



Special Thanks to all of our Parkman Veterans!



Special Thanks to 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. Cory Anderson

**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
Father John Burkley, SS. Edward Lucy Catholic Parish
and the various participants who helped to make our
Parkman Memorial Day Parade a success.**

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

2014 Parkman Paragraphs

Memorial Day Special Edition



**Honoring
William Carter Snyder
1923 – 2007**



William Carter Snyder

William Carter Snyder was born on July 18, 1923, in Youngstown, Ohio. He was the fourth of five children of Shirl and Hazel Carter Snyder. Older brother Frances died as a child. Bill grew up with older sisters Mariana and Monarita and younger sister Theresa in Youngstown. Bill's childhood years were typical for the 1930s-1940s.

While attending Ursuline High School in Youngstown, Bill enjoyed playing trumpet in the band. He also worked full time for Standard Oil as a mechanic. His love of cars and fixing them would remain a never-ending part of his life.

Bill was inducted into the U.S. Army on July 19, 1943, at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio. He attended Surgical Technicians School at O'Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Mo before going to the 31st General Hospital in the Pacific Theater. There he spent 14 months as a Medical Technician, six months as a Surgical Technician and six months as a Sergeant, non-commissioned Medical Officer, overseeing 164 men. He was discharged from the Army on March 18, 1946, receiving the American Theater Ribbon, Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Ribbon, Good Conduct Ribbon, and Victory Medal.

After leaving the service, Bill returned to Standard Oil, working as a trainer in one of its training stations. His job was to teach women to pump gas, change oil, and change and fix flat tires. One of his trainees was Charlotte Hynes. With the end of the war, Charlotte went back into the offices of Standard Oil, but her relationship with Bill continued.

Bill and Charlotte were married on Aug 2, 1947 in St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown, Ohio. Bill's love of cars was ever present as he convinced Charlotte it was OK to race the family car. Charlotte really began to worry as she sat pregnant on a five-gallon bucket where the passenger seat used to be. With the birth of their first child, Danny, their concerns now turned to "Will we still have a car to drive home?" and "Having spent the sitter's fee for entry fees, will we win enough to be able to pay the sitter when we get home?"

In the next chapter, they are living on Market Street in Warren, Oh, across from the Standard Oil station that Bill was managing. They are eagerly awaiting the birth of their second child. Quite unexpectedly, Charlotte found out it was going to be twins. One week later (and six weeks early) daughters Sandra and Cynthia were born. Realizing their apartment was too small and concerned about being able to support their growing family, Bill accepted his own station in Parkman. On Feb. 12th, 1951, he opened Bill's Sohio with the change in his pocket and a few personal tools.



The family was soon moved to West Farmington, then to Grove Rd in Parkman, and then to Nash Rd. In 1956 they built a home on Route 422 where Charlotte still resides. In 1963 son Scott was born.

Bill was a strong advocate for the small-town community life and was active in many organizations. He was a member of St. Edward's Parish. He served with Parkman Volunteer Fire Dept from 1951 to 1962 acting as Chief from 1955 to 1959. During this time he helped to build Parkman's first grass jeep. He and Charlotte were founding members of Parkman Chamber of Commerce, organizing Homecomings, Pancake Breakfasts, dances, and helped with the development of Overlook Park.

Over the years Bill raced stock cars, sprint cars and micro midgets. He was a member of NASCAR and Mahoning Valley Micro Midget Association. In 1963 Bill contracted Guillain-Barre Syndrome. No longer able to race, his interest turned to raising ponies with Cindy, Sandie, and Scott. He even enjoyed participating in parades, horse shows, 4-H, and the Geauga County Fair.

In 1968, looking for a slower life style, Bill sold Bill's Sohio and took over Ashland Oil in Burton. He and Charlotte operated this business until 1987 when they decided to retire and enjoy camping, boating, and his flowers. That didn't last long and they took up Real Estate. Bill was still bored and returned to work for Newbury Schools as a bus mechanic. He retired in June of 2003 at the age of 80.

Bill suffered a lengthy illness and passed away quietly on July 20, 2007, surrounded by his family. At his "Celebration of Life" service, each of his four children shared their fondest memories. Bill was honored graveside by Geauga 911, as they sent out his "last page". The American Legion honored his years of military service. A piper played *Amazing Grace*.

His strong family values inspired Dan, Scott, and grandson Cody Snyder to share in his love of cars and racing. Sandie and grandson Chad Snyder followed him into the fire service. Cindy played his trumpet. Grandson, Gary Parnaby, taught by grandpa, mixed pancake batter for many years at the Pancake Breakfasts. Bill lives on each spring at the Parkman "Come Fly with Us" Kite Festival where he is remembered as the inspiration of the event and his memorial kite "Wind Beneath my Wings" is flown by generations of his family.

