



Ernest Lee Rasnake (Pee Wee)

Army Air Force Corporal, 366th Fighter Squadron. Enlisted on May 21, 1942. His qualification was the MKM carbine. His specialty was clerk typist. His service school was A.A.F.T.S. Airplane Mechanics.

His overseas record was the Ardennes, Central Europe, Air Offensive Europe, Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland. He received Six Battle Stars; the Good Conduct Medal; Eastern Service Ribbon; the distinguished Unit Badge with the Oak Leaf cluster to the Unit Badge.

After his discharge, September 13, 1945, Ernest married Mildred Stoots of Lebanon. He worked at the Russell County Courthouse as a Deputy Treasurer. Later he worked at the St. Paul First National Bank as an Operational Officer until his retirement.

Father of two children: Allen Lee Rasnake and Dianne Lambert. Also, three grandchildren: Christian Rasnake, Cory Maxwell and Morgan Maxwell Hayden and one great grandson, Michael.

Mildred passed away in February 1990.

-A Tribute to World War II Veterans of Russell County Virginia. Historical Society of Russell Co., Va., 1999.

Although not verified, it is believed that Ernest was a son of Leonard Rasnake and Cora Rasnake. Cora was a daughter of Stephen Rasnake and Sara E. Kiser. Stephen was a son of Elijah Rasnake and Martha Hobbs. Elijah was a son of Jacob Rasnake, Jr., and Judith Finney. Jacob, Jr., was a son of German soldier Jacob Ruehrschneck.

Leonard Rasnake was a son of Henry Clay Rasnick and Emily J. Musick. Henry Clay was a son of Jonas Rasnick and Rachael LaForce. Jonas was a son of German soldier Jacob Ruehrschneck.