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Lawrence Brooks, Oldest veteran in U.S. dies, cont'd.

the cockpit. "You have a pilot and a co-pilot, only two of them, they're the only two who have a parachute," Brooks said. "I said if they run and jump, I'm gonna grab one of them."

At the end of his service, Brooks returned home to the racism of the Jim Crow era. He rarely talked about these issues with his fellow soldiers, saying it would just anger him, according to the museum's biography.

"I was treated so much better in Australia than I was by my own white people," Brooks once said. "I wondered about that."

Brooks was denied GI Bill benefits, his daughter, Vanessa Brooks, said in recent interviews supporting a proposed congressional bill that would target racial inequities in the bill's provisions. Her father had always wanted to go to college, but without the bill — which includes tuition benefits — he wasn't able to after the war.

"It's too late for him, but he wants me to go to school and I want to go to Tulane, but it's just a dream," she told CBS News last month. "If the G.I. Bill is revived, I'll have the opportunity to go back to school on my daddy's shoulders."

Instead, Brooks fell back into civilian life as a forklift operator until retiring his 70s. His wife, Leona, died in 2008.

He is survived by five children, 13 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. Over the years, Brooks has been celebrated as one of the oldest surviving WWII veterans. The National WWII Museum has hosted birthday parties for him for the past seven years.

The parties shifted to drive-by events at his New Orleans home in 2020 and 2021 because of the pandemic. The museum also started a birthday card writing campaign for Brooks in 2020, which it said generated 21,500 cards from nearly 30 countries.

Clinical trials, cont'd.

bid health consequences, including severe obesity, diabetes, and hypertension. Therefore, it is extremely important to develop effective treatments for binge eating disorder and bulimia nervosa to improve the quality of life of those who experience these eating disorders.

The study offers volunteers gold standard treatment for binge eating at no cost. Engagement in the treatment study is particularly valuable for the community, as feedback from members of the community will allow for improvement in treatment approaches for eating disorders among Black Americans.

Volunteers for The COMPASS Project must be between 18 to 70 years old and experience regular binge eating episodes. The study includes 16 weekly one-on-one therapy sessions with a therapist as well as research assessments before, during, and after treatment, including a 6-month and 12-month follow-up assessment. Volunteers also have the opportunity to earn up to \$500 for participating in this clinical trial and completing research assessments.

Lastly, the study is a great opportunity to get involved in eating disorder research (whether that be to learn more about your own health or be able to be there for a loved one) without subjecting yourself to investigational medicine.

The most important part of the research process is you. The COMPASS Project researchers are calling on adults in their communities to enroll in the study en masse to help future generations to develop better treatments for this disorder. Join The COMPASS Project, and you can play a vital role in improving the health profile of the national Black community.

For more information, please visit: Drexel.

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