

Exeter American Legion Lt. Adam Kalanowicz Post #833



“LOCAL FLIER REPORTED LOST AT SEA”, read the headline on Wednesday, May 13, 1942, in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader. Lieutenant Adam Kalmanowicz’s mother Antoinette, of Lincoln Street, in Exeter was notified that her son’s plane failed to return to Mitchell Field after an Atlantic patrol. Meager details of his plight were available. It appears that his plane took off Monday at 4:00AM and has neither been seen or heard from since that time.

Lieutenant Kalmanowicz entered the Army Air Corps about 8 months prior to this accident. He received his wings and was recently commissioned a navigator and had just visited his family in Exeter about two weeks before the accident.

He graduated from Exeter High School where he excelled in football and track. He graduated with a BS from Penn State College. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Massachusetts prior to his joining the Army Air Corps. It has been said that he was the first Exeter resident who died during this war; he died protecting our country.

In February 1946 a group of 15 Exeter residents applied for an American Legion charter and in January 1947 they were granted official permission to organize. Thus began the Adam Kalmanowicz Post 833 Exeter American Legion in Lieutenant Kalmanowicz’s honor.

The Exeter American Legion has enjoyed a long history of support for the military. Many of their members have served in WWI, World War II, the Korean conflict, the Vietnam conflict and some of their relatives have served in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Whichever conflict they served in they did it very proudly.

Recently they have decided to consider awarding a scholarship to a graduating Wyoming Area senior who has presented official commitment papers to Mrs. Rabel.

Some of the projects members of this group participate in include: Co-hosting the annual Memorial Day parade with the 1st Lt Jeffrey DePrimo West Pittston American Legion Post #542 which begins in West Pittston and continues to St Cecelia’s parking lot where a patriotic program is held. They also honor all deceased veterans by placing US flags on their graves in the three Exeter cemeteries for Memorial Day. They also maintain the three monuments located in front of the Exeter Borough Building which stand in memory of Exeter residents who died in conflicts beginning with WW I. In addition when a fellow veteran of Post 833 dies the unit goes to the funeral home and ceremoniously pays full respect to the deceased and his/her family.

Funding this scholarship will now be added to the activities of this post.

Required: Complete only the American Legion Application page and attach a copy of the official **ENLISTMENT** papers as proof of your commitment to the branch of the armed service which you have joined. These must be handed to **Mrs. Rabel** by **April 3, 2020**. Attendance is mandatory at the Scholarship Celebration in May to receive this award.

Criteria: The recipient will be the Wyoming Area Graduating senior who has enlisted in any branch of the service and has the second highest QPA of the pool of enlistees.