

2023 Memorial Day Remembrance

Hi KKC Extended Family,

Monday, May 29th 2023, is our annual day to honor and mourn those U.S. military personnel who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Even though many Kulp held pacifist religious beliefs, many did serve in the many conflicts over the years.

As I have mentioned before, one of my side activities over the last 1-1/2 years is to write obituary type stories of the World War II Fallen for a group called **Stories Behind the Stars** (<https://www.storiesbehindthestars.org>), in collaboration with the **Together We Served** and **Fold3** (<https://www.fold3.com/?group=1>) websites. **Together We Served** has a public access website called **Roll of Honor** (<https://rollofhonor.togetherweserved.com>) that anyone can access written stories and remembrances of any veteran remembered on their website.

I have tried to honor those Kulp relatives found either through our own In Memoriam sections of the annual bulletins or those with a surname of Kolb, Kulp, or Culp found on the Pennsylvania WWII Casualty Lists. The following list has their name, home town, a brief description of how they served and where they were killed, and a link to the **Roll of Honor Website**: They are:

Staff Sergeant Clyde Landis Binder from Lansdale, Montgomery County, Pa. A radio operator-gunner on a B-17 with the 446th Bomb group, he was killed in action on his first combat mission, when his plane was hit by flak over the target, Koblenz, Germany. The crew were able to fly the plane back to England, but it crashed during landing killing all onboard.
<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=354736>

2nd Lt. Herbert Culp from Dallas, Luzerne County, Pa. A B-24 bomber pilot for the 446th Bomb Group, his plane was hit by flak on mission over Munich, Germany. He stayed with the plane until with all crew members able to safely parachute away, but it was not certain he ever made it out of the plane before it crashed. He was initially buried in the village cemetery of Unterhausen, Germany.
<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=328911>

Master Sergeant Lester Culp from Reading, Berks County, Pa. A B-17 airplane ground crew chief with the 91st Bomb Group. He was flying on a B-17 on a training mission, when the plane crashed for an unknown reason near Westin, Hertfordshire, England killing all onboard.
<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=329186>

Sergeant William Brinker Culp from Columbia, Lancaster County, Pa. He was a B-17 gunner with the 469th Bomb Group that was on a routine training flight over the Gulf of Mexico, when another plane collided his plane about 50 miles off of Galveston, Texas, killing all 22 occupants of both aircraft.

<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=333785>

1Lt. William E. Culp Jr. from Arnold, Westmoreland County, Pa. A replacement infantry platoon leader with the 28th Infantry Division, he was wounded in France and died four days later.

<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=640564>

Sergeant Raymond F. Kolb from Philadelphia, Pa. He was radio operator-gunner on a B-17 with the 305th Bomb Group. Killed in plane crash near Cologne, Germany.

<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=349643>

Private First-Class Benjamin B. Kulp from Linfield, Montgomery County, Pa. A B-18 bomber mechanic for the 27th Bomb Group (Light). Stationed in the Philippines at start of war, he was captured and sent on the Bataan Death March. Later, he was being transported to Japan on a freighter when it was sunk by a U.S. submarine, killing many of the POWs on board. The sub did not know the of the freighter's cargo.

<https://airforce.togetherweserved.com/usaf/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHPage&personType=Fallen>

Private George Ira Kulp from Duncannon, Perry County, Pa. He was an infantryman with the 30th Infantry Division, killed in action in January near Malmedy, Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge.

<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=649973>

Private Jacob Harold Kulp from Souderton, Montgomery County, Pa. An infantryman with the 7th Infantry Division, he was killed in action on Okinawa, in the Pacific.

<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=685149>

Shop Fitter First Class James Earl Kulp was originally from South Bend, Indiana, but stationed at Philadelphia Naval Yard at start of WWII. Was a shipfitter aboard the USS Buck (DD-420) when the destroyer was sunk on 12 October 1943 in the Mediterranean Sea during the invasion of Sicily.

<https://navy.togetherweserved.com/usn/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=798302>

Private First-Class Merrill Ziegler Kulp from Lansdale, Montgomery County, Pa. An infantryman with the 45th Infantry Division, he was killed in action on the Anzio Beachhead in Italy.

<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=685044>

Corporal Russel Edgar Kulp from Green Lane, Montgomery County, Pa. A tank crewman with the 12th Armored Division, killed near Herrlisheim, Alsace, France.

<https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=ROHSBV&type=Person&ID=645529>

The 1949 Kulp Reunion Bulletin In Memoriam additionally lists others killed during the war, but I have yet to write a story on them. They are:

Earl R. Faust, Perkiomenville, Pa.

John Hedrick, Souderton, Pa.

Leroy Heiserman, Souderton, Pa.

Robert Kulp Miller

John Francis Purcell, Philadelphia

If you have any information on these fallen or know of any additional Kulp related casualties, please let me know. There are probably Kulp in other states to find, and that would be another future project.

Please remember all of the Fallen on this year's Memorial Day!

Jack Oberholtzer

Secretary, Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association

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

P.P.S. For website or digital marketing help, please consider **Lenore Suhanec** at **Pink Sky Studios** <https://pinkskystudios.com>. She helped with our website and did a great job.

P.P.P.S. Please check out the genealogical resources at the website of *Palatines to America German Genealogy Society* <https://www.palam.org>.