

LaHive, Paul Augustine

Paul LaHive was born on February 26, 1917 in Quincy, MA, the middle of three children. His father was a bookbinder; the 1910 census notes that he was in the business with two of his brothers.

Paul grew up a block from Wollaston Beach in Quincy, and graduated from North Quincy High School, where he was known as "Curly," in 1935. He appeared to have brains, brawn, and leadership ability, since he played football, made the honor roll, and chaired the Class Day Committee.

He found work as a commercial artist in advertising (per the 1940 census). He registered for the draft on October 16, 1940, and on September 3, 1942, he married Rose Kathleen Foster, a Wollaston neighbor. Less than three weeks later he enlisted. At that time, his occupation was categorized as "decorators and window dressers." But he must have already made up his mind to join the Quincy police force, since he was appointed a regular reserve officer on June 23, 1943, while he was stationed at Fort Meade with the 603rd Engineer Camouflage Battalion.

Paul served in Europe with the unit and was discharged on September 21, 1945. Back in Quincy he became a patrolman on the police force, and gradually worked his way up the ladder.

He and Rose would go on to have four children: James, Patricia, Susan, and Karen. (Two of them would become physicians.) By 1954, Paul was a sergeant, and by the late 1950s a lieutenant. In 1957 he and a fellow lieutenant, Francis X. Finn, were both appointed administrative assistants to the Quincy chief of police. He and Finn were both on a fast track, though Finn was younger, and their careers would be intertwined.

In April, 1961 Paul finished first in the captain's exam and Francis Finn finished second; both were promoted to captain. In 1966, when they took the civil service exam for eligibility for promotion to department chief, Finn topped the list and Paul finished second. By 1967, Captain Finn was chief of police and Captain LaHive was head of the Quincy detective bureau.

Paul was embroiled in controversy in 1971 when he publicly alleged that many law enforcement officials, including police chiefs, were "on the take" from organized crime. Chief Finn relieved him of his duties as head of the detective bureau a day or two later. Paul was reading Chief Finn's statement to the members of his department when he collapsed with a heart attack.

He was interviewed from his hospital bed, saying that he planned to have a press conference as soon as he received the medical OK. But then the whole brouhaha seemed to die down.

The following year Chief Finn was a finalist for the job of Boston police commissioner, but he withdrew from consideration in order to stay on the job in Quincy. Paul might have become chief if Finn had left; he served briefly as acting chief in 1974, and in 1975 was still a Quincy police captain serving under Chief Finn.

Paul retired sometime after that, and died on November 11, 1988. (Chief Finn retired in 1990.)

Photo

1935 high school yearbook (see link below)

Sources

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[Source](#)

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Landry, Albert

NOTE: The second of the two records in the roster lists a NY residence; the 23rd officers roster from which it comes lists the address as 373 Bloocher Street. There is no such street. But I found a 1948 record of an Albert Landry traveling from NYC to LeHavre with a NYC address of 373 Bleecker Street. (Obviously the correct and well-known street name.) The travel data (including Albert's age) matches the info in an obituary of an Albert Landry who "participated in the D-Day invasion" (a common misstatement in GA obituaries) and who graduated from Columbia in 1948 and went to study art in France (thus the 1948 ship date). And the birthdate of this Albert Landry (per the obituary) matches draft and enlistment records of a NY Albert Landry who changed his name in 1940 from Albert E. Levine. The middle initial of "M" in the roster record seems to be an error.

In the NARA records, there are only 3 Albert Landry's who enlisted in NYC--and only one of those was born in New York (the other two were born in New England and had a middle initial J).

Albert Landry was born Albert Edward Levine in Brooklyn, New York on October 9, 1915. He was one of two children, and his parents were both born in Russia. At the time of the 1940 census, he was still in college, and working as a salesman in an artists' store. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Columbia University, he found work as a commercial artist. In the summer of 1940 he changed his name to Albert Landry (per his Social Security record), and his draft registration from October 16, 1940 shows the name change (Levine crossed out, Landry written in, and signatures in both names).

He enlisted in the Army on December 27, 1941, and served as an officer with the Ghost Army in Europe. His obituary states that he "participated in the D-Day invasion in the European theatre."

After returning to New York, he earned a Master's degree in art history from Columbia University in 1948, and then traveled to Paris to study painting at Académie Fernand Léger, and to work as assistant director for Galerie Villand-Gallanis in Paris until 1954. (Fellow Ghost Army veteran Chris Lawless was also a student at the Académie during part of his time there.)

After returning to the US, he served as director of special projects for Associated American Artists from 1954-1959, and president of Albert Landry Galleries from 1959-1963. He was then hired to direct the J. L. Hudson Gallery at the downtown branch of Hudson's Department Store in Detroit; while there, he also served as an advisor to the Detroit Institute of Arts. He was in Detroit from 1963-1967; a newspaper article about him in 1965 discusses his own collections: "His table-top collection of art includes the little things that have struck his fancy in small antique shops all over the world. They include the figure of Christ broken from an old Spanish cross, glazed pottery perfume bottles from Mexico, a door knocker from the ruins of Pompeii, and a miniature Greek horse."

He then became vice-president of Marlborough Galleries in New York (headquartered in London) and later advisor and curator for the London Arts Group. He served as publisher and distributor of original graphics and multiples for Nabis Fine Arts of New York until 1974. An associate for the Gruenbaum Gallery of New York from 1977-1980, he continued working as a private dealer and a consultant for major corporate clients including Avon, Ford, Smith Barney, and US Steel. He was also a consultant and associate for Landry-Settles Inc. and the David Settles Gallery Ltd. in Houston, TX, and was affiliated with Stephen P. Edlich & Co. until 1986.

One of his favorite premises was that "Americans need more art in their streets. In Europe, one is constantly turning a corner and running into some fine statuary in

parks or public squares. The common man knows them all, and has the opportunity to see and enjoy them constantly."

In 1975, he married Suzanne Ames, a fascinating woman in her own right. Suzanne was born in Chicago and grew up in Akron, Ohio. She was an honor student at her girls' Catholic high school, but ballet was her love, and she moved to New York at the age of 17 where she auditioned for, and won a place at, the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. She also appeared in numerous Hollywood films as a dancer, and danced off and on until the mid-70s.

She was also an executive of Atlanta's Performing Arts Center and head of a US State Department cultural exchange program with Brazil. Then she went into music publishing where she became a copyright specialist, finishing out her career as VP for EMI Music Publishing in New York.

After Albert retired, he and Suzanne moved to Saratoga Springs.

Albert died on May 13, 2001.

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2008 Biography of his wife, Suzanne Ames Landry

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Latini, Alfred H.

Alfred Henry Latini was born on May 2, 1921 in Sayre, Pennsylvania. His parents were both born in Italy, and he was the 5th of 7 children.

He graduated from Sayre High School and went on to study at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. His studies were interrupted after two years or so; he was drafted on February 15, 1942 (where his draft form indicates he is a Pratt student) and enlisted on March 14, 1943. He was promoted to PFC in May.

He was overseas with the Ghost Army from May 2, 1944-July 2, 1945, and discharged from the Army with the rank of T-5 on November 19, 1945.

A September 1944 article in *The Evening Times* (Sayre NJ) says that "PFC Albert Latini, in France, says his experiences are interesting--too interesting to get by the censor. We should think they were."

Three of his brothers were also in the service during World War II.

In June 1946 he received his degree from Pratt.

He married Lillian Cilento in October 1953 in her hometown of Paterson, New Jersey, and that's where the newlyweds settled. He and Lily would go on to have two children.

Al worked as a commercial artist for the advertising agency Riedl and Freed from some time after its founding in 1950 to some time in the mid-sixties, when he went to work as an illustrator for Kearfott, a New Jersey defense equipment manufacturer. At the time he went to work for them, they were the largest airborne computer producer in the US. He stayed there until his retirement.

His daughter, who also found work as a graphic designer, was quoted in his obituary as follows: "When I was a kid, he used to paint. He was always in the basement painting. I would go downstairs and watch him and that's how I got interested in art. I used to watch him mixing his paints and I wanted to do it, too."

He was a member of Riverside Veterans of Hawthorne.

He died on April 21, 2004 and was buried in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Totowa, New Jersey. His Ghost Army friend, Tom Cuffari, said of him that he was a "well-liked and highly respected man."

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LaTourette, Charles Edward "Ed"

Ed LaTourette was born on July 24, 1909 in Oregon City, OR, the older of two sons. According to a 1956 article in the *Portland Oregonian*, Ed was "a third-generation member of a prominent family in banking, business, and politics in Clackamas County." His father was a bank president, his uncle was chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, and two other uncles were attorneys in Portland.

He attended the University of Oregon where he was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. After leaving university in 1931 he got a job in banking and on June 22, 1932 he married MaBelle Grace Whitcomb.

Ed worked his way up in the banking world, becoming the assistant manager of the Oregon City branch of the First National Bank of Oregon by the time the war intervened.

He registered for the draft on October 16, 1940, and enlisted on March 15, 1944. By that time, he and MaBelle had become the parents of three: Evelyn, Lesley Ann, and Edward.

Ed was noted as a member of the 3133 Signal Service Company in September, 1944. It is not known if or how long he stayed with the unit, but he arrived home from his European service on June 17, 1945 with the 86th Division. (They were the first combat division to arrive back in the US after the war.) After a 30-day furlough, he was sent to the Philippines, one of the few Oregon men to serve both in Europe and the South Pacific.

Ed likely returned to banking after the war; he also worked for a while as an associate of his brother, Linwood LaTourette, in a petroleum distribution agency. He was a champion golfer until a crippling attack of polio in 1954 forced him to give up golf. (A Portland *Oregonian* article from that year reports that he was the 13th polio victim of the year in Clackamas County.)

Ed eventually entered politics, serving on the Oregon City School Board with a term as chairman, and winning an election to the position of county judge in 1954. He was the last to hold that job since the county commission form of government came into force during his term of office. He was re-elected in 1960 and named as chairman of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners.

He was a member of the Atkinson Memorial Congregational Church, the Oregon City Elks Lodge, and various civic organizations. He was a past president of the Chamber of Commerce.

He died of a heart attack on February 10, 1963 and is buried at Mountain View Cemetery in Oregon City.

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Lawless, Christopher Leo

Chris Lawless was born on June 11, 1917 in Bridgeport, CT, the oldest of five children. His father was a clerk at the Remington Arms munitions factory in Bridgeport.

By 1930 the family was living in German Flatts in central New York state, and Chris' father (also Chris) was secretary at a cash register plant in Ilion, NY. It was likely the Remington Cash Register Company, a subsidiary of Remington Arms.

Young Chris graduated from Ilion High School in 1934. Not too long after that the family moved back to Connecticut, where Chris Sr. took a job as an investigator/social worker for the welfare office in the city of Bridgeport. Chris Jr. had first worked as an assembler at GE, but by 1940 had gotten a job as a commercial artist/sign painter. When he registered for the draft, on October 16, 1940, he was working as a poster designer for Murphy, Inc. an outdoor advertising firm.

In April, 1941, Chris Sr. was the victim of a homicide. He had been reported missing by his family on April 4, his car was found abandoned in NY on April 7, and his body found by teenagers on the banks of the Housatonic River on April 15 with signs indicating his skull had been fractured with a hammer. His briefcase, containing his welfare reports, and his wallet were both missing. Five years later, a *Hartford Courant* article described his murder, and noted that it remained unsolved.

It must have been a blow for the family when both Chris and his brother, two years younger, enlisted, leaving their mother alone to manage a household with three teenage children. Chris enlisted on November 7, 1942 and was assigned to the 603rd Engineer Camouflage Battalion. He saw service in Europe with the unit during the war.

In 1950, likely through the GI Bill, he had the opportunity to study modern painting for a year or two at the Académie Fernand Léger in Paris. His mother had died in June, 1950, and perhaps that provided the impetus to pursue the dream of his youth; he left for Europe two months later. Fellow Ghost Army veteran Albert Landry was at the Académie at the same time.

After he returned, he took up his art career with gusto. He had his own studio in Connecticut for a few years, and also worked as art director at Moore & Co. in Greenwich. In 1957, he took a position as VP and art director at Ormsbee Associates, an advertising agency in Milford.

In 1961 he married Bessie Eliopoulous and they took up residence in Trumbull, CT.

In 1963, Chris left Ormsbee and opened his own commercial art studio in Bridgeport; a business he ran successfully until his retirement in 1981.

His obituary reports that "he loved jazz music, golf, travel, and the beauty of nature, always taking the scenic route. He was a generous soul who accepted everyone and saw good in everything."

He died on February 16, 2007 at the age of 89, and is buried at Lakeview Cemetery in Bridgeport, CT.

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Lawrence, Victor Edward

Victor Lawrence was born on September 18, 1917, in Madison, OH, and grew up in Cleveland. He was the only child of his parents, but he also had a half-brother

and a stepsister who do not appear listed with the family in the 1920 or 1930 census records.

Victor graduated from high school and may also have had a year of college. He married Annabell Elizabeth "Betty" Kirkland on April 8, 1939. At the time of the 1940 census, he and Betty were living in Cleveland and he was working as a shipping clerk at a production company. He registered for the draft later that year, on October 16. He enlisted on July 19, 1943, at which time his profession was given as stenographer/typist (probably a clerk's job similar to the one he had in 1940).

Victor was a member of the Ghost Army, but it is not known to which unit he belonged. He does not show up on any of the extant records, but he was interviewed about his wartime experience a few months after his discharge for an article in the February 21, 1946 issue of the *Dayton Herald* (OH). In that article, entitled "Ghost Army Kept Germans Busy, Former Private Says," he detailed all of the activities of the major units of the 23rd, including inflatable tanks, sound deception, radio messages, and special effects.

Victor and Betty would go on to have three sons: Bruce, Brian, and Douglas. Victor would have a 40-year career in the operation of family pet shops and the manufacture of pet supplies. He retired as director of marketing for Nedyco in Bethesda, MD, and then started up a business as an antique dealer in Gettysburg, PA.

He was a member of an independent Baptist church, the Millersville chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the VFW, the Knights of Pythias, and the Republican National Committee.

He died on January 20, 2000 in Lancaster, PA, where he and Betty were living at the time of his death, and is buried at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery in East Hanover Township, PA.

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Lawson, Norman Selby "Lawsie"

Norman Lawson was born on May 10, 1917 in Millsboro, DE, the oldest of five children; his father was a carpenter, working in construction, and his family had roots in Delaware going back to the 18th century. Norman graduated from high school, and in 1940 was working in retail sales. He enlisted in the National Guard, Coast Artillery Corps, on January 27, 1941, and married Marie Thomas on November 26.

He was a Staff SGT in the 828 CA Battery until some time in 1943 or so when many of the younger and able-bodied men who worked in the Coastal Artillery units were transferred to fight in the European Theatre or the Pacific.

He served as an administrative NCO with the rank of T/3 in the 23rd Headquarters Company, and came home from Europe in the summer of 1945. He was discharged on August 28, 1945 and registered for the draft (an administrative formality) on September 7, 1945.

He and Marie settled in Milton, DE and in 1946 they bought a piece of land containing a filling station. Several other land purchases were recorded in 1948 and 1950. They went on to raise a family of five children: Gary, Linda, Jerry, Rick, and Tom. Norman's son Gary's obituary says that Gary considered his childhood home "a utopia in the big house on the hill in Milton." Little is known about Norman's career, but he did serve as a Town Councilman for a number of years in the 1960s, and was still on the Milton Town Council at the time of his premature death on September 28, 1967. He is buried at Henlopen Memorial Park in Milton, DE.

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Laynor, Harold Arthur

See Levinsky, Harold Arthur.

Leech, Walter Leroy

Walter Leech was born on September 2, 1921 in Morenci, Michigan, a small town on the Ohio border. He was the second of nine children.

He was a star at Morenci High School: serving as president of the senior class, winning the American Legion Citizenship Medal, playing end on the football team, and in 1939, the year of his graduation, setting the Lenawee County half mile record at 2 minutes 9.9 seconds.

He would go on to study radio engineering at Michigan State University. While at Michigan State he registered for the draft on February 16, 1942, and enlisted on August 18, 1942. At the time of his enlistment as a private in the Signal Corps he was employed as an unskilled auto worker, presumably a summer job. He was sent to Chicago to pursue his military training.

He eventually ended up in the 3133rd Signal Service Company and saw service in Italy during the war.

He was released from the army on May 14, 1946, with the rank of T/5. After completing any necessary undergraduate requirements, he attended law school at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

During this period he also worked as a Special Agent with the FBI for five years.

On May 5, 1951 he married Harriet Ann "Jay" Downing; they would go on to have two daughters.

Walter passed the bar in 1957, and in 1958 the family moved to Flint, Michigan where he practiced law for 25 years. He capped off his career with an appointment as a Federal Administrative Law Judge.

After retiring he occupied himself as a gentleman farmer at his home in Durand, raising and showing horses with his wife. Jay was, apparently, the horse expert--having authored a book entitled *How to Care For Your Horse*. (She also was the author or co-author of four children's books.)

He died on February 2, 2010, and is buried at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

Photo

In judge's robes

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Leo, Nicholas Lewis

Nick Leo was born on August 24, 1922 in Brooklyn, NY, the oldest of five children. Both of his parents were immigrants from Calabria, Italy. The family moved to Farmingdale, NY sometime during Nick's childhood, and he graduated from Farmingdale High School in 1940. Nick started playing the accordion about the time he started high school, a skill he would practice and perfect for at least 80 years to come.

When he registered for the draft, on June 30, 1942, he was working at Republic Aviation in Farmingdale. When he enlisted a few months later, on November 10, his enlistment record reported that he had one year of college and his profession was "semiskilled occupation in building of aircraft."

He was part of the Signal Company Special with the Ghost Army. He was one of a small number of Ghost Army soldiers who landed in Normandy as part of the D-Day landings. While stationed in France, he met his future wife, Pierrette Muller. After the war he came back to France to marry her—on December 22, 1945 in Homecourt, France with German POWs as witnesses. Nick and Pierrette settled in Bethpage, NY and went on to have five children.

Nick earned his Associate's degree from Farmingdale State College in 1948. He combined his previous work experience building aircraft with his skill as an artist when he got a job in the Art Department at Grumman Corporation, where he spent five years.

His daughter Michele reports that Nick had joined the Naval Reserve after the war, and served as a radio man on the USS Gatling 671 during the Korean War.

She also reports that his professional work fell into three categories: he was employed as a musician, an artist, and an architect/builder at various points in his career.

As an accordionist he was a daily regular on the Eddie Bracken Radio Show; appeared on the Ozark Jubilee Show in Springfield, MO; and played in various clubs on Long Island and in New York City.

As an artist, he did display work, signs, silk screens, and logos.

As an architect/builder, he designed and built three car dealerships on Long Island and a catering hall.

His hobbies stemmed from all these areas and more—painting, music, building model ships and planes, building furniture, Morse code, learning languages, running, cooking, gardening, and winemaking. Nick loved to learn; he studied Chinese at Molloy College in Rockville Center, and AutoCAD at Suffolk Community College in Brentwood.

He was a member of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 802 (Greater New York).

Finally, Michele says that her father is "most proud of his marriage of 74 years to his wife, Pierrette, along with their five children and families." His relationship with Pierrette was a long and happy one; she died in 2020.

Nick died on May 18, 2022, three months before what would have been his 100th birthday.

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2021 (March 2) Ghost Army Legacy Project Veteran Bio Worksheet from daughter, Michele Leo

Lett, Kenneth Pickering

Kenneth Lett was born on August 2, 1916 in Racine, OH, the second of nine children born in four different states. His father was a construction engineer. One of his brothers died in his teens from illness, and a younger brother was born paraplegic.

By 1930 the family was living in Columbia, PA; they supplemented their income by renting rooms to three boarders.

Kenneth enlisted in the Army on June 20, 1935, at the age of 18, and was stationed in California and Hawaii. His family had moved to West Virginia, and, with six children, was struggling a bit financially during the depression. So, after his discharge on March 4, 1938, he moved in with his aunt and uncle in New Boston, OH, and returned to high school to earn his diploma.

He was still a student at Glenwood High School in New Boston when he registered for the draft on October 16, 1940. After graduating in 1941, he enlisted (the second time) on March 6, 1942 and was stationed at Camp Barkeley in Texas. There he met a young woman from Arlington, TX named Mamie Francis Marshall and they were married in Fort Worth on December 2, 1942. They would go on to have two children: Kenneth Jr. and Nancy.

Kenneth served in Europe in the Signal Company Special and earned the rank of Master SGT. He became ill in the last days of the war and was released on August 20, 1945 and sent home. His daughter recounts that "when he arrived in what was then a small Texas town between Dallas and Fort Worth known as Arlington, they stopped the train, something they never did, to let one of the first returning soldiers get off at his hometown. As he walked the eight blocks to his wife and baby's home, the people along the street started calling my grandmother's house to tell them he was walking their way. Townsfolk, farm people, all came out to greet this Ohio kid, married to a Texas girl, and the first veteran back in their town."

Kenneth went to work at Armour & Co. Meat Packing in Fort Worth as an industrial engineer. He later worked for Neuhoff Beef in Dallas; he recalled watching out the window as President Kennedy's limousine sped to Parkland Hospital after the shooting. Later he worked as a private industrial engineering consultant in the Dallas area until he retired at the age of 62.

Kenneth was also a cattle rancher, and, like many Signal Company vets, enjoyed short-wave radio in his spare time.

His son Kenneth Jr. followed his father's footsteps into the military, serving two tours of duty with the Air Force in Vietnam with Operation Ranch Hand on the Agent Orange planes, and, like his father, earning the rank of SGT. He received

100% disability from Agent Orange-related health issues some years later, and was part of the research group at the Scripps Clinic that the Air Force conducted for many years.

Kenneth Sr. died in February 1989 in Arlington, and is buried at Old Arlington Cemetery. His daughter eulogizes him: "He was a good husband, a good father, and a good soldier, and lived an honorable life."

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2022 (February 3) GALP Veteran Biography Worksheet from daughter Nancy Lett

2022 (February 27) email from daughter Nancy Lett to Catherine Hurst

Levine, Albert

See Landry, Albert.

Levinsky, Harold Arthur

Hal Laynor was born Harold Arthur Levinsky on January 10, 1922 in New York City, the older of two boys. His father worked at a theatre, early on as a doorman and later as a theatre manager.

He got his start in art at age 13, when he traded a stamp collection for a friend's set of paints. He went on to study art at Parsons, graduating before he joined the Army. He registered for the draft on June 30, 1942, and enlisted on October 26, 1942, at which time he said he was a commercial artist. He married Gloria Silberman on October 1, 1943.

He served in the 603rd Engineer Camouflage Battalion, and was wounded during Operation Bouzonville on March 12, 1945, the Ghost Army's deadliest day. A hunk of shrapnel was lodged in his back, and he was sent to Paris for treatment of the infected wound.

Rick Beyer picks up the story in *The Ghost Army of World War II*: "He was recuperating in a Paris hospital when painter Pablo Picasso visited the ward. Struck by Laynor's interest in his work, Picasso invited the young artist to visit him in his studio. 'I found Picasso wonderful and it's not difficult to see why he is the top figure in the art world today,' wrote Laynor to his wife, Gloria. 'My visit to his studio and working with him greatly inspires me to continue with my painting.' Laynor later said that Picasso exerted a major influence on his painting style."

After his discharge from the Army as a Staff SGT, and possibly inspired by his wife's career as a math teacher, Hal went back to school on the GI bill to pursue both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in art education at NYU, finishing that round of academic work in 1947.

He also went on creating art, including a series of World War II paintings based on wartime sketches and watercolors.

In 1947 he was hired as assistant art supervisor in the Poughkeepsie, NY school system; and was later promoted to supervisor. He spent 10 years in the Poughkeepsie system during which time he was awarded several fellowships which he used to finance his pursuit of painting--these included an award from the Louis

Comfort Tiffany Foundation in 1954, a Huntington Hartford Foundation fellowship in 1956, and a Guggenheim fellowship. He also received a painting award from the Audubon Artists of America.

Along the way, he and Gloria became the parents of three children: Lois, Mark, and Dennis.

In 1957, he took a job as associate director of art education in the New York state department of education, focusing on elementary and junior high art programs. While living in Albany, he went back to school and received a doctorate in art education from SUNY Albany in 1966. That fall he joined the faculty at Millersville University in Millersville, PA where he would spend the next 24 years. He taught both undergraduate and graduate courses and served as chairman of both the university's art department and the cultural affairs committee.

Over his art career, he created more than 8,000 works. According to his obituary, "while he used the conventional oils, watercolors, and acrylics, he also incorporated linoleum, seashells, and even lightbulbs. Using yarn led to his series of 'stitched' paintings, which garnered Laynor numerous accolades. Laynor also produced a series of paintings designed for the sight-impaired. . . . These were done in high relief, so that they could be explored with the fingertips." He was also recognized for pioneering the use of lacquer as a painting medium.

In 1979 he suffered a heart attack which inspired him to create the "Cardiac Series," a set of watercolors reflecting his feelings towards his own heart after the attack.

Hal's work has been exhibited in many important galleries and his paintings have been collected by the Museum of Modern Art, the Everson Museum, Exxon, Monsanto, and IBM.

He linked the varied parts of his career when he ran a summer program at Millersville, "Guiding the Talented Art Student", for art teachers in school systems throughout the country.

He had another heart attack in 1989 and, after a year of sick leave, retired from the university and moved with Gloria to Scottsdale, AZ where their daughter lived. He was under treatment for his heart condition when he died less than a year later on June 30, 1991.

Harold's last paintings before his death reflected his Jewish roots and his love of the Southwest and Native American culture. The Reb Kachina series depicts an elderly man with a white beard, Hassidic top hat decorated with a feather, and an overcoat with Native American designs. He lights a cactus menorah and sells "kosher snakes."

Before his death, his greatest desire was to provide educational and financial support for visual art students and educators. His ideas and work provided the beginning structure and focus of what became the Laynor Foundation Museum. Begun by his wife and three children, and with Gloria serving as president, it was financed by donations and the sale of Hal's paintings.

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