

## INTRODUCTION

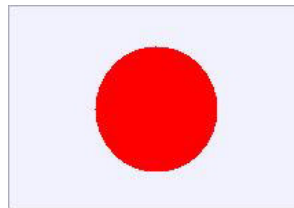
During WWII, all families in the Fennville area, a town in South Western Michigan, were affected by the war. This is a partial story of four of those families. If you do not know these families, the information on their life during these times should be interesting. History of early settlers is also included.

A Human Life exists in many ways over, maybe 60 to 90 years. We, in the United States, have not experienced war in our home land since the Civil War. I personally can not imagine what it would be like to shot another human or even see another human being shot.

Three men included in this story have witnessed this, over and over. Not just being shot but being blown to pieces. One family's son was killed due to the war. They signed up in the military to perform a duty that would keep their country free from the German and Japanese take over programs. The training they received state side prepared them to work with their buddies and use the machinery provided to get the job done. The training provided little toward the anguish they would encounter on the battle grounds. The fighting was hard on them but they did the job. They were in the service to fight so we at home did not have to fight. When they were ordered on a mission, their answer was always, Aye Aye Sir.

To kind of imagine what the guys went through, view the description of the "**Presidential Unit Citation**". To kind of know what a mother goes through, view description of the "**Service Flag**".

## History



LaVerne was born on March of 1935, just as Germany and Japan started their march across the globe. The iron cross displayed the terror.

**1935;** March, Hitler revealed to Europe his military programs, on March 10 Goering announced the existence of the Luftwaffe, on March 16 Hitler announced conscription and a 36-division Wehrmacht, on March 17 proclaimed "Heroes' Memorial Day" as the Beethoven Funeral March was played in the Berlin State Opera House.

**1937;** Japan invaded Mongolia with the thought that Europeans should not rule Asians, Asians should. The U. S. began to support England, France and Russia.

**1940;** Japan signed an alliance with Germany.

**1941;** December 7 – Japan bombed Pearl Harbor.