



Heading by Megan Sanford

December 11, 2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!



As I stood holding the American flag at a recent funeral our Color Guard attended, my mind drifted to how windy it was and how the flag was really pullly against me. I listened to Joe standing next to me whispering what was going to happen next in this graveside ceremony for a soldier killed in action so long ago. I already knew. I had seen it before in ceremonies in the past. This time was different, though. I was a part of the ceremony this time.

I listened to the words of the pastor speaking of Corporal Short's willingness to do his duty. Corporal Short had been decorated with two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star with oak leaf clusters, and so on...and this guy was only 19 years old! How do I stand here without feeling emotional? My eyes watered and my legs hurt as I stood as the wind blew the flag I was holding so tight. The American flag. Then I thought of Short's sacrifice. He died in POW camp number 5 in North Korea in 1951 of starvation, then was buried in a mass grave. His remains were recovered in 1954 and sent to

▪ For **membership** inquiries, contact Craig Crow at CCROW6@gmail.com, Mark Reichardt at vette413@gmail.com, or Phil Cook, at 4cooksinoke@cox.net, who can assist you in locating the necessary documents.

▪ For **website** (<http://okssar.com>) inquiries, contact Glenn Lee at 405.313.9947 or gleedmond@gmail.com.

▪ Like us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/okcsar) which is monitored by Terry Handley

Hawaii for internment until they could be identified. We were there to honor and pay respects to a soldier killed in Korea so long ago. It was 72 years in the making, but this would be the third and final time he would be buried. I reflected on my life of 65 years to the very short time Corporal Short lived on this earth, My eyes have not stopped watering this evening.

As we enjoy the comforts of our home tonight: perhaps the love of our grand-children around us as we sip from a glass of wine in front of the fireplace and wonder what Christmas will bring about this year, let us remember the sacrifice of those so far away in a foreign land, wishing they were home, and wondering whether they will ever see their families again.

This has been a month of reflection for me. I fired three volleys at the grave marking of a Revolutionary War soldier last weekend in Arkansas, and this weekend I'm paying respects at a graveside ceremony of a soldier killed in action in the Korean conflict. Christmas is supposed to be a time of celebration. What is it that I need to see with these events at this time of year? These soldiers served a cause so faithful and true; one at a time when our country was not even formed, the other in a land so far away and not really understanding why, but knowing his country called for his service and he responded, giving his all in the end!

This is the conclusion I have come to and how it relates to Christmas...Compatriots, I am not supposed to go here, but please know my heart. The Gospels of the Bible tell of a man that came to earth so long ago, born in a manger to a young woman in Nazareth. He knew very early in his life what his destiny was, but without question, did as

at thandley1@me.com.

▪ Join the **Color Guard** by contacting Commander Joe Sieber at 405.720.1757 or sieberjl@hotmail.com.

▪ **SAR Sentinel** is published monthly except June, July, and August. Article suggestions should be sent to Craig Crow at (405) 834 9401 or CCROW6@gmail.com.

▪ Chapter **meetings** are held on the second Monday of every month except June, July, and August.



the Father bid Him to do... willingly giving His life so that man would know eternal life. The events here and now, including those in a country Corporal Short gave his life for is only temporary in the grand scheme of things, but the man who came 2,000 years ago and gave his life for you will last for an eternity. That is what Christmas is about!

I celebrate this Christmas with you, hoping you will pause and see the correlation here: Duty, and a love that carried each other to their end. How else could anyone face such terrible things without a passion of duty and love?

I won't ask for forgiveness as I share my heart. But I do hope you will stop and think on my words...

Dues

We are getting down to the wire with our chapter dues renewals. If you have paid your dues already. thanks! If not, let's get them in before the end of the year!

Calendar

Next Saturday, December 16 at 11am at the Union Cemetery at 36th and ML King (across from the 45th Infantry Museum) will be the Wreaths Across America event in conjunction with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of Union Veterans. Please join us as we honor our veterans along with others across the nation by laying Wreaths on the graves of veterans.

Next Meeting

Monday, December 11 is our final meeting for this calendar year. I hope you will join us at Johnnie's Hamburgers at 33 East 33rd in Edmond at 6pm for

food and fellowship, then our regular chapter meeting at 6:45pm. I will be presenting a program on the Boston Tea Party, which took place on December 16, 1773. Know your history before you come!!!

--

Craig Crow
President
Oklahoma City Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution



Copyright © 2023 Sons of the American Revolution - Oklahoma City Chapter, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

