

JACK L. COLEMAN
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Telephone (601) 971-8131

Mr. Dave Owen
7 Hollyhock Lane
Bellview, Ill 62221

Dear Mr. Owen,

My brother Lt. Gerald D. Coleman was a pilot flying a B-24 from the Admiralty Islands in June 1944 with the 372nd Squadron of the 307th Bomb Group, and on June 25, over Yap Island, he was killed, and I suppose that his entire crew was killed with him. I was with the 1st Marine Division and we were getting ready to make an assault on the Island of Peleliu in the Palau Islands.

The last letter that I received from him, he stated that he had just got a new airplane for he and his crew, a New B-24 without any paint on it, and that he could get 8 to 10 knots more speed out of it. I had just gotten to Guadalcanal to visit him, and found that he had left some days earlier for the Admiralty Islands, and I only had a three day pass and the Air Corps Officer there said I wouldn't have time to get up there and back before my leave expired. We were stationed at a small Island called Pavuvu just off the west end of Guadalcanal.

I am the last living person of Gerald and my immediate family. Even Gerald's wife and daughter have passed on since. Gerald was five years older than I, and I am now 76, and I would like to correspond with anyone who knew my brother. I am enclosing some pictures and newspaper clippings concerning him. Any help you can give me will be deeply appreciated.

I wish you and your friends the best at your reunion. I have attended one reunion of my old outfit, but there are very few of us left after Peleliu. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

Jack L. Coleman
Brother of Lt. Gerald D. Coleman 0806220
307th Bomb Group, 372 Squadron, 13th USAAC KIA 6-25-1944