



Jolly & Betty

### Who Where Jolly & Betty?

Jolly and Betty were my parents and two great people who were a part of what has been called the greatest generation that lived through the Great Depression and World War II. They were both born and raised in a small southern Indiana town, Loogootee, Indiana, the type of town that many members of this generation were raised that valued God, family and country. I founded this company in honor of them and the other hard working people of this generation.

#### Jolly

He was one of first males of his family to graduate from high school. After graduation, even in the midst of the depression, he found work in the shipping department of Reliance Mfg. located in his home town. Reliance at this time was a company that manufactured shirts and work clothing. As war spread across Europe, Jolly did what many males in the United States did, he joined the Indiana National Guard. His unit was activated in April 1941 and he arrived in Ireland in early 1944. He was a sergeant in a field artillery unit for Patton's Third Army and returned home in August of 1945. He returned to his job at Reliance in the shipping department.

#### Betty

Betty lost her father before she was two years old in the middle of the tough 1930's. She attended the local Catholic school but like many other women of this generation she left school at age 16 to begin working in the local Reliance Mfg. factory (yes, the same one as Jolly) to help support with effort. By the time she had turned 16, the Reliance factory had been converted to manufacturing silk parachutes for America's paratroopers.

#### Life Together

In 1949 -1950, the Reliance manufacturing plant in Loogootee was closed. Many of the workers were offered employment at the Reliance plant in Seymour, Indiana. Both Betty and Jolly jumped on the opportunity and moved to Seymour and it was in this time they began to get aquatinted and begin dating. In 1955, they were married and begin the typical life of this generation, Jolly continued working while Betty left to have children and become a homemaker. My sister was born in 1956 and I was born in 1964.

Jolly passed away in 1972 at a young age, leaving Betty to finish raising her children as a single mother. Betty passed away in 2013.

Jolly and Betty are just two of many people of this generation who sacrificed, worked hard and just did what they had to, to raise two children and make this country great.