

**Joseph K. Kocher**, (13 Sep 1923 – 22 Jan 2013), Perry County Times, Thursday, January 31, 2013

**Joseph K. “Joe” Kocher**, 89, of Marysville died Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013 in Stonebridge Health and Rehabilitation Center, Duncannon.

He was born Sept. 13, 1923 in Marysville to **Howard W.** and **Pearl E. (Maxwell) Kocher**.

He was a retired communications specialist for NASA at the Goddard Space Center, Maryland.

He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, serving as a ball gunner on a B-17 bomber and flying 27 bombing missions over Germany until his plane was shot down over Germany. He was captured by German forces and was imprisoned in the infamous Stalag 17, until being liberated by allied forces. For his contribution to the war effort, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Silver Star and Bronze Star. Upon his discharge, he enlisted in the Air Force and served as a staff sergeant until retiring in 1974.

He was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church, Marysville, and past commander of VFW Post 882, Marysville.

He was the widower of **Doreen B. “Dot” Kocher**.

Surviving are three children, **Keith W.** of Chicago, Ill., **Karen J. Hoffman** of Liverpool and **Kevin F.** of Marysville; and five grandchildren.

Services were held Jan. 29, 2013 in Michael J. Shalonis Funeral Home, Marysville, with Pastor James O. Parker officiating.

Burial, with military honors by the Perry County Honor Guard, was in Perry Heights Cemetery, Marysville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Marysville Fire Company and Ambulance Association, 326 Cameron St., Marysville 17053 or his church, 450 Sylvan St., Marysville.

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