



**Keneseth Israel's
Veterans Memorial Book**

"How The Mighty Have Fallen"

(II Samuel 12:5)

Compiled by

Lt. Col. Craig Anforth and Hon. Joseph Davidson

November, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

As the proud son and son-in-law of decorated WWII veterans, I feel it is a sacred duty to remember all those who fell in defense of the United States. At our synagogue, we maintain a Veterans Memorial Board in our Neuman Chapel. On it are the names of 23 sons of our congregation who fell in battle, died of wounds or illnesses while in service. The purpose of this pamphlet is to help remember more than just their names. Where were they born? Where did they fall? How old were they at the time of their death and anything else we can learn from public military records.

Every year on Veterans Day Shabbat, we read their names. Now hopefully, our efforts will inspire our members and our children and your children to better appreciate the high cost of freedom and perhaps, to consider personal service as well, to our country.

I want to thank both Lt. Col. Craig Anforth and Hon. Joseph Davidson of our congregation for doing the research on this project and also to acknowledge the assistance of the KI Archives in this holy work.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Lance J. Sussman, Ph.D.

Rabbi Lance J. Sussman, Ph.D.
Senior Rabbi

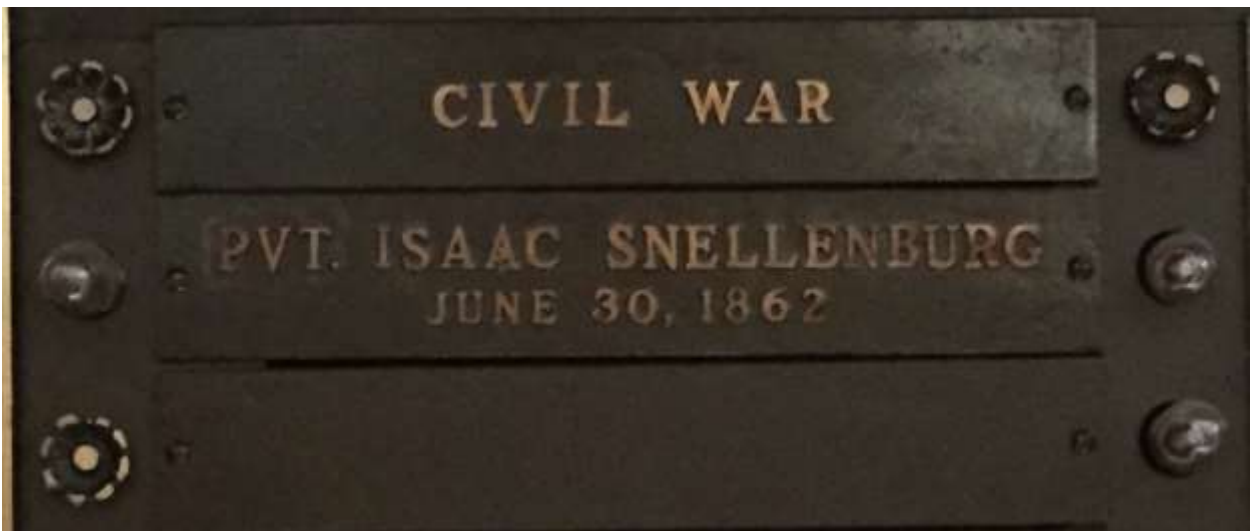


(Refurbished 2016)

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CIVIL WAR



Private Isaac Snellenburg

Private Isaac Snellenburg was born in 1847. Army records list his date of birth as 1843. He lied about his age so that he could enlist. He was born in Pennsylvania and also lived in Ohio. He served in Company B, 33rd Regiment Pennsylvania infantry on the Union side. The 33rd was ordered to join General McClellan's Army in June of 1862 in an attack on Richmond. The battle ended in a Confederate victory. On June 30th 1862, Private Isaac Snellenburg was killed in action. He was buried on the battlefield in an unmarked grave.



WORLD WAR I



* October 13, 1918, Military Record

** August 3, 1918, Military Record

Captain Frederick David Clair

One of the families belonging to Keneseth Israel was the Clair/Kotlarsky family. The original name was Kotlarsky, but was changed to Clair. Captain Frederick David Clair was born December 1, 1891 in Carmel, New Jersey. He graduated from Central High School in Philadelphia. He also graduated from the Medico – Chirurgical College of Philadelphia and received his medical degree on June 5, 1914. An article in the Jewish Exponent on May 31, 1918 indicated that Captain Clair was mentioned several times for bravery in removing the wounded from the battlefield under fire. He was killed in action in France with the British Army Brigade on May 10, 1918. There is a memorial tablet in his name at the Seaside Home for Invalids and The Jewish Maternity Hospital.

Frederick David Clair, 1915. M.D.ig.
Frederick David Clair

Frederick David Clair ('15 M.), Captain M. R. C., was killed in action,
France, May 30, 1918.



Frederick David Clair, '15 M.



FRED DAVID CLAIR

3222 Montgomery Ave., Philadelphia
Phi Delta Epsilon

Student's Medical

Assoc. Ed., Class Book

Morrie Adolf Deutsch

Morrie A Deutsch was born July 2, 1897. He was a Storekeeper 2nd Class in the United States Naval Reserve Force. He was on active duty from April 24, 1918 until his date of death, which was on October 13, 1918. He was buried in the Adath Jeshrun Cemetery in Philadelphia.

Lieutenant Edward Benjamin Goward

Lieutenant Goward was a soldier killed in action near Courmont, France. He was born September 15, 1894. He graduated from Central High School and the University of Pennsylvania with Honors. He was chosen for membership in Phi Beta Kappa and declined because he felt this would be a harmful influence on democracy in college life. He was said to be the first person to decline the membership. Before his military service, he was a newspaperman for the Evening Bulletin. Lt. Goward was killed while acting commander of Company M of the 109th infantry. He died at the head of the unit, leading his troops on July 29, 1918, Courmont, France. Although documents indicate that he was buried August 3, 1918 on a hillside near Courmont, France, later records show his final resting place to be Montefiore Cemetery in Jenkintown, Pa.



Lieut. Edward B. Goward

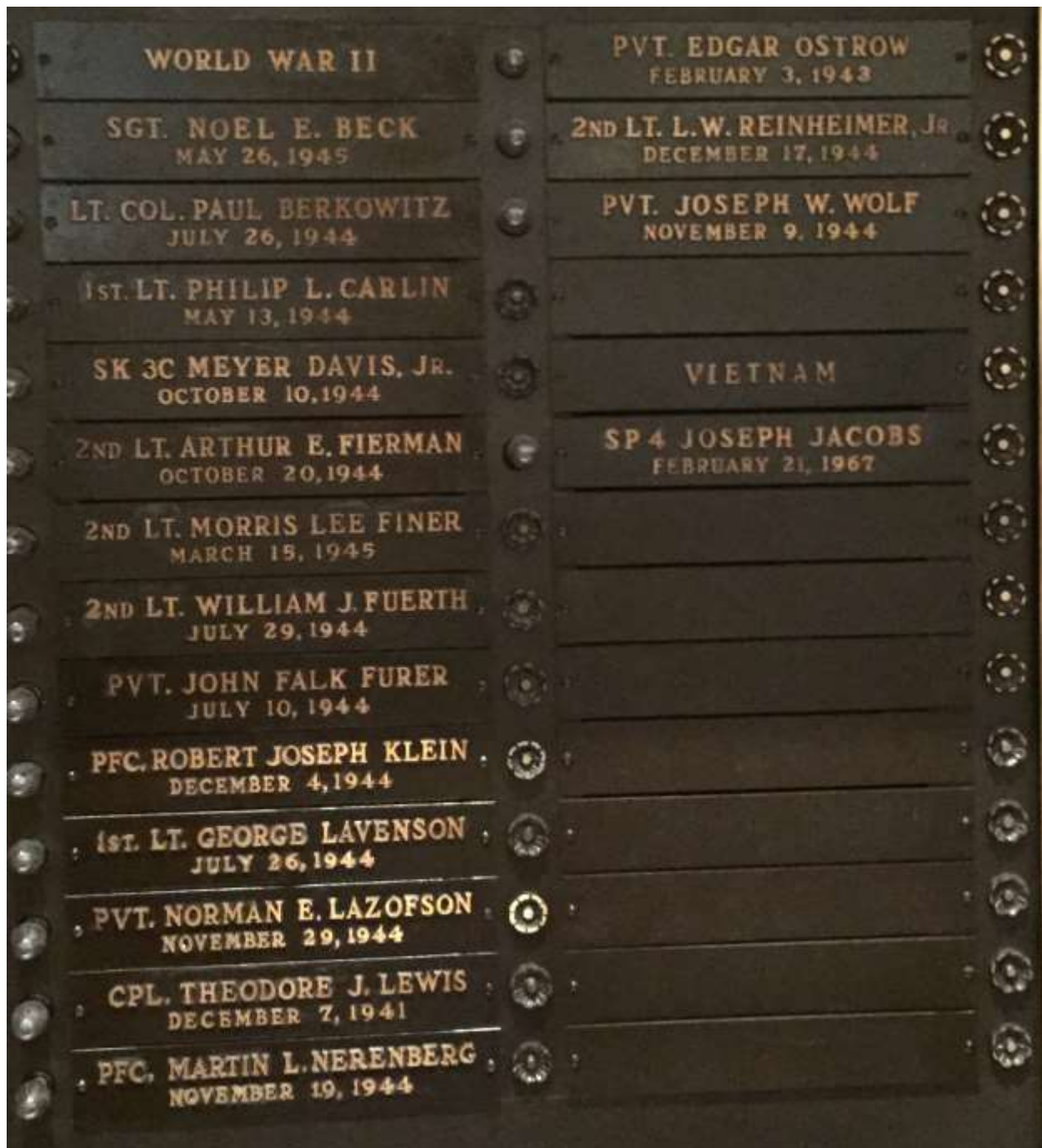
Private Byron H. Reis

Private Byron H. Reis was born in 1890 in Pennsylvania and was killed on September 18, 1918 in Vannes, Department of Morbihan, Bretagne, France. He is buried in Mt. Sinai Cemetery in Philadelphia.

Captain Eugene Rice

Eugene Rice was an Army captain born May 19, 1889. Before his service, he had been an assistant superintendent of materials and supplies at the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. His date of death is listed on his death certificate as January 1st 1919. Our chapel has his date of death listed as January 31, 1919. His cause of death was pneumonia. There was an epidemic of pneumonia in Philadelphia at that time. He was buried in Mt. Sinai Cemetery in Philadelphia.

WORLD WAR II



Sergeant Noel E. Beck

US Army Air Force Gunner Sergeant Noel E. Beck, born in Pennsylvania, was a sergeant in the Fifth Bomber Squadron, Ninth Bomber Group whose plane was shot down on the way to Kawasaki, Japan. His plane crashed into the Yokohama SOUMA Girls schoolyard. Sergeant Beck was made a prisoner of war and died in a prison fire on May 25, 1945. His remains were never recovered. Previously, on April 17, 1945, he had flown a mission against the Mitsubishi plant in Nagoya Japan. His remains have never been identified. His name is on the Tablets of the Missing in Honolulu Hawaii.

Lieutenant Colonel Paul Berkowitz

Lieutenant Colonel Paul H Berkowitz was born November 8, 1912 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He died in a plane crash in Kiribati, the Solomon Islands on July 26, 1944, while performing an air reconnaissance mission. He was part of the Army Corps of Engineers. He is buried at the United States Military Academy Post Cemetery at West Point, Orange County New York.



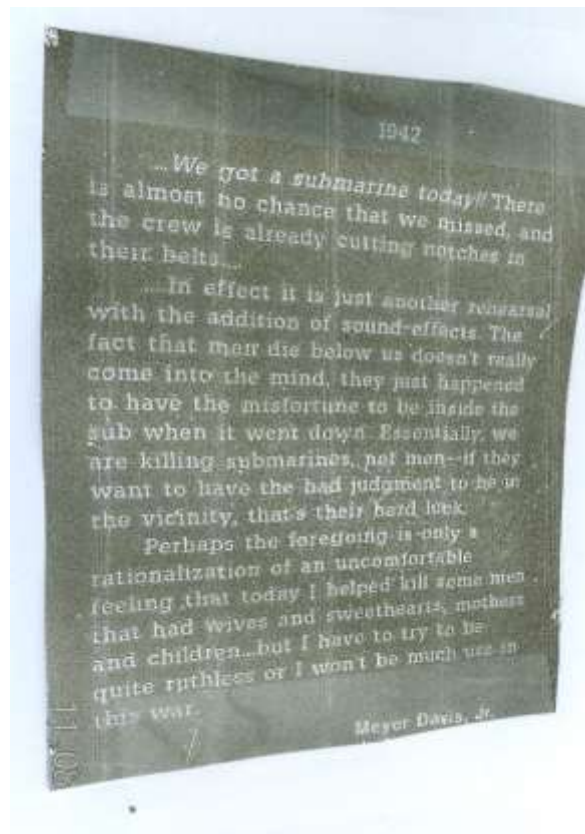
First Lieutenant Philip L. Carlin

First Lieutenant Philip Lester Carlin was born April 19, 1917 in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. He had been a Pressman endplate printer before he went into the Service. He was in the 544th Bomb Squadron of the United States Army Air Force. He was killed in action on May 13, 1944. He was interred at the United States National Cemetery in Neuville-en-Condrez-Liege, Belgium. He was reinterred on July 29, 1949 in the Beverly National Cemetery in Burlington County New Jersey.



Storekeeper 3rd Class Meyer Davis, Jr.

Storekeeper Third Class Meyer Davis, Junior, was born in Philadelphia around 1920. He had entered college and was in his second year. He was a violinist. He enlisted in the Navy immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor. He was listed among the missing in action after the sinking of the USS Buck. His date of death was listed as October 10, 1944. There is a plot for him in the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery Memorial in Lazio, Italy. On his plot there is an inscription that reads as follows:



Warrant Officer Morris Lee Finer

Morris Lee Finer was born on July 13, 1922 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He finished four years of high school. He entered active service on November 30, 1942 from Philadelphia Pennsylvania. He died on March 15, 1945 in Germany. At the time of his death, he was a warrant officer. There is a record of him being buried at Mount Sinai Cemetery in Philadelphia on November 11, 1947.

Second Lieutenant William Joseph Fuerth

Second Lieutenant William Joseph Fuerth was born on April 23, 1921 in Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania. He grew up in Philadelphia, having attended Simon Gratz High School. After high school, he entered Drexel's evening school in the electrical engineering program. He entered the military service in the Army Air Corps. He reached the Rank of Second Lieutenant in the 551st Bomber Squadron, 385th Bomber Group, Heavy. He died on July 29, 1944 in action, in Bennedorf, 6 miles west of Mercersburg. He is listed as missing. There is a monument to him in the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery Memorial, Henri-Chapelle, Arrondissement de Verviers, Liège, Belgium. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart.

Private John Falk Furer

Private John Falk Furer was born on March 10, 1923 in Camden, New Jersey. He graduated from Camden High School in 1940, where he had been on the literary staff all four years of his education. He then attended the University of Arizona. He entered the service from New Jersey and was in the Second Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, Fourth Infantry Division. Private Furer died in a battle near Sainteny, France on July 10, 1944. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He is buried in Crescent Burial Park in Pennsauken, New Jersey. His father had been a founding member of the Tri-County Post 126 of the Jewish War Veterans. This post was renamed in the spring of 1945 as the John F Furer Post 126 and was later renamed the Furer-Barag Post to additionally honor Herbert M. Barag.



Private First Class Robert J. Klein

Robert J Klein was a Private First Class in the 405th Infantry, 102nd Division. He died in battle on December 4, 1944. He is buried in the Netherlands-American Cemetery and Memorial, Margraten, Eijsden-Margraten Municipality, Limburg, Netherlands. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

First Lieutenant George Lavenson

First Lieutenant George Lavenson was born on March 26, 1917. He had resided in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania prior to his entering military service. He enlisted on November 21, 1941 after one year of college. He was part of Company E, 560 Parachute Infantry Regiment, The 101st Airborne Division and was part of Operation Overlord. Military records indicate that he died somewhere in the North Atlantic. His company had parachuted behind enemy lines prior to the Normandy landing on June 6, 1944. There was heavy street to street fighting and he was injured. He was hospitalized at Utah Beach first and then evacuated to England. On July 26, he was being flown back to the United States for medical treatment, when the plane was shot down and crashed into the Atlantic with no survivors. No bodies were recovered. Therefore, he is listed as missing in action. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. There is a memorial for him at the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial-Tablets of the Missing. His date of death was July 26, 1944. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He was related to Joseph Herzberg Hagedorn, who was President of Keneseth Israel from 1922 to 1938.

First Lieutenant George Lavenson



Name:	Service #:	Dates:
Benjamin J. Stoney	35530033	06-06-44
Jerry A. Wentzel	19112534	06-06-44
Ralph H. Wimer	33446711	06-06-44
George L. Elliott	14139866	06-06-44
Herman F. Collins	11098660	06-06-44
John N. Miller	33216794	06-06-44
Carl N. Riggs	39103579	06-06-44
Elmer L. Telstad	36816763	06-06-44
Thomas W. Warren	14147423	06-06-44
George Lavenson	O-1286510	06-06-44
Robert J. Bloser	13099636	06-07-44
Everett J. Gray	19087506	06-08-44
Terrence C. Harris	19091437	06-18-44



Private Norman E. Lazofson

Private Norman E. Lazofson entered military service from Pennsylvania. He died November 29, 1944 and is buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial, Margraten, Eijsden-Margraten Municipality, Limburg, Netherlands.



Corporal Theodore Jerome Lewis

Corporal Theodore Jerome Lewis was born on December 23, 1919. He lived in Pennsylvania prior to entering the military service. He was part of the 63rd Field Artillery Battalion, 24th Infantry Division in the United States Army. He was killed during the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese and was awarded the Purple Heart. He is buried in Montefiore Cemetery in Jenkintown Pennsylvania. His date of death is listed as December 7, 1941.



Private First Class Martin Leon Nerenberg

Martin Leon Nerenberg was a Private First Class in the United States Army. He was born about 1923 in Pennsylvania, but lived with his parents in Brooklyn, New York. He is listed on the United States rosters of World War II dead 1939-45. He was killed in action November 19, 1944. He was buried in New York. ID number:11099548

Private Edgar J. Ostrow

Private Edgar J. Ostrow served in the United States Army Air Force. His hometown was in Pennsylvania. The last ship he served on was the USAT Dorchester. This ship was part of United States Navy Convoy SG – 19. His ship was sunk by torpedoes from U–223. The Dorchester is remembered as the ship on which four chaplains gave away their own lifebelts so that others could survive. There were nine hundred and two members of the crew on board and only 230 survived. Private Ostrow was not one of the survivors. Pvt. Ostrow was awarded the Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal and the European-African Campaign Medal. He is listed on the Tablets of the Missing at the East Coast Memorial in New York City.

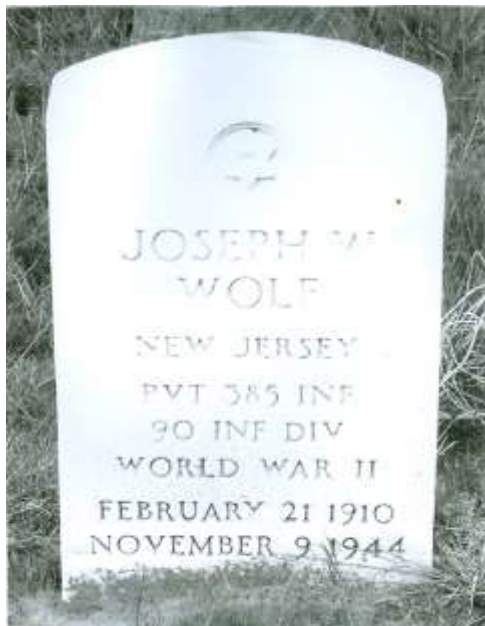
Second Lieutenant Leon Waldauer Reinheimer Junior

Second Lieutenant Leon Waldauer Reinheimer Junior was born on August 16, 1921 in Philadelphia. He entered the military service in May 1943. He was in the 38th Infantry, 2nd Division – Pennsylvania. He died in Belgium on December 17, 1944. He was buried in the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial in Neuville-en-Condroz in Ardennes, France. He was awarded a Purple Heart Medal. He was also awarded a posthumous degree as a member of the class of 1946 from Penn State University with a curriculum in physical education.



Private Joseph W. Wolf

Private Joseph W Wolf was born on February 21, 1910. He was born in Pennsylvania, but was living in New Jersey at the time of his enlistment on October 14, 1943. He had four years of college and was a retail manager prior to his entry into the service. Private Wolf died on November 9, 1944. He was in the 385th Infantry, 90th Infantry Division. His body was returned from Limey Toul, France as part of the World War II Repatriation Program. He was buried in the Beverly National Cemetery in Beverly, New Jersey. There is a plaque on a bench in the cemetery donated in the memory of Pvt. Wolf and all Jewish veterans by the Joseph W Wolf Post 315 J. W. V.

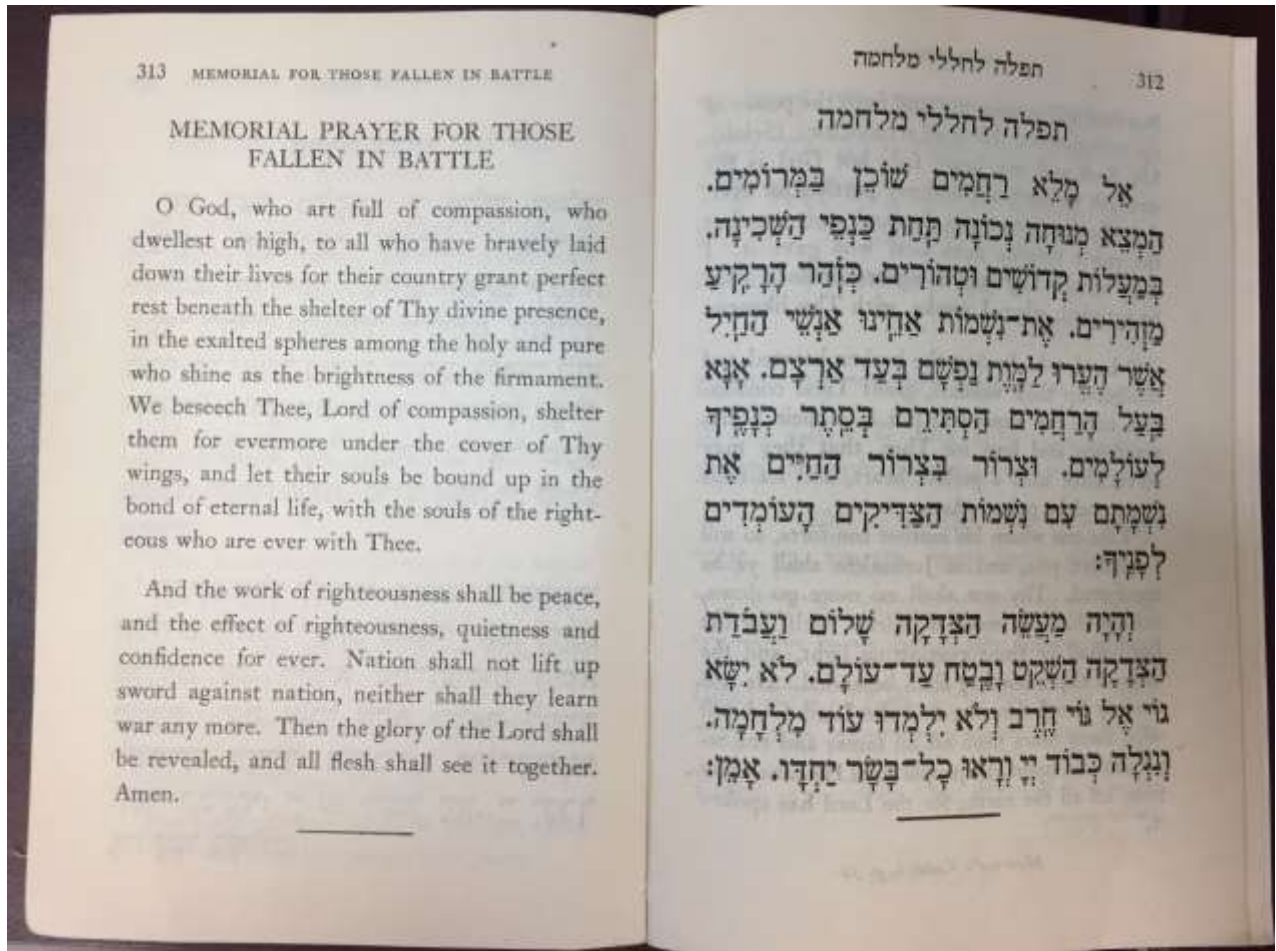


VIETNAM



Joseph Lewis Jacobs

Joseph Lewis Jacobs was born on April 14, 1944. His home city was Northridge, California. At the time of his death, he was a Specialist/4 , an information specialist. He died of wounds received on February 16, 1967, when an ambulance he was traveling in hit a landmine and killed all on board except for specialist/4 Jacobs. This occurred in the Tay Ninh Province north of Saigon. He died from his wounds five days later. His body was recovered and he was buried in Mt. Sinai Memorial Park in Los Angeles, California. He was promoted to Sergeant posthumously.



Prayer Book, Abridged, for Jews in the Armed Forces of the United States, Philadelphia, 1943



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