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WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 2013 Wreath Laying Ceremony

ROME CEMETERY 1500 JERVIS AVENUE ROME, NY

DECEMBER 14, 2013 12:00 noon



PARTICIPANTS

The following volunteers are greatly appreciated for their participation in this year's ceremony.

Congressmen Richard Hanna, NY Senator Joe Griffo, NY Assemblymen Anthony Brindisi

Military Honor Guard, Servicemen/women with CMSGT Maureen Dooley USAF ANG EADS/DOE

Patriot Guard Riders – Ride Captain Region 3 - Leo Griffin

Donna Mucks and KEYS Choir under direction of Colleen Bennett

AFJROTC Cadets from RFA and NJROTC Cadets from Proctor High School

Ceremonial Wreath Layers:
Air Force - Col. Ian Sanderson (Ret)
Navy - Cdr. Rob Piper
Army - Col. Richard Gifford
Marines - Daniel Berkhoudt
Coast Guard-Merchant Marines - Julie Fallon (SOVENA USA)
POW/MIA - Rita Gamela (BAE Systems)

- 21. Revere Copper Products
- 22. Rome VFW
- 23. Rome Teachers Federal Credit Union
- 24. Franklin Hotel and Restaurant
- 25. PAR Govt. Rome Research Corp
- 26. Edward L. Smith Jr. Det 245 Marine Corps League
- 27. Daniel Berkhoudt Architect P.C.
- 28. Joe and Margurite Maurer
- 29. Mary Craiglow

"Wreaths Across America" is a non-profit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman, Morrill Worcester, in 1992. The mission, Remember, Honor, Teach, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington and other locations in all 50 states. This year's goal is to place 500,000 wreaths at veterans' graves in more than 900 locations nation-wide and beyond.

Sing along, sing along For the fightin' strong Sing along, sing along For the fightin' strong Sing along

For the fightin' strong For the fightin' strong

For the lost 'long the way Though you did not fall in vain Purple mountains, amber grain Where you always will remain

If you're proud of all you're given Sing along, sing along If you love the life we're livin', Sing along, sing along

If you're proud of all you're given Sing along, sing along If you love the life we're livin', Sing along, sing along

No, we haven't forgot How we get what we got All because of the proud and the few So to every soldier standin', Remember that we're singin' for you

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

12 Noon – Moment of Silence to remember the fallen.

Posting of Color Guard – National Anthem (Kirsten Croniser)

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Remarks followed by remarks from Congressman Richard Hanna, NY State Senator Joseph Griffo, and NY Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi

Wreath Laying of the Seven Ceremonial Wreaths

"For You And For Me" (Donna Mucks)

"Soldier Song" KEYS Choir

Closing Remarks (Bob Haley)

Taps (Scott Rutledge)

Amazing Grace (Dave Morgan)

A 21 gun salute by the VFW Color Guard will take place near section MN before the wreaths are placed.

Featured biographies of Rome Cemetery Veterans

Pvt Joseph Cervo



Joe was born in Rome on April 3, 1925. Shortly after graduation he enlisted in the Army to fight in the war as his father John had done in WWII.

Joe was a paratrooper, serving in Co C 506th Paratroopers of the 101st airborn Division in WWII. His plane was shot down 6 miles from the airfield in Rachen Holland by the Germans. He was a POW for an unknown length of time and died at the POW camp. His body was buried in Europe for several years. At the insistance of his mother, his body was brought back to the United States 5 years later. His funeral was held January 13, 1949 with full military honors.

Postumately he was awarded 3 Bronze Stars for service in the Normandy Campaign as well as several other medals and badges.

"Soldier Song" by Glorianna

Here's a song for the ones Who sacrifice so much So that we can be free In this country that we love

If you're proud of all you're given Sing along, sing along If you love the life we're livin', Sing along, sing along

No, we haven't forgot How we get what we got All because of the proud and the few So to every soldier standin', Remember that we're singin' for you

For the choice that they made For the million lives they saved Lift your voice, loud and brave Give thanks for the price they've paid

If you're proud of all you're given Sing along, sing along If you love the life we're livin', Sing along, sing along

No, we haven't forgot How we get what we got All because of the proud and the few So to every soldier standin', Remember that we're singin' for you

Stewart Edward Campbell

Stewart was born in Rome on April 16, 1949, the son of John E. and Fern Foster Campbell.

He was educated in Rome Schools and graduated from RFA. Upon graduation he joined the Marines and served in Vietnam.

He worked at Revere after being discharged from the service. In 1971 he married Chythia Anna and resided on Webster Hill in the town of Boonville.

Stewart met an untimely death in a car accident at the junction of Tannery Road and State Route 69 in Rome on March 21, 1976. He was 26 at the time.

Dr. William Canfield Emerson

William was a physician and surgeon and author of many books about Florida and the Semenole Indians. He also authored many medical books on bile and gallbladder.

William was born in Council Grove, Kansas in 1893 and in 1925 received his Medical Degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

During WWII he held the rank of Major and served in the Army as head of Operations & Surgery at Fort Braggs in Fayettville, North Carolina.

After the war, he set up practice in Rome and died on May 13, 1970

John Cervo



1898 - 1967

John Cervo was born in Western PA after his parents came to America from Italy. Along with his father (my great grandfather Giuseppe) and several of his siblings including my grandmother Josephine he worked at Westinghouse Air Brake factory until they moved to New York in 1924.

He served in the U.S. Army during WW I. He worked at and retired from the General Cable Corp in 1963, and was president of the Rocco-Racco Post, Italian-Amercian Veterans.

He met and married Agnes, and together they had a son named Joseph, who was killed in WW II at a young age. They also had another son and two daughters.

He passed away at his home.

Carlton E. Wolff TEC 4 MED DET 106th Infantry



Carlton was born in Rome on February 22, 1917. He was awarded the **Silver Star** for gallantry in Saipan fighting against the Japanese.

His **Silver Star** citation read: For gallantry in action against the Japanese in action at Saipan, Marianna Island June 17, 1944. A rifle company was severly hit by enemy artillery and mortar fire, T-CPL Wolff with completer disregard for his personal safety went immediately to the aid of the men wounded by this fire. He worked untiringly until all the wounded had been evacuated.

Later, while under heavy fire from enemy tanks, he again remained under constant fire and observation of the enemy and tended wounded and dying. When darkness came he remained with some of the wounded who had not been evacuated, tending their needs, and guarding them until morning when

Everett 'Ted' A. Eychner



Everett "Ted" A. Eychner, 84, of Rome, passed away on Saturday, August 20, 2011, in Rome Memorial Hospital with his loving family by his side. He was born on October 4, 1926 in Rome, a son of the late William and Emma Rostiser Eychner, and was raised and educated in Rome. Ted faithfully served his country in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. On June 29, 1946, in the Trinity United Church of Christ, Ted was united in marriage to the former Sadie Smith.

Ted retired from the Department of Defense in 1978 after 25 years of dedicated employment. Ted also worked for Oliver's Office Equipment for over 40 years, retiring in 1997. He worked as an Election Custodian for the City of Rome for many years. Ted was a member of the Trinity United Church of Christ, Galliano Club, Frank Steczko Post, and was a Life Member of Rome Elks Lodge #96

Dr. Lindsay J. Ervin

Dr. Lindsay J. Ervin, 65, of 6464 Pillmore Drive, city health officer from 1967 to 1973 and ormer commander of the U.S. Ur Force Hospital at Griffiss AFB, died this morning at Rome Hospital after a lengthy illness.

He was born in Montrose, Mont., March 8, 1910, son of Harry and Alice Fletcher Ervin. He was graduated from Montrose High School, the University of South Dakota and Rush University Medical College, Chicago, where he received his M.D. degree in 1937.

He served one - year internships at Mercy Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa, the Des Moines County Hospital and John Hopkins Hospital. He earned a masters degree in public health during this period.

He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and retired as commander of the Griffiss hospital in 1962 after 19 years of service.



Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Mrs. Fred (Kay) Ebetino, Waterloo, Iowa, and Miss Nancy M. Ervin, a student at Colorado State University; two sons, Lindsay B. Ervin, Crofton, they were finally removed. The following day T-CPL Wolff again continuously exposed himself to enemy fire while performing his duties as an aid man

Carlton also received the **Purple Heart and Bronze Service Medal** for wounds suffered on April 20, 1945 during fighting on Okinawa.

After discharge from the service, Carlton worked as a Police Officer at Griffiss AFB and for 19 years at General Cable in Rome. He died at the age of 44 at the Veterans Hospital in Syracuse on Nov 23, 1960

Cpl Arthur R. Jansen



Death Takes Rome Marine In Vietnam

Marine Cpl. Arthur R. Jansen, 21, son of Alvin G. and Mary E. Johnson Jansen, 208 Expense St., died in Da Nang, Vietnam, Wednesday.

His parents were notified of his death by the Marine Corps, but cause of death was not immediately known.

Cpl. Jansen was born July 10, 1946, in Vienna, where he had lived until coming to Rome a month before entering service on Aug. 3, 1964. He was last home in May, 1967.

Surviving with his parents are three sisters, Mrs. Albert (Lillian) Town Jr., Blossvale; Mrs. Frank K. (Dorothy) Armstrong Finster, Camden, and Mrs. Ronald (Barbara) LaGasse, Vienna; a brother, Paul W. Jansen, and a half-brother, Erwin J. Armstrong, both of Rome.

Funeral services will be held in the Griffin & Aldridge Funeral Home at a time to be announced.

Spec 4 Martin A. McZeal



Martin A. McZeal

Rome Soldier Killed In Action in Vietnam

Army Spec. 4 Martin A. McZeal, 21, of 103 Whittier Ave., was killed June 18 during an ambush near Tay Ninh, Vietnam. Serving as a gunner with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), he was disembarking from a

helicopter when he was fatally wounded.

The son of Chatman and Elma L. Davis McZeal Sr., he was born April 14, 1948 in Rome. He was a 1967 graduate of Rome Free Academy and entered the Army in August, 1968. He had been in Vietnam since January and was named soldier of the month in April for his company.

He was a member of the Grace Union AME Church, its Youth Fellowship and the Junior Optimists.

Surviving besides his parents are a sister, Sharon E. McZeal; four brothers, Chatman Jr., Winston, Carlton A., and David L. McZeal, all of Rome; and his paternal grandmother, Orelia McZeal, Jennings, La.,

Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Strong Funeral Home.