



News from The Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc

July 9, 2013

A few of our friends have just come ashore to get together again -
 Let's party with a WWII Ranger Reunion!
 October 17- 19, 2013, Columbus, GA



A message from President Jerry Styles:

Let me begin by expressing my very sincere gratitude for the work of some people who are very special to me – the **Board of Directors** whom you elected two years ago to serve The Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc. These people have given their time and energy into making the organization run smoothly and effectively – and thus have made my job much easier! The current Board of Directors includes Stan Kinmonth as Vice President, Ben Temkin as Treasurer, Nancy Taube as Secretary, Karla Merritt as At-Large Member, and me as President. Please acknowledge their work when you see them at the upcoming Reunion in Columbus, GA.

I would also like to personally thank (and I hope you will also) some other people who have worked extremely hard and diligently for the organization. **Colleen McDevitt** has worked many long hours presenting the WWII Ranger web site as well as the newsletter. Colleen is not in good health now, and our collective heartfelt prayers are with her and the family. **Lynn Towne** has been a fountain of information and advice for the organization, and initially served as Secretary. Lynn continues to keep the WWII Rangers and this organization at the top of her interests and passions. Lastly, I would like to thank **Lily Kinmonth** as Committee Chairperson for her tireless work at organizing this year's Reunion in Columbus, GA. We had a great time at last year's Reunion, but thanks to Lily and her team we are going to have a truly **outstanding** time at this year's Reunion. Lily and her committee staff have done an excellent job.

I will be looking forward to collecting your photos from this year's Reunion so they can be posted to the web site and/or to the Newsletter. Keep the information flowing so The Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc. organization remains current and vibrant. My thanks to all – see you in Columbus in October!

Reunion Schedule and major events from Lily Kinmonth, Ranger Reunion Chairperson



Every year, our Reunion includes an outing on Saturday morning. This year, we are doing something completely different. We will be visiting **FDR's Little White House** located in Warm Springs, Georgia, a short drive from the Holiday Inn. Below is a picture of the structure as well as some information about the site. We have arranged for charter buses to transport everyone comfortably to and from the site.

“Franklin Delano Roosevelt built the Little White House in 1932 while governor of New York, prior to being inaugurated as president in 1933. He first came to Warm Springs in 1924 hoping to find a cure for the infantile paralysis (polio) that had struck

him in 1921. Swimming in the 88-degree, buoyant spring waters brought him no miracle cure, but it did bring improvement. During FDR's presidency and the Great Depression, he developed many New Deal Programs (such as the Rural Electrification Administration) based upon his experiences in this small town. While posing for a portrait on April 12, 1945, FDR suffered a stroke and died a short while later. Today, the “Unfinished Portrait” is featured in a museum that showcases many exhibits, including FDR's 1938 Ford convertible with hand controls, his Fireside Chats playing over a 1930s radio, his stagecoach and a theater. Visitors can tour FDR's home, which has been carefully preserved very much as he left it, the servants and guest quarters, and the nearby pools complex that first brought the future president to Warm Springs.”



Following the tour of FDR's Little White House, we will board the buses and proceed to **The Bulloch House Restaurant** for a Southern Buffet lunch in this beautiful, old home. Below is a picture of the house as well as information on its history. “The Bulloch House was built in 1893 by Benjamin F. Bulloch, cofounder of Bullochville, now Warm Springs, GA (1924). He, his brother, and a cousin owned and operated Bulloch, Bussey and Company, playing a prominent role in the history and development of the town. In 1990 the Bulloch

House was purchased by Judy Foster and Charles and Sylvia Garrett at which time it was renovated into the Restaurant that many have grown to know and love. The story of the Bulloch House continues on with its new owners, Peter and Sandy Lampert, who purchased the property in March 2011. The Lampert's along with long time staff members are proud to once again be bringing the tradition of true southern cuisine to the quaint town of Warm Springs. “ The times and cost are detailed in the Reunion Registration form. Please consider joining us on this tour. It promises to be a very enjoyable day!

There will be a **General Meeting** at the 2013 WWII Ranger Reunion during which members of the Board of Directors will be elected. Five (5) Board of Directors shall be elected by the voting members in good standing of the organization. The five (5) newly elected Board of Directors shall then immediately elect from amongst themselves a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one member at large. The Board of Directors' term of office shall be two years. The officers shall constitute the Board of Directors and serve for two years. To be eligible to be nominated, elected and serve on the Board of Directors, the person must have been a member in good standing of the aforementioned Ranger Battalion Association of WWII or the Sons & Daughters of WWII Rangers, and now be in good standing and have demonstrated a dedication to the organization for a minimum of at least two (2) years.

Current Board of Directors: Jerry Styles – President, Stan Kinmonth – Vice President, Treasurer – Ben Temkin, Secretary – Nancy Taube, At Large Member – Karla Merritt

**DESCENDANTS OF WWII RANGERS REUNION REGISTRATION
OCTOBER 17, 18 and 19, 2013 - COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
DEADLINE: PRE-REGISTRATION: OCTOBER 1, 2013**

Name: _____

Spouse/Companion: _____

RANGER or Relationship to: _____ BN _____ Co. _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

USE back for additional space to list all names and relationships to Rangers.

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ BY: CAR: ___ or PLANE: ___ ARV ATLANTA___ OR COLUMBUS___ Flight INF: _____

**Make Checks Payable: Descendants of WWII Rangers,
Mail to: Karla Merritt; 126 Roberts Lane, Apt. 400; Alexandria, VA 22314
Have a Question: CALL Karla (571) 303-0004**

**Room Reservations Call: HOLIDAY INN (800) 465-4329 GROUP CODE: WW2
2800 Manchester Expressway, Columbus, GA 31904. Hotel Rate Per Day: \$69 plus Tax
To ensure you have a room at the hotel-----Reserve Early**

*****Deadline for HOTEL Reservations under Group Code is September 17, 2013*****
After this date reservations will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only.

Hotel rate includes complimentary Breakfast

<i>ACTIVITY</i>	<i>Number Attending</i>	<i>PRICE Per Person</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Registration Fee Per Person		X \$15	
Thurs., Oct. 17, 6:00 PM Dinner (BBQ menu)		X \$21	
Friday, Oct. 18 @ 8:30 AM Prompt Departure Rangers In Action, 12:00 PM Lunch at Benning Club (Baked/Fried Chicken lunch) (price includes bus transportation)		X \$21 For lunch	
Friday, Oct. 18 @ 6:00 PM Dinner (Pasta menu)		X \$23	
Saturday, Oct 19 @ 8:30 AM Prompt Departure FDR's Little White House (ticket price included) Lunch at Bulloch House (price includes bus transportation)		X \$23 for Lunch and Tour	
Saturday, Oct. 19 @ 6:00 PM Dinner (Deep South Menu)		X \$31	
Dues (Yr. 2014) for All Members: Rangers, Ranger Wives and Widows, Descendants, General Membership		X \$25	
Total Amount Due:			

PROXY FORM

By Karla Merritt

If you are a voting member, but cannot attend the 2013 reunion for the election of Board members, you may vote via proxy. The Board has approved the proxy form for use. You need to complete the form and give it to another voting member, of your choice, who will be attending the reunion.

As a reminder, voting members are: WWII Rangers, spouses of WWII Rangers, siblings of WWII Rangers, sons, daughters, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and legally adopted children of a WWII Ranger.

To vote by proxy, 2013 dues must be paid. If dues have not been paid, you may send those dues (\$25) to Ben Temkin, Treasurer at 8035 Springfield Blvd, #3M; Queens Village, NY 11427-1211.

The form must be completed by hand (not typed), signed and notarized. If any of those conditions are not met, the form will not be accepted.

This Form must be **handwritten** BY THE VOTING MEMBER ASSIGNING THE PROXY (not typed)

PROXY FORM

DESCENDANTS OF WWII ARMY RANGERS
2013 ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

I hereby authorize _____ to serve as my proxy
(Name of Voting Member)

and to vote on my behalf at the 2013 WWII Rangers and Descendants reunion.

This proxy is valid only for the 2013 election of Board Members for the Descendants of WWII Army Rangers.

A **voting member** in good standing* who is not attending the reunion but wishes to vote via proxy for the election of Board members shall designate a **voting member** of the Descendants of WWII Army Rangers. A voting member wishing to vote via proxy shall personally contact the voting member of his/her choice to exercise the proxy and must complete the proxy form in its entirety. Failure by the member to sign the form and **have his/her signature notarized** will invalidate the proxy. A separate proxy shall be completed for each voting member not attending the reunion and wishing to vote. No voting member shall be coerced to vote via proxy.

*Good Standing is defined as payment of 2013 dues at time of voting.

In accordance with the Descendants of WWII Rangers by-laws, voting members shall consist of: Men who were members in good standing of the US Army Ranger Battalions organized and activated during WWII, spouses of WWII Army Rangers, siblings of WWII Rangers, sons, daughters, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other descendants of a WWII Ranger. Descendants shall include descendants related by blood and/or through legal adoption to a WWII Ranger.

(Printed Name of Voting Member)

(Signature of Voting Member)

(Date)

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this

_____ day of _____, 2013.

WWII RANGERS REUNION DONATION FORM

OCTOBER 17, 18 and 19, 2013 - COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

Yes! I would like to recognize the World War II Rangers, and show my appreciation for their military service/”leading the way” by making a donation to their 2013 Ranger Reunion Hospitality Suite and Expenses.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

My Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Amount: _____

Make Checks Payable To: Descendants of WWII Rangers

Memo Check: “Hospitality/Reunion Expenses”

Mail to: Stan Kinmonth – Vice President; 194 Malley Cove Ln; Fleming Island, FL 32003

My comments to the WWII Rangers in attendance:

I would like to have my name posted in the Hospitality Suite as a donor.

I would like to have a documented receipt via:

Regular mail

Email

Thank you for your support of our World War II Rangers!

Rangers Lead The Way!

***The Descendants of World War II Rangers, Inc, is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt corporation.**

A message and comments from Lily Kinmonth and her Reunion Committee...

Greetings Sons & Daughters and Friends of WWII Rangers!

We are busy planning for the Ft. Benning Reunion and Hospitality Suite that will begin October 17, 2013. Jerry Styles and Lily Kinmonth have lined up the Holiday Inn Hotel in Columbus and are now busy putting the finishing touches on banquets and activities at Ft. Benning. We have some great menus lined up each day and a couple of new activities that we know all will enjoy. The dates are set. Details and prices are included in this newsletter on the Reunion Registration Form and on the website for your convenience.

One bit of excellent news is that Jerry worked with the Holiday Inn in Columbus and they have agreed to give us the same rate as last year of \$69/night plus tax and that price will include an all you can eat buffet breakfast each morning for all registered for the Reunion!

As always, we will have a hospitality suite open at the hotel from early of a morning to late at night where the Rangers and their families can gather to relax, talk, share stories and generally just have fun and enjoy each other's company. The hospitality suite has grown into quite an enterprise and is a favorite gathering spot during reunions. Through the course of the day, we serve fruit, a wide variety of snacks, coffee, juices, soft drinks, beer, wine, and a wee bit of the hard stuff (well, maybe a bit more than a wee bit). Bartenders this year will be Kim and Curt Eskew, and they will try to do as good a job at serving hospitality as Steve and Vicki Ketzner have done at previous reunions. They will not be able to attend due to other commitments, and we will miss them.

We are hoping this Ranger Reunion will prove to be another great one. Toward that end, **we are seeking your support to help offset the reunion expenses.** Unfortunately, the number of Rangers still with us is decreasing rapidly. Help us make this reunion a wonderful experience for our Rangers by sending a donation today.

Please make checks payable to **Descendants of World War II Rangers, Inc**, write "**Hospitality/Reunion Expenses**" on the memo line, and mail it to:

Stan Kinmonth
Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc.
194 Malley Cove Lane
Fleming Island, Fl. 32003

For your information, the Descendants of World War II Rangers, Inc. is a **501(c)(3) tax exempt** organization.

We truly thank you for your support, and we hope to see you there!

Contacts for The Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc.

Position	Name	Address	City	St	Zip	Email
President	Jerry Styles	2615 Mars Hill Church Rd	Acworth	GA	30101	mailstyles@aol.com
Vice President	Stan Kinmonth	194 Malley Cove Lane	Fleming Island	FL	32003	Stantr6@comcast.net
Secretary	Nancy Taube	2500 Sandycreek Drive	Shelby Twp	MI	48316	nancymwt@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ben Temkin	80-35 Springfield Blvd, #3M	Queens Village	NY	11427	Btemkin1@nyc.rr.com
At-Large Mbr	Karla Merritt	126 Roberts Lane, #400	Alexandria	VA	22314	RangerDaughter@live.com
Ranger Store	Stan Kinmonth	194 Malley Cove Lane	Fleming Island	FL	32003	Stantr6@comcast.net
Web/Newsltr	Ron Hudnell	820 Arbor Oaks Dr	Winston-Salem	NC	27104	RonHudnell@aol.com

RECONDO AWARDS AT WEST POINT

By Karla Merritt

On the morning of 26 July 2012, a group of Rangers, widows, descendants and family met in the parking lot inside Thayer Gate at West Point. We were there to attend the awards presentation ceremony to the Class of 2015. These young men and women had just finished their Cadet Field Training at Camp Buckner and their first year at West Point.

The bus arrived on time, and we were transported to Camp Buckner for a reception and the ceremony. Due to the inclement weather, the ceremony was held inside the Camp Buckner auditorium. Normally, the ceremony is held on the Camp Buckner parade ground. Following the ceremony, we were treated to lunch in the mess hall where we were seated with cadets and faculty. After lunch, we were returned by bus to the parking lot.



Ranger John Van Cott, assisted by Ranger Ben Temkin, presented the RECONDO awards. RECONDO stands for **RECON**naissance and **Comm**and**DO**. This year's recipients included: Best Female, Cadet Lisa Junta from 5th Company; Best Male, Cadet Jacob Stoner from 3rd Company; and best company was 6th Company; best platoon was 2nd platoon, 5th Company led by Cadet Miles Gabrielson; and best squad was 1st squad, 3rd platoon, 4th Company led by Cadet Daniel Zagaja.

All members of the class are eligible to compete. However, not all complete the rigorous requirements; only about 25% of the class compete all phases. Each year, the West Point Commandant sets and publishes criteria. Besides physical fitness, the requirements will include, at least, marksmanship, land navigation and a tactical casualty care test. Based on their performances, each cadet and squad receives points. The ones with the highest points receive the award.

While at West Point, the recipients are entitled to wear the RECONDO Badge. The badge is an upside-down, black and gold arrowhead with the letters USMA in black. The badges are worn with honor.

Besides Rangers Van Cott and Temkin, those attending included: Mrs. Van Cott and members of the Van Cott family; Mrs. Temkin; Ranger Bill McCausland; Charlotte Lomell and daughter Renee; Linda Gummel; Jeff Miller and wife, Cheryl; Chip DiCorcia (nephew of Len Lomell) and family; and myself.

Save the Date!

Pointe du Hoc Foundation Inaugural Gala event will be held in Tacoma, WA at the Landmark Temple Ballroom on September 19, 2013. A memorial is being built to pay tribute to the achievements and sacrifices of the fallen 2d Battalion Rangers. You are invited to join their brothers-in-arms, their families, and friends, in building a lasting remembrance of these courageous men. Dedicated on November 7, 2012, phase I of the memorial lies adjacent to the 2/75 Ranger Headquarters at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. The design incorporates the 2d Ranger Battalion unit scroll, the World War II era orange diamond 2 unit insignia, and a bayonet. The existing obelisk, with the names of those killed in action, has been relocated to the new memorial and placed at the tip of the bayonet. More at: <http://www.pointeduhocfoundation.com/index.html> or The Pointe du Hoc Foundation, PO Box 562, DuPont, WA 98327

More Chapter Save the Dates

Chapter	Event	Date	Contact
Northeast	West Point Awards Ceremony	July 25, 2013	John Van Cott; 631-583-8060; fireisland52@aol.com
Michigan-Ohio			
Western			

Scholarships!



Scholarships are available to qualified Rangers of all eras and their **dependents**. The National Ranger Memorial Foundation has partnered with the Ranger Battalions Association of WWII to offer up to 25 annual \$1,000 competitive scholarships. To verify your eligibility and application requirements, go to WWW.RangerMemorial.COM/Scholarship_Application.aspx.

Lost, but Never Forgotten

Name	Battalion	Company	Date of Death
Carl Lehman	1 & 3	B & C	January 23, 2013
Harold Davis	1 & 3	HQ/B & D	January 2, 2013
Lawrence Troxell	1 & 4	D/F	May 18, 2013
Paul Patrinos	1	C	November 2012
Ralph Goranson	2	C	November 19, 2012
Wilbur "Bill" Hoffman	2	D	January 7, 2013
Frank South	2	HQ	March 4, 2013
Mark Keefer	2	E	March 16, 2013
Joseph P. Bruno	2	F	June 30, 2013
Harold B. Ferris	3	A	June 28, 2013
John Tobin	5	HQ	March 23, 2013
Vernon Tuttle	4	E	February 20, 2013
Wilbur Ingalls	5	A	November 29, 2012
Fran Coughlin	5	HQ	March 29, 2013
Bob Battice	5	A	December 12, 2012
Delbert Griffith	6	B	January 21, 2013
Ernst Behnisch	6	D	April 3, 2013
Leslie H. Mantwell	6	B	June 12, 2013

If you know of other WWII Rangers who have passed away, please advise Nancy Taube (nancymwt@yahoo.com)

Upgrading a Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor

Recent discussions with Roy Murray, Jr. – son of 4th Battalion Commander Roy Murray - indicate that the Battalion Commander made it his lifetime mission to have the Medal of Honor awarded to **LT Randall Harris** for his actions during the landing at Gela, Sicily. It was Darby's decision that LT Harris be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross instead. According to the son, "*Ranger LT Randall Harris took out several machine gun positions holding up the 4th BN's advance across the beachhead despite having been severely wounded and having to use his canteen belt to keep his intestines inside his body. Later, he refused evacuation until all other wounded Rangers had been taken care of... My father spent the rest of his life trying to overcome Darby's decision.*" The Army has documented the procedure for a medal upgrade by "A request for an award or upgrade of one of the above decorations must be submitted on a DA Form 638, Award Recommendation, with supporting documents and witness statements, through your Congressman for consideration by the Army Decorations Board." This seems to be a project which should be continued, but to be successful, we need witnesses who were on the Gela beachhead and saw LT Harris's heroic actions. Any WWII Ranger, Son, Daughter, or Friend who may have helpful information or who wants to assist on this project, is asked to contact Ron Hudnell at Ronhudnell@aol.com.

Photos from 2012 WWII Ranger Reunion



No Wine Before Its Time!

By Ann Stockmaster

At the time that the 5th was in Belgium (probably very early 1945), they were able to find shelter from the elements and a few creature comforts (like heat and indoor plumbing) at a Marist monastery/seminary. An "advance team" was sent to the seminary to clean out the buildings and prepare for the entire 5th Btn. to stay. Only within the past 2-3 years did I hear from Dad that this advance team was made of men primarily from F Company. Anyway, the advance team did their job, the Rangers arrived at the Seminary and were the guests of the couple of priests and Father Superior (I think a monsignor, but am not certain).

Low and behold, it was quickly discovered that when they were "cleaning up" the advance team found the seminary's supply of wine for masses and proceeded to drink it all. Col. Sullivan had a fit, of course, and threw all of the Rangers out into their tents in the fields surrounding the seminary/monastery for abusing the priest's hospitality so much. Col. Sullivan insisted that no Ranger would sleep indoors again until the man/men responsible for stealing the mass wine came forward or identified who the thieves were for appropriate discipline.

No one came forward and in the meantime, the weather was bad -- rainy, (probably snowy), cold and inhospitable. The Father Superior insisted that he had no interest in punishing the Rangers. They were, after all, young men who'd been without anything to drink for a long while. The Rangers were the allied liberators and the priests wanted them to be treated as well as could be afforded. The father superior expressed concern for the men's health -- but this fell on deaf ears with Col. Sullivan.

Father (Chaplain) Lacy interceded and also begged Col. Sullivan to relent. And finally, after a few conversations among Father Lacy, Col. Sullivan and the Father Superior, the Rangers were allowed back into the monastery. But with one big condition. Col. Sullivan insisted that the Rangers take a truck from the motor pool and drive back into France and get some replacement wine for the fathers. As Dad tells it, the truck returned, filled to the brim with cases full of red wine from the Bordeaux district in France.

Not meaning to be patronizing or demean your intelligence in any way -- just so you appreciate the significance of the resupply of wine that the Rangers provided the seminary -- in the 1940s in the Catholic faith, the only person who had any wine at/during Catholic mass was the priest. And even then, he consecrated and drank probably less than 1 full cup at mass.. Dad used to speculate that the Marist priests were enjoying the best wines in most of Europe for decades after the War ended -- and much better wine than they would have ever purchased on their own for use at mass -- all due to the Rangers.

Ann's Disclaimer: This is how the story was told to me! I'd be interested to know if other 5th Btn. children have anything to add to the story.

Internet Romance Blooms

Colleen McDevitt, daughter of Jack McDevitt, 4D and a prior RBA President, met her forever love, Murray Elias, over the internet. As Colleen puts it "unconventional people find conventional love" through the internet. Colleen has been fighting an uphill battle with cancer for the past years. Through all the trials and tribulations, Murray has been a pillar of strength and encouragement. With her health failing, Colleen has moved back to Ohio, staying with her sister and brother-in-law. Colleen was recently taken to a Hospice Center, giving her caretakers a short rest. It was at this facility on July 4, 2013, that Murray and Colleen exchanged their "affirmation of love". She chose a cream colored dress for this special occasion and Murray chose Burgundy. Colleen's Uncle Larry Moore, a Vietnam veteran, escorted her to Murray, giving his approval and permission for Colleen to be Murray's forever love. Colleen and Murray exchanged their devotion, love and commitment to one another. Colleen had a private room at the Hospice Center with a rollaway for Murray and remarked: "What a honeymoon!". She is back at her sister's house. You can send cards to: **Colleen McDevitt, c/o Ron Mosier, 725 Hoover Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44905.** **FYI:** At Reunions, Colleen sat with her laptop quietly working and embracing everyone with a smile and a hug, asking if she could do something. A few years back she took on the challenges of the Ranger website and editor of the newsletter; she served as Secretary to the Sons & Daughters; and assisted with registration at reunions.

U.S Senator Lamar Alexander honors Wilbur K. Hoffman, 2D

By Teresa Gallarno, Daughter of Msgt. Wilbur K. Hoffman

In August of 2011 my brother, David K. Hoffman made a request to the local office of Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander in regards to our father Wilbur K. “Bill” Hoffman. David knew that our dad had refused the Purple Heart while in an Army field hospital recovering from a concussion during the war. When Dad was offered the award he looked around and saw that others were hurt much more than he was and said “no thanks”. He was wounded a second time and again refused the Purple Heart, feeling that others with worse wounds were more deserving.

Sixty years later, when Senator Lamar Alexander heard my dad’s story he wanted to meet and honor “such a selfless hero” as part of his efforts to “find the good and praise it”. After petitioning the U.S. Army to investigate Dad’s military career and getting the report that indeed he did deserve the Purple Heart, Sen. Lamar Alexander went a step further. On February 29, 2012 in Washington, D.C. Sen. Alexander made a proclamation on the U.S. Senate floor. He went on to tell everyone about one of the most difficult battles fought in our nation’s history. He told of the brave soldiers who stormed the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc, Normandy. He went on to remind us of President Reagan who went to the windswept cliffs to remember and told us “These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent. These are the heroes who helped end a war.” Alexander went on to say that this was Bill Hoffman. He spoke of Bill's career of twenty-four years in the Army. “Bill likes to say, ‘Everything that happened, I volunteered for.’ And when asked how he feels when he looks back, he will say plainly, ‘No regrets.’ Bill is the father of seven children. Five who joined the service, one who married a career serviceman and one who worked for the Navy as a contractor.” Alexander went on to say “Congratulations Bill Hoffman, we're proud of you, your nation is proud of you.”



On April 10, 2012, my dad was chauffeured from his home and given a police motorcycle escort by 22 local law enforcement officers to the Overton Park War Memorial in Memphis, Tennessee. There he was greeted by Senator Lamar Alexander, Major General Haston, the U.S. Marine Color Guard, and a large compliment of Shelby County Sheriff deputies and other members of local law enforcement. Also present were members of the news media, and numerous friends and relatives. It was there on that beautiful day that my dad, Wilbur K. Hoffman was awarded the Purple Heart. Much to our surprise, General Haston also awarded him the Bronze star with the "V" for

valor insignia after telling of Bill Hoffman’s bravery in battle. General Haston went on to top off Dad's awards with the coveted Ranger Tab. The ceremony was so moving. People of all ages came to congratulate and shake Dad's hand and to thank him for his service to our nation.

After that big event the Shelby County Sheriff’s Department made a presentation to Bill Hoffman in recognition of his service to our country. Sheriff Bill Oldham went on to proclaim Bill Hoffman as an honorary Shelby County Deputy Sheriff and April 10, 2012 as "Bill Hoffman Day." Family and friends came from all over to pay tribute to this humble man, an American hero, my dad.

Just in from the Mansfield, Ohio *News Journal* about WWII Ranger daughter, **Colleen McDevitt...**

MADISON TOWNSHIP — A benefit spaghetti dinner for Colleen McDevitt, a local woman diagnosed with cancer, will be from 1 to 5 p.m. July 14 at VFW 3494, 853 Ashland Road. Contact Maureen Browning at 419-571-1606 for details... Donations also can be made to **Colleen McDevitt Benefit Fund** at any Mechanics Bank. Checks can be mailed to 2 S. Main St, Mansfield, OH 44902



Postage

News from The Descendants of WWII Rangers, Inc

820 Arbor Oaks Drive; Winston-Salem, NC 27104

