



# **Parkman Paragraphs**

## **Memorial Day 2021**



PARKMAN MEMORIAL DAY 2021 TRIBUTE TO

**Ralph C. Butt**

**Community Website: [www.ParkmanOhio.com](http://www.ParkmanOhio.com)**  
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## PARKMAN MEMORIAL DAY 2021 TRIBUTE TO

# Ralph C. Butt

Mr, Ralph C. Butt was born December 28, 1916, in Parkman Township, to William and Gertrude (Harris) Butt. He was a lifelong resident in the Parkman Township area. Ralph started kindergarten at the Parkman schools in 1921 and graduated in 1934 at the Parkman High School. The photo on the right is of Ralph from the Parkman 1934 senior class photo found in our Parkman Community House.



Ralph was called to duty and served in the U.S. Army during World War II, from 1945 to 1947 in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre. Per the U.S. National WWII Memorial in Washington DC, Ralph was with the U.S. and Philippine occupation forces. He served with the 105th military police battalion, attached to the 355th engineers on Palawan island, Philippine islands from October 1945 to March 1946.

The photo on the cover of this special edition Parkman Paragraphs was also from that website (<https://www.wwiimemorial.com>).

Ralph was then reassigned to the 738th military police battalion in Manila Philippines from April 1946 to January 1947. While he was there, he married his first wife, Linda (Obana), whom he married December 21, 1946. The photo in the lower left corner (courtesy of his son Arthur Butt) is of the wedding day. Linda followed him back to our Parkman town and they lived together until she passed away July 1993. They have six children together Irene, Art, Dave, Albert, Maggie and Becky. All of the kids went to the Parkman Elementary School till sixth grade, then then on to Middlefield for Junior and Senior High School.

In February 1995, Ralph remarried to Bertha (Reiter) and his family grew, adding step children. When he passed in 2005, Ralph had six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three step-children, Bill (Carrie) Reiter, Bob (Sandy) Reiter and Beth (Mark) Johnson, all of Middlefield; 11 step-grandchildren; and six step great-grandchildren.



After his enlistment, Ralph worked for the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad, serving on the Cleveland to Warren line. He retired in 1978, after 30 years as supervisor-trackman.



Later he was an Amish taxi driver. During his retirement, he enjoyed his hobbies of reading and gardening.

The B & O Railroad track that Ralph spent most of his career on is still around as it is presently a "Rails-to-Trails" bike path for all of us to enjoy.

Special thanks to Arthur Butt for sharing this story with us as we salute Mr. Ralph C Butt for his service.



Mr, Ralph C. Butt is Parkman's 2021 veteran honoree that was added to our plaque found at the Parkman Community House. Each year we salute a local veteran that has served the U.S. Armed Forces. Below is the complete listing of our Honorees since it began in 2001. Many thanks to all of our Honorees and the families that have supported this Memorial Day salute.

**Happy Memorial Day and please remember to salute all veterans who served our country!**



## Past Parkman Honorees

- 2001 John R. Ferry
- 2002 Robert F. Barnett
- 2003 Glenn A. Thompson
- 2004 Richard Stanchak (Stanley)
- 2005 Richard Giles
- 2006 Richard O. Polari
- 2007 Stanley Smith
- 2008 Dennis Testa
- 2009 Gotham Brothers: John, Carlisle "Kelly", Glen, Neil, and Leland
- 2010 Albert Wilson
- 2011 Harold Blackford
- 2012 Carl B. Wilson
- 2013 Carl 'Ed' Wilson
- 2014 Bill Snyder
- 2015 Richard 'Dutch' Komandt
- 2016 Wayne Komandt
- 2017 Steve G. Soltis
- 2018 Leonard Hickox
- 2019 Oliver 'Big O' Graves Jr.
- 2020 Jeannette Elizabeth Smith Loomis
- 2021 Ralph C. Butt

