

Seven Stars in One Family's Service Flag



Pvt. William
Tarantino

Pvt. Frank
Tarantino

Cpl. John A.
Tarantino

Sgt. Joseph
Tarantino



Elmer
George

Donald
Shelling

Pfc. Ray
Schaffer

Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Tarantino of North Ninth Street, Quakertown, are qualified to display a service flag with seven stars. They have four sons and three sons-in-law in the Armed Forces. The sons were associated with their father in the monument business before their entering the service. One of the boys has been stationed in the homeland of his father since the invasion of Italy.

Pvt. William Tarantino is serving with an army medical unit in England; Pvt. Frank Tarantino is with an artillery outfit in Alabama; Corp. John Anthony Tarantino is with an Army Air Force unit and participated in action in Africa and more recently in Italy. While in Italy he had the unique experience of running into another, John Anthony Tarantino.

The officer calling the roll one day was dismayed to have two men answer, "here", when the

name of John Anthony Tarantino was called. "Which of you is John Anthony Tarantino?" the officer asked. "I am sir" came from two different men.

The other John Anthony Tarantino was not from Quakertown but San Francisco, California. The coincidence has opened a correspondence between the Quakertown and California families who are trying to unravel their family stories to see where each family comes from. The fourth Tarantino son in service is Sgt. Joseph who is training with an infantry unit in Indiana.

The three sons-in-law are Elmer George F. 1/c, husband of Josephine Tarantino, who is serving with the Merchant Marines; Donald Shelling, Radioman 2c who wears three service ribbons and is the husband of Clara Tarantino, and Pfc. Ray Schaffer, husband of Lucy Tarantino, who is stationed with an aircraft outfit in Louisiana.