

Dear Veteran,

Thank you for your service to your country! Hampton Township is attempting to record the names and histories of all who served in the military and either lived in, graduated from, or worked in the township. We are using this information to honor your service and to keep the Veteran's Memorial Wall current by honoring those who served from our community.

At the present time, the Veteran's Memorial Wall includes Bronze Plaques for those who served from 1861 (Civil War) to World War II. There are other granite markers and stones in remembrances of individual sacrifice, as well as recognizing other conflicts in our nation's history. We are attempting to update our registry and to register names in order to add a Korean War and a Vietnam War Plaque to honor those who served during these conflicts. We would appreciate it if you would fill out the registration information and return it to us at the address on the enclosed envelope. It is important to return this form as soon as possible since we are hoping to complete this project in time for Memorial Day.

Once again thank you for your service. We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible. If you know other veterans from Hampton Township who have not been contacted, please submit their names so they may be included.

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Graduation Year _____ Date of Enlistment _____
Address When Enlisted or Drafted _____

Branch of Service _____ Dates of Service _____
Highest Rank Achieved _____ Years of Service _____

Are you a recipient of Purple Heart Silver Star Bronze Star V for valor

Other recognitions received _____

Current Address _____ Phone Contact _____
_____ E-mail _____

Do you wish to have your name added to the Plaque in recognition of your service?

Yes ___ No ___

Signature of Veteran _____

Name & Contact Information if you are registering a veteran _____

Please feel free to use the back of this form to include a summary of your service history.

A Gift to Honor Our Veterans

Hampton residents have always been devoted to honoring the contributions of our family, friends and neighbors who defended our country in times of war. The earliest efforts to memorialize our veterans honored those who served in the Civil War. Through each subsequent war new groups of veterans have been recognized for their sacrifices. Now an initiative is underway to bring together each of the respective memorials into a park-like setting in which Hampton residents can reflect and remember our heroes. It also offers residents a chance to make a gift in honor of their loved ones through the purchase of a memorial brick paver. The following articles provide details on plans for the new memorial and perspective on why honoring our veterans is so important.

Hampton Veterans Memorial Court Plans

By Richard Dunlap

Plans are under way to develop a new Veterans Memorial in honor of Hampton-area veterans who have served their country. As Americans, we are extremely privileged to live in a country that cherishes freedom and liberty. We initially acquired our liberty by the efforts of George Washington and the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War. Much blood was shed and many lives were lost for the sake of we who continue to enjoy the experience of living without fear of our government.

Since the Revolutionary War, the men and women of our country have been called upon many times to fight to preserve our freedoms, and to protect

the world from tyrants who sought to destroy or enslave us. As a nation, we have paid dearly to defend and protect our way of life, and to do our best to help other people of the world share our blessings. America has unselfishly sent its young men and women to serve in our military forces in time of need, and many of our local youth today are serving our country in uniform.

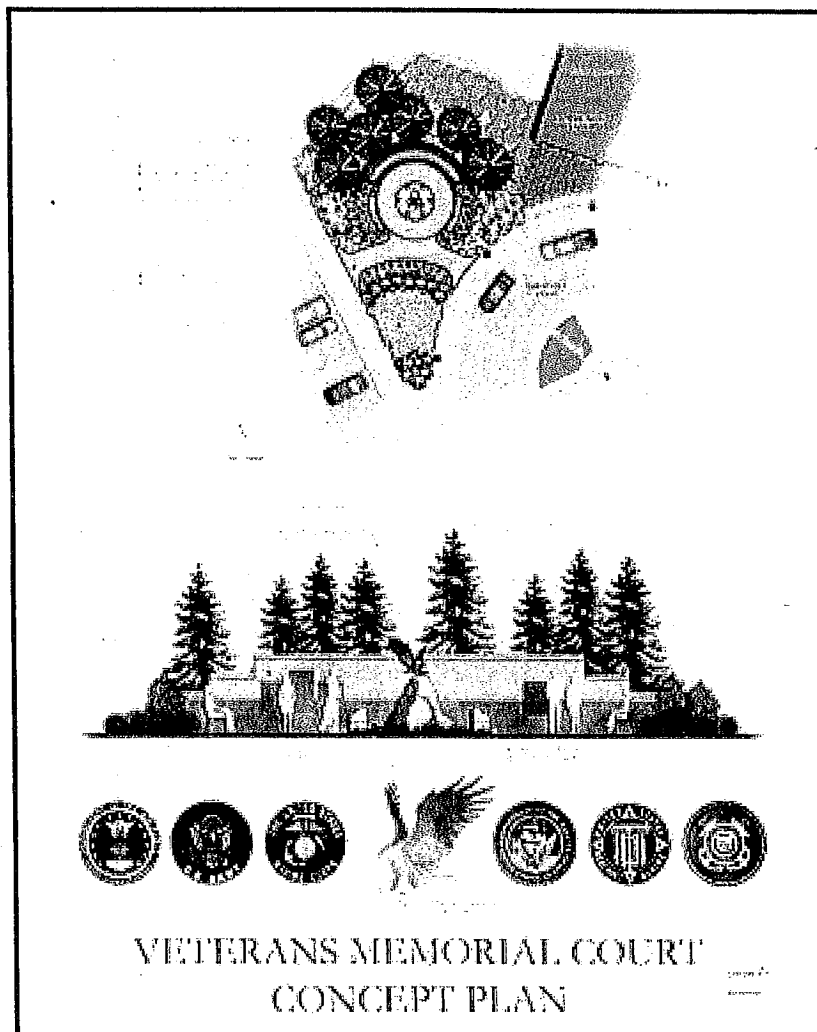
Hampton Township has a Veterans Memorial, currently located on Mt. Royal Boulevard, near Hampton Fields. The first memorial was built to honor the local veterans of the Civil War. Additions were made for World War I and World War II. Many names on the memorial are familiar names of Hampton families. We also have many veterans who now live in Hampton Township who served our country from their own home communities.

The Hampton Community Association, a non-profit, tax-exempt community association, has agreed to spearhead a fund raising drive to create a new Veterans Memorial Court at a more prominent location adjacent to the Hampton Community Center. Elements from the old Veterans Memorial on Mt. Royal Boulevard may also be relocated.

The Memorial Court will be located just off of the entry on the circular drive at the Community Center's main entrance. A circular plaza will be constructed, with a large sculpture of the American Eagle as the focal point of the court. Around the eagle will be six stone bases, each displaying the medallions of our six military services. Surrounding the Eagle and the service medallions will be a brick walkway and benches with a semi-circular brick wall featuring the historic plaques.

The entire Veterans Memorial Court will provide a beautiful and dignified place to visit and recall loved ones who served to preserve our precious freedom, some of whom paid the ultimate price for our benefit. The Memorial Court will be a sanctuary for reflection by everyone who visits, not just for those whose families are from the local area.

The goal is to make the Hampton Veterans Memorial Court a worthy tribute to all of our veterans. It will be a beautiful, dignified and respectful place for introspection and remembrances, and it will serve as a reminder and as an inspiration to our young people, who



must never forget the price we have paid for our freedom. They, too, may someday be called upon to serve our country.

The local chapters of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have endorsed the plan.

The Hampton Community Association plans to raise \$150,000 to make this dream a reality. This memorial can be achieved only with the help of Hampton's many patriotic citizens. Please consider making a significant tax-deductible donation to the Hampton Community Association to show your appreciation for the service of the many veterans from Hampton Township.

Remembering Those Who Served

By Martha Hunkele

Hampton resident Hugh L. Anderson heeded President Lincoln's call and went to join the Union Army during the Civil War. A young man in his twenties, full of life and a future, Hugh was no different than 20-year-old men and women today. In the early 1860s the necessities of war were in short supply. There were few comforts, little food, scant supplies and combat was managed up close and personal. It took sheer will and determination to survive and Hugh Anderson did. After the war he married his wife Martha in 1869 and they moved to the area now known as Hampton Township and set up housekeeping. They owned their own farm and raised six of their eight children to adulthood.

The original Hampton Memorial was the brainchild of Martha Anderson to honor her husband and those who served in the Civil War. It was built as a reminder for all generations to stop and reflect on those men and women who have served their country and made sacrifices in their personal lives to preserve

our freedom. The first memorial was made of wood and located across from what is now Anderson road and the former entrance to Mount Royal Boulevard. The land was deeded to the Township of Hampton for a dollar on May 18, 1920. It was given by Martha S. Anderson to the Road Supervisors, Benjamin Herr, Charles Anderson and Edward McNeal, trustees for the people of Hampton. She



Wesley G. Garrard, receiving a medal.

donated the land to honor and respect the memory of her deceased husband, Hugh L. Anderson who served in the Fifth Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, during the Civil War.

World War I saw the involvement of more than two million men and women by November, 1918 when the war ended. Many Hampton residents participated in "The Great War," as it was then known and our present memorial displays the names of those from the area who served and distinguishes with an asterisk those who lost their lives during this duty. It is unclear as to when this memorial was dedicated. The three area men who gave

their lives in service to their country were Harry Haberlein, E.E. Kennedy, Jr., and Walter H. Niggel. Harry Louis Haberlein was a likable fellow who grew up on a farm in the Hampton area. He was one of six children raised by John and Annie Haberlein. His brothers Arch and John, along with his sisters, Cora, Norma, and Dorothy, lived at home when he joined the Naval Reserves in 1918. He was assigned to the USS Ticonderoga.

He wrote many letters home to his family and friends at Hampton Presbyterian Church, where he also taught Sunday School. He lost his life when the USS Ticonderoga was torpedoed on Harry's second trip across the Atlantic Ocean. He was only 23.

The World War II Veterans Memorial on Mt. Royal Boulevard was dedicated with a service on October 8, 1950. It has four bronze plaques listing the names of those heeded the call to duty after the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor. There were 18 service members from our community who lost their lives in duty to their country: John W. Dayton, Robert H. Domesek, Robert L. Garrard, Harry L. Godfrey, Ray A. Philips, Kenneth L. Sample, Ray E. Seibert, Frank J. Tupper, John G. Wagner, Sebastian A. Wagner, Frank H. Westhoff, Noble F. Wood, Kenneth P. Ziegler, James G. Hickey, Roy C. Holliday, John R. Jennings, Albert B. Kohan, and George F. Michel.

Two of Hampton's WWII veterans, Robert L. Garrard and Wesley G. Garrard, were cousins who were also boyhood buddies. Bob enlisted in the Army Air Corps in September, 1941, marrying Caroline Cather of Glenshaw before he left. Wes soon followed Bob into the service, enlisting in the Army in November of 1941. Bob participated in 26 bombing raids over Nazi Europe and Africa. He was wounded three times by antiaircraft

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Hampton Students Meet Our Veterans

This year marks the seventh annual Hampton Heroes event conducted by the Hampton Township School District to honor residents who have served our country. A total of 162 local veterans (who live in, work in, or graduated from HHS and served in any branch of the military, at any time) have been inducted into the program over the years.

Three of the Hampton Heroes have also received their Hampton High School diploma at the event, under "Operation Recognition," which allows veterans who left high school to enlist during World War II. The program has become so successful it has outgrown the capacity of the Elementary Schools. This year, Hampton Middle School hosted the event for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students on Friday, November 10.

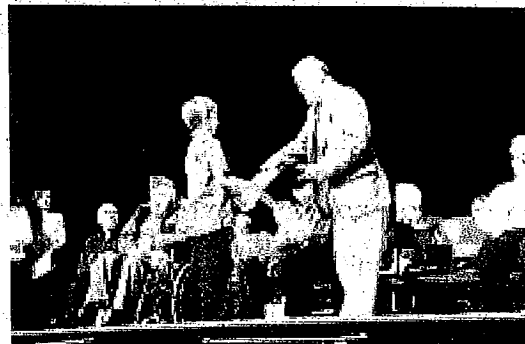


PHOTO BY JOHN MADIA OF MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY

A Gift to Honor Our Veterans (continued)

fire and was awarded three medals. Wes became a military policeman, spending 42 months in campaigns that took him to Algeria, French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, and Germany. Wes was awarded four medals for his service to his country. Sadly, the cousins were not to be reunited after the war.

Robert L. Garrard was killed in a plane crash in 1944, shortly after take off from Bolling Field in Virginia on the way to his home base of Mitchell Field, New York. Wes returned to Hampton Township following the Japanese surrender in 1945, where he married Verna Mae Griffin. Together they had four children and Wes worked for the United States Post Office as the Postmaster for Gibsonia for 17 years.

Hampton residents have continued serving the country through the Korean War, Vietnam War, Grenada, the Gulf War and now in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hampton High School resident Nicholas Tomko enlisted in the Army Reserves after high school, becoming a member of the Army's 307th military police reserve unit at age 19. He had lost his mother to complications of a kidney transplant and grew up spending time between

his father, Jack Tomko, who lived in the Meridian area, and his mother's family, who lived in Hampton. He started school at Hampton in seventh grade and graduated from HHS in 1997. He and his fiancé, Jess Baillie, were to

be married when he returned from Iraq.

Nicholas was paired with Spc. Mark C. Chalmers during a mission to perform night-time sweeps for explosive devices. Sergeant Tomko was in the turret of their vehicle when they were ambushed from both sides by small arms fire. Tomko died on November 9, 2003, very close to the end of his tour of duty. His life of promise as a police officer, husband and father to his son, Ethan, was cut short too soon. Lisa Pfab, Nicholas' cousin, in reflecting on her family's loss commented, "... you can't believe anyone can possibly understand how you feel. I



Hampton's Sergeant Nicholas Tomko serving in Iraq.

PHOTO BY 1ST LT. STEPHANIE EDINGER, 307TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

now know there are 1,000 other families feeling like we do. And as for me this Veterans Day, I learned what a treasured holiday it is now."

It would be a great travesty to the men and women who have volunteered their service to our

country if we did not attempt to recognize that service through our memorial plaza. It is hoped that in this relocation and expansion of the current memorial we as a Township will be able to continue to honor those brave men and women who serve their country in times of war. Information is needed from those residents of Hampton who have served in this capacity by proof of discharge or death.

If interested please leave your information with the Department of Community Services or [redacted] at 412-486-0400.