

Letterman drives into retirement with tribute from Indy race team

By DAN GELSTON
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — David Letterman has a new No. 1 on his personal Top Ten list of reasons he loves the Indianapolis 500. The freshly retired Letterman

was all grins early Sunday as his IndyCar team paid tribute to the former “Late Show” host by putting a gap-toothed, smiling caricature of his face and (hash) thanksdave on driver Oriol Servia’s yellow car for the big race. “With everything that’s hap-

pened, it’s the highlight of my career,” Letterman said. “It’s crazy it’s the Indianapolis 500. Regrettable my face, but also my name on that car. It’s just delightful.”

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TWO-TIME WINNER: Juan Pablo Montoya celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the 99th Indianapolis 500 Sunday.

Post-Tribune



A day of reflection

While just another day off work for some, Memorial Day can stir intense memories for those who lost friends in battle

Soldier sculpture at Calumet Park Cemetery in Merrillville.

JOE PUCHEK/POST-TRIBUNE

By SHELLEY JONES
Post-Tribune

For many Americans, Memorial Day has evolved over the generations into an excuse to get in the car and head to a barbecue. For veterans of the Vietnam War, it can be profoundly steeped in survivor’s guilt and memories of intense attachments made and

lost in heartbreakingly short time.

“People have to remember it’s not the picnics and barbecues all the time,” said Ken “Doc” Coleman of Hobart, who served as a Navy corpsman during the 59-day firefight in the A Shau Valley known as Operation Dewey Canyon that began Jan. 16, 1969. “We have to remember the fallen and

those who have served. People use it as a day off from work and it breaks my heart. They have to remember the fallen. I know I do.

“When 9/11 happened, people were flying the flag all over the place, but a couple months later, that was that. I’ve been flying the flag all my life, front yard and backyard.”

Dyer resident Ignacio “Nacho”

Rodriguez is from the South Side of Chicago’s Our Lady of Guadalupe parish. Twelve young men of the parish were lost to the Vietnam War.

“When we got drafted, everyone went their separate ways,” he said of friends from his youth. “We went by ourselves and came back ourselves.”

Rodriguez was drafted into

the Navy in 1964. When he returned home in January 1969, “nobody was around.” He said it was awkward for those who made it back. He doesn’t visit the parish anymore.

Coleman remembers a good friend who shared his surname, squad leader Marine Cpl. John

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“We have to remember the fallen and those who have served. People use it as a day off from work and it breaks my heart.”

—Ken “Doc” Coleman, of Hobart, who served as a Navy corpsman

Memorial Day mystery from WWII has Gary link

His name was Vincent Sature. Or possibly Vincent Kobylanski. Or Kobylinski. Or maybe Vincent Sheurmin Korzydowski. Let me explain.

He was born in Poland on Dec. 11, 1904, reportedly near the Krakow ghetto. He later fled that war-torn city and eventually immigrated to Canada, where in 1940 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Somewhere along the way, he most likely changed his birth name because he was Jewish and knew he would be flying over



JERRY DAVICH

Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II. It’s also likely he joined the RCAF so early in the war against Nazi Germany because he was Jewish, for obvious reasons. He could change his name but not his heritage.

On May 29, 1941, RCAF Flight Sgt. Vincent Sature was assigned to the Whitley V Z9141 MH-J aircraft of the 51st Squadron. On Oct. 31 of that year, the aircraft took off in the late afternoon for an overseas mission to attack

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WAR GRAVES PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECT

The grave of Royal Canadian Air Force pilot Sgt. Vincent Sature is located at Texel (Den Burg) Cemetery in The Netherlands.

Pearl Harbor kin pressing for closure

New bid to ID remains in mass grave from 1941

By ALLEN G. BREED AND AUDREY MCAVOY
Associated Press

CARY, N.C. — Dawn Silsbee and her siblings never knew their Uncle Bert — he died years before they were born. But they saw what his loss did to their family.

“Our grandmother openly wept, every year — every Dec. 7,” the North Carolina woman said. “And I think part of it was because she really didn’t know where Bert was.”

Bert Jacobson’s family has always known the details of his death: That he went down on the USS Oklahoma during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. But his remains — and those of more than 400 other sailors and Marines who died on the battleship that day — were never identified, but were instead commingled in a dormant volcanic crater a few miles from Pearl.

Now, nearly three-quarters

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