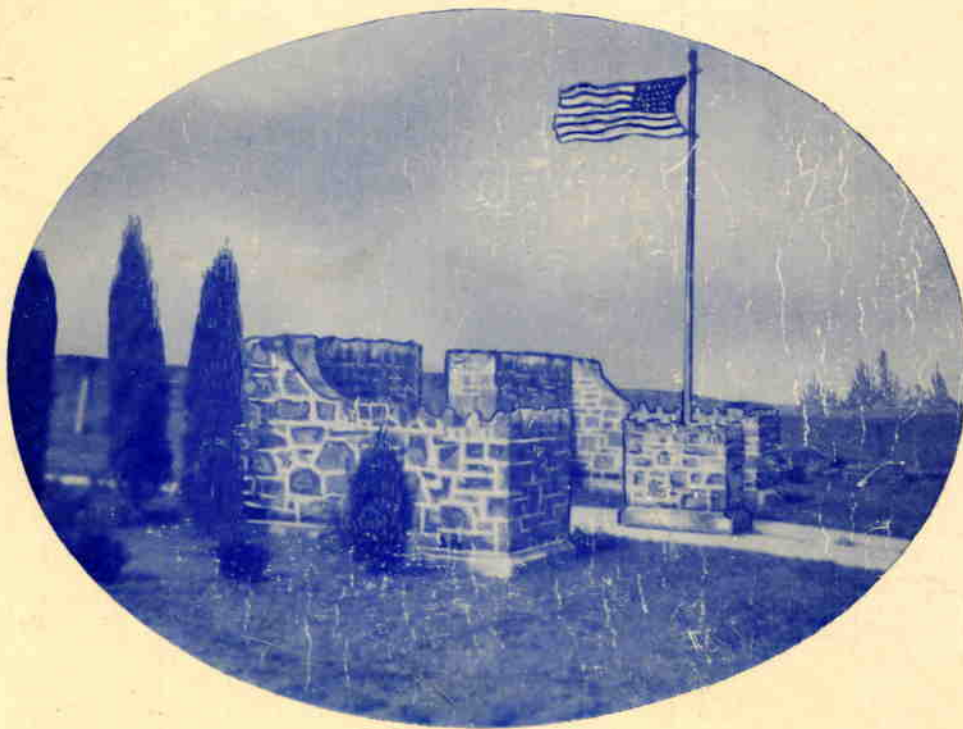

MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP

MEMORIAL PARK DEDICATION



SUNDAY, MAY 30th, 1948

★ ★ ★

NEWMANSTOWN, PA.

*This Page Dedicated to those who made
the Supreme Sacrifice in World War II
from Millcreek Township*

RUSSELL W. COLDREN

KENNETH G. HIPPERT

ALAN W. EBERLY

EMERSON BAIR

GUY J. SHANFELDER

HOMER V. HUSSLER

WILLIAM C. STRICKLER

MERLIN N. BECKER



Russell William Coldren



RUSSELL WILLIAM COLDREN was born at Newmanstown January 30, 1920.

He was the son of Earl Coldren and Mrs. A. F. Kostenbader and a nephew of Mrs. Edith Peterson.

He graduated from Newmanstown High School in 1938 and from Rising Sun School of Aeronautics, Philadelphia in 1939, received aircraft and aircraft engine mechanics license from C.A.A.

He worked a short time testing propellers for Sensenick Propeller Factory at Lititz, worked one and a half years as airline mechanic with T. W. A. He took C.P.T. primary flying course at Harrisburg, Pa. C.P.T. Secondary, Cross Country and Instructors course at Hagerstown, Md.

Upon completion of these courses passed C.A.A. test and received commercial license and instructors rating.

He completed Flight Officer Course at University of Vermont, Burlington Vermont run by Northeast Airlines for the government. This course covered blind flying and multi-engine planes as transports and bombers.

He took a two months course at New York for Pan American Airlines after which he became a pilot for Pan American Airlines which included transporting passengers and supplies for the Navy to all parts of the world.

Sept. 1943 he left for India where he became a flight captain for China National Aviation Corporation transporting supplies from India to China.

On January 6, 1945 he had delivered his cargo to Kuming China and was returning to Dinjan, India by way of "The Hump" when he was caught in a severe storm and has been missing ever since. This route is considered the most difficult and hazardous in the world.

BRIEF HISTORY OF MEMORIAL PARK



In May 1946 a civic minded citizen, Eddie Miller decided that Newmanstown should honor the men and women who served in the armed forces.

He was told by many whom he approached, to assist in soliciting funds for the project, that it could not be done.

A meeting was held at his home on June 5, 1946 with the following present; John Snyder, Howard Snyder, Miles Kissinger, George Engle, Elwood Brice, Sr., Irwin Keath, Howard Riehl, Jr., and Lester Schaeffer. This was the beginning of the Memorial Park Association.

Many meetings were held at his home discussing ways and means of raising funds for the project.

The meetings are now held in the High School building, since many more civic minded citizens have become interested in the memorial park.

In the autumn of 1946 when work was started on the memorial park a total of twelve thousand dollars had been accumulated.

Many numerous ways to raise funds were used with great success, the citizens of the entire township helped to raise the funds.

The plot of ground which is now the Memorial Park was donated by Mrs. Edith Peterson in memory of her nephew, Russell Coldren who paid the supreme sacrifice in the recent world war and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Coldren.

We hope the entire township will continue their undivided support in maintaining this Memorial Park as a tribute to her sons, who paid the supreme sacrifice.

—Elsie E. Goldman