

## **Calvin Ellis**

No matter the conflict or field of battle,  
American soldiers of all races, colors and creeds  
share one common belief.....that freedom is  
worth fighting for.....even dying for.

Calvin Ellis, Jr. was one of these men. Calvin  
was born in 1921 (100 years ago) to Calvin, Sr  
and Berenice Ellis. He grew up on King Street.  
He could trace his Hanover roots back to 1718  
and his family's presence in Massachusetts  
back to 1650. Calvin's 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather  
served as a Hanover Selectman from 1750 to  
1763.

He graduated from Amherst College in 1942 and married Mary Alice Bedale. He enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps on May 16<sup>th</sup> 1942. First Lieutenant Ellis flew 35 missions as a bombardier in a B24 Liberator with the 448th Bomber Group. He was killed in action over Lauenberg, Germany on April 4<sup>th</sup> 1945. He never returned to Hanover. His remains lie at the Ardennes American Cemetery in Belgium.

Calvin Ellis and many brave Americans gave their lives so strangers they had never met would be free from tyranny and oppression in all its evil forms. They left home, work and family to defend something – an ideal bigger than themselves. They left, not knowing, but prepared they may never return. These patriots cherished freedom and loved America. Calvin Ellis, Jr., son of Hanover and American hero. We are grateful for your sacrifice.