

Krum Soldiers Who Died In The Military
Memorial Day Tribute
By Kathryn Dodd

May 2014

Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday which occurs every year on the final Monday of May. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Formerly known as **Decoration Day**, it originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War. By the 20th century, Memorial Day had been extended to honor all Americans who have died while in the military service. It typically marks the start of the summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end. *Wikipedia*

Below are the Krum soldiers who have died while serving in the military and this article honors their memory.



Pvt WILLIAM M. MITCHELL, son of Willis Henry Mitchell and Mable Boyles was born in Missouri on May 6, 1925.. He entered the service March 1944 and was trained in Infantry at Ft. McClellan, Alabama. He was in the 26th Infantry, Company C. in Germany. Pvt. Mitchell went overseas November 1944 and was reported missing in action December 1944 in Germany. Among other decorations he was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously. The November 14, 1948 Denton Record Chronicle reports: *“The bodies of three more Denton County men were returned to this country for reburial as the United States Army Transport Carroll Victory docked in New York Tuesday.”* Pvt Mitchell was one of these soldiers.



Sergeant DAVID PAUL JACKSON JR., US Navy was born at Greenville, Texas June 24, 1923 to David P. Jackson Sr. & Mae Ethel Greene. He attended Krum High School before he entered the Navy in December 1940. He was aboard the battleship Arizona at Pearl Harbor and was killed during the Japanese sneak attack on Dec 7, 1941. He was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously.



Corporal JOHN W. DOYLE, Infantry, was born February 12, 1920 to Burl Doyle and Emma Adcock of Krum. He was in the Infantry during the Korean War & was killed in action--casualty date November 22, 1951. After his parents' death he and his brother Billy lived with his grandmother Mrs. John Adcock of Krum. Corporal Doyle's brother Pvt Billy Doyle, who also served in Korea, accompanied Corporal Doyle's flag draped coffin home after his death.



Corporal MARION W. RADECKE, US Army was born February 14, 1923 to Ernest Radecke & Icel Chestnut. Corporal Radecke was a member of the 179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. He was killed in action June 15, 1952 while fighting the enemy in North Korea. Corporal Radecke was awarded the Purple Heart, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean War Service Medal.



Ensign JOE DON WATSON, US Navy was born October 22, 1950 and died on August 25, 1975 in an F-4 Phantom jet fighter while trying to land on the U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt. An article from the Denton Record Chronicle dated August 31, 1975 reports that "*Officers said the jet landed on the flight deck and then crashed into the sea. A Navy spokesman said the gear designed to stop the plane malfunctioned. Neither the plane nor the bodies of the fliers has been recovered.*" Ensign Watson was the son of George Edwell Watson and Venita Jean Basye.



Sgt 1st Class JUSTIN S. MONSCHKE was born October 20, 1978 to Larry Monschke and Patty Forsythe. He was killed October 14, 2007 in a south Bagdad region of Arab Jabour Iraq in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2002, he earned his Green Beret. He was in the U.S. Army Rangers, Special Forces and was an instructor in Rangers. Sgt Monschke had earned a Silver Star, a Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Army Forces Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Non Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, (3rd Award), Army Service Ribbon, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge and Russian Parachutist Badge. He was assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group. Airborne, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

If you want to learn more about all the Krum soldiers who have served in the military visit the Krum Heritage Museum and view our "Wall of Honor" a tribute to Krum soldiers. Also we have a book for sale at the museum titled "*Veterans Buried at Jackson and Plainview Cemeteries*" with pictures of tombstones and information on each soldier.

Visit the museum online at www.krumheritagemuseum.com