

Alan & Lucille Neilson

Stories after the tape turned off:

Before Alan was drafted into the war he was a student at Grace School. His principal, Ira B. Jones, allowed him to come to school late each day so that he could secure a job at the Grove Park Inn where he operated the elevator from 6 – 9 each morning. It was during this time that GPI was used as POW camp for diplomats from Germany and Japan. He recalls employees from GPI taking up room service breakfast to the diplomats. He also remembers that the diplomats had their families with them and that many times the lobby would be strung with clothes line for drying diapers and laundry.

One time while home on leave he heard that Bob Morgan was also home. Robert Morgan was a well-known home town boy who flew the famous Memphis Belle. He figured that if he could contact him perhaps he would be able to hitch a lift and stay a day longer. He went to Biltmore Forest while Bob lived and knocked on the door. The person who answered the door explained that Bob was at the Biltmore Forest Country Club but he could go over there and ask. Alan went right on over and Mr. Morgan was more than happy to oblige. He was grateful for the extra day of visiting with Lucille and his family before he shipped out to England.