

## Elbert G. Odle

1881  
Elbert G. Odle, 65, died yesterday at his home at 815 S. Union St., Westfield. Services will be Friday, 2 p.m., at McMullan Funeral Home, Westfield, with burial at Summit Lawn Cemetery.

The Rev. Robert Williams will conduct the rites.

Odle was a native of Williamsport, and a Westfield resident for 20 years. He retired in 1977 from his position as program specialist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

He was a member of the Christ United Methodist Church. He was a past president of the Westfield Lions Club and a former commander of the Westfield American Legion Post.

Before coming to Westfield, Odle was a school teacher in Warren County and was Warren County auditor for eight years. He belonged to the Lions Club and the Rotary Club in Williamsport.

He was a major during World War II and was a bomber pilot with the 8th Air Force in England. He was a member of the 8th Air Force Historical Society.

His wife, the former Jane Wilbur, survives as does a son, Stephen B., Westfield, and two daughters, Diane Gunn, Westfield, and Katherine Spurgeon, Greenwood. There are three grandchildren.

Also surviving are two sisters, Lillian Bowlus, West Lafayette, and Janice Lambert, Frankfort; and four brothers, Stanley, Bargersville, Raymond, North Fort Myers, Fla., Ralph, Lafayette, and Luther Odle, Monticello.

Friends may call at the funeral home after 2 p.m. tomorrow.

For your information:

Al Smith # 6948

"al"

Indianapolis News, Wednesday April 15, 1981

## Elbert Odle Dead At 65

Special to The News

WESTFIELD, Ind. — Elbert Odle, 65, Westfield, retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, died yesterday at his home.

Odle worked 23 years for USDA, retiring in 1977 as a program specialist. He formerly was Warren County auditor eight years.

He was a graduate of Indiana Central University and taught elementary school in Warren County before World War II. During the war Odle was a bomber pilot with the rank of major in the Eighth Air Force in England.

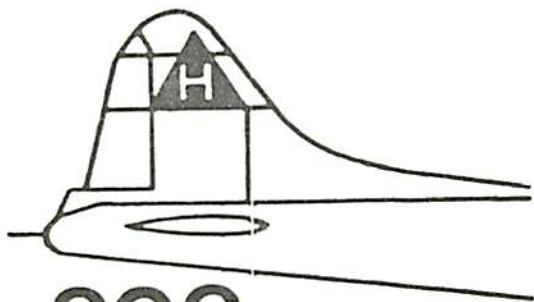
He was a member and former president of Westfield Lions Club and also was a member of Christ United Methodist Church, Westfield American Legion Post and Eighth Air Force Historical Society.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. in McMullan Funeral Home, Westfield, where friends may call tomorrow after 2 p.m. Burial will be in Summit Lawn Cemetery.

Survivors — wife Jane; son Stephen; daughters Katherine Spurgeon, Diane Gunn; brothers Stanley, Raymond, Ralph, Luther; sisters Lillian Bowlus, Janice Lambert.

306th Bomb. Gp. 368th Squad.

Odle attended the Orlando Reunion in 1980.



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

# 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer  
William M. Collins, Jr.  
2973 Heatherbrae Drive  
Poland, Ohio 44514

*Dear Ralph & Nell: So thankful for the wonderful reunion in Orlando. When we stopped at Bowling, they talked to Johnny Regan in Calif. So many things seemed to fall in place. How he enjoyed the Reunion & visiting with the "guys".*

*(Bowling)* We had been home just ten days - he had been anxious to get home too. We spent two wonderful days with Army friends in Tennessee on our way home. He had been busy and had his garden started and had bought four calves on Saturday at the Sale Barn. He had driven the garage parts truck for two days - nothing strenuous. Came home about five and went out to check the fence row before putting calves out of barn. When he didn't come in soon - I went out looking and couldn't find him - I came back and got my cane and jacket and went back - climbed up on gate and finally spotted him laying out in pasture. I climbed back over fence and ran to the house trying to get help - grandson Jerry was inside and called for emergency - by time we got back out the sirens were going - no chance at all - he had had an acute embolism and was gone instantly. That certainly was the way he would of wanted to go - No lingering or suffering.

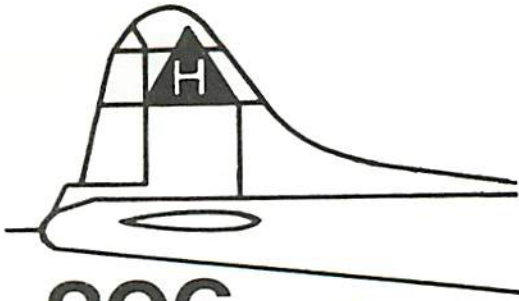
Just such a shock!

*Had wonderful services and so many flowers, cards & help from friends. Since this Legion Post isn't too active - military rites were conducted by Gresson Air Base. Buried less than 1/2 mile from our house.*

*Do come see me whenever you can - We had four wonderful retirement years together*

*to remember.* ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY *Love, Jane*





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July 28<sup>th</sup>

Dear Russ:

I want to tell you that I think you did a great job on the 306 Book. Reading it brought back many memories of the days I spent with Elbert at Meadover and also his stories of his time overseas.

An enclosing of check for \$40<sup>00</sup> for two copies of the book - wish you would autograph them too. One is for my Grandson Davy for his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday (he really loved talking to his Granddaddy about the war, planes etc.) the other is for Elbert's brother Ralph, he spent the war with the Marines in the Pacific.

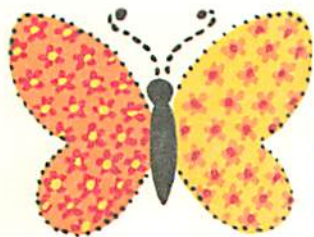
Hope you are having great success with your projects. Do you know if there are very many going to England in Oct? The Borings want me to go but I can't quite make up my mind about it.

Sincerely  
Jane Odle

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

815 B. Union St. Westfield, N. 46074



Nov - 9 - 82

Dear Russell;

I am writing you to order another copy of your book to be sent to Elbert's Olde brother:

Mr. Raymond Odle  
192 - Second Street  
Windmill Village  
N. Fort Myers, Fl.  
33903

Bordner said he had given you Elbert's papers and scrapbooks - I am so anxious to get them back and hope you can get them to me soon.

How did the Convocation go off this year? I watched a week ago Sun. the Charles Kurwalt show on CBS that showed the 306 in England -

I'm down here for the winter now.