



# Memorial Day Special Edition Parkman Paragraphs

Created by Cory Anderson

Parkman Paragraphs is published in Spring and Fall of each year.

This limited edition issue is printed specifically for the

## 2010 Parkman Memorial Day Parade.

We wish to thank all of our Active Duty and Veterans throughout all eras of our country's existence for all of the sacrifices that they have made to give us our freedoms and continue to make our country a safe place to live. May our future generations understand these sacrifices from our Veterans and appreciate the quality of life created for them.

On behalf of the Parkman Trustees and the Parkman Chamber of Commerce

### Special Thanks for the continued support of the:

Geauga County Sheriff Department  
Middlefield VFW Post 9678

Parkman Volunteer Fire and Rescue Team  
Parkman Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops #76  
Cardinal Marching Band

Parkman Congregational Church SS Edward Lucy Catholic Parish  
and the various participants who helped to make our  
2010 Parkman Memorial Day Celebration a success.

Al Wilson and Family (thanks for the photos and story of Albert Wilson)  
Father John Burkley, SS Edward Lucy Catholic Parish  
Jeff Gardner, Commander, V.F.W. Post 9678  
Monique Hornsby, Parkman Cub Scout Den Master  
Tim Florjancic, Director, Cardinal High School Marching Band  
Kevin O'Reilly, Parkman Trustee  
Nancy Ferguson, Parkman Trustee  
Pat Joyce, Parkman Trustee  
Nancy Wheelock, Parkman Fiscal Officer  
Wayne Komandt, Chief, Parkman Volunteer Fire Department  
Scott Villers Parkman Boy Scout Liaison

Best wishes to everyone for a fun and safe summer  
and don't forget to give THANKS to a Veteran.



# Parkman Paragraphs Memorial Day 2010



PARKMAN MEMORIAL DAY 2010 TRIBUTE TO

## Albert Wilson

Community Website: [www.ParkmanOhio.com](http://www.ParkmanOhio.com)  
Newsletter E-mail: [ParkmanOhio@gmail.com](mailto:ParkmanOhio@gmail.com)





## Albert Wilson

11/12/1913 - 09/21/1990

Written by Al Wilson 5/8/2010

My father was born in 1913 in the hills of western Pennsylvania near Point Marion. He grew up in a simple family in a coal mining town and his father was a coal miner. When he got out of school he worked in the mines but knew coal mining was not for him.

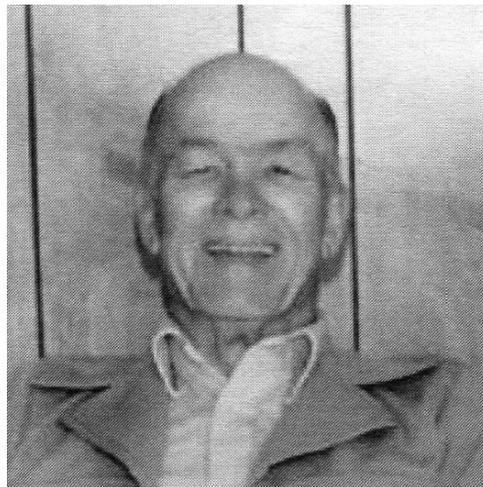
When war broke out in Europe by 1941, Dad knew it was only a matter of time before our country was drawn into the war, so he enlisted in the Army Air Corp, which is what later became the U.S. Air Force. He

enlisted on May 14th 1941 in Pittsburg PA and served until August 1945 at the rank of Staff Sergeant. He earned a good conduct medal, distinguished unit badge, American defense service medal, and Asiatic Pacific service medal with 3 bronze stars. We do not have many of his records as they were lost in a fire years ago. We do know he served in the South Pacific as a tail gunner on a B17 in the area of New Guinea and The Solomon Islands attached to the 8th fighter group. When many of our veterans returned home, they did not want to discuss the many horrific things seen and done. Many friends and people were lost, as in any war. He did not like to talk about his war experience even many years later. Dad would not fly in a plane after returning home from the war, and he also would not eat rice.

Dad and Mom moved to Geauga County in 1955, and then to Parkman in 1960. Here they raised their children, Gay Stewart residing in Las Vegas NV, Mark Wilson residing in Farmington NM, Gary Wilson residing in Greenville SC, I still reside here in Parkman, and Mom spends her time between here and Las Vegas.

Dad worked in the plastics industry when they moved to Geauga County in 1955. In 1963 he started Star Cycle Shop here in Parkman with George Breitenbach. In 1968, he sold his interests in that to George in order to start TRI Plastics. In 1975, he sold Tri Plastics and retired.

Dad liked fishing and camping as a favorite past time. He also enjoyed



woodworking and family events. Dad passed away in September of 1990 and is greatly missed by all.

I want to thank all veterans for their service to our country. On behalf of the Wilson family, I want to thank Parkman Township for bestowing this recognition on Albert Wilson. Let us all remember the sacrifice of life, families, and fortune in preservation of our great country, freedoms, and liberty. Freedom is not free, and liberty cannot be for sale. Thank you and may God bless us all.

## A Brief History of Parkman's Cemeteries

Researched & written by Dale Komandt, Parkman Cemetery Sexton

Township Trustees are responsible for three cemeteries in Parkman. They appoint the Cemetery Sexton. I have been the Cemetery Sexton for 35 years. The smallest of the three cemeteries is located at 16569 Bundysburg Road. It appears that it may have started out as a family plot since most are of the Gates surname. However, there are three veterans buried there who died in 1812, 1824, and 1835.

The second cemetery is on Nelson Road just south of SR 422. The only name this cemetery has gone by to anyone's knowledge is the Lower Cemetery. As best we can tell there are forty four veterans buried here. The oldest burial with any accuracy is probably 1811- infant John W. Parkman. Also buried here are Mrs. R.B. Parkman, nee Lucy Phelps -August 1820, Samuel Parkman -1824, Edwin Parkman -1828, Robert B. Parkman -1832, Dr. George Parkman -1849 and Henry S. Parkman -1867.

Very few burials took place in the Lower Cemetery after 1895; the last was in 1909. The official records of this cemetery were lost in the fire that burned down the Opera House in 1944.

The cemetery used by the Trustees since approximately 1845 is located at 18145 Tavern Road, and is named Overlook Cemetery. The first burial here unofficially was 1835 and was used in addition to the Lower Cemetery until 1909, when it was used exclusively. Catherine (Kate) and John Breckenridge Tinker donated the entrance pillars, sign at the front, and as best we can tell, part of the iron fence at the front of the property. Next time you visit Overlook Cemetery checkout the front pillars. The Urpi family redid the gates and pillars.

Overlook Cemetery was expanded when land was purchased from the Chalker/ Zeigler family for a Village Park. This cemetery will accommodate burials of any of those wishing to be buried here for many, many years to come. There are two hundred and forty two veterans and fifty seven Parkman Volunteer Firemen buried at Overlook Cemetery.