

Perspectives in Military History

Home Front to Battlefield

The GI View of World War II

Mr. Frank Lavin

Independent Author

Carl Lavin was a high school senior in Canton, Ohio when 4,500 miles away Japanese Zeros screamed over Pearl Harbor. Along with thousands of young men and women, Lavin responded by joining the U.S. Army as soon as he turned 18. His decision led him from Ohio to Europe with the 84th Infantry Division, through battle at the front lines, and finally to victory and Occupation. On Wednesday, July 18, 2018, at 7:15 PM, the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania will host Carl Lavin's son, Mr. Frank Lavin, as he gives a lecture based on his book, *Home Front to Battlefield: An Ohio Teenager in World War II*. Mr. Lavin will tell his father's story, garnered from personal letters and recollections, interviews with Carl Lavin's brothers in arms, and formal histories.

Carl Lavin's story is a reflection of the experiences of most of the young men and women who were thrust into the horrors of combat in Europe in World War II. Carl Lavin's papers and recollections cover his reaction to the experiences of military life, from intense combat to the idiocies of military bureaucracy. Frank Lavin's unfettered access to Carl's life story adds a richness to the scholarship on World War II.

Frank Lavin is the CEO and founder of the e-commerce firm Export Now. He earned a B.S. from the School of Foreign Service (Georgetown); an M.S. in Chinese Language and History (Georgetown); an M.A. in International Relations and International Economics from the School of Advanced International Studies (Johns Hopkins); and an M.B.A. in Finance at the Wharton School (Pennsylvania). Working for the U.S. Government, Lavin served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore from 2001 to 2005 and as Under Secretary for International Trade at the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2005-2007. Previously, Lavin served in the George H.W. Bush and Reagan Administrations, working in the Department of Commerce, Department of State, National Security Council, and White House. Lavin served as Director of the White House Office of Political Affairs from 1987-89. He is currently a columnist for Forbes.com and has been published in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, and other periodicals.

DATE: Wednesday, July 18, 2018

TIME: Doors open at 6:30 PM and the talk begins at 7:15 PM

PLACE: USAHEC, Visitor and Education Center, Multipurpose Room

For updates and any last-minute changes in "Perspectives" meeting times and places, please check: www.USAHEC.org or call the Information Desk: 717-245-3972.