

NO PHOTO Stansell, L.B.

Oklahoma City, OK

321<sup>st</sup> Eng Combat Batt Co B

L.B. Stansell was born December 18, 1912. L.B. was the eldest son of Lester B. and Lucy Lee Stansell. Together with his sister, Drue, and brother, Jack, L.B. spent a happy childhood in his birthplace of Duncan, OK. L.B. was the grandson of Oklahoma pioneers, Lilla and Henry B. Tussy. Henry B. came to Oklahoma as a cowboy on the Chisholm Trail. He married Lilla Colbert, the granddaughter of Civil War era Chickasaw Chief Winchester Colbert. Together, Henry and Lilla built one of the biggest ranches in early day Oklahoma. L.B. began his successful business career, washing windows in the Duncan TG&Y.

After graduating high school, L.B. began his lifelong work in the oil industry, learning the business from the bottom up. The outbreak of WWII found L.B. in Panama drilling water wells. His induction deferred until this important work was finished. L.B. entered the U.S. Army and served with honor and distinction during the invasion of the Philippines and throughout the campaign in the Pacific.

After the war, L.B. and his first wife, Lucille, began raising twin daughters, Lucy Lee, and Rhocille, while L.B. continued his career in the oil industry first moving to Louisiana with his brother, Jack and his wife, living with his sister, Drue and her husband, Bill Watkins. He was an area manager for Johnston Testers, a subsidiary of Schlumberger, Vice-president of Cummings Oil, MCM Industries Manager, and eventually L.B. became co-owners with Charles Thomas of Monarch Testers. L.B. was energetic and involved in business well into his 80's. L.B. married the love of his life, Betty (Jacque) Tilley, in 1963. Together they shared life's joys and sorrows for 44 years making their home in Oklahoma City. The story of L.B. Stansell is the story of Oklahoma. Men and women like him built the foundation we stand on today. A lifelong member of the American Legion and a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Tribe, L.B. was unique and irreplaceable. He is much loved and will be profoundly missed by those that knew him.

L.B. is survived by his wife, Betty (Jacque); nieces, Sally Watkins Ware and Lougene Watkins Oliver; nephews, Gary Mark and Jack Tussy Stansell, Jr., and Jack Tussy's wife Jane. A special thanks to Heartland Hospice for their care and dedication - and most importantly to his caregiver, Akasha Rogers/Coleman, for making L.B.'s final days peaceful and serene. Services will be held 2:00 p.m., Friday, Resurrection Memorial Cemetery Chapel.