

Remembering Veterans

Hi KKC Extended Family,

Tomorrow is Veteran's Day, or Armistice Day, as my father called it. Originally celebrating the end of the Great War, we now honor all veterans, who served in war and in peace. It is fitting to salute all those who served in the military for our country, for they, in essence, offered to protect it with their lives, some making the supreme sacrifice. While many of our Kulp ancestors were against fighting, many others answered the call. They did so under all kinds of conditions: extreme cold, jungle or desert heat, stormy seas, endless mud, etc. So, please take time tomorrow to thank the veterans in your life and remember their sacrifice and service.

AND, take time to ask them what they did in service. Everyone who serves has a unique experience and story. Some may be funny, others very sad or terrifying, and some may want to remain untold. But these stories are part of our family's and nation's history, so they should be written down and not forgotten.

I have always been interested in military history, especially WWII, since my father had landed on Utah Beach on D-Day. The World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. has over 421,000 "stars" representing those who died during that conflict. Last January, I got involved with the group [Stories Behind the Stars](#), which is writing stories about each those men and women, placing them on the [Together We Served Roll of Honor](#) and [Fold3](#) websites. The information is mostly gleaned through internet searches on Ancestry, Fold3 and Newspapers.com. Soon after I joined, I asked the PA director for the names of any Kolbs, Kulpes and Culps from Pennsylvania that I could write about and she gave me 12 names. In searching through the old reunion programs, I found the reunion was not held in 1942-1945, but the 1946 bulletin stated "from reports received to date by the secretary, 125 men and four women were in service during the war, and that seven had died in service." Only two were actually named in the *In Memoriam* section of the 1945 Kulp Reunion Bulletin. They are listed below, with a link to the Together We Served Website which has their service details and the SBTS story I have written:

Pfc. Benjamin B. Kulp, of Linford, PA, of the 27th Bomb Group. Stationed in the Philippines at the start of the war, he was captured when Bataan fell and probably endured the Bataan Death March. After several years in captivity, he was being transported by freighter to Japan when it was sunk by an American submarine, unaware of its cargo.
<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=332634>

Cpl. Russell Kulp, of Green Lane, PA, of the 43rd Tank Battalion, 12th Armored Division. He was a tank crewman killed near Herrlisheim, Alsace, France, which is near the Rhine River, as his unit tried to recapture territory lost during the Battle of the Bulge.
<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=Profile&type=Person&ID=645529>

A quick Ancestry trace on them indicated they both are related to the George Michael Kolb line.

The other 10 names are:

2Lt. Herbert C. Culp*, MSgt. Lester B. Culp*, Sgt. William B. Culp*, 1Lt. William E. Culp*, Sgt. Raymond F. Kolb, Pvt. George I. Kulp, S1/c James Earl Kulp*, Pvt. Jacob H. Kulp, Pfc. Merrill Z. Kulp, and Pvt. Walter H. Kulp (* are those who have completed stories at present).

If you have any details of these men or other Kulp or Kulp descendants who died in service during WWII, please let me know.

Thanks to all of you veterans and thanks for reading,

Jack Oberholtzer

Secretary, Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association

P.S. Be sure to follow the website (<http://kolb-kulp-culp.org>) as we get that developed and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Kolb-Kulp-Culp-Family-Reunion-111440337655136>).

Glenn Landis posted on the original website a spreadsheet compiled by Bud Gross in the 2000s listing over 700 US Veterans Gravesites (at the top menu click home and scroll down). Find-a-Grave is also an easy way to find any gravesite.

I am a proud U. S. Army veteran who served during the Cold War and during Desert Storm, mostly with the chemical corps.