

1956 Class Notes

Huff Memorial Service

4/1/2013



A memorial mass was said for former Class Scribe **Jerry Huff** in late March at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Herndon, Virginia. **Ruth Huff** and many of **Jerry's** family were present, including several grandchildren who took part in the service by reading Bible passages. A retired naval aviator and long-time motorcycle riding friend delivered a short and eloquent eulogy. A reception followed at the Huff residence where photos of **Jerry** over the years were displayed and classmates and family members enjoyed meeting and talking with one another. It was a fitting farewell to **Jerry**.

Classmates and wives attending were: **Sam Alward, Con & Linda Anderson, Mike & Ann Conrad, Maury & Christine Cralle, Gene Fox, Tom Griffin, Fred & Robin Holmes, Bob Hull, Sally Lee Hunter & Jack Levy, Mike & Jane Lion, Bob & Mary Quackenbush, Jack & Linda Sloan, Bob & Ginny Sorley, Bill Weihl, and Mary Woods.**

*Photo of the Class floral arrangement at the memorial and later at the **Huff** reception.*

11th Airborne Division Reunion

3/29/2013



Gene Lynch and Dale Baldwin and their wives held a February Company I-2 micro-mini reunion in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This

event has become a yearly affair for them when **Gene** and **Ginny** attend the annual 11th Airborne Division Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter reunion and commemoration of the Division's liberation of the Japanese prison camp at Los Banos in the Philippines. During dinner, they enjoyed reminiscing about the good old days of Beast Barracks and Company I-2, and updated each other with happenings in their families and with classmates and friends. Both extend warmest regards the great Class of 1956.

Pictured are: **Dale & Peggy Baldwin** and **Ginny & Gene Lynch**

The Mid Hudson Celebration

3/29/2013



Four classmates and wives celebrated Founders Day 2013 with the West Point Society of the Mid Hudson Region on March 10 at the West Point Thayer Hotel. The introductory highlight of the celebration was the memorial to the empty plate of missing comrades. Speeches by the oldest and youngest graduates followed the exceptional Thayer Hotel champagne brunch. Superintendent Lieutenant General David Huntoon Jr. '73 addressed the assembled graduates and guests via a pre-recorded video. The Riverbank Banjo Band provided lively music.

Attending and pictured left to right, are: **Gerry & Barby Richardson, Carolyn & Ted Ogren, Farrell & Nancy Patrick, Marianne Burhans, Linda Tidler & Luciano Salamone**

It Took a Hero

3/19/2013



Norman Schwarzkopf's West Point send-off

was very fitting. Under the gray skies of February 28, hundreds of friends and admirers gathered in the Cadet Chapel. Among the many honoring **Norm** were 27 classmates with spouses and guests, as well as former Vice President Dick Cheney, Colin Powell, Chief of Staff of the Army General Odierno and retired former Chiefs of Staff of the Army, Generals Vuono and Sullivan.

During the funeral service **Leroy Suddath**, Colin Powell, and Cynthia Schwarzkopf offered inspirational memorial tributes. Cadets serving as ushers, speakers, and marching in the procession following the service to the West Point Cemetery were all members of Cadet Company A-1, **Norm's** former Company. The burial ceremony at the Cemetery included martial music, gun and rifle salutes, taps, and the presentation of the folded flag to **Brenda** by Superintendent, Lieutenant General David Huntton. **Norm's** burial is near the gravesite of his father, Herbert, Class of 1917, and his mother. Fox News network provided the only full television coverage.

A reception followed at the West Point Club. **Brenda** and their children Cynthia, Jessica, and Christian, and grandson Max were present. Also notably present were uniformed members of the New Jersey State Police, founded by Norm's father. All were former armed services members.

The nights before and after the service were the scenes of classmate dinner and reminiscence gatherings at the Thayer Hotel and other venues near West Point, all celebrating **Norm's** life.

The Class of 1956 joins **Leroy Suddath** in the closing words of his tribute to **Norm**:

"Seldom does history grant a single individual the ability, charisma, creativity, morality and intelligence to command the respect, admiration and affection of an entire nation. Norm was that man-- and he has left us a great legacy. He was not just a bright light in the Long Gray Line, he was one of the brightest lights in the Long Gray Line-- and we will miss him dearly."

Classmates taking part were:

Doc & Peggy Bahnsen, Nancy Cody, Jack Conklin, Mike & Ann Conrad, Rude & Maude De France, John & Gloria Foss, Gene Fox, Tom & Jane Griffin, Butch Harbold, Carl & Denny Hattler, Tony Jezior, Gus Johnson, Pete & Ginger Lash, Ward & Judy LeHardy, John & Penny McGinn, Dave Muntz & Hedi West, Jack Nicholson, Ted & Carolyn Ogren, Farrell & Nancy Patrick, Gerry & Barby Richardson, Ivar & Vyvyan Rundgren, Luciano Salamone & Linda Tidler, Jim & Sandra Sewell, Don Sheehan, Bob & Ginny Sorley, Leroy & Carole Suddath, Heath & Mary Twichell, and Bill & Jan Wehl

A Hawaii Greeting

3/9/2013





Gene & Evelyn Fox and Bob & Mary Lou St. Louis send the Class an “Aloha” while enjoying the sunny Waikiki Beach on their recent vacation in Honolulu. While there, they visited the Punchbowl Cemetery and viewed the dedication to classmate **Bob Stewart**, and also enjoyed lunch at their hotel with **Anna Blackwell**, widow of classmate **Jesse Blackwell**.

*Photo Left: At lunch with **Gene & Evelyn Fox** and **Bob & Mary Lou St Louis** beside **Anna Blackwell***

*Photo Right: **Bob & Mary Lou St. Louis** and **Gene & Evelyn Fox** enjoying a Valentine's Day Lunch.*