

(Name)

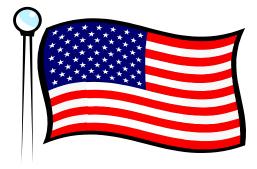
 $\Box$  \$15

□ \$25

 $\Box$  \$50

Donation Amount (please check)

## Contribute to the Kelly-Ratner Memorial Flag Fund!



We proudly fly 'Old Glory' up and down Main Street, and we show her at both traffic circles. We also show the flags of the divisions of the US Armed Forces at the 'Welcome to Liberty' sign.

All of these flags costs money – and we invite you to contribute to the Liberty Flag Fund so we can make sure that we can always keep the flags looking good and dignified.

- ★ A full set of US Armed Forces flags costs about \$ 275
- $\star$  A full set of US Flags for the traffic circles cost about \$ 300
- ★ A full set of flags for the Main Street utility posts costs about \$ 1,000

Please donate to the Liberty CDC's Liberty Flag Fund – we are a non-profit organization and your contribution will be tax-exempt.

Thank you for helping us show Liberty in its proudest colors! Please return the section below with your payment to the address provided.

⊁	
Kelly-Ratner Memorial Flag Fund Donation	Please make checks payable to: Liberty CDC

(contact information: phone, email, mailing address)

 $\Box$  \$100

□ \$300

 $\Box$  \$

The Liberty CDC is a
501(c)(3), tax-exempt
organization

Liberty CDC Federal Tax ID 432063652

(full set of flags)

(other amount)

## Tom Kelly (1917 –1943)

Graduate, Liberty High School, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse

United States Navy, World War II.

While in high school, Tom was an outstanding student and athlete. Upon graduation, he enrolled in La Crosse College where he set many college football records during that time period.

After college graduation, Tom enlisted in the Navy and attended Flight School in Jacksonville, Florida.

Assigned to the U.S.S. Enterprise as a Dive Bomber Pilot he lost his life during take-off when an unsecured bomb exploded causing a fatal accident.

Tom is survived by several generations of nieces and nephews, many of whom still reside in Liberty.

## Thomas J. (Tom) Kelly (1944 – 2009)

Graduate, Liberty High School, Syracuse University

Retired in1996 as a full Colonel of Infantry, Tom completed 30 years in the U. S. Army serving throughout the United States, and in Europe, Asia, South East Asia and Central America. Among his military decorations are 3 Silver Stars, 2 Legions of Merit, and 3 Bronze Stars for Valor, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

He served with the 2d BN 2d INF, 1st Infantry Div and the 2d BN, 1st Special Forces Group in Viet Nam. He also served in peacetime with the 101st ABN Div (AALT), 8th INF Div, commanded the 5th BN "21st INF, 7TH Infantry Div (L) and the FT. Lewis Readiness Group.

After retirement from the Army, Tom entered K -12 education as an administrator, serving first with the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Washington and spending two of these years as Deputy Superintendent and Chief Operating Officer. He later served as the Superintendent of the North Mason School District.

He is survived by wife Rae Ann, daughter Laura with husband Rick Takagi; son TJ with wife Sarah; grandchildren Delaney, Ethan, Gabriel, Addison and Isaac, (Washington), and two brothers Terrance and Timothy, several nieces and nephews many of whom reside in Liberty.

## Milton Ratner (1916 – 1943)

Graduate, New Utrecht High School – Brooklyn, City College of New York

Milton helped his parents on the Ratner family farm in Ferndale, worked at the Liberty Candy Factory, and was employed as a bookkeeper by the Sullivan County Health Service in Monticello.

July 1, 1940, Milton enlisted in Troop 'C' of the New York State Police at Sidney, NY. He was granted leave after enlisting in the United States Army Air Corps. The NY State Police barracks in Ferndale was renamed the Lt. Milton Ratner Post after his death. Milton was also the first Jewish trooper in New York State.

January 1942, Milton entered the army air-corps cadet school at Maxwell Field, Alabama, where he was trained as a bombardier and navigator, which lead to a First Lieutenancy. He was posted to the 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group in Tunisia, Africa.

On the night of July 11, 1943, during the invasion of Italy, Milton was killed, after successfully flying a mission over the Mediterranean Sea to the vicinity of Gela, Sicily, to deliver their loads of paratroopers in advance of sea-borne forces. Intensive anti-aircraft fire was encountered while returning to base, which destroyed twelve of their aircraft, including his, and damaged others.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Milton Ratner was awarded the Army Air Medal and The Purple Heart.

Although Milton had no children, he is survived by three generations of nieces and nephews residing in and around Liberty.

*Please Support the Kelly-Ratner Flag Fund in Honor of all Veterans and Patriots.* 

