

Share your loved ones legacy in

## **“REFLECTIONS”**

*While Memorial Day and Veteran's Day are poignant moments of remembrance, Reflections keeps the spirit of honoring veterans alive year-round.*

*Salute your loved one in a heartfelt Reflection of your hero!*

*Leatherneck provides a venue in which individuals can celebrate and recognize the lives of their loved ones by sharing their Marine Corps stories with others.*

*Leatherneck will continue to run obituaries at no charge, but for those who want to further memorialize their loved one or themselves, REFLECTIONS is here to share those memories. This paid feature will run only in Leatherneck.*

### REFLECTIONS – *Pie Keller*

It was always known that Corporal Harold "Pie" Keller was on Mount Suribachi on the day that the flag raisings took place. After all, he was in the well-known "Gung Ho" photo taken on the volcano's summit that had hung in the living room of his home as long as his children could remember. The sides of the black and white picture had been folded back to fit inside a picture frame. They knew their dad had also fought in the Battle of Midway as well as Bougainville and Guadalcanal. Daughter, Kay Keller Maurer recalls that her dad didn't get his Purple Heart until 1955 and he didn't really want it. Meanwhile his wife, Ruby, kept reaching out to the military until they finally sent it to him. But it was on top of Mount Suribachi that Pie Keller's legacy was captured forever, unbeknownst to his family until 2019. Forty years after his passing, it was revealed that he was in the second position in Joe Rosenthal's iconic two Jima flag raising photo.

During the Vietnam War, Kay would try to use news stories to get her dad to open up about his service in WWII to no avail. But after the story hit the press that their father had been one of the two Jima flag raisers, the family was contacted by the son of Corporal Robert A. Leader, who was one of the Marines pictured in Lou Lowery's first flag raising. Leader told them that he wouldn't be alive if it hadn't been for Pie Keller. The medics had missed a few of his injuries and Pie grabbed a medic's bag and finished patching him up.

Pie will be memorialized later this spring with a life-sized bronze statue in his hometown of Brooklyn, Iowa, befitting the first man from Brooklyn to enlist in the Marine Corps (or any service) after the Pearl Harbor bombing. It will join the town's flag display near the location of the last fire station where Pie served as fire chief. Brooklyn's only other well-known resident was John Wayne who briefly lived there when he was a boy, and who starred in the movie called, "The Quiet Man." The same could be said for Pie Keller.



Legacies is a new paid feature in Leatherneck. For information on how to include your story or that of a loved one, please contact us at [advertising@mca-marines.org](mailto:advertising@mca-marines.org) or 703-640-0102.

We would like to offer over 50% off

FULL PAGE	\$2300
HALF PAGE	\$1200
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This example is a half-page ad w/ 2 photos and appr 600 words.

To book now CONTACT: Valerie Preletz, Advertising Coordinator

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