



William John Binter

August 17, 1922 - March 12, 2013

William John Binter, 90 passed away Tuesday, March 12, 2013. He had been a resident of Perry since 1973, having moved from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Binter worked in many capacities for the State of Florida. His various positions with the state included the Department of Transportation, Public School System as well as state contracts. He continued working in various facets until his, all too recent retirement. He had been raised in the Catholic faith and was a lifelong member of the Masonic Lodge in Wisconsin.

Mr. Binter emigrated from Austria at the age of one, in 1923. As a young man he joined the legendary CCC or Civilian Conservation Corps during peacetime. Prior to military service, he worked as a Barber. As a naturalized citizen he fought for his country by joining the United States Army.

He then volunteered for the Merrill's Marauders. Officially called the 5307th Composite Unit and code-named Galahad, the unit was dubbed Merrill's Marauders by a Life magazine correspondent, after their commander, Brigadier General Frank Merrill. The Marauders were a United States Army long range penetration special operations jungle warfare unit, which fought in the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations, or CBI, during World War II. Of its roughly 2,800 members, 130 made it to the end of the campaign - including Bill Binter. After returning from the war he took over his family business and in 1963 he transformed it into the iconic "Golden Zither" restaurant specializing in German food and Zither music. During this time he also ran a cab company and ad agency.

Mr. Binter is survived by one daughter, Erika Binter Trani of Perry, Florida, two sons Gerhart (Gary) Binter of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin and Kurt Young Binter of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Survivors also include grandchildren and great grandchildren.