

2

P.O. Box 815  
Sisters, OR 97759  
August 25, 1989

Dear Sgt. Adams:

Thank you so much for your prompt reply to my letter. I read and reread your letter containing all the news, your photo of you and Tibby and your beautiful flower garden, clippings about your beautiful garden, and your job to help qualify for Social Security were enjoyed very much. I am happy to enclose a recent picture of Virginia (Ginny) (her Dad was born in Virginia) and myself. So you see I haven't changed much!!!!

We were married April 3, 1942. We have 2 daughters and 8 grandchildren. (3 of them live 1 block away.)

I was wounded July 22, 1944--<sup>11 days</sup> a day or 2 after Lt. Nash was hurt. It was caused by enemy mortar and a fragment lacerated right wrist severing artery, tendons, and median nerve. This was in the area of St. Lo. I believe you took over the platoon after Lt. Nash was hurt. I'm sure you remember the exact details of our location.

K Company was to the left of a road and L Company to the right. I had just received orders to pull K Company to the rear after dark to make room for the big bombing. A French house with a German tank behind it was near the road-L Company's sector. I was hospitalized in England, then sent to the States on The Queen Mary for an operation at Springfield, Missouri O'Reilly General Hospital and later to hospital at Camp Atterbury; then to limited duty as C.O. of the Returnee Station at Hot Springs, Ark.--getting out of service Feb., 1946, with terminal leave promotion to Major. My hand is partially numb and small limitation of use of thumb. I count myself fortunate indeed. Maybe you will give me facts of your injuries. And I am very interested also of first hand information from you of the other casualties in K Company.

Thank you for the picture "Planning an attack." Who took the picture? Are you sure that's me? Even without seeing your face, your picture is just like I remember you--slender and alert. By the way, what is the object I am holding in my right hand. It appears that several of the fellows have them hanging on their belts. Could they be grenades to be launched from rifles, or maybe flashers?? Very interesting to me that you "chose not to accept a battle field commission. Nevertheless, your great service as a Staff Sgt. was of much benefit to the men and to K Company.

I can hardly wait to have you share experiences you had with me and the first hand information you had of K Co. Casualties.

After release from service, we moved to Pratt, Kansas (where I was born and raised). For 3 years I was employed in sales with

a dealer in Dodge and Plymouth cars and Minneapolis-Moline Farm machinery. Then I chose a career in the life insurance business with MONY (Mutual Of New York.) Several years later I changed to Fidelity Union Life of Dallas, TX. after we moved to San Diego CA area. I partially retired in 1985 and fully retired and moved to Sisters Oregon, just this year.

I close with repeating that the contact with you and Tibby is going to be one of my highlights since the war. Please send your next installment soon. We will be in France, Belgium and The Netherlands this Sept. 3 to 23 on a repeat tour of "Old Hickory" people that we had 5 years ago. We fly from our home here to Los Angeles where we get on KLM plane to Amsterdam. Machine Gun Sergeant Henry Wacker and wife will be with us at Los Angeles. Did he phone you? I gave him your phone number.

Kind personal regards

  
Marvin Smith

P.S: I WONT BE ANSWERING YOU AGAIN UNTIL AFTER THIS TRIP TO EUROPE. Wish you were going with us. The other time 5 years ago pne of the highlights was a visit to St. Jean de Daye. They gave us a royal welcome with band, school children let out of school and gave each of our ladies a bouquet of flowers from their gardens, then apple pie, apple juice, apple etc. with a speech by the Mayor--the whole town turned out to greet us. Men and women were dressed in their Sunday best. One Frenchman came up and gave me a big hug! They were thanking us for their liberation! This time we also go there and will have much free time, so I plan to explore the canal area and find old foxholes, etc.!

Thanks for the interesting letters of Lt. Nash, Merle Sheen, Red (Tom Gossard) and newspaper article about you--Dec. 1985.