

# PASADENA WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The Pasadena War Memorial committee, chaired by Orrin W. Fox on May 25, 1952 dedicated the entire Victory Park as a “Living Memorial” to those who fell in World War II.

At the South West corner of Victory Park, corner of Paloma St. and Altadena Drive, a flagpole was placed with a plaque provided by the Gold Star Mothers. The plaque is inscribed with ”In remembrance of those who made the supreme sacrifice during World War II”.

Memorial Day 2004, the refurbished Memorial was rededicated with red Honor Roses in the interior of the large “V” for Victory and white WWII Honor Roses next to the benches.

There is no accurate count of Pasadena casualties, because many were not processed through local draft boards, while temporarily residing in other sections of the country. However, it is estimated that 11,500 answered the call, with 4,000 casualties. 421 Pasadenans, made the supreme sacrifice.

The 19<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made its home in the Rose Bowl and Oak Grove Park. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory employed more than 4,000 in research and development of rockets and anti-submarine warfare.

World War II was the defining moment of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, a time when the cause of freedom and democracy was imperiled as never before. It is appropriate that we honor the 16 million Americans in uniform, the more than 400,000 who gave their lives, and the millions more on the home front who joined together to win the largest war of all time. Pasadena bestows the highest honor on the “Greatest Generation”.