

Collection #
BV 5450

**KENDALLVILLE POW/MIA FREEDOM TREE DEDICATION
SCRAPBOOK, 1973**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 bound volume

COLLECTION
DATES: 1973

PROVENANCE: Donated by Judith Long

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 1974.0109

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Commander David Scott Greiling was born in 1937 and lived in Kendallville, Indiana. He graduated from Kendallville High School in 1953. After graduation, he attended Purdue University with a Navy ROTC scholarship and graduated with a degree in engineering physics. He then trained with the U.S Navy in jet aircraft for carrier operations.

In 1968, Greiling was sent to serve in Vietnam, and on 24 July, he went missing while leading a night strike mission over the North Vietnam panhandle. He was listed as MIA after several years of searching for his remains at the end of the war.

On 30 June 1973, Greiling's high school class dedicated a tree in Bixler Lake Park in Kendallville in honor of their lost classmate and other prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action during the Vietnam War.

Sources:

Nartker, Dennis. "Freedom Tree Dedicated to Cdr Greiling," last modified February 28, 2006. https://www.kpcnews.com/article_128589d6-0aa7-54f8-b209-083a7f1d9382.html

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This bound volume contains a scrapbook on the creation and dedication of the "Freedom Tree" located in Kendallville, Indiana. The tree was planted in honor of prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action during the Vietnam War, and specifically dedicated to David Scott Greiling by his high school class during their 20th reunion in 1973. The book contains copies of letters and newspaper clippings relating to the dedication plans, with commentary written by the book's creator Judith Long. It also contains a directory of members of the class of 1953.

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