

McLean County Museum of History

Eugene L. Manahan Collection

Processed by Torii Moré
June 2011

Collection Information

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| VOLUME OF COLLECTION: | 1 box |
| COLLECTION DATES: | 1919-1945 |
| RESTRICTIONS: | None |
| REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: | Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History |
| ALTERNATIVE FORMATS: | None |
| OTHER FINDING AIDS: | None |
| LOCATION: | Archives |
| NOTES: | none |

Historical Sketch

Lester Eugene Manahan was born to Benton and Lillie Manahan in Arrowsmith, Illinois, August 30, 1919. Eugene graduated from Saybrook High School in 1938, enlisted in 1940, and graduated from Army Air Corps training in May 1942. On December 5 of that year the cargo plane he co-piloted crashed in Greenland. The crew— Manahan and four others—was never found. They radioed base three times after the crash informing them they were all alive, but batteries ran out November 12. After 30 days the search was abandoned because the plane was reported to have only two days' rations and no heat. Two years later the Army reported that it was the only aircraft lost in Greenland and still unaccounted for.

Scope Note

This collection contains newspaper clippings, a diploma, certificates, a yearbook, and other documents belonging to Eugene Manahan.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Personal Documents

- 1.1 Gift Agreement, June 6, 2011, donated by Robert E. Handley
- 1.2 Business Cards- Eugene L. Manahan, Sergeant Pilot Army Air Forces
- 1.3 Chauffeur licenses (1936, 1937)
- 1.4 Baby Book for Lester Eugene Manahan
- 1.5 County Clerk Birth Record for Lester Eugene Manahan
- 1.6 Baptismal Certificate for Lester Eugene Manahan
- 1.7 Saybrook Area Obituaries- Sgt. Eugene Manahan & Pvt. Ralph Bowen

Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings

- 2.1 "Learn Details of Flyer's Death" December 30, 1945, the *Pantagraph*
- 2.2 "Saybrook Man Listed As Dead"
- 2.3 "Saybrook Notes"
- 2.4 "Son May Be Alive"
- 2.5 "Reported Missing"
- 2.6 "Five Saybrook Boys Missing in Action"
- 2.7 "Downstate Men Win Wings at Flying Schools"
- 2.8 "Saybrook Cardinals Take Their Second Tournament of Season"
- 2.9 "Tri-Valley Leaders Come Through in Annual County Short Pants Classic"

Folder 3: High School Graduation

- 3.1 Saybrook Community High School Diploma
- 3.2 Invitation for Saybrook Community High School commencement

Folder 4: Flight Class 42-E

- 4.1 Flight class yearbook

Folder 5: Certificate & Log Book

- 5.1 Eugene's Pilot Flight Record and Log Book
- 5.2 Certificate in memory of Eugene L. Manahan