



2001



**William Charles Fackler**  
**Airman 1/C U.S Air Force**  
**15 January 1951 – 20 September 1958**

William was born on 30 December 1930 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, to **Charles William Fackler** (30 May 1900 –21 January 1999) and **Julia Ann Whitehead** (1900–1945). He attended Muhlenberg Elementary School (1935–1942), Raub Junior High School (1942–1945), and Allentown High School (1945–1948), all in Allentown. After graduating from high school, William worked as a Pipe-fitter for Pesamco in Mickleys, Pennsylvania, installing gas station pumps, lifts, and light poles until he enlisted in the Air Force. He was inducted into the Air Force in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as a Private on 15 January 1951. He received basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, followed by training as a Mechanic in Chicago, Illinois, from May 1951 to July 1951. William was then transferred overseas where he was assigned to the 8<sup>th</sup> Radio Relay Squadron, Twelfth Air Force, at Lindsey Air Station in Wiesbaden, Germany, as part of the U.S. Army of Occupation Forces after World War II. He served there as Supervisor of Motor Pool Operations until completion of his active duty. He was released from active duty at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, on 3 September 1954 as Airman 1/C and was assigned to the Air Force Reserve until completion of his obligated service on 20 September 1958. William was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Army and Air Force World War II Occupation Medal (Germany), and the National Defense Service Medal for his service. After returning home to Allentown, William attended Muhlenberg College for four years, graduating in 1958 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. He then worked for Lehigh Structural Steel Company in Allentown, first as a Shop Supervisor and then in the Industrial Engineering Department. He left Lehigh Structural Steel in 1962 to work for McCord Corporation, manufacturer of automotive parts and accessories, first in Allentown, then from 1964 to 1969 at their plant at Old Forge, Pennsylvania. While working at Old Forge, the family lived in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. After leaving McCord in 1969, he worked for Phoenix Forging Company in Catasauqua, Pennsylvania, as Plant Superintendent. He left Phoenix in 1978 to work for Mack Trucks in Allentown in the Corporate Quality Department until retiring in 1996. William married **Barbara Louise Dickert** (born 12 March 1932) on 15 December 1956 in Allentown while attending Muhlenberg College. They made their home in Fullerton until 1964, when they moved to Clarks Summit while working at Old Forge. In 1969, the family relocated to Wescosville, Pennsylvania, in Lower Macungie Township. William and Barbara have three children: **Gregory Charles**, **Kathleen Anne**, and **William Robert**. William's hobbies are gardening, golfing, traveling and eating out. William's father, Charles, was a veteran of World War I who served in France where he was wounded in action. In 1999, Charles was awarded the French National Order of Legion of Honour, France's highest decoration. The award was presented by Alain de Keghel, French Consul General, at Fellowship Manor in Whitehall, Pennsylvania. William accepted the award on behalf of his father, who had died just a few hours before the ceremony.