



THE LONG KNIFE

Quarterly Newsletter of the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter
Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution

*"Serving Madison, Jersey, Macoupin, Bond,
Greene, Calhoun, & Montgomery Counties"*



Genl George Rogers Clark on "The March to Vincennes" by Frederich Coffay John, 1929

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September 2020

Death of a Former Member



Troy Mabry Huddle, age 94 years 361 days, of Highland, Illinois, passed away at 7:01 AM on July 26, 2020, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. He was born on July 31, 1925, to Marion David and Mary Belle (Rosenbaum) Huddle in Goodman, Mississippi. He was the youngest of seven children of a Lutheran circuit preacher father and a former Montana homesteader/school teacher mother.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years Yoshiko Chitose Huddle, his six sons, Michael, Peter (Suzanne), Paul, Mark (Marie), David (Laura) and Daniel; eight grandchildren: Nicholas, Nathan, Maya, Zachariah, Matthew, Michio, Jeremiah, and Mabry; and one older brother Benjamin Paul Huddle (1916). He was predeceased by: Keller Yonce (1912-1985), Harold Brown (1915-1999), Carl Eugene (1919-1919), Andrew George (1921-1991), and Elizabeth Carolina (1923-1997).

Troy grew up during the Great Depression in the area of Rural Retreat, Virginia, and was always active as a child. He would tell a story of his mother catching him and his brothers after riding the cows around the pasture, "You haven't done anything new but you just do it in a different way." Troy lived his life in a

different way and it was a series of stories that he loved to share with others.

His parents allowed him to sign up for the military in 1942 at the age of 17 and directed him to join the Coast Guard so that he could remain close to home as the youngest son. Naturally, upon completing training as an electrician's mate in Philadelphia, he was promptly deployed to the South Pacific where he served until February 1946. Following discharge from the Coast Guard, he briefly attended Lenoir-Rhyne College in 1946-1947 before joining the newly created Air Force in 1948. His career in the USAF took him across the United States and around the world. In his travels, he visited every state in the Union as well as multiple countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and even to the Arctic Circle on an iceberg. Not only was he a veteran of World War II, he also served during the Korean War and was one of the first to deploy to South Vietnam to set up air bases as an electrician following the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

After retiring from the USAF as a Master Sergeant on his birthday in 1975, he began work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Clarence Cannon Dam Project in Missouri. He later transitioned to the General Services Administration, and finally St. Louis VA Medical Center, Jefferson Barracks, where he worked as an electrician until his 2nd retirement on his birthday in 1992.

Troy was active in retirement with the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution where he was once chapter president. He volunteered as well at the VA hospital and was an active member of VFW Post 5694 in Highland, Illinois, with his oldest son.

Some of Troy's favorite things were good food (ice cream), traveling, gardening, tinkering in his shop, telling stories, and spending time with family. Whenever he was able to combine any of those things was when he was happiest. He was a stubborn, devout, generous, and a unique individual who was greatly respected and will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to meet him.

Due to the current pandemic of 2020, immediate family saw him off in a closed ceremony on August 1, 2020. A memorial ceremony is planned for July 2021 for all his friends and loved ones who would like to attend once COVID has passed. He will be laid to rest at Marine Cemetery next year on the anniversary of his birth July 31, 2021.

In Lieu of Donations/flowers, Online condolences and fond memories may be left for the family at www.meridithfuneralhome.com. Donations can be made out to VFW Post 5694, 1900 VFW Road, Highland, IL 62249 or the Hope Lutheran Church, 2745 Broadway, Highland, IL 62249.

Death of a Member



Jerry Wendell Oglesby, 69, died at 9:00 am, August 31, 2020, at the Jerseyville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Jerseyville, Illinois, after a lengthy illness. Born November 20, 1950, in Lafe, Arkansas, the son of Ralph and Mabel (Smith) Oglesby.

He was an employee of the Jersey County School District from 1975 through 1979; and he farmed in the Fieldon area from 1979 until 1994. Moving to Florida in 1994, he went to work for a printing company in Jacksonville, Florida. He became disabled in January 2000, and retired from the printing company.

Jerry was proud to have been a member of the Hill's Fort Society; and he helped build the replica of Hill's Fort in Greenville, Illinois. This effort gained him an award for Dedication and Commitment in Preserving the History of Bond County, Illinois. In 2013, he was also the recipient of an Honorary Membership in the Illinois Society of the War of 1812. In March 2016, Jerry became a member of the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter of the Illinois State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He gladly participated in many grave markings and parades honoring veterans of the American Revolutionary War or War of 1812.

For many grave markings, Jerry "played" Taps. One of the things he really enjoyed for many years was helping youngsters spin rope at the Hill's Fort Rendezvous.

He was a member of the Fieldon United Church of Christ from 1972 to 2008. He and Rose Mary were sponsors of the Youth Group for many years. He served on the Church Council and helped with the annual church dinners. When they returned to Illinois in 2008, they joined the Godfrey Congregational Church, where he served on the Building and Grounds Committee for many years, and took care of the church maintenance until his declining health no longer allowed him to do so. He was an avid fisherman and hunter, and enjoyed tinkering, as well as fixing anything to do with small engines. He thoroughly enjoyed his association with stock car racing, and the many friends that he accumulated.

He married the former Rose Mary Devening on August 21, 1971, at the State Street Baptist Church in Jerseyville, Illinois, and they had just recently celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary.

Surviving are his wife, Rose Mary Oglesby of Bethalto; a daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Shawn McKinney of Green Cove Springs, Florida; two grandsons, John Paul Cook of Bethalto and Brandon (Ashley) McKinney of Green Cove Springs; one great-grandson, Brayden McKinney of Green Cove Springs; a brother and sister-in-law, Ralph and Susie Oglesby of Lafe, Arkansas; a sister-in-law, Virginia Oglesby of Whitesburg, Georgia; two brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Gary and Linda Devening of Jerseyville, Illinois, and Robert and Ferne Ridenour of Dorsey, Illinois; and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Lester Oglesby, Jay Oglesby, and Joseph Oglesby; and one sister, Phyllis Oglesby Bounds.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 5, 2020, at the Godfrey Congregational Church, 6104 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Illinois. Reverend C. Richard McCreary officiated. The Funeral Ritual for a Departed Com-patriot was performed by GGRC members. Inurnment took place the same day at Fieldon Cemetery in Fieldon, Illinois. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, memorials would be greatly appreciated to the Godfrey Congregational Church Building Repair Fund.

Eagle Scout Honors



EAGLE SCOUT AWARDS

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Godfrey, Illinois

August 18, 2020

Congratulations to Jacob Kreitner and Patrick Moehn of Troop 7, Alton, Illinois, for attaining the rank of Eagle. The new Eagles received a certificate, patch, and pocket Constitution. Shown are (l-r): Robert Ridenour, GGRC President; Jacob Kreitner; Patrick Moehn; Richard Ruedin, GGRC Vice President and Eagle Scout Award Chairman; and John Bridgeman, Scoutmaster

August ILSSAR Board of Management Meeting

The August ILSSAR Board of Management meeting was not a face-to-face meeting; it was a Zoom meeting held August 27, 2020, at 6:55 p.m. There were 22 Compatriots in attendance, including the GGRC Secretary, Chuck Dobias. Thank you, Chuck, for representing our chapter.

The Genl George Rogers Clark received several awards:

Presidential Citation for perfect attendance at the 2019-2020 Board of Management Meeting of the Illinois Society.

Certificate of Commendation for active participation in the Flag Display Recognition Program.

Joel Willis Newsletter Certificate for Producing the Required Number of Chapter Newsletters for 2019.

Plus two of the GGRC members received individual awards. These will be presented at the next meeting we have, whenever that is.

Since Our Last Event

We hope this finds all of you and yours well. Again, this issue of *The Long Knife* is going to be rather short. There is not much to report.

The last event in which the Genl George Rogers Clark Chapter SAR participated was a Boy Scout Court of Honor on August 18, 2020, at which two scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. The Court of Honor took place in the parking lot at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Godfrey, Illinois. The GGRC involvement was organized very quickly due to the fact that both scouts were going to leave for college the next day, going in different directions and might not get back to this area for awhile. Thanks to Eagle Scout Award Chairman, Richard Ruedin for getting things organized in a matter of hours.

In light of the current conditions placed on public establishments by State and Local Governments to alleviate the effects of the Covid-19 virus, we have cancelled all meetings of the GGRC Chapter until further notice. When it is deemed safe to meet again, we will reschedule the meetings. We will try to keep you up-to-date on our website: ggrc-sar-il.org. We are sorry for any inconvenience this will cause.

To quote an old Persian adage, *“This Too Shall Pass.”*

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

— *Thomas Paine*

The Long Knife is a quarterly publication of the Genl. George Rogers Clark Chapter, Illinois Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Robert W. Ridenour, Editor; Lola DeGroff, Associate Editor

Send announcements, items of interest, and member news to:

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Scheduled monthly meetings: 11:30 a.m., the third Wednesday of each month at Edwardsville Moose Lodge, 7371 Marine Rd. (Rt. 143), unless announced otherwise.