

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Service of the United States.

FRANCIS MARION CUNNINGHAM – Civil War 6 APR 1865
born 12 DEC 1837, Somerset, PA

JOHN WILLIAM MOSTOLLER – Civil War 18 JUN 1864
born 14 JAN 1843, Stoystown, PA

GEORGE HENRY RAMER – Korea 12 SEP 1951
born 27 MAR 1927, Meyersdale, PA

CLIFTON T. SPEICHER – Korea 14 JUN 1952
born 25 MAR 1931, Gray, PA

Distinguished Service Cross

The Distinguished Service Cross is the second highest military decoration that can be awarded to a member of the United States Army for extreme gallantry and risk of life in actual combat with an armed enemy force.

WALTER B. JONES – WWI 14-15 JUL 1918
born 22 JAN 1893, Somerset, PA

ALVEY C. MARTZ – WWI 15 JUL 1918
born 21 MAR 1890, Scottdale, PA, Home of record, Glencoe, PA

FRANKLIN D. McVICKER – WWI 1 JUL 1918
born Somerset, PA

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Medal of Honor

CIVIL WAR

FRANCIS MARION CUNNINGHAM born 12 DEC 1837, Somerset, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=881>

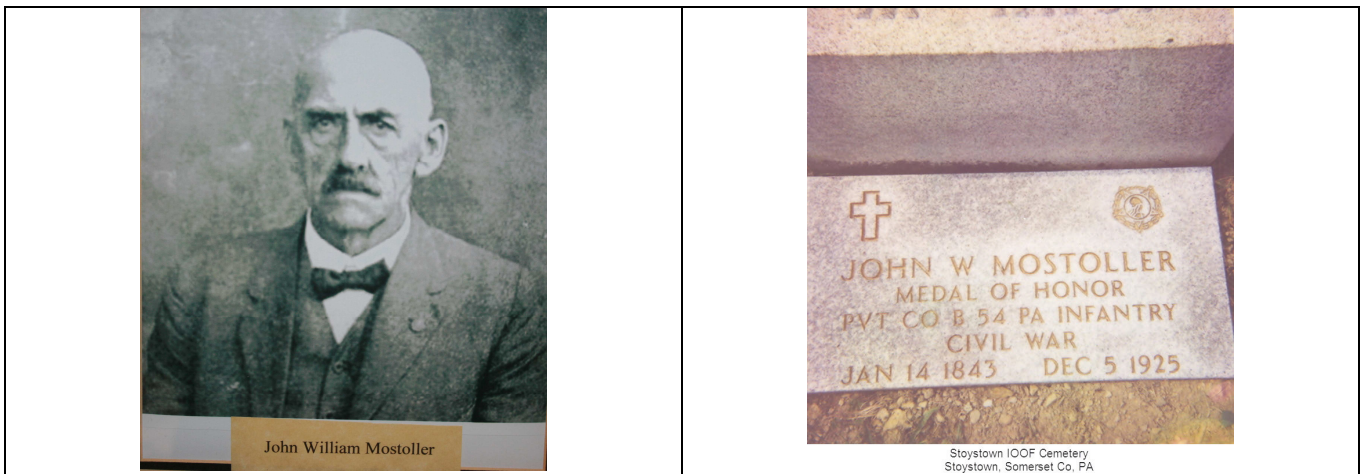
For The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to First Sergeant Francis Marion Cunningham, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism on 6 April 1865, while serving with Company H, 1st West Virginia Cavalry, in action at Deatonsville (Sailor's Creek), Virginia, for capture of battle flag of 12th Virginia Infantry (Confederate States of America) in hand-to-hand battle while wounded.



JOHN WILLIAM MOSTOLLER born 14 JAN 1843, Stoystown, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=2041>

For The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Private John William Mostoller, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism on 18 June 1864, while serving with Company B, 54th Pennsylvania Infantry, in action at Lynchburg, Virginia. Private Mostoller voluntarily led a charge on a Confederate battery (the officers of the company being disabled) and compelled its hasty removal.



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Medal of Honor

KOREAN WAR

**GEORGE HENRY RAMER born 27 MAR 1927, Meyersdale, PA,
Home of Record, Lewisburg, PA**

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=1103>

For The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor (Posthumously) to Second Lieutenant George Henry Ramer (MCSN: 0-51575), United States Marine Corps (Reserve), for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on 12 September 1951, as leader of the Third Platoon in Company I, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, FIRST Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea. Ordered to attack and seize hostile positions atop a hill, vigorously defended by well-entrenched enemy forces delivering massed small-arms mortar, and machinegun fire, Second Lieutenant Ramer fearlessly led his men up the steep slopes and although he and the majority of his unit were wounded during the ascent, boldly continued to spearhead the assault. With the terrain becoming more precipitous near the summit and the climb more perilous as the hostile forces added grenades to the devastating hail of fire, he staunchly carried the attack to the top, personally annihilated one enemy bunker with grenade and carbine fire and captured the objective with his remaining eight men. Unable to hold the position against an immediate, overwhelming hostile counterattack, he ordered his group to withdraw and single-handedly fought the enemy to furnish cover for his men and for the evacuation of three fatally wounded Marines. Severely wounded a second time, Second Lieutenant Ramer refused aid when his men returned to help him and, after ordering them to seek shelter, courageously manned his post until the hostile troops overran his position and he fell mortally wounded. His indomitable fighting spirit, inspiring leadership and unselfish concern for others in the face of death, reflect the highest credit upon Second Lieutenant Ramer and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.



BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

OBIT: Harold Webster RAMER, 1944, formerly of Somerset County, PA

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HAROLD WEBSTER RAMER

Heart Attack Proved Fatal to Prof. H. W. Ramer

The following newspaper clipping addressed to the Meyersdale Republican from the Nickel Funeral Home, Duncannon, Perry County, Pa., brought to us the sad news that Prof. H. W. Ramer, former principal of the Salisbury schools and erstwhile resident of Meyersdale, passed away last week and has been laid to rest in his native town, Watsontown, Pa.

In addition to his wife, Mrs. Maude F. Ramer, he is survived by a daughter, Miss Ethel Ramer, and a son, George H. Ramer, both of Lewisburg; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Marr and Mrs. William Savage, both of Watsontown.

After his retirement as principal of Salisbury schools, about ten years ago, Prof. Ramer and family lived in Meyersdale for several years and both he and his estimable wife were engaged in educational work here under W.P.A. auspices until their removal to the Tressler Orphans Home in Perry County as heads of that institution.

They made many friends here as well as in Salisbury, who will be saddened by news of his death. The sympathy of these friends goes out to Mrs. Ramer and her children in the bereavement. Miss Ethel Ramer was a teacher in the Salisbury schools for several years before removing to Lewisburg. Following is the newspaper clipping conveying the sad news:

Funeral services for Harold Webster Ramer, 60, who died of a heart attack yesterday at the Tressler Orphans Home, Loysville, where he served on the staff as personnel director for the past three years, will be held in the Nickel Funeral Home, Duncannon, at 9 o'clock with the Rev. Grover C. Knipple, pastor of Memorial Lutheran Church, Loysville, officiating.

Further services will be conducted on Sunday afternoon at 2:15 o'clock at the home of Mrs. William Savage, Main and Fifth Streets, Watsontown, with the Rev. Harold Aholt, pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Watsonville, officiating. Burial will be in Watsonville Cemetery.

Mr. Ramer was a graduate of Bloomsburg College and Susquehanna University. He served as a teacher and principal for 35 years in the schools of Mifflin, Northumberland and Somerset. He was a member of Meyersdale Masonic Lodge No. 554, Somerset County.

Meyersdale Republican, January 13, 1944

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

CLIFTON T. SPEICHER born 25 MAR 1931, Gray, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=515>

For The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pride in presenting the Medal of Honor (Posthumously) to Corporal Clifton T. Speicher (ASN: 13382654), United States Army, for conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company F, 223d Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division, in action against enemy aggressor forces at Minarigol, Korea, on 14 June 1952. While participating in an assault to secure a key terrain feature, Corporal Speicher's squad was pinned down by withering small-arms mortar, and machinegun fire. Although already wounded he left the comparative safety of his position, and made a daring charge against the machinegun emplacement. Within ten yards of the goal, he was again wounded by small-arms fire but continued on, entered the bunker, killed two hostile soldiers with his rifle, a third with his bayonet, and silenced the machinegun. Inspired by this incredible display of valor, the men quickly moved up and completed the mission. Dazed and shaken, he walked to the foot of the hill where he collapsed and died. Corporal Speicher's consummate sacrifice and unflinching devotion to duty reflect lasting glory upon himself and uphold the noble traditions of the military service.



BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Distinguished Service Cross

WALTER B. JONES born 22 JAN 1893, Somerset, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=12794>

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Bugler Walter B. Jones (ASN: 1239669), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company C, 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Division, A.E.F., in the Second Battle of the Marne, France, July 14 - 15, 1918. After all officers of his company had been killed wounded, or taken prisoner, Bugler Jones, while endeavoring to return to his own lines after having been separated with a detachment from his company, took command and by his excellent judgment led the detachment forward, frequently exposing himself to enemy fire, and leading his men through the enemy lines. During this action Bugler Jones frequently exposed himself to heavy enemy fire and on one occasion rendered first aid to a severely wounded comrade, thereby saving his life. By his fearlessness and bravery he inspired his men and succeeded in rejoining his regiment.

ALVEY C. MARTZ, born 21 MAR 1890, Scottdale, PA, Home of record: Glencoe, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=13378>

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Alvey C. Martz (ASN: 1239863), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company C, 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Division, A.E.F., near Conde-en-Brie, France, 15 July 1918. Under violent shell and machine-gun fire, Sergeant Martz assisted in reorganizing the remnants of his shattered company which was surrounded by the enemy, and held the position until his group was again cut to pieces. With an officer and two other soldiers he then succeeded in fighting his way from within the enemy's lines to his regiment, killing a large number of the enemy with his pistol.

FRANKLIN D. McVICKER born Somerset, PA

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=13572>

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Private Franklin D. McVicker (ASN: 38137), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company A, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2d Division, A.E.F., at Vaux, France, 1 July 1918. Acting as stretcher bearer, although wounded twice, Private McVicker continued to make trips through an intense barrage to carry back wounded.