. She was assigned to Shaw Army Air Base, Sumpter, South Carolina (BT-13 Modification Center), and was killed there on October 16, 1944, while flight testing a BT-13.



MARGARET SANFORD OLDENBURG

Class: 43-W-4 Trainee

Graduate: University of California

Margaret was the first trainee fatality in the WASP program. She began her flight training to become a WASP at Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on February 21, 1943. She was killed on a routine training flight in a PT-19 on March 7, 1943 at the training base at Houston.



MABEL VIRGINIA RAWLINSON

Class: 43-W-3

Born: March 19, 1917
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Graduate: Western Michigan College of Education,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Mabel reported to Houston Municipal Airport, Houston, Texas on January 15, 1943 to begin her flight training to become a WASP. She graduated from Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on July 3, 1943. She was then assigned to a tow-target squadron at Camp Davis Army Air Field, North Carolina. She was killed in the crash of an A-24 attack bomber on August 23, 1943.

[more from Andy Hailey](#)



GLEANNA ROBERTS

Class: 44-W-9 Trainee

Born: January 11, 1919
Sharon Township, Iowa

Graduate: Sharon Center H.School
University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Gleanna entered training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in June, 1944 to become a WASP. On June 20, 1944, she was killed while on a routine training flight in a PT-17 near Lorraine, Texas.



MARIE MICHELL ROBINSON

Class: 44-W-2

Born: Michigan

Graduate: National Park Junior College, Washington, DC

Marie began her flight training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in September, 1943 and graduated on March 11, 1944. She was stationed with the 5th Ferrying Group at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, and later transferred to the Bombardier Training School, Victorville, California. On October 2, 1944, Marie was killed when the B-25 she was co-piloting crashed in the mountains near Victorville, California.



BETTIE MAE SCOTT

Class: 44-W-3

Born: July 26, 1921
Monrovia, California

Graduate: Arcadia-Duarte High School

Attended: Pasadena Junior College

Bettie Mae entered flight training to become a WASP in October, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas and graduated on April 15, 1944. She was stationed at Waco Army Air Field, Waco, Texas, a Basic Flying Training School. She was killed while flight testing a BT-13 on July 8, 1944.



MARGARET JUNE 'PEGGY' SEIP

Class: 43-W-5 Trainee

Born: June 24, 1916
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Graduate: Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin

Margaret entered flight training at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on April 6, 1943 to become a WASP. She, together with her instructor and a fellow class-mate, was killed in the crash of a UC-78 near Big Springs, Texas, August 30, 1943, on a routine training flight.



HELEN JO ANDERSON SEVERSON

Class: 43-W-5 Trainee

Born: November 2, 1918
Marvin, South Dakota.

Graduate: South Dakota State University
University of Illinois

Helen Jo reported to Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on April 6, 1943 to begin her training to become a WASP. She, together with her instructor and a fellow class-mate, was killed on a routine training flight in a UC-78 near Big Springs, Texas, August 30, 1943.



DOROTHY E. SCOTT

Class: WAFS

Born: February 16, 1920
Seattle, Washington

Attended: University of Washington

Dorothy entered the WAFS in October, 1942. She was first assigned to the 5th Ferrying Division, Love Field, Dallas, Texas and later transferred for pursuit training to Palm Springs Army Air Base, California. While flying with her instructor in an AT-6, she was killed in a mid-air collision on December 3, 1943.



MARIE ETHEL SHARON

Class 43-W-4

Born: April 21, 1917
Forsythe, Montana,

Graduate: Jefferson High School, Portland, Oregon

Marie began her training to become a WASP on February 14, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas. She graduated from Avenger Field on August 7, 1943. She was then stationed at Long Beach Army Air Base, California and assigned to the 6th Ferrying Group. She and her instructor were killed on April 10, 1944 near Tecumseh, Nebraska, while flying a B-25 on a night flying instrument training mission.



EVELYN SHARP

Class: WAFS

Born: October 20, 1919
Melstone, Montana.
(Grew up in Ord, Nebraska.)

Evelyn entered the WAFS in October, 1942. She was assigned to the 2nd Ferrying Group, New Castle Army Air Base, Wilmington, Delaware. She was killed on April 3, 1944 when an engine on the P-38 she was ferrying failed on take-off at New Cumberland, Pennsylvania (Evelyn was one of the most experienced women pilots in America, with 2,968 hours of flying time when she entered the WAFS.)

[a book about Evelyn](#)



BETTY PAULINE STINE

Class 44-W-2 Trainee

Born: Fort Worth, Texas

Attended: University of Arizona

Betty entered training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in September, 1943. On February 25, 1944, during her last cross-country flight before graduation, she was killed when she was forced to bail out of her AT-6 over the mountains near Tucson, Arizona.



MARIAN TOEVS

Class: 43-W-8

Born: Aberdeen, Idaho

Graduate: Albion State Normal School
Eastern Washington State College.

Marian began her training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on July 10, 1943 and graduated December 17, 1943. She was stationed at a Basic Flying Training School at Lemoore Army Air Base, Lemoore, California. She was killed near San Jose, California, while flying a BT-13 from Lemoore to Fresno, California on February 18, 1944.



GERTRUDE TOMPKINS-SILVER

Class: 43-W-7

Born: October 16, 1912
Jersey City, New Jersey,

Graduate: Private School,
Summit, New Jersey
Pennsylvania School of Horticulture.

Gertrude reported to Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in June, 1943 to begin her training to become a WASP.

She graduated on November 13, 1943. She was stationed at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, with the 5th Ferrying Group. After departing on a ferrying mission from Los Angeles, California in a P-51 for the East Coast, she never arrived, and no traces of her were ever found. (She is the only WASP not accounted for.)



[More from Andy Hailey](#)

MARY ELIZABETH TREBING

Class: 43-W-4

Born: Dec. 31, 1920
Louisville, Colorado.

(Moved after grade school to: Wilburton, Oklahoma).

Graduate: Eastern Oklahoma A&M College

Mary reported for WASP training at AvengerField, Sweetwater, Texas on February 21, 1943, and graduated on August 7, 1943. She was stationed at Love Field, Dallas Texas, with the 5thFerrying Group. She was killed on November 7, 1943, when the PT-19 she was ferrying crashed southeast of Blanchard, Oklahoma.

[Bill Trebing](#)
[remembers his sister](#)



MARY LOUISE WEBSTER

Class: 44-W-8

Born: June 30, 1919
Ellensburg, Washington

Attended: Central Washington State College

Mary Louise went into training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas in March, 1944 and graduated on October 16, 1944. She was stationed with the 33rd Training Wing of the AFTS SE at Frederick Army Air Field, Frederick, Oklahoma. She was killed on December 9, 1944, while flying as co-pilot in a UC-78.

[Accident report from Andy Hailey](#)



BONNIE JEAN ALLOWAY WELZ

Class: 43-W-6

Born: June 22, 1918
Bridgeport, Washington

Attended: UCLA

Bonnie reported for training to become a WASP on Easter Sunday, April 25, 1943 at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas. She graduated and became a WASP on October 9, 1943. Bonnie was sent to Dodge City, Kansas for B-26 training, and was then stationed at Harlingen Army Air Field, Harlingen, Texas, (a B-26 Flexible Gunnery School) She was killed in the crash of a BT-13 near Randado, Texas, while on an administrative flight.



BETTY TAYLOR WOOD

Class: 43-W-4

Born: March, 1921
NewBerlin, Illinois

Graduate: Sierra Junior College,
Auburn, California

Betty began her training to become a WASP at Avenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas on February 14, 1943, and graduated at Avenger on August 7, 1943. She was assigned to Camp Davis Army Air Field, Camp Davis, North Carolina, an Anti-Aircraft Artillery School. She was killed in the crash landing of an A-24 attack bomber on September 23, 1943.



1. "**The Young Dead Soldier**" by Archibald MacLeish. Reprinted from "Articles of WAR , A Collection of Poetry About WWII" edited by Leon Stokesburg. University of Arkansas Press, 1990, p. 8.

If you have additional documented information you would like added to any of these entries, please [let us know!](#)

Information on these pages was taken from

WASP Class Yearbooks, 43-1 thru 43-3, 44-4

["On Final Approach" by Byrd Granger](#)

"In Memoriam -- researched and written by WASP Dawn Seymour, 43-5, Clarice I. Bergemann, 44-2, Jeanette J. Jenkins, 44-1, and Mary Ellen Keil, 44-2. Published by Texas Woman's University Press, 1996.

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