

Aug 23, 1990

Tuscon, AZ

Dear Ivan,

Well I got the photos copied and they came out O.K. They are from a book on our unit published after WW2. I was in the 406th Squadron from June to Oct. 1944. I recall his bail-out and rescue and am glad that you and your crew were there to save him. He did take a bit of good natured ribbing though about the manner in which he got his purple heart – “Hit in the eye by a boat hook by a friendly service man?”

Bob was a swell guy, a good fighter pilot who loved to fly. I served with him later at Elgin AFB Florida in 1955 – 1958 and got to know him better. We had many enjoyable times on cook-outs and out water skiing.

We were also together in the Pentagon in 1959 – 1960 or 61 and it was there that he had surgery for cancer in the intestinal area and sometime in 1960-61 I had been on leave and on my return discovered that Bob had died.

I hope you all have a good reunion and I know that when you tip your glasses to Bob – somewhere he will know and I’m sure he would be with you if he were here today.

Good luck and thanks for caring.

L.D. Damewood