

Gold Star Mothers Legion Scrapbook

This collection contains information and photographs primarily for local men who died during World War II.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Gold Star Mothers of Kansas City

Title: Gold Star Mothers Legion scrapbook

Dates: 1942-1952, bulk 1943-1945

Size: 1 scrapbook, 1 box

Location: SC68

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Terms governing use and reproduction: Scrapbook may not be photocopied.

Additional physical form available: Photographs have been digitized.

Publication note: Selected scrapbook photographs published in book, *Kansas City: An American Story/* by Rick Montgomery and Shirl Kasper. Kansas City Star Books, c.1999.

Acquisition information: Gift, Austin E. Van Buskirk, 1998, Accession #1998-12.

Citation note: Gold Star Mother's Legion scrapbook (SC68), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

The Gold Star Mothers of Kansas City began in 1945 when Mrs. Myra Willock first called together a group of 10 mothers after her son lost his life in World War II. Initially they met to encourage and comfort each other, but after the war they volunteered their time for veteran needs, especially in hospitals including the Veterans Hospital located in Kansas City, Missouri. A rival organization was the National Gold Star Mothers which was incorporated in 1952 including mothers of sons killed in the Korean War.

Scope and content note

The scrapbook includes information on 36 men who died in World War II and one man who died after the Korean War. Black and white photographs are included for 32 entries. Listed below in alphabetical order are the names of the men who were killed. Also indicated with their name: the date of death if given, if there is a photograph included, and if there is an obituary newspaper clipping on them. The obituary clippings were copied from the Special Collections department newspaper clipping files and are filed alphabetically in folder three with the collection.

Placed loosely in the front of the scrapbook the following were found: one copy of the *Northeast News* dated March 28, 1968; a Veteran's Administration Volunteer Service Review sheet for the Gold Star Mothers of Kansas City; various bills and invoices from Milgrim's grocery store; a typed letter from the local organization addressed to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, dated January 21, 1957; and one invitation to the practical nurses graduation ceremony held at General Hospital and Medical Center, dated 1968.

Abrams, Walter Kenneth - March 30, 1943

Beauchamp, John Owen, Jr. - April 16, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Boshell, Henry "Bud" - April 9, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Burnham, Jack - photograph

Coker, Henry Burton - November 22, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Corbin, Reuben E., Jr. - February 25, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Darlington, Dawn Worth - September 26, 1944, has photograph

Davis, Robert H. - May 30, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Epp, Charles Edward - August 30, 1943, photograph, newspaper clipping

Gray, John, Jr. - November 15, 1944, photograph

Griffin, Curtis S. - April, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Humphreys, Willard John - March 4, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Hundley, Wyatt John - January 7, 1943, newspaper clipping

Hunt, Richard L., Jr. - February 26, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Jacoby, William W. - March 18, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

McCoy, Vincent DePaul - April 5, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

McPeck, Joseph Hartwell - April 12, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

McPherson, Harry H., Jr. - photograph, newspaper clipping

Myers, Gordon Edwin - August 17, 1945

Nelson, Harry Wayne - August 4, 1943, photograph, newspaper clipping

Nesbitt, Edwin L. - August 24, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Peaster, Harold R. - February 1, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Peterschmidt, Leo Frederick - November 10, 1942, newspaper clipping

Ramsey, Milton Weaver, Jr. - 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Rogers, Charles O. - August 29, 1944, photograph

Sarver, William Allen - April 6, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Shea, William Boschert - September 24, 1942, photograph

Smith, Giles J., Jr. - May 1, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Stair, Frazier R. - November 6, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Swanson, Elston John Andrew – October 13, 1943, newspaper clipping

Teaney, Charles V. – January 16, 1945, photograph, newspaper clipping

Wilbur, William P. - July 27, 1943, photograph, newspaper clipping

Wilhelm, Floyd Edwin - October 20, 1952, photograph

Williams, Clifford D., Jr. - February 25, 1944, photograph

Willock, David Buckner IV - May 10, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Winslow, John Raymond - June 8, 1944, photograph, newspaper clipping

Worley, Gilbert L., Jr. - May 15, 1943, photograph, newspaper clipping

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, March 1998.