

Historical Question:

Which former resident of Cottonwood Heights is among the 13 members of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's office who have died in the line of duty, beginning with Deputy Rodney Badger who died in April 1853?

Historical Answer:

Melvin Charles Colebrook, Jr. was born in 1931. He spent his youth in Butlerville and then moved closer to Salt Lake City. He attended high school at Davis High School in Farmington, Utah. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and then worked for the Union Pacific Railroad for 20 years. After that, he became a Deputy Sheriff for Salt Lake County.

In 1973, Deputy Colebrook was killed in the line of duty during a family fight in the home of one of the vice presidents of Walker Bank. He left behind a wife and three children. He was the great grandson of Charles Colebrook. Deputy Colebrook's name appears on the Officer Down Memorial Page of law enforcement heroes. We honor all those who wear the uniform and dedicate themselves to helping people in their community.

November 2010 Historical Question

1561 E. 7200 S

Question:

What resident of Cottonwood Heights was a B-24 tail gunner during World War II?

Answer:

Eugene W. Price of Union entered into military service on November 23, 1943. He flew 24 bombing missions over Northern Italy, Yugoslavia, Austria, Germany, and Czechoslovakia before World War II ended on May 8, 1945.

"On my eleventh mission we had the most combat damage done to our plane of any of my missions," Gene said. "One of the engines was hit and put out of commission, the hydraulic system of the plane was hit and made useless, and we had hundreds of holes in our plane. We thought we would need to bail out over enemy territory, but our pilot decided to try to make it back to our base. We ran off the runway because of no hydraulic system to slow us down. We were lucky to make it back without any injuries."

Gene was honorably discharged on November 13, 1945. Cottonwood Heights salutes Gene and all of our veterans for their service to our country.