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Bob Quackenbush Volleyball

Bob's team, MAC Magic, played again in the National Open Championships at Salt Lake City over the Memorial Day weekend and won in the 73+ bracket. In the 70+ bracket his team took silver. While in Salt Lake City, **Bob & Mary** had the pleasure of attending a great Memorial Day performance and broadcast of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, in the Tabernacle.

Interment of Lynell Stapleton

On the morning of June 20, at the West Point cemetery gravesite of George Stapleton, his wife **Lynell** was laid to rest alongside **George**. Family, friends, and classmates were in attendance for the service. Classmates and wives present were **Stan & Connie Diez, Ted & Carolyn Ogren, Farrell & Nancy Patrick, Bob & Mary Quackenbush, and Gerry & Barb Richardson**. All classmates joined in a post-ceremony lunch at the Thayer Hotel.

"All We Could Be"

Washington area classmates held their July quarterly luncheon meeting at Knoll House, on the grounds of Knollwood, the Army retirement residence. A special feature was a showing, with commentary by **Rick Brown**, of his powerful documentary "All We Could Be" chronicling the depths of the Army's post-Vietnam situation and the recovery to become the Army of Desert Storm. Conceived and carried through by **Rick**, this production is based on videotaped interviews he conducted with many key players in that recovery, including classmates **Norm Schwarzkopf, Tom Griffin, and Bob Sorley**. Among those attending were **Rick & Anne Brown, Steve & Marianne Canby, Mike & Ann Conrad, Maury & Christine Cralle, Lee Denson, Gene & Priscilla Dewey, Gene Fox, Fred & Robin Holmes, Bob & Frankie Hull, Sam & Anne Kem, Jack & Sophie Nicholson, Al Renshaw, Ernie Ruffner, Mark & Mary Louise Smith, Bob & Ginny Sorley, Bill & Jan Wehl, and Ken Withers**. Afterward several toured Knollwood, where **Rick & Anne Brown and Gene & Priscilla Dewey** are residents.

James Whitney Spires

Jim Spires was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on 02 July 2012 with full military honors. **Jim** died this past February at his home in Lake Forest, Illinois. He served tours in Berlin, with the "Old Guard" in DC, was a White House Aide, and tours in India and Argentina, as well as two tours in Vietnam – one as an advisor and one with

the 7th Cavalry during the Ia Drang Campaign at LZ Albany. **Jim** retired in 1976, and then went to graduate school and later formed his own company. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, **Jeannette** and their three children, Scott, Ann and Laura. Funeral attendees were numerous, including his classmates: **Art Boudreau, Rick Brown, Bill Cody, Mike Conrad, Bob Hull, Sam Kem, Dave Muntz, Al Renshaw, George Rostine, Ivar Rundgren, Bob St Louis, Bob Sorley, Jim Waldeck, Paul Winkel and George Withers**. A departing remembrance by author Joe Galloway provided the ideal final salute to **Jim**.

Author Dave Palmer in Action

In late June **Dave Palmer** spent several days in the Washington area promoting his new book, "George Washington's Military Genius." He began his talks, sales and signings after a wine and cheese reception at the Army and Navy Club, then at Knollwood, the Army retirement residence in Washington, the big Barnes & Noble in Bethesda, and at Mount Vernon. Sales proceeds from Dave's book go to the WPAOG to support cadet activities.

The Bethesda Barnes & Noble event was made memorable by a "micro burst" storm that cut power, felled trees, and blocked several roads over a wide area. **Dave** was speaking in a glassed-in alcove, audience facing him and the storm. With a wide-eyed, obviously excited audience, he was thrilled with how his talk was received.

Dave remarked that what he enjoyed most about the visit was lunching with and seeing so many classmates at the various venues. **Steve & Marianne Canby** hosted a garden party for several classmates. Over the three days of his promotional tour, classmates and wives participating were: **Sam and Ruth Alward, Conn & Linda Anderson, Rick & Anne Brown, Steve & Marianne Canby, Mike & Ann Conrad, Debbie DeCamp, Rude & Maude DeFrance, Gene & Priscilla Dewey, Tom & Jane Griffin, Fred & Robin Holmes, Sam & Ann Kem, Mike & Jane Lion, Bob & Ginny Sorley, Kay Sullivan, Bill & Jan Wehl, Ken Withers, and Dick & Mary Woods**.

Bob Sorley Testifies

In mid-July **Bob Sorley** testified before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the House Armed Services Committee. The legislators were looking into U.S. troop withdrawals from Afghanistan and convened a panel to provide historical perspective by discussing earlier such withdrawals from ongoing conflicts. **Bob** of course addressed the Vietnam case. **Ginny**, in a reserved seat just behind the witness table, was Bob's "staff" for the occasion.

Grip Hands

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