

July, 6, 1992

Mr. Paul Schlundt  
3149 N. Winfield Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46222-1953

Dear Paul,

Please find enclosed the following:

1. Picture of Bill Sager and his 43-F students, including Christie, R. Bates, Sager and me.
2. Entire class of 43-F.
3. My wife, Vera, and me during cadet days.
4. Vera and me on 50th wedding anniversary, 4/23/92.
5. My abbreviated biography.

I was very glad to receive your letter and we fully expect to attend the reunion at Jekyll Island for a full week during October. However, Vera's sister and her husband may come along, so I will hold up making reservations until I hear from them.

I do not have a copy of orders for assignment to Douglas. As I recall, one designated person always carried the orders for the entire cadet group. The destination for flight training was an important military secret. To go from Douglas to Sumter I gave someone in headquarters a sum of money, and Vera was given the train ticket and destination after she boarded the train. Of course, the entire town of Douglas was out to see us off at 7:00 A.M. and knew where we were going. For going over the fence at night, I did nothing but walk tours during my last two days at Douglas.

When I met my instructor, Bill Sager, we soon discovered that his uncle lived next door to my brother in Lancaster. With this in common, I think Bill pushed me to be the first one in the class to solo so that he could win a money pool at the Pilots Club. The preferential treatment ended there. He made me walk around the entire field on a windy day with a beach umbrella, and write my name on every field marker with chalk. He would check the markers when we taxied out for take-off. I never told him I ran out of chalk. As I recall, the offense was forgetting to note the time of take-off for the log book.

Another dark memory of Douglas WAS THE DAY A PT-17 jumped the chocks on preflight and chopped up a flight attendant from Douglas.

I spent two years as flight instructor in AT-10s and B-25s at Turner Field in Albany, Georgia. When people ask of my combat experience I say I had several hundred missions over Leesburg. Leesburg is a small town about nine miles North of Albany, Ga. The war ended when I was in an operational unit for B-29s, in Denver, Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward H. Benedick". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Ed Benedick".

Ed Benedick

BIOGRAPHY  
FOR  
FIRST LIEUTENANT EDWARD H. BENEDICK  
CLASS 43-F

Born February 20, 1921

Enlisted April 22, 1942 at Harrisburg, Pa.

Classification Center - Nashville, Tennessee

Pre-Flight - Maxwell Field, Alabama

Primary training - Douglas, Ga.

Basic training - Shaw Field, Sumter, S. C.

Advanced training - Turner Field, Albany, Ga.

Central Instructors School - Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas

Central Instrument Instructors School - Bryan, Texas

Flight Instructor AT-10s and B-25s - Turner Field, Albany, Ga.  
until Spring 1945

B-17 School - Lockbourne AFB, Columbus, Ohio

B-29 School - Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado

Discharged - Scott Field, St. Louis, Missouri 1945

June 1948 - B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel Univ., Phila.,  
Pa.

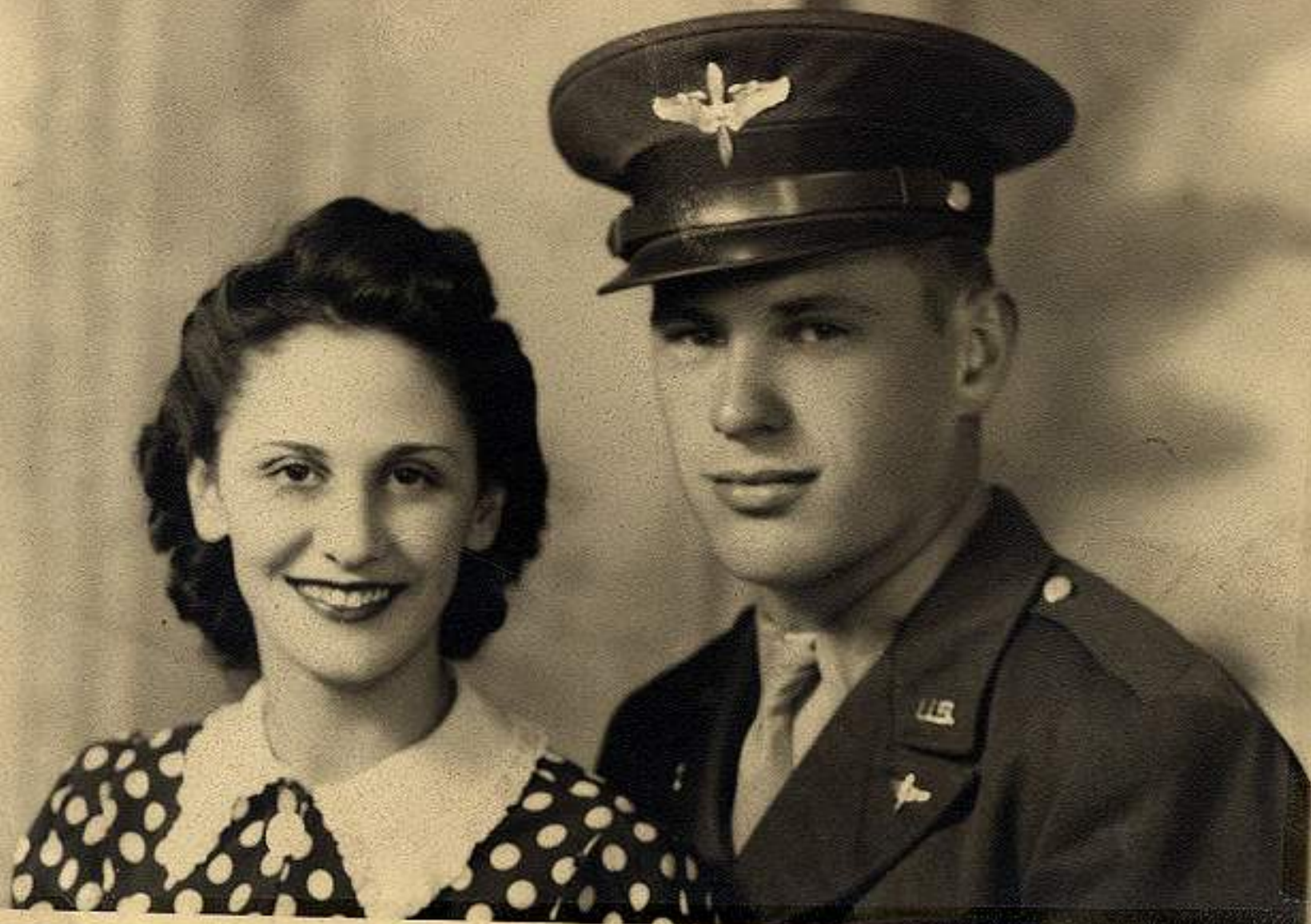
1948-1976 - Sr. Project Engineer - Armstrong World Industries.

1976 - 1980 - Sr. V.P. of REECO, Morris Plains, N.J.

1980 - Retired



1943 - Ed & Vera Benedick





ON 50TH  
WEDDING

ED + VERA BENEDICK APR 23 1992





Bob Christie  
Halter, O.K.

H. R. Bates  
Lanham, K.

W. F. Sager

ED

2-18-45  
63 AAFSTD  
Douglas, Ga.

BOB  
CHRISTIE

RICHARD  
BATES

INSTRUCTOR  
W. F. SAGER

ED BENEDICK



SQD.-E-43-F.  
2-9-43. DOUGLAS, GA