

White County Veterans Memorial



**FREEDOM
IS NOT
FREE**

**THE NAMES
ENGRAVED
HEREON ARE
WHITE COUNTY
CITIZENS WHO
GAVE THEIR
LIVES FOR OUR
FREEDOMS**

WWWI

**HENRY S. ALLISON – ARMY
GENERAL M. CRUMLEY – ARMY
NEWTON R. HEAD – NAVY
JAMES O. NELMS – ARMY
ARTHUR K. WILLIAMS – ARMY**

**WHITE COUNTY
VETERANS
MEMORIAL**

Dedication Ceremony

**May 30, 2016
Freedom Park, Cleveland, GA**

The names listed below are White County citizens whom we honor today by dedicating the White County Veterans Memorial. The men whose names are engraved on the monument are White County citizens who, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, “gave their last full measure of devotion to our country”. Remember and honor these veterans and never forget that their ultimate sacrifice was not just for their own generation, but for all the generations that followed.

WORLD WAR I

HENRY BUFORD ALLISON - ARMY
GENERAL MARDY CRUMLEY - ARMY
NEWTON ROY HEAD - NAVY
JAMES OSCAR NELMS - ARMY
NISH PALMER - ARMY
ARTHUR KEY WILLIAMS - ARMY

WORLD WAR II

JESSE ELMER ABERNATHY - ARMY
EDWIN HUGH ADAMS - ARMY
AUBREY EUGENE DAVIDSON - NAVY
JOSEPH SHARP DAVIDSON - NAVY
SHERMAN FREDERICK DIXON - NAVY
RONDALL H. GLAZE - ARMY
BARNETT M. HEAD - NAVY
ROBERT J. HOLCOMB - ARMY
WINFORD HUMPHRIES - ARMY
ODELL ASA KENIMER - NAVY
ANDREW R. KINSEY - ARMY
EMMITT THEODORE NIX - ARMY
FRANK PRESGRAVES - ARMY
RANSON QUEEN - ARMY
CLYDE ROGERS - ARMY
MILTON SHAW - ARMY
JAMES H. SIMS - ARMY
RAY SKELTON - ARMY
THOMAS KIMSEY STATON - NAVY

KOREAN WAR

CLIFFORD FAMBROUGH HARDMAN - ARMY
RAY DEAN HULSEY - ARMY
ALLEN DEWEY TURNER - ARMY

VIETNAM WAR

RAYMOND ALLEN - ARMY
KENNETH ALSTON - AIR FORCE
KENNETH SAMUEL GIBBS - ARMY
HAROLD WILLIAM SHULER - ARMY
CHARLES WAYNE SIMS - MARINE CORPS

IRAQ WAR

JASON ROBERT HARKINS - ARMY

The Northeast Georgia Veterans Society (NGVS) began a fund raising drive in June, 2015 to raise funds for the White County Veterans Memorial. The NGVS members on the fund raising committee were: J. Ronnie Webb, President; Dan Albertus, Vice-President; Ronald G. Hill, Secretary, Jimmy O'Neill, Treasurer; and Robert Ingram, Chairman of Fund Raising Committee.

The NGVS expresses our deep appreciation to the generous White County contributors, listed below, who made it possible to erect this memorial and to provide this program booklet.

Medal of Honor (\$750 or more):

Cleveland Better Hometown; Paul Kozoroz; Jacky Jones; Patsy Jones; Dr. Donald Robbins; Ron Webb.

Silver Star (\$500 to \$749):

Signe A. Erne; Ronald and Shirley Hill; Robert and Teresa Ingram; Yonah Mountain Vineyards; White County Republican Party.

Legion of Merit (\$250 to \$449):

Black Bear Lodge Treatment Center, LLC; Burger King of Cleveland; Georgia Mountain Rentals; Chattahoochee United Methodist Church; McDonald's of Cleveland; Nacoochee United Methodist Church Men's Group.

Bronze Star (\$249 or less):

White County Farmers Market; Ferrell and Paul Watkins; Jack Oliveres; Mountain Valley Community Bank; Jedwin Smith; Jacky Jones Ford; Jerry Owens; Annette Braswell Adams; Rudy Potesta; Dan Albertus; America's Best Secured Storage/Sharon Lee; E. Parks Davis; Steven Derry; Terry Goodger; Habersham Winery/Thomas B. Slick; Bryan Lee; Mike Melton; Northeast Georgia Tire and Auto Center; Jimmy and Arlene O'Neill; Leonard C. Parks; Thomas E. Reid; United Community Bank; John W. Vice; Stan D. Davis Contractor, Inc.; Cleveland Police Chief, John Foster; Lowell Giddens; Chuck Goetz; Helen Zipline

Condolences:

The NGVS would like to express our deepest sympathies to the family members of the White County men who lost their lives in service to our country. These men's service will always be remembered and their sacrifice will always be honored as long as there are American veterans.

Appreciation:

The NGVS would like to thank the White County Board of Commissioners and especially, District 1 Commissioner, Terry Goodger, for his support and assistance in securing a fitting location for the memorial.

The NGVS would also like to acknowledge and express our sincere appreciation for the tedious work done by NGVS member, Retired Army Captain Ronald G. Hill, who did the research and drafting of the background and vignettes information for the White County Casualties of War booklet.

Department of Defense War Casualty Definition:

The term "war casualty" applies to any person who is lost to a military unit by having died of wounds or disease, having received wounds, or having been injured but not mortally. War casualties are classified into two categories: hostile and non-hostile (disease and non-battle injuries). A hostile casualty is any person who is killed in action or wounded by any civilian, paramilitary, terrorist, or military force that may or may not represent a nation or state. Also included in this classification are persons killed or wounded accidentally either by friendly fire or by fratricide, which occurs when troops are mistakenly thought to be an enemy force. Non-hostile casualties are not attributable to enemy action. These occur due to an injury or death from environmental elements, disease, self-inflicted wounds, or combat fatigue.

Schedule of War Casualties:

The listing of White County citizens who were war casualties begins with World War I (WWI). The Department of Defense does not have publicly accessible records of casualties prior to WWI. The listings begin with a brief history of the wars and then list the White County casualties in alphabetical order.

WORLD WAR I



World War I, or the Great War, was a global war centered in Europe that began on 28 July 1914 and lasted until 11 November 1918. In late June 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist in Sarajevo, Bosnia. An escalation of threats and mobilization orders followed the incident, leading by mid-August to the outbreak of war which pitted Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire (the so-called Central Powers) against Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan (the Allied Powers). The Allies were joined after 1917 by the United States. The four years of the Great War—as it was then known—saw unprecedented levels of carnage and destruction, thanks to grueling trench warfare and the introduction of modern weaponry such as machine guns, tanks and chemical weapons.

By the time World War I ended in the defeat of the Central Powers in November

1918, the total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I was over 38 million: there were over 17 million deaths and 20 million wounded, ranking it among the deadliest conflicts in human history. The total number of deaths includes about 11 million military personnel and about 7 million civilians. The United States lost 116,516 personnel to military combat and disease including the 1918 flu pandemic which caused about one third of total military deaths for all belligerents.

White County Casualties of War during WWI

1. Private Henry Buford Allison, son of Alanzo McHenry and Margaret Allison, born February 27, 1891 entered the United States Army on September 21, 1917 and received military training at Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Georgia. Private Allison was later transferred to Camp Wheeler, Macon, Georgia, where he was assigned to Battery B, 116th Field Artillery. Private Allison contracted bronchopneumonia, resulting in his death on January 27, 1918 and was buried at Lawrence Cemetery in Helen, White County, Georgia.

2. Private General Mardy Crumley, son of James A. and Sallie Crumley, born July 29, 1893 entered the United States Army on August 6, 1918. Private Crumley contracted bronchopneumonia, resulting in his death on September 30, 1918 aboard a troop ship enroute to Europe during World War I. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Chattahoochee Baptist Church Cemetery in Leaf, White County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife Ella Turner Crumley.

3. Seaman Newton Roy Head, son of John and Virginia Head, born January 7, 1894 entered the United States Navy on January 28, 1915. Seaman Head was assigned to United States Transport "Finland" on which he was serving as Second Gun Crew Captain when the Imperial German Navy torpedoed the "Finland" on October 28, 1917. Seaman Head was killed in action and he was buried at sea. Seaman Head was the first Georgian to be killed in action in World War I. The American Legion, Post 16, in Cleveland, Ga. is named after Seaman Head. Seaman Head was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

4. Private James Oscar Nelms, son of James and Mary Nelms, born May 9, 1896 entered the United States Army on July 24, 1918. Private Nelms was assigned to his military unit in France on September 20, 1918 and contracted bronchopneumonia, resulting in his death on October 7, 1918. Private Nelms is buried at the Memorial Cemetery, Olse-Aisne American Cemetery, and Plot D Row 20 Grave 13 at Fere-en-Tardenois, France.

5. Private Nish Palmer, son of Joseph Ransome and Cutura Jenkins Palmer, born October 8, 1893, entered the United States Army on September 9, 1917 and received his preliminary military training at Camp Wheeler, Macon, Georgia where he was assigned to Company A, 122nd Infantry. Private Palmer contracted bronchopneumonia, resulting in his death at the camp base hospital on November 19, 1917. Private Palmer is buried at Blue Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, White County, Georgia.

6. Private First Class Arthur Key Williams, son of James W. and Nancy Adlaide Allen Williams, born March 22, 1891 entered the United States Army on June 25, 1918. On August 24, 1918 he arrived in France and later assigned to Company M, 137th Infantry, 69th Infantry Brigade, 35th Infantry Division, Sampigny, France. PFC Williams contracted bronchopneumonia, resulting in his death on January 24, 1919. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Slabtown Cemetery, White County, Georgia.

WORLD WAR II



World War II was the bloodiest, deadliest conflict in human history. More than 75 million people died, many of them innocent civilians. The Soviet Union alone lost over 24,000,000 military and civilian citizens. The opposing forces were the Axis Powers composed of Germany, Italy, and Japan and the Allied forces which were composed of the United States, United Kingdom, France, Poland, Soviet Union, Greece, Belgium and China.

The war in Europe began with Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939. By 1941, most of Europe had been conquered by Nazi Germany, which was under the iron grip of dictator Adolf Hitler. Wherever the Nazis went, they waged a campaign of terror, mainly against Jews, but also against other minorities. Over 11 million civilians including 6 million civilian Jews and other minorities were killed by the Germans in the Holocaust.

In Asia and the Pacific, Japanese armies invaded China and numerous other countries. In China alone, the Japanese killed over 20 million Chinese military and civilian citizens.

On December 7, 1941, Japanese planes bombed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The next day, the U.S. Congress declared war, taking the U.S. into World War II. For Americans, World War II had a clear-cut purpose. People knew why they were fighting: to defeat tyranny. The United States provided the bulk of the war equipment, materials and supplies for the Allies.

The U.S. lost over 416,000 military personnel during the Second World War.

White County Casualties of War During World War II

1. Private Jesse Elmer Abernathy, son of Amicus W. and Francis Azzie Abernathy, born September 10, 1917 entered the United States Army on May 5, 1942 and was assigned to Company L, 331st Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division in Normandy where he was killed in action on July 5, 1944. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Chattahoochee United Methodist Church Cemetery, Robertstown, White County, Georgia. Private Abernathy was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

2. Private First Class (PFC) Edwin Hugh Adams, son of Adam and Belle Adams, born February 25, 1922 entered the United States Army on January 1, 1943 and was assigned to Company I, 168th Infantry Regiment, 34th Infantry Division in Italy where he was killed in action on September 7, 1945. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Nacoochee United Methodist Church Cemetery, Sautee Nacoochee, White County, Georgia. PFC Adams was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and Bronze Star Medal.

3. Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class (AMMFC) Aubrey Eugene Davidson, son of Rev. Lewis Marion and Gertrude Davidson, born August 3, 1923 entered the United States Navy on February 7, 1944. On January 21, 1945 his ship was attacked by Imperial Japanese air craft and AMMFC Davidson was killed in action when an explosion occurred below decks. A funeral service was held aboard ship in the presence of his shipmates and his remains were buried at sea with full military honors. A memorial for him and his brother Joseph is at Concord United Methodist Church Cemetery, Carrollton, Carroll County, Georgia where his parents are buried. Davidson was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

4. Machinist's Mate Second Class Joseph Sharp Davidson, son of Rev. Lewis Marion and Gertrude Davidson, born May 18, 1920 enlisted in the United States Navy May 25, 1939 and was serving on the USS Warrington off the coast of the U.S. when the Warrington was lost in the Atlantic during a violent hurricane on September 13, 1944. Machinist's Mate Davidson was ordered to abandon the sinking ship and he boarded a life raft but died from exposure on September 14, 1944. He was buried at sea by his shipmates. A memorial for him and his brother Aubrey is at Concord United Methodist Church Cemetery, Carrollton, Carroll County, Georgia where his parents are buried.

5. Ensign Sherman Frederick Dixon, son of Sharlton E. and Bonnie Palmour Dixon, born October 1, 1919 entered the United States Navy on September 26, 1939 via the pre-war Aviation Cadet program. Ensign Dixon was designated Naval Aviator #10303 in 1941. On June 13, 1942, Ensign Dixon was lost at sea in a crash of a PB4Y seaplane enroute to Natal, Brazil during a severe storm. The crash took the lives of seven crewmen. He was buried at Cleveland Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia.

6. Private Rondall H. Glaze, son of Lester C. and Nazzie M. Glaze, born April 16, 1926 entered the United States Army on August 31, 1944 and was assigned to Company A, 275th Infantry, 70th Infantry Division, Lixing, France. Private Glaze was killed in action on February 17, 1945 after knocking out an enemy machine gun crew which enabled his company to advance. For this action he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC). The DSC is the nation's second highest honor for valor. The citation for Private Glaze's DSC reads as follows:

"The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Private Rondall H. Glaze (ASN: 44036390), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company A, 275th Infantry Regiment, 70th Infantry Division, in action against enemy forces on 17 February 1945, near Lixing, France. During a company attack, murderous enemy machine gun fire halted the advance. Realizing the extreme gravity of the situation, Private Glaze voluntarily assumed the task of knocking out the hostile weapon. He crept across open terrain, while exposed to heavy enemy mortar, artillery, and rifle fire, and hurled a grenade at the machine gun crew, killing them instantly. Though fatally wounded, his courageous action enabled his company to continue its advance and gain its objective. His gallant service, personal bravery and zealous devotion to duty at the cost of his life, exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States and reflect great credit upon himself, the 70th Infantry Division, and the United States Army."

Glaze was also awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Union Grove Congregational Holiness Church Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia.

7. Seaman Second Class (SSC) Barnett M. Head son of Ernest Barnett "Barney" and Delia Head, born June 20, 1922 entered the United States Navy on January 4, 1943. On June 8, 1944 he was serving aboard the Destroyer Escort, USS RICH DE 695, when it was sunk by mines off Utah Beach, France. Seaman Head had taken part in the D-Day invasion of Europe on June 6, 1944 and his ship had supplied supporting gun fire to troops who landed on Utah beach. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Alta Vista Cemetery, Gainesville, Hall County, Georgia. SSC Head was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

8. Private Robert J. Holcomb, son of James Felix and Lassie Holcomb, born September 1918 entered the United States Army on September 11, 1941 and was assigned to 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Normandy, France. Private Holcomb was killed in action on June 12, 1944 and was buried at Plot G Row 5 Grave 21, Normandy American Cemetery, Colleville-sur-Mer, France. Private Holcomb was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

9. Private First Class (PFC) Winford Humphries, son of Allie and Genevie Smith Humphries, born February 27, 1919 entered the United States Army on January 14, 1942 and was assigned to Company G, 148th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division, Philippines. Private First Class Humphries was killed in action on July 25, 1943. In 1969 his remains were found on New Georgia Island, Solomon Islands in the Southwest Pacific and shipped back to Cleveland and buried at New Bridge Baptist Church Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. Private First Class Winford Humphries was the first White County citizen killed in action during World War II. PFC Humphries was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

10. Aviation Machinist's Mate Third Class Odell Asa Kenimer, son of Asa Floyd and Mamie Kenimer, born December 5, 1921 entered the United States Navy on May 22, 1942 and on May 9, 1943 he was killed in a military training accident at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and were buried at Old Zion Cemetery, White County, Georgia.

11. Private First Class (PFC) Andrew R. Kinsey, son of Wilburn E. and Lola A. Kinsey, born February 16, 1920 entered the United States Army on October 2, 1941 and was assigned to Company A, 20th Infantry Regiment, 6th Infantry Division in Luzon, Philippines. PFC Kinsey was killed in action on Luzon Island on March 24, 1945. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Macedonia Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. PFC Kinsey was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

12. Private First Class (PFC) Emmitt Theodore Nix, son of Olley Theodore and Ida Mae Hulsey Nix, born October 5, 1920 entered the United States Army on January 30, 1942 and assigned to 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Normandy, France. Private First Class Nix was killed in action on June 9, 1944 in Normandy, France. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Marietta National Cemetery in Section K, Site 4013-A. PFC Nix was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

13. Private First Class (PFC) Frank Presgraves, son of Louis E. and Neoma Presgraves, born May 4, 1921 entered the United States Army on November 23, 1942 and was assigned to Company K, 21st Infantry Regiment. Private First Class Presgraves was killed in action on June 17, 1945 in Mindanao, Philippines. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Burch Cemetery, Hiawassee, Towns County, Georgia. PFC Presgraves was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

14. Private First Class (PFC) Ranson Queen, son of Lester and Relia Queen, born November 26, 1921 entered the United States Army on February 24, 1943 and was assigned to Company G, 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, Belfort, France. PFC Queen was killed in action near Belfort, France on September 13, 1944. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Clarkesville, Habersham County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife Bertie. PFC Queen was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

15. Corporal Clyde Rogers, son of Robert M. and Essie Rogers, born October 25, 1919 entered the United States Army on March 7, 1941 and on February 14, 1943 Corporal Rogers was discharged from the United States Army to accept appointment as Flight Officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps. On February 16, 1943 he was assigned to the Army Air Forces Advanced Flying School at Moody Field, Georgia and later he was assigned to Barnstable Municipal Airport, Barnstable, MA. Flight Officer Rogers flew anti-submarine reconnaissance flights from there. Flight Officer Rogers was killed in a plane crash while on reconnaissance duty on July 18, 1943. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Center Grove Cemetery, White County, Georgia. Flight Officer Rogers was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

16. Technician Fourth Grade (T/4) Milton Shaw, born January 10, 1917 entered the United States Army on June 19, 1941 and was assigned to Company F, 162nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, New Guinea. Technician Fourth Grade Shaw was killed in action in New Guinea on June 17, 1944. His remains were shipped back to the United States and buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Oakwood, Hall County, Georgia. T/4 Shaw was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

17. Sergeant (Sgt) James H. Sims, son of Walter and Maude Sims, born August 21, 1921 entered the United States Army on November 21, 1942 and was assigned to Company F, 132nd Infantry Regiment, 23rd Infantry "Americal" Division, Cebu Island, Philippines. Sergeant Sims was killed in action near Guadalupe, Cebu Island, Philippines on April 16, 1945. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Chattahoochee United Methodist Church Cemetery, Robertstown, White County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife, Inez. Sgt Sims was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

18. Private First Class (PFC) Ray Skelton, son of Lay A. and Eva Skelton, born August 17, 1918 entered the United States Army on November 18, 1941 and was assigned to 507th Paratrooper Infantry Regiment, Chalons-sur-Marne in France. On January 8, 1945 PFC Skelton was killed in action and his remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Mossy Creek United Methodist Church Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. PFC Skelton was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart Medal.

19. Machinist Mate Third Class (MM3C) Thomas Kimsey Staton, son of J. F. and Olley Staton, born December 23, 1921 entered the United States Navy on February 25, 1943 and was assigned to USS Donnell. On the morning of May 3, 1944 Machinist Mate Third Class Staton was killed in action when the USS Donnell was torpedoed 450 miles southwest of Cape Clear, Ireland. The force of the explosion blew overboard that portion of the ship in which he was located and no trace of him could be found in spite of intensive and thorough search of all that area shortly afterward. At sunset of the same day, while still far out at sea, services were conducted and full military honors were rendered to MM3C Staton. A memorial for him and his shipmates has been erected at Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial, Cambridge, England. His survivors include his wife Mamie Lou Rogers Staton residing in White County, Georgia. MM3C Staton was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

KOREAN WAR



On June 25, 1950, the Korean War began when some 75,000 soldiers from the North Korean People's Army poured across the 38th parallel, the boundary between the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the north and the pro-Western Republic of Korea to the south. This invasion was the first military action of the Cold War. By July 1950, American troops had entered the war on South Korea's behalf. As far as American officials were concerned, it was a war against the forces of international communism itself. After some early back-and-forth across the 38th parallel, the fighting stalled and casualties mounted with nothing to show for them. Meanwhile, American officials worked anxiously to fashion some sort of armistice with the North Koreans. The alternative, they feared, would be a wider war with Russia and China—or even, as some warned, World War III. Finally, in July 1953, an armistice was signed.

The Korean War was relatively short but exceptionally bloody. Nearly 5 million people died. More than half of these – or about 10 percent of Korea's prewar population – were civilians. (This rate of civilian casualties was higher than World War II's and Vietnam's.)

54,216 Americans died in action in Korea, and more than 100,000 were wounded.

White County Casualties of War During Korean War

1. Sergeant Clifford Fambrough Hardman, son of Theodore D. and Mary C. Hardman, born May 10, 1929 entered the United States Army on July 24, 1950 and was assigned to Medium Tank Company, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Korea. Sergeant Hardman was killed in action on March 2, 1952 near Chawol-li, North Korea. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Union Grove Congregational Holiness Church Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia.

2. Corporal (Cpl) Ray Dean Hulsey, son of Albert G. and Flossie I. Husley, born February 3, 1932 entered the United States Army and later assigned to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Korea. Corporal Hulsey was killed in action at Kaechon-Kunu-ri, North Korea on November 29, 1950. His remains were never recovered. A memorial was held for Cpl. Hulsey at Holly Springs Baptist Church Cemetery, Clermont, Hall County, Georgia. Cpl. Hulsey is listed on the Korean War Memorial in Dayton, Ohio, Georgia Panel 4. Cpl Hulsey was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge and Purple Heart Medal.

3. Private Allen Dewey Turner, son of Tom and Lula Turner, born February 27, 1926 entered the United States Army on September 19, 1950 and was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Korea. Private Turner was killed in action while fighting the enemy on Hill 527 in South Korea on March 10, 1951. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and burial at Cleveland Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. Private Turner was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, and Purple Heart Medal.

VIETNAM WAR



The Vietnam War was the longest conflict in U.S. history up to that time. It was another conflict against the forces of communism which pitted the communist regime of North Vietnam and its southern allies, known as the Viet Cong, against South Vietnam and its principal ally, the U.S. The war began in 1954 (though conflict in the region stretched back to the mid-1940s), after the rise to power of Ho Chi Minh and his communist Viet Minh party in North Vietnam, and continued against the backdrop of an intense Cold War between two global superpowers: the United States and the Soviet Union. More than 3 million people were killed in the Vietnam War; more than half were Vietnamese civilians. By 1969, at the peak of U.S. involvement in the war, more than 500,000 U.S. military personnel were involved in the Vietnam conflict. Growing opposition to the war in the United States led to bitter divisions among

Americans, both before and after President Richard Nixon ordered the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1973. In 1975, communist forces seized control of Saigon, ending the Vietnam War and the country was unified as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam the following year. The United States lost 58,307 war casualties during the Vietnam War.

White County Casualties of War during Vietnam War

1. ***Sergeant First Class (SFC) Raymond Allen***, son of James Herman and Dessie Nix Allen, born March 12, 1937 entered the United States Army in March 11, 1954 and later was promoted to the Green Berets, Special Forces. Appointment to the Green Berets was reserved for the elite of U.S. Army personnel. SFC Allen was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group in Thua Thien-Hue, Vietnam. Sergeant First Class Allen was on duty in the A Shau Valley Special Forces Camp when he was killed around 3 AM on March 9, 1966 during a mortar bombardment on the second day of fighting. His remains were shipped back to the United States and buried at Chattanooga National Cemetery, Chattanooga, Tennessee. His survivors include his wife Catherine and daughter Stephanie. His name is listed on the Vietnam Wall; Panel 05E Line 130. SFC Allen was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachute Badge, Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award), Purple Heart Medal, and Posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor. His Bronze Star citation reads as follows:

“Sergeant First Class Raymond Allen, awarded the Bronze Star Medal with “V” Device (Posthumously) by direction of the President of the United States. For heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force: Sergeant First Class Allen distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 9 March 1966 while serving in a Nung “Mike Force” company commander when the company was reinforcing the defenses of Camp A Shau, Republic of Vietnam. When the camp came under a heavy Viet Cong mortar and small arms attack, Sergeant First Class Allen immediately ran from the dispensary through intense hostile fire to organize and encourage his men in the camp defense. While receiving heavy mortar fire, he ran from position to position to insure that his men were in place and ready to defend against the impending Viet Cong assault. Although he was hit by shrapnel from an exploding mortar round as he ran across an open area, Sergeant First Class Allen, disregarding his own wounds, ran to the aid of his fallen comrade and carried him to safety of a trench. Upon reaching the trench, Sergeant First Class Allen was mortally wounded by a direct hit from a Viet Cong mortar round. Through his courage and devotion to duty, he contributed immeasurably to the defense of the camp and the eventual defeat of the Viet Cong force. The heroic actions of Sergeant First Class Allen were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.”

2. ***Airman First Class (AFC) Kenneth Alston***, son of Homer Vault and Mable Loucile Osborne Alston, born May 8, 1941 entered the United States Air Force in October 1961 and was assigned to 919th Air Refueling Squadron, 4252nd Strategic Wing, Strategic Air Command. AFC Alston was Assistant Crew Chief aboard a KC-135C that crashed on take-off from Kadena Air Base, at Naha, Okinawa en route to Eielson AFB, Fairbanks, Alaska. Apparently the aircraft failed to attain an adequate speed on takeoff and crashed near Kadena Air Base. AFC Alston along with all others aboard was killed. Survivors include his wife Jacquelin Annette Martin Alston and a sister Myrtle Chastain, Helen, Georgia. His remains were shipped back to the United States and buried at Crown Hill Cemetery, Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia. His name is listed on the Vietnam Wall; Panel 07E Line 86. AFC Alston was awarded the Purple Heart Medal

3. ***Private First Class (PFC) Kenneth Samuel Gibbs***, son of Leonard and Bertie M. Gibbs, born January 31, 1948 entered the United States Army on March 14, 1967 and on August 20, 1967 he was assigned to K Troop, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry, Long Khanh Province, South Vietnam. On September 4, 1967, PFC Gibbs he was killed in action from hostile small arms fire. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at County Line Baptist Church Cemetery, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife Brenda and sister Terri Gibbs Crumley of Cleveland, Georgia. His name is listed on the Vietnam Wall; Panel 25E Line 110. PFC Gibbs was awarded the Purple Heart Medal and Bronze Star Medal for Valor.

4. ***Private First Class (PFC) Harold William Shuler***, son of Charles Harrel and Ethel Dealey Dyer Shuler, born October 22, 1949 entered the United States Army June 26, 1969 and was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment (Strike Force), 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. PFC Shuler was killed in action when his fire base was attacked on February 11, 1970 by NVA Sappers. His remains were shipped back to Georgia and buried at Mount Zion Baptist Church Cemetery number 2, Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia. Survivors include his wife Wanda. His name is listed on the Vietnam Wall: Panel 14W Line 125. PFC Shuler was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor with first Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Combat Infantryman Badge. The citation for the Bronze Star reads as follows:

“Private First Class Harold William Shuler, Awarded the Bronze Star Medal with “V” Device (Posthumously) with first Oak Leaf Cluster by direction of the President of the United States. For heroism in ground combat against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam on 11 February 1970. Private Shuler distinguished himself while serving as a member of a reconnaissance platoon in Company E, 2d Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry, in defense of Fire Support Base Rifle, Republic of Vietnam. When the fire base came under a coordinated mortar and sapper attack, Private Shuler manned his position in the perimeter and returned accurate rifle fire. Despite his effective suppressive fire, a concentrated sapper force overran his sector of the perimeter. Private Shuler remained and helped defend his sector until he was mortally wounded. His actions helped protect his fellow soldiers from the invading enemy. Private Shuler’s personal bravery and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.”

5. ***Corporal (Cpl) Charles Wayne Sims***, son of Charles Wayne and Minnie Jean Sims, born June 27, 1944 entered the United States Marine Corps on December 15, 1961 and later assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Chu Lai, Vietnam where he was killed in action on February 28, 1966. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Chattahoochee United Methodist Church, Robertstown, White County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife Josephine. His name is listed on the Vietnam Wall; Panel 05E Line 091. Cpl Sims was awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

IRAQ WAR

The invasion and stabilization of Iraq was part of the broader war against terrorism by the George W. Bush administration. In the build-up to the war, President Bush, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and other top officials made the case that Iraq's leader, Saddam Hussein, was linked to international terrorism and had the capability to deploy weapons of mass destruction. Liberating Iraqis from tyranny and building democratic institutions were the dominant themes in the administration's justification for the war and its direction.

More than 190,000 military and civilian people have been killed in the 10 years since the war in Iraq began. As in all wars, the true number of military personnel injured over the course of our nine-year-long war is in the hundreds of thousands if you take into account all the men and women who returned from their deployments with traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress, depression, hearing loss, breathing disorders, diseases, and other long-term health problems.

Reported U.S. casualties for the Iraq War are 4,487 killed and 32,226 wounded

White County Casualty of War During Iraq War

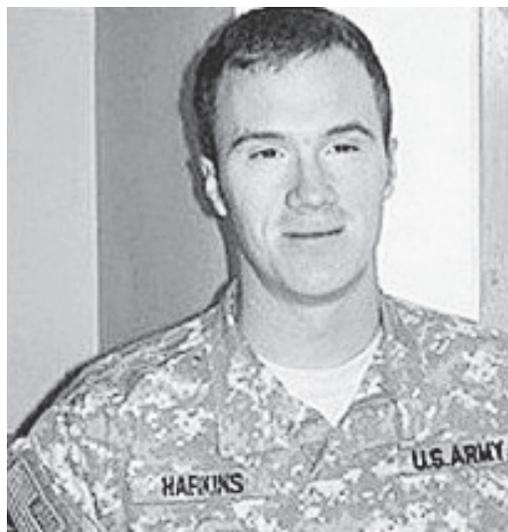
Sergeant Jason Robert Harkins, son of Bobby Harkins and Nancy Harkins Fritchey, born September 29, 1981 entered the United States Army Reserve in 1999 and entered active duty on December 16, 2002. He was later assigned to the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. On May 6, 2007, while deployed to Baqubah, Iraq, Sgt. Harkins was killed in action in Baghdad, Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. Sergeant Harkins was serving a second tour in Iraq. His remains were shipped back to Cleveland and buried at Yonah View Memorial Gardens, Cleveland, White County, Georgia. His survivors include his wife, Emily, and his mother, Nancy Fritchey. Sgt. Harkins was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Purple Heart, Bronze Star for Valor, and Silver Star (Posthumously) Medals.

Sgt. Harkins was awarded the Silver Star for actions he performed prior to the combat action in which he was killed. The citation for the Silver Star Medal reads as follows:

“The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, 9 July 1918 (amended by act of 25 July 1963), has awarded the **SILVER STAR** to Sergeant Jason R. Harkins, United States Army, for Gallantry in action on 17 March 2007 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His outstanding dedication to duty during combat operations in Iraq contributed to the overwhelming success of the Company's mission. Sergeant Harkins' actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, Attack Company, the Stryker Regulars, the Arrowhead Brigade Combat Team, and the United States Army.

Sergeant Jason R. Harkins, United States Army, distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous and heroic acts in the performance of his outstanding service to the United States as 2nd Squad, Alpha Team Leader, 3rd Platoon, Attack Company, 5th BN, 20th IN REGT, on 17 March 2007 during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

Sergeant Jason R. Harkins performed acts of conspicuous valor, in total disregard for personal safety and in the face of life threatening danger. On 171835MAR07, in Buhritz, Baqubah, Iraq, vicinity grid 38SMC 6755 2955, SGT Harkins, while serving in the capacity of 2nd Squad Leader, saved the lives of his fellow squad members and repelled a violent enemy ambush.



The Platoon was tasked to secure a route through a built up area of Buhritz to an over-watch position for the night. Third Squad took point and began to move to the over-watch position with 2nd squad following right behind. They went up a narrow alley to a T-intersection. The area was dense with 2 to 3 story buildings on all sides. 3rd SQD was securing a foothold in their over-watch position when 2nd Squad was ambushed with sustained PKC and AK-47 fire.

The accurate enemy fire was impacting near and around 2nd Squad with rounds ricocheting off the buildings and road. During the initial exchange of fire, SPC Holubz, SPC Conroy and PFC Turner were wounded and SGT Harkins was shot in the head. The round that hit SGT Harkins hit him on the top of his MICH (Modular Integrated Communications Helmet), ricocheting off, causing no penetration. Without hesitation, SGT Harkins identified the enemy's position and returned accurate fires with his M4 and M203. Seeing that all of his men were wounded and incapacitated from their wounds, he straddled PFC Turner to shield him, continuing to return fire from the standing position in the middle of the alley way. He ordered his men to stay down and attempt to find cover and return fire if they were able. During this process, SGT Harkins made initial assessments of his casualties, reported to higher command requesting support. 3rd Squad responded from the north and 1st Squad from the south, By the time the rest of the Platoon arrived at the scene. SGT Harkins' accurate fires had caused the enemy to break contact to the east.

SGT Harkins immediately organized a MEDEVAC effort, physically carrying PFC Turner back to the last Platoon strong point, while other members of the Platoon carried SPC Holubz and SPC Conroy. At the strong point, SGT Harkins utilized his EMT training and stabilized SPC Conroy while the Platoon Medic and other members of the Platoon treated the other casualties. Once the casualties were stabilized, vehicles arrived to MEDEVAC them to FOB Gabe. SGT Harkins ensured that his Soldiers were transported via litters to the awaiting vehicles. He continued his efforts until every wounded Soldier was MEDEVACED, only then did he stop to rest.

SGT Harkins' single-handedly defeated an enemy ambush. Despite being shot in the head, he stood over his Soldiers, returning accurate fires against a superior enemy force. He undoubtedly saved the lives of his squad members and prevented further Coalition Force casualties. Furthermore, he carried one of them out of the engagement area, treated wounds and ensured that all personnel were evacuated in a timely manner.

SGT Harkins' heroic, valorous, and selfless actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect distinct credit upon himself, this Command and the United States Army."

Designation of Cleveland Post Office as "Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office Building"

The United States Congressional Record

One Hundred Tenth Congress of the United States of America: At the Second Session Begun and held at the City of Washington on Thursday, the third day of January, two thousand and eight.

H. R. 3936: AN ACT: To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Helen Highway in Cleveland, Georgia, as the "Sgt. Jason Harkins Post Office Building". April 23, 2008.

SOURCES

Diligent and thorough research efforts were made to ensure each of these vignettes is accurate and complete. Relevant sources and documents were studied by Ronald G. Hill, Sr., and the vignettes were edited by Tom Summers. These descriptions and accounts come from a variety of public information sources, as noted below:

General website search; Ancestry.com; The National Archives', National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO; FindAGrave.com; United States Federal Census; Georgia Department of Veterans Services; Relatives of deceased member; Fold3.com; Mooseroots.com; Virtualwall.org; Bing.com; Habersham and White County school records; Militarytimes.com; White County Georgia Genealogy Trails; The United States Congressional Record, U. S. Army Human Resources Command, Fort Knox, KY, and White County News.



Distinguished Service Cross Medal

Awarded for extraordinary heroism not justifying the Medal of Honor; and the act or acts of heroism must have been so notable and have involved risk of life so extraordinary as to set the individual apart from his or her comrades.



Silver Star Medal

Awarded for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States.



Bronze Star Medal

Awarded for heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone. "V" device for acts of valor in combat.



Purple Heart Medal

Awarded for being wounded or killed in any action against an enemy of the United States or as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces.



Combat Infantryman Badge

The U.S. Army awards the Combat Infantryman Badge for performing duties while personally present and under fire while serving in an assigned Infantry, Ranger or Special Forces capacity, in a unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size, engaged in active ground combat, to close with and destroy the enemy with direct fires. In 1947, the U.S. Government implemented a policy authorizing the retroactive awarding of the Bronze Star Medal to World War II veteran soldiers who had been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.



Northeast Georgia Veterans Society

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Western Sizzlin, 1963 Tom Bell Road,
Cleveland