



Dean W. Davis Papers (R1401)

Collection Number: R1401

Collection Title: Dean W. Davis Papers

Dates: 1943-1944

Creator: Davis, Dean W.

Abstract: The Dean W. Davis Papers contain the personal correspondence and photographs of Dean W. Davis during his service in World War II. Davis was a corporal in the 92nd Chemical Composite Company.

Collection Size: 0.25 cubic foot
(3 folders, 8 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center - Rolla](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Dean W. Davis Papers* (R1401); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by C. Toney Aid on May 27, 2015 (Accession No. RA1615).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Dean W. Davis Papers can be found in the following collections:

Arch Talcott Hollenbeck (R1414)
Arch Talcott Hollenbeck (C0333)

Processed by: Processed by Kathleen Seale, November 14, 2018

Historical Note:

Dean William “Bill” Davis was born February 16, 1922, in West Plains, Missouri, to Dean W. Davis and Gladys Hollenbeck Davis. The Davis family owned and operated The Davis Theatre in West Plains, Missouri. They also operated theaters in Mountain Grove and Mansfield, Missouri. Davis graduated from Kemper Military School in the spring of 1941 and attended the University of Missouri that fall.

Davis was drafted in 1942, and enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, in St. Louis County, Missouri, on October 29, 1942. He served with the 92nd Chemical Composite Company (now known as the 92nd Chemical Company) of the United States Army and was stationed in Italy. After the war, Davis returned to West Plains, Missouri, where he lived until his death on November 10, 2003.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Correspondence
Photographs

Scope and Content Note:**Correspondence**

This series contains letters, postcards, and v-mail written to Dean Davis by friends and family. In the correspondence, Davis is addressed as ‘Spider.’ The letters contain news from home, news on other hometown men who were serving, and the St. Louis Cardinals. This series is organized chronologically.

Photographs

This series consists of images of Dean Davis in uniform posed with his sister, Barbara Dean Cleland, and a fellow soldier.

Container List:

f. 1-2		Correspondence
Box 1	f. 1	Correspondence, 1943-1944
	f. 2	V-mail, 1944
f. 3		Photographs
	f. 3	Photographs, 1940s

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Cleland, Barbara Dean	1-3	Yes
Cleland, John	2	
Davis Theatre (West Plains, Mo.)	1	

Index Term	Folder	Image
Davis, Dean W., 1922-2003	1-3	Yes
Dean, Gladys Hollenbeck	1-2	
Hawkins, Hank	1	
Mansfield (Mo.)	1-2	
Mountain Grove (Mo.)	1	
St. Louis Cardinals (Baseball team)	1	
Theater--Missouri	1	
West Plains (Mo.)	1-2	
Wood, Frank B.	2	