

## How Marcel Pinte affected me

In contemporary history books, the resistance fighters most often depicted are young to middle-aged adults with nothing to lose. Literature follows the origins of how a loss led them to pursue the Nazi's ruin. However, a few fighters have distinctive characteristics that set them apart from their peers. Amongst this group was Marcel Pinte, a 6-year old who joined the resistance with an active role. His young age and usefulness to the resistance struck a chord with me.

Marcel Pinte was born on April 12, 1938. From a young age, he was prepared to play a role in the resistance. His father, Eugene, organized a small resistance network from his farmhouse in La Gaubertie (The Guardian). His father would task him with delivering messages to nearby residences. Nazis rarely paid him attention due to his young age (Fraga). Aside from his main tasks, Marcel exhibited a very carefree attitude. He charmed other resistance members with his smile, and he sometimes sang songs he heard from others (Ganley). He died of friendly fire. When resistance members were waiting for a supply drop, one man's gun accidentally discharged and killed him (Julien).

Marcel had a task that very few of my friends or family could do, especially at his age. After studying his story, I realized that a person's age rarely dictates what they can or cannot do. For instance, Marcel's age put him in an extremely unique and valuable position as a messenger.

His death was a tragic event; however, it did not go unnoticed. In 1950, the French government designated Pinte as a sergeant of re resistance, forever commemorating his service to France (The Guardian). Despite not knowing him before, I consider Marcel Pinte a hero because he understood his duty at a very young age and followed through. I respect his work, and I am saddened by his premature death.

## Works Cited

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