

TEFL 2nd Lt PETER PHILLIP IGOE - Navigator of B-24 Liberator "Spare Parts" on mission from Attlebridge, Norfolk, UK. Killed in Action 18 July 1944 Saint-Pair-sur-Mer, Manche, France

Peter Phillip Igoe was born on June 3 1923 and celebrated his 21st birthday in England in June 1944. He was the fourth child and first son of Mary ("Mamie") and William Igoe, hard-working Irish Catholics from the far Westside of Chicago. Peter was raised as a strict Catholic and he carried that upbringing into adulthood - honest, faithful and true.

As a child he was playful but a bit shy. Someone called him 'Petey Dink' as a young lad and he loved that nickname. He was a brilliant student, near genius level at mathematics - and a very hard worker.

The good Sisters at a school named Our Lady Help of Christians taught him K-7 but he finished 8th grade at another Catholic school named Saint Angela's. He went to to public High School at Chicago's Austin High School and then on to the revered and fine old DePaul Catholic University in Chicago.

He must have met Katie O'Brien, his fiance (now known as Catherine O. Jacobson from Spokane Valley, Washington), late in High School, or maybe early in his College days. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps voluntarily when he had just completed his *sophomore year at DePaul.

Katie was a **soda-jerk at Walgreens and Pete was a ***bagboy at a retail store next door to Walgreen's. Love at first sight! She says she has a picture of herself from around 1941 at the soda fountain. ****Word is that she was a total ***babe. Pete was known to be fond of the ladies who liked him too. He was a handsome 'dark Irishman', quick-witted and athletic. He loved ice-hockey and attended many Blackhawk ice hockey games at the old "Madhouse on Madison" (Chicago Stadium, long gone).

Katie (Catherine) is now 92 years old and in poor health but her mind is still crystal clear. She still chokes up when talking about Pete but she did marry and had five children.

Remaining letters give us more information about Pete. An official letter from Washington to his mother states that he was recovered dead on 18 July 1944 when his aircraft crash-landed near Granville, France. Four crew members were killed in this crash. One of the crew members who survived, Robert D Fox, wrote to Pete's mother in November 1944 - "Pete was the best friend I ever had. He was a good soldier and won the respect of all of us. As a navigator he was the best, and as the plane was going down he was tearing and destroying all of his equipment that might have been used by the enemy. He was a son to be proud of."

2nd Lt Peter Igoe is buried in Bayeux War Cemetery, France

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We are indebted to Mr James Bernard Moore, nephew of Lt Peter Igoe, who
has provided this information. May 16 2017

#For details of the crash see Patrick Courault's History of Saint-Pair
book Tome 2