

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to  
Russ Strong at the reunion, or mail to Russ Strong, 5323 Cheval  
Place, Charlotte, NC 28205) Little Rock 1989

Date complete 26 SEP 89

LAST NAME: CAVANESS FIRST NAME: WILLIAM F TITLE: CMS RET

Street address: 702 CRAVENS AVE Telephone: (512) 534 9096

City, state, zip: SAN ANTONIO TX 78223 1526

Date of Birth: 13 SEP 1920 Wife's name: DOROTHY

College(s) attended: Degree(s): Year(s):

Last employment and job title: USAF NCOIC MAINT ANALYSIS HQ ATC

Reunions attended: (by year or location) ~~SHAMMOH~~ TO LITTLE ROCK 1711

Serial #: <sup>18057048</sup> 451 126160 Squadron: 368 Speciality: A/C MAINT  
FLIGHTCHIEF

Date joined 306th: 1 FEB 42 If combat, what crew:

Special duties or assignments w/306th: FLIGHTCHIEF / GROUP MAINT POOL

Number of missions flown: Date of last mission:

Date left 306th: SEP 45 Highest rank/grade with 306th: MSG

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th:

USAF retirement date: 1 DEC 71 Rank/grade: CMS

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the squadrons or other units, will be welcomed by the secretary.

If you know of other 306th people who do not appear in the directory, please add their names and current or former addresses to this sheet so that we may search further for them.



RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and give)  
(to Russ Strong at the Las Vegas reunion, or mail to his ad-)  
(dress: 5323 cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205 )

Date completed

LAST NAME: *CAVANESS* FIRST NAME: *William F* Title: *CMS RET*  
Street address: *702 CRAVENS AVE* Telephone: *(512) 534-9096*  
City, state, zip: *SAN ANTONIO TX 78223*

Date of birth: *13 SEP 20* Wife's name: *DOROTHY*

College(s) attended: Degree(s): Year(s):

Last employment & job title: *USAF, CMS MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS, Hq ATC.*

Year joined 306th Association: *1979*

Reunions attended: (by year or location)  
*1979 - 83 - 84 - 85 - 86 - 87 - 88*

Serial #: *18057048 / 1451-12-6160* Sqdn: *368* Speciality: *FLIGHT CHIEF*

Date joined 306th: *FEB 42* If combat, what crew?

Special duties or assignments w/306th: *FLIGHT CHIEF / GROUP MAINT POOL - TIRES - BRAKES -  
LANDING GEAR - HYDRAUNICS / THEN  
ENGINE BUILDUP & CHANGE CREW*

If commissioned w/306th, date & specialty:

Date departed: *SEP 45* Highest rank/grade w/306th: *MSG*

Other 8thAF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th: *LINE CHIEF / PRODUCTION CONTROL / MAINT ANALYSIS*

USAF retirement date: *1 DEC 71* Rank/grade: *CMS*

Most memorable experience w/306th: (use back of sheet, too)

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In the continuing search for 306th people, please inform the secretary as to any persons you know from the 306th who are not listed in the 1988 directory; consult your WWII address book as to hometowns of anyone not listed in the 1988 directory; inform the secretary as to anyone from the 306th whom you know now to be deceased.

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The secretary is constantly seeking copies of orders issued at Thurleigh, either by the 306th Bombardment Group, Station 111, the combat squadrons, or other units assigned there. If you have any such orders, please send copies to the secretary.

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If your immediate family or other heirs are not interested in your 306th memorabilia, you may wish to place with such materials directions and an address so that it can be mailed to the secretary. Such materials will be included in the 306th collection that will eventually be placed in the Library of the U. S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO.

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RECORDS UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish to, fold and mail as per address on reverse side. Or, if obtained at a reunion, hand to Russ Strong)

LAST NAME: CAVANESS FIRST NAME: WILLIAM F. TITLE: <sup>ASST</sup> FLIGHT CHIEF

STREET ADDRESS: 702 CRAVENS AVE TELEPHONE: (512) 534-9096

CITY: SAN ANTONIO STATE: TX ZIP: 78223

DATE JOINED 306th ASSOCIATION: OCT 1979

REUNIONS ATTENDED: (Years) 79, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87

WIFE'S NAME: DOROTHY CAVANESS

LAST EMPLOYMENT: US AIR FORCE; RET 1<sup>st</sup> DEC 71 CHIEF MASTER SARGENT

COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED: DEGREE(S): DATE:

SERIAL #: 18057048/451-12-6160 SQDN: 368 MOS: 750

DATE ARR: FEB 1942 CREW: FLIGHT CHIEF "C"

DATE DEPARTED: SEP 1945 HIGHEST RANK IN 306th: MSGT

SERVICE RETIREMENT DATE: 1 SEPT 1971 RANK or GRADE: CMS

DECORATIONS WITH 306TH: BRONZ STAR

TOP SERVICE ASSIGNMENT AFTER 306TH: FLIGHT CHIEF

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS WITH 306TH:

QUESTIONNAIRE

CATERPILLAR CLUB - IRVING CHUTE COMPANY

NAME:

COMBAT JUMP DATE & MISSION:

HEIGHT WHEN BAILED OUT:

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PARACHUTE:

306th Bombardment Group. SQDN: 368

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
Russell A. Strong, Rt. 1, Scotch Meadows Dr. Laurinburg, NC 28352

Name WILLIAM F CAVANESS  
Address 702 CRAVENS AVE SAN ANTONIO, TX 78223  
Telephone 512-534-9096 Date 30 June 77  
Occupation CMS USAF RET. Employer N/A  
Address — Telephone —

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th:

SHEPPARD AFB TECH TRAINING - ~~FEB~~ 42 ARRIVED  
WENDOVER + 306<sup>th</sup> 368 Sqdn. MAR

After leaving the 306th:

RE-ENLISTED + STAYED FOR 30 YRS.

306th Record:

Arrival Date MAR 42 Squadron or other unit 368<sup>th</sup>  
MOS 750 Combat Status NONE -  
Missions Completed NONE  
Promotions PVT - CPL - SSGT - TSGT - MSGT  
Decorations AM olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM  
PH Battle Stars other

(OVER)

Other personal data:

GROUND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL ONLY - FLIGHT CHIEF  
THEN GROUP MAINT CHIEF.

Description of Air Missions:

(What were the highlights of your combat career? What was your role? What heroics did you witness? What events were there of which you have special knowledge?)

25 February 1993

Dear Bill:

I have read your piece several times, and have enjoyed it.

What it really needs is some names, as to whom developed some of these techniques, and those who did the back breaking work of making all of this possible. Do you think you can work at least some names into it?

Also, here is a copy of an aerial photo of the base, and I would like you to indicate which hangar was used for what.

I am also taking the liberty of enclosing a bunch of pictures of ground/mechanical activities, hoping that you might make some notes about them, or identify some people, and then stick the notes to the appropriate pictures.

In the event you did save your story, I am returning the original; but I have protected myself by making a copy of it. Then, if I have offended you, I'll still have the original to use!

I look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,

9 October 1993

Dear Bill:

Wanted to send along a copy of the letter which I have just redone, and which I send to each person added to our mailing list.

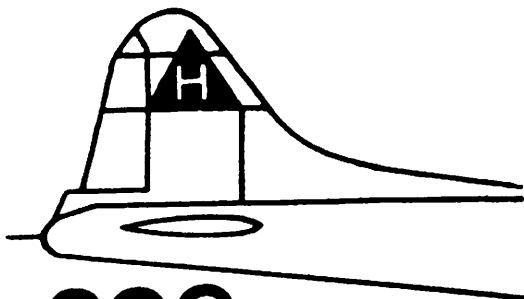
Since being home, and before I could get anything else happening, I decided to "buy" one more set of names, 50 in all, and which ran me through the "A" section of the card file.

All but two of the names on the attached list of new adds came from that list of 50. Harkness I got from another list, and Nelson Ake picked up the last name when he wore his 367th T shirt to therapy one morning, and met Scribner.

If you have any suggestions on the letter, please let me know.

I have found the equipment I need to go through the name list, and will be ordering it Monday. The CD Rom unit to go in the computer will be \$244, and the disc itself will be \$69.

My typewriter is a



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations  
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

# 306<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

26 April 1995

*President*

C. Dale Briscoe  
7829 Timber Top Drive  
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78006

Russel A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte NC 28205

*Vice President*

M/Gen James S. Cheney  
630 Cinnamon Court  
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Mr. Secretary:

*Secretary*

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

In response to the president's request of \$200.00 contribution for the construction of an English type control tower adjacent to the USAF museum at Wright Patterson AFB; I concur with the donation.

*Treasurer*

Robert N. Houser  
2412 48th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50310

*Directors*

Joseph R. Hathaway  
1031 N. Meade Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

John K. Hickey  
3340 Nantucket Road  
Lexington, KY 40502

Wallace T. Peckham  
420 Starborough  
League City, TX 77573

Donald L. Snook  
45 N. Turkey Hill Road  
Westport, CT 06880

Now to a personal subject; maybe you recall I had surgery last May for colon cancer? Then on Dec. 22 cancer was found in my liver; no cure. However I am receiving chemo 5 continuous days, then 3 weeks free, a 28 day cycle. In May another CAT scan will be accomplished to determine my progress. The chemo treatments have not been severe to date, there has been a loss of appetite, weight and strength, which is somewhat gained back during the 3 weeks off chemo.

*Past President*

William F. Cavaness  
702 Cravens Avenue  
San Antonio, TX 78223

Providing my condition remains the same as now I will be able to make Knoxville.

The president is aware of my condition and will be notified if I can not attend the next convention.

*1995 Reunion Chairman*

Wallace D. Boring  
2348 Old Knoxville Pike  
Maryville, TN 37804

*British Representative*

Ralph Franklin  
Mill Hill  
Keysoe, Beds MK44 2HP  
England

Bill C

1995 Reunion  
14-16 September  
Hyatt Regency Knoxville  
Knoxville, TN



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
RECORDS ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
ST. LOUIS 20, MISSOURI


IN REPLY  
REFER TO:

AGRS-DC-G 201 Cavaness, William F.  
(2 Apr 48)

30 April 1948

M Sgt. William F. Cavaness  
U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force  
Recruiting Station  
Post Office Building  
Hillsboro, Illinois

**STATEMENT OF MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING**

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL  Cavaness, William F.			2. ARMY SERIAL NUMBER  18 057 048	
MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES			PROMOTIONS	
3. NUMBER	4. TITLE	5. DATE RATED	6. GRADE	7. DATE ATTAINED
747 750	Airplane and Engine Mechanic Airplane Maintenance Technician	1 May 42 13 Jan 43	Cpl Air Mech 2nd C1 S Sgt T Sgt M Sgt	1 May 42  1 May 42 1 Jun 42 1 Jul 42 15 Jul 42
8. BASIC TRAINING		9. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED AND/OR OTHER MILITARY TRAINING		
Apparently completed while attached to Air Corps Replacement Training Center, Sheppard Field, Texas from 6 Oct 41 to 6 Nov 41.		Graduated from Airplane Mechanics Course, Sheppard Field, Texas on 21 Mar 42. Total hours 770. Final weighted grade 81.		
10. REMARKS				
none		 CHARLES D. CARLE COLONEL, AGD COMMANDING		

702 Cravens Ave  
San Antonio TX  
78223

April 16th/79

Dear Mr. Collins:-

Enclosed please find small donation  
and my thanks for the Echoes received.

I would appreciate hearing if the  
organization is still planning a get-together in  
Phoenix this year? Have a vague recollection that  
Arizona was mentioned in your earlier letter.

Travel to California several times a  
year and could possibly arrange a trip to include  
your meetings, etc.

Thanking you.

Sincerely,

*William Caviness*

**CHIEF MS USAF RET**

9 JANUARY 1996

Dear Dorothy,

June and I wish to offer our condolences to you and your family during this time of sorrow.

I look back with great pleasure on the year that Bill served as president, finding him easy to work with, a good counselor, and I always enjoyed his willingness to educate me on matters of the 306th and of the Air Force in general.

We also think we got a bonus from the Cavaness family in you, and have so much enjoyed talking with you at reunions. We only regret that distance does not permit us to visit with you more often.

I know everyone at the reunion who knew Bill was pleased that the two of you found the strength and courage to come to Knoxville.

The January issue of Echoes will be printed in a few days, and I will be sending extra copies to both you and Jane.

We hope that you and Jane may find it convenient to attend another reunion so that we all can have another opportunity to talk with you and to let you know how we cherish the Cavaness family.

May God continue to bless you and your family,



WILLIAM F. CAVANESS. CM/SGT. (RET.)

- 1941 SEPT. ENLISTED IN U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS AT FORT SAM HOUSTON (DODD FIELD) SAN ANTONIO TX.  
SHEPARD?  
TO SHEPHERD? FIELD, WICHITA FALLS TX BASIC TRAINING  
TO WENDOVER FIELD, UTAH (POSSIBLY TO BOEING-SEATTLE WASHINGTON FOR MECHANICAL SCHOOL)
- 1942 SEPT TO THURLEIGH, ENGLAND 306<sup>th</sup> BOMB GROUP
- 1945 SEPT RET. TO U.S.A. DISCHARGED AND RE-ENLISTED FORT DIX, N. J.
- 1948 ASSIGNED TO HILL FIELD UTAH FLEW WITH 317 CREW SUPPLIED PARTS TO BASES IN NORTH AND NORTHWEST
- 1947 APR. RECRUITING DUTY FOR AIR FORCE, AFTER ARMY AIR CORPS WAS DIVIDED STATIONED IN HILLSBORO IL. HDQTRS. EAST ST. LOUIS MO.
- 1949 JAN. TO EAST BASE (NOW MALSTROM) GREAT FALLS, MONTANA. BERLIN AIR LIFT CHANGED AFSC.
- 1951 OCT DISCHARGED AT THIS TIME.
- 1952 JAN. RE-ENLISTED AT KELLY AFB SAN ANTONIO TX  
MAY TO L & HANSCOMBE AFB BEDFORD MASS.
- 1953 SEPT TO ENIVETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS ARDC
- 1954 JULY TO KIRTLAND AFB ALBUQUERQUE N.M. ARDC (TDY TO BRAZIL)
- 1957 OCT DISCHARGED.
- 1958 JAN RE-ENLISTED LACKLAND AFB SAN ANTONIO TX  
JAN TO CANNON AFB LLOUIS N.M. 832<sup>nd</sup> AIR BASE GROUP (TAB) <sup>BITBURG GERMANY</sup>
- 1959 JUNE TO APO 132 NEW YORK N.Y. 36<sup>th</sup> TACTICAL FIGHTER WING (USAF) <sup>BILDAI</sup>
- 1962 JUNE TO MATHER AFB SACRAMENTO CA. 3535 NAV. TNG. WG. (ATC)
- 1965 AUG. TO KEESLER TECH TNG CEN (ATC) KEESLER AFB MISS 39534 <sup>BILDAI</sup>
- 1966 JULY TO 3300 SUPPORT SQ (ATC) RANDOLPH AFB TX 78148
- 1971 DEC 1<sup>st</sup> RETIRED

BILL CAVANESS, CMSgt(Ret.)  
PAST PRESIDENT of the 306th,  
DIES

CMSgt (Ret) William F Cavaness passed away on December 21, 1995 in San Antonio, Texas where he had lived since his retirement from the Air Force in 1971, following thirty years of continuous service. He was buried in the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetary with full military honors.

Members of the 306th will remember Bill as one of our top maintenance chiefs throughout the war and recently serving us well as member of the Board of Directors and as Association President in 1993/94. Those attending the reunion in Knoxville this past September will recall that Bill, while suffering from an acute and fatal illness, made a courageous effort to attend the reunion for a last visit with many of his old friends and to serve as chairman of the 306th Nominating Committee.

Bill joined the Army Air Corps in September 1941. After receiving training in B-17 maintenance at the Boeing aircraft factory in Seattle, Washington, he joined the 306th for deployment to Thurleigh, England in September 1942. It was here he met and married Dorothy. They were married in St Cuthberts Church, Bedford, on November 25, 1943.

Following WWII, Bill had many intersting assignments for the remainder of his thirty years in the Air Force. He served as flight engineer for the Commanding General at Hill AFB, Utah, was assigned to the Marshall Islands during the period of atomic tests, he

Bess -  
this is as far as I had  
gotten when you called. I  
think you have more information  
then Dorothy could find.

**CAVANESS**



CMSgt (Ret.) William F. Cavaness, age 75, passed away on Thursday, December 21, 1995 from cancer at Willford Hall U.S.A.F., Lackland A.F.B. He was born in Junction, TX on September 13, 1920. He entered the Army Air Corps in September 1941 and continued his career with the United States Air Force for thirty years. During W.W. II he served with the 306th Bomb Group in Thurbright England. In recent years, he was active in the 306th Bomb Group Association and was a member of the Junction City Lodge No. 548 AF & AM. Chief Cavaness was preceded in death by his son, James. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy; daughter, Jane Wirtz of Roseville, CA; 5 granddaughters, and one great-great-granddaughter; sister, Jessie Jo Winslett of Junction. Visitation will be held Tuesday, December 26, 1995 after 3:00 P.M. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, December 27, 1995 at 11:45 A.M. in Mission Park South. Interment will follow in Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery with full military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Research Division, 8214 Wurzbach Rd., San Antonio, TX 78229.

**MISSION PARK**  
1700 S.E. Military Dr.  
924-4242



CAVANESS

Realizing that a little cogitation may be involved in answering the questionnaires included, I would appreciate your checking this list and returning it immediately in the enclosed envelope.

Yes, I am the one you are searching for.

No, I am not the one, but I know him and you can reach him at the following address:

H. DEANE MUNAL MD, SAN JUAN TX

787-2373 OFFICE 787-1313 HOME

No, I am not the one, but I think you might be able to trace him by contacting

CLYDE CHRISTIAN, ADA ~~OKLA~~ P.O. Box 1805

ADA OKLA 74820

Sorry, I can't help you at all.

Deceased. If so, the date \_\_\_\_\_



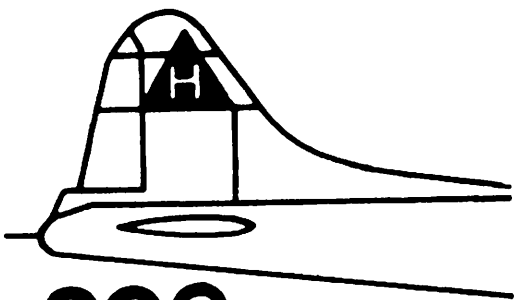
1.26.1993

Russ.

Enclosed notes covering the subject we discussed earlier.

Apologies for taking so much time but I,ve become quite rusty over the years. Wrote many manuells ~~e~~arlier during the active years.

*Bill Covance*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations  
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England — September 1942-April 1945

# 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

*Secretary/Historian*

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
704/568-0153

23 September 1992

*Author*

First Over Germany  
Command and Staff  
Officers, 8th Air  
Force, 1942-45

*Editor*

306th Echoes  
306th Directory

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ELECTED IN ENGLAND

William F. Cavaness, 702 Cravens Avenue, San Antonio, was elected vice president of the 306th Bomb Group Association for a one-year term at the recent annual meeting held in the Cumberland Hotel, London, England.

Another Texas resident, Forrest J. Stewart, The Woodlands, was elected as president.

Cavaness, a retired chief master sergeant for the USAF, served as a flight chief for the Group's 368th Squadron for three years, most of it spent in England, from September 1942 to September 1945.

The 306th Bomb Group Association was celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Group's entering combat in WWII as one of the original groups in the Eighth Force, flying out of England. The group flew the first of 341 combat missions on 9 October 1942.

More than 400 persons from the U. S. took part in the weeklong reunion activities held at Bedford, at the Group's base at Thurleigh, at Madingly cemetery near Cambridge, at the Duxford Imperial War Museum, and in London. At a midweek dance held in one of the Group's WWII hangars more than 1,500 Britishers joined the American visitors to dance to the music of the Herb Miller Orchestra. Herb Miller is the brother of the legendary Glenn Miller.

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY