JIMMY GILLIGAN

FEATHERWEIGHT

1931-1942

In the decade prior to World War II, a featherweight named Jimmy Gilligan came out of Ohio, and moved to Lackawanna, N.Y., taking a job at Bethlehem Steel, and at the same time continuing his boxing career.

Gilligan was born in Toronto, Ohio, which is located in the Eastern part of the state, near Steubenville. It was here that he started to box, and he had approximately 40-45 bouts in the small towns near Pittsburgh in the years 1931-1937. Moving to the Buffalo area in 1937, Jimmy fought all the leading featerweight contenders for the next 5 years. He faced 4 future World featherweight champions, and one former champion, namely, N.B.A. champs Jackie Wilson, Jackie Callura, Petey Scalzo, and World Champions Joey Archibald and Willie Pep.

His most notable victory was a 10 round decision in Buffalo in 1939 over Joey Archibald, the world's fourth ranked featherweight, following which Gilligan was ranked 8th by The Ring magazine. Less than 2 months later, Archibald won universal recognition as featherweight champion when he defeated Leo Rodak. Buffalo promoter Charley Murray offered Archibald a $5,000 guarantee to fight Gilligan in a title fight, but this bout never materialized.

Gilligan had over 100 bouts in his career, and in 1943 he was serving in the U.S. Army.

The Buffalo Veteran Boxers Association, this evening, is proud to induct Jimmy Gilligan into its Hall of Fame.

1931

Nov. 2	Petey Johns	Pittsburgh	W 4
Dec. 14	Teddy Mancuso	Pittsburgh	W 4
Dec. 28	Jackie Wilson	Toronto, O.	L 6

1932

Feb. 12	Petey Johns	Pittsburgh	W 6
Mar. 22	Harry Weekly	East Liverpool, O.	L 6
	Young Ketchell	Steubenville, O.	W 6
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	Sailor Lee	Steubenville, O.	W 6
May 20	Sammy Asto	Steubenville, O.	W 6
Jul. 22	Andy Kosel	Millvale, Pa.	L 6

1932 (Con't.)

Oct. 14	Petey Johns	Pittsburgh	W 6
Nov. 11	Johnny Woods	Pittsburgh	L 6
Dec. 16	George Boychan	Steubenville, O.	D 4

1933

Feb. 8	Danny Billick	Pittsburgh	W 4
Feb. 17	Johnny Woods	Pittsburgh	D 6
Mar. 17	Jerry Boyle	Erie. Pa.	W 6
	Eddie Pucci	East Liverpool. O.	W 6
May 5	Petey Johns	Pittsburgh	W 6
Jun. 5	Sammy Paris	Millvale, Pa.	W 6