

***Department of Louisiana
American Legion Family
Remembrance and Prayer Lists***

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of Him.”

(1 John 5:14-15)

God reads the prayers of our heart even before they have been formed into words or vocalized by our mouth.

Sick List

For those who are having medical difficulties who are receptive to prayer offered on their behalf, let us continue to lift their names in prayer:



Prayers For The Ill

Heavenly Father, we ask Your blessings be bestowed on our comrades, friends and family members who are suffering physical and mental discomforts. We realize that every thing will not be perfect for us and we ask Your grace in helping us to understand and carry the burdens that are placed before us. We are weak and often fail to carry out Your will and perhaps our personal suffering is the consequence that we must face. We know that the confession of our sins will lead us on to the favor of your grace. Today, dear God we ask forgiveness of our sins. We seek to honor You in all ways. Bless those who truly need You and all who call on Your Holy Name. Give strength and hope to those who ask for it. Give comfort to those who trust in You and Your all healing power. Bless the caretakers of those who are unable to do for themselves, Amen.

Heavenly Father, may it be Your will that You heal the body and spirit of our friends whose names are listed below:

Gilbert Morris (Young veteran, Jackson AL)

(My daughter's brother-in-law. Emergency surgery in San Francisco for brain tumor.)

Marilyn Beauford, Jefferson Unit 267, Nursing home care.

Penny Trepagnier, Legion Department Secretary

Camille Legendre, SAL Detachment NEC, Recent hernia surgery recovery

Roslyn Downs, Liver transplant from brother Shanderick

(Daughter of Freddie Downs, Monroe Post 521)

Joe and Ruth Cormier, Post and Unit 387, (request)

Al Sanders, Monroe Post 13, Continues dialysis

Donna Fransen, Metairie Post 64, Biopsy medical exams

Bobby Watts, PDC Springfield Post 258, recent surgery recovery

Paul Greer, PDC Leesville Post 145, Recovery after heart issues

(Resigned from all Legion Department positions.)

C. J. "Buddy" Anthony, Recovery from health issues

Peter L. Martinez, 3rd District Commander, Raceland Post 349

And all others who desire prayer

(*carried forward from an earlier date*)

- *Sybil Deshotel, Past National President, Lake Charles Unit 1
 - *Alvin Broussard, Kaplan Post 271
 - *Forrest Travirca, Lockport Post 83 (Surgery rehab)
- *Murray and John Dennis, Thibodaux, Friends of Veterans
- *Debra Caballero, (Daughter of Jackie Cromwell) Cancer - chemo)
- *Cheryl Bossenmeyer, Auxiliary Dept. Secretary, Jefferson Unit 267
 - *David Duracher Sr., Covington Post 16
- *Penny Trepagnier, Department Headquarters Secretary
 - *Tony Betts, Past DEC, Kaplan Post 271
 - *Harold Burson, Cedar Grove Post 6
- *Bea Guidry, Raceland Unit 349 (Wife of PDC Eldon Guidry)
 - *Rev. James Akers (KS) Past National Chaplain
 - *Henderson Kennedy Jr., Thibodaux Post 513
- *Rev. Vincent Turner (Past AL Chaplain) and wife Sandra
 - *Ruth Cormier, New Llano Unit 387
 - *PDC Archie Boyette, Alexandria Post 3
 - *Albert Martin, Lockport Post 83
 - *Wendy Couvillon, Raceland Unit 349
 - *PDVC Sammy White, Winsboro Post 559

In Memory Of The Deceased



*You toiled so hard for those you loved.
You said goodbye to none,
your spirit flew before we knew,
your work on earth was done.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
as time goes by we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face:
no one can fill your vacant place.
Your life was love and labor.
Your love for your family true.
You did the best for all of us.
We will always remember you*

We pray in memory of

Sammy White, PDC, Winnsboro Post 559 (12/30/16)
Sister of Jackie Monroe, Church Point Unit 225 (01/21/17)
Hazel Sanders, (Aunt of Maggie Watts, Springfield Unit 258) (recent)
C. Nini Lynch, GA), Past National Auxiliary Chaplain (2011-12)
Maestro Peter Ole', National Convention organist (recent)

And for all others here unnamed



LINKS OF INTEREST:

***For The National American Legion
Honor and Remembrance Page
(please go to)***

<http://www.legion.org/honor>

For The Bereaved

**There is a simple message
That travels from above
A simple but needed message
All wrapped up in their love**

**Your pain and tears are seen
And completely understood
There is no one or right way
There are no "have to" or "should"**

**Listen to the message
That is sent from up above
Grief is natural and real
A demonstration of our love**

**And when grief makes room
for a bit of happiness or peace
They know that they are not forgotten
That our love will never cease**

~Tanya Lord

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www.TheGriefToolbox.com

www.facebook.com/grieftoolbox



For Our Deployed Military

Captain Michael Cavalier Jr. (El Paso, TX)



Honor Four Chaplains Sunday -- February 5, 2017

THE BRAVERY OF FOUR CHAPLAINS

By Matt Grills | The American Legion

On Feb. 3, 1943, the United States Army Transport *Dorchester*, a converted luxury liner, was crossing the North Atlantic, transporting more than 900 troops to an American base in Greenland. Aboard the ship were four chaplains of different faiths: Reverend George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Reverend Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic).



Around 12:55 a.m., a German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck *Dorchester*'s starboard side, below the water line and near the engine room. The explosion instantly killed 100 men and knocked out power and radio communication with *Dorchester*'s three escort ships. Within 20 minutes, the transport sank and more than 670 men died. As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, the four chaplains spread out, comforting the wounded and directing others to safety. One survivor, Private William Bednar, later said, "I could hear men crying, pleading and praying. I could also hear the chaplains' preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going." Another survivor, John Ladd, watched the chaplains' distribute life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven," he recalled. As *Dorchester* sank, the chaplains were seen linked arm in arm, praying.

Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington were posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart, and in 1948, Congress declared Feb. 3 to be Four Chaplains Day. The four chaplains were also honored with a U.S. postage stamp that year. Because of the Medal of Honor's strict requirements of heroism under fire, Congress authorized a one-time Chaplain's Medal for Heroism on July 14, 1960. The award was presented to the chaplains' next of kin Jan. 18, 1961. On Feb. 3, 1951, President Truman dedicated a chapel in the chaplains' honor at Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia. When the building was sold, the chapel fell into disrepair, and the foundation overseeing the chapel moved it to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in 2001. The chapel was repaired in 2004 and given the name Chapel of the Four Chaplains. In 2006, at The American Legion's 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, the National Executive Committee passed a resolution that supported awarding the Medal of Honor to Fox, Goode, Poling and Washington.

Every year, American Legion posts nationwide remember Four Chaplains Day with memorial services. The [Chaplain's Handbook](#) in which you can find information on performing a Four Chaplain's service on pages 11-22 is available online. For additional information on how to conduct a Four Chaplains Memorial Service, contact Timothy Lankford (tlankford@legion.org) of the Americanism Division at (317) 630-1212. Learn more about the four chaplains by visiting The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation site at (www.fourchaplains.org).

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MEDITATION:

GOD, PRAYER AND THE AMERICAN LEGION Gerald Theriot, Department Chaplain

A Legionnaire told me that he heard that our organization was in the process of removing God from the American Legion and he seemed to be a bit puzzled about the words I used when offering prayer during our sessions. The conversation made me think about the others who may have heard such or who had concerns about the prayers that I use. I feel that it is necessary to address his concerns and share my responses with all.

The American legion is a not a religious organization however, it is not an organization without religion. It is non-secular in nature and embraces all religions, faiths, and denominations within its ranks. American Legion chaplains do not have to be clergy; in fact, most are not. Our chaplains are encouraged to honor and respect all religious traditions. Over time, the suggested prayers in the American Legion Prayer Manual have been modified to encompass all faiths. We should not assume that everyone is of our own faith in their beliefs. If that is not possible, one should not accept the position of American Legion chaplain. The American Legion chaplain must not proselytize within the organization. Individual consultations are allowed if requested. The chaplain who knows his audience is most successful in praying to our Supreme Being in mixed audiences.

Like our nation's founding fathers, the veterans who founded the American Legion acknowledged God as the source of all our rights and freedoms. Conceding the erosion of moral and spiritual values in recent years and recognizing our dependence upon God, The American Legion reaffirms its commitment to bring all American closer to their Creator and remind them of His proper place at the center of the nation's life. In the spring of 2015 the National Executive Committee approved Resolution 20 which asks all Legion Family members to honor the anniversary of our national motto "In God We Trust". Currently, the national organization is formulating a way of paying special attention to the history and heritage of "In God We Trust". Such action should assure anyone that The American Legion is not attempting to remove God from the Legion.

During our annual Chaplains Session which is conducted during the Americanism Conference in Indianapolis, we discuss the many aspects of the American Legion chaplaincy. Amongst them, how we pray and encouraging "Service to God and Country" are the most spirited. Rest assured that giving honor to God is most safe within the Legion. Our motto "For God and Country" as established by our founding fathers should dispel any doubt.

Additional Sources: The American Legion Chaplain's Handbook (Stock# 23-028)

<http://www.legion.org/honor>

National Chaplain's Message

Harvey H. Klee (2016-17)

On the third Monday in February we celebrate President's Day, notably the birthday of George Washington, which was established as a federal holiday in 1885. In some states it has been expanded to include Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

This timeframe reminds me of a sermon written by Henry Van Dyke in 1893. Van Dyke was a minister, who joined the United States Naval Reserve Chaplain's Corps. You may know of Van Dyke as the author of the hymn "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee." His sermon was entitled, "The people are responsible for the character of their rulers."

The gist of his sermon is stated in these words: "The rulers are chosen from the people by the people. The causes which produce the men and raise them to office, and clothe them with authority, are in the heart of the people. Therefore in the long run, the people must be judged by, and answer for, the kind of men who rule over them."

Our founding fathers were true patriots, who loved their country with a loyal, steadfast love and desired it to be ruled by the best leaders available. When history completes the record and posterity pronounces the verdict, it is by the moral quality of our leaders and representatives that a people's patriotism must be judged.

Today, we seem faced with a crisis of fraternity: whether a vast people of all sorts and conditions of humankind can live together in liberty and brotherhood, without standing armies or bloody revolts, without unjust laws which discriminate between the rich and the poor and crush the vital force of individuality, divide classes, and live in liberty and fraternity and with the least possible government and the greatest possible security of life and property and freedom of action. The leaders who wreck or rescue our country will simply represent the moral character and ideals of the American people.

It is within this context and out of this concern that I offer the following prayer.

Dear Lord,

We come to you at a time that our nation is struggling. Struggling with wars, identity, cohesiveness and most of all, struggling with faith. We acknowledge that we have problems and issues here in this time and this season of your creation.

We believe in our hearts that you have the ways and means to change the minds, thoughts and hearts of those in power, and those to make the decisions that affect our very lives. We ask for a revival of faith in the United States in our churches, places of business, homes and halls of Government.

Lord, be the guiding light over the United States and its leaders. We pray over the military generals and leadership of the United States so that they might make good and just decisions for our country. Bless the soldiers in the fields, fighting for the United States. Be with them to protect them from the harm and danger that they face.

We thank you, Lord, for allowing this prayer to be prayed as a petition of prayer for our country, its people, its leaders and our world. Amen.

*Harvey H. Klee
National Chaplain 2016-2017*

NOTES:

Issue 17-01, 020217



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We may use verses from the Bible and writings from other sources to realize the purpose of this interfaith-based Remembrance and Prayer List. The intent is to uplift individuals and to help bring a heartfelt focus to our thoughts.

Please forward the names of individuals to be added or removed from our Remembrance and Prayer List to the email addresses above. We will do our best to distribute revisions via email soon after receipt. Individuals will not be listed unless sufficient identifying information is provided. Please include the name and post, unit, squadron or relation. Please be sure to indicate to which list they should be added. Additional information may be included so that cards can be sent. Information about health conditions may be included when appropriate and approved by the individual listed. We are also adding the names of relatives and members of other departments for whom prayer is requested. Abbreviations for office titles may precede some names. Obituary sites are entered if available. The issue number represents the year and current issue number. A dove 🕊, or cross ✝, appearing near a name on the sick list indicates that the person is now deceased. Clickable obituary and info links are provided when practical.

ISSUE 17-01 UPDATES: Please submit names for publication. Names were added to the ill and deceased lists; prayers changed and graphics changed. Email addresses changed. (The names of ill individuals that were listed more than thirty days were removed. Other names will be removed prior to thirty days at your request. Please request re-inclusion if desired.)

"When we engage in the act of prayer itself, there is no preparing, no getting the right words, no posture to take, no mood to assume. We simply do it. Prayer is primal speech. We do not first learn to do it, and then proceed to do it; we do it. In the doing we find out what we are doing, and then deepen and mature in it." - Edmund Clowney