



*In Their Memory*

# American WWII Orphans Network

[www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org)



Ardennes WWII Cemetery and Memorial, Neupre (Neuville-en-Condroz), Belgium  
Photo credit: American Battle Monuments Commission

## ★ AMERICAN WWII ORPHANS NETWORK FACT SHEET

Founded in 1991 by Ann Bennett Mix and headquartered in Indianapolis, IN, the American WWII Orphans Network (AWON) is a nonprofit organization comprised of the Sons and Daughters of Americans killed or missing in World War II. AWON's mission is to locate and support American orphans of World War II and to honor the service and sacrifice of our fathers, and of all veterans.

More than a million fathers served in World War II. Leaving their wives and children, they traveled overseas, where many paid the highest price in service to their country. The deaths of more than 406,000 men left an estimated 183,000 American children fatherless. Most are now in their fifties and sixties, and many are unaware that so many others share the same condition.

AWON has located almost 3,000 sons and daughters of men who were killed, as well as many other family members. The organization has received national recognition by military, government and veterans groups, with the founder invited to breakfast at the White House to witness the signing of the contract to begin construction of the National World War II Memorial on Memorial Day 2001. National and local conferences have brought members together across the nation, from Washington, DC to Seattle, Washington, and they have created a computer network of active, sharing individuals from all over the U.S. Members report that participation in the network has had a profound impact on their lives.

The American WWII Orphans Network provides the following:

- A Registry of Orphans & Families of WWII Casualties
- *National, Regional and Local Conferences and Gatherings*
- Guidance to Locating Information From Military and Government Records
- Publications, including ***The Star*** Newsletter
- On-line Network Communication Among American WWII Orphans
- AWON Website, Including a *Members-Only* Section
- Website Memorials to Our Fathers

AWON publishes a quarterly newsletter, ***The Star***. Founder Ann Mix has published a resource book called ***Touchstones: A Guide to Records, Rights and Resources for Families of American World War II Casualties***. She also co-authored ***Lost in the Victory: Reflections of American Orphans of World War II*** with Susan Johnson Hadler, a psychologist and war orphan. The book is a collection of interviews with war orphans.

If you would like to become a member of AWON, or to just register yourself and your veteran in our database and request a complimentary copy of our newsletter, you can go to our website at [www.awon.org](http://www.awon.org) or contact:

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