







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 multiengine 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 Kumming 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.

