

HARRISON DEDMOND RECALLS HIS MILITARY DAYS

DEBBIE SEBASTIAN - COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT
JUNE 18, 2015 - 11:33 AM

When I received the news of the passing of my cousin Harrison Dedmond, I began looking through my files for information I had on him and found this article.

-Leroy

WWII veteran Harrison Dedmond of Coarsegold traveled with his travel "guardian" Gary Powell, Commander of VFW Sierra Post 8743, to Washington, D.C. as a participant in the sixth Honor Flight from the Central Valley. The Central Valley Honor Flight program is one of some 100 across the country that coordinates veterans' trips to the nation's capitol to see the memorials that honor WWII and Korean War veterans. For Dedmond, the highlight of the trip was watching the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. There the group from the Central Valley placed a wreath.



Dedmond grew up in Chattanooga, TN. Because his father has been a Marine, he joined the United States Marine Corps on July 20, 1946 to become one of the 16 million Americans who served in WWII. Following boot training in Paris Island, SC, a three-day trip by troop train brought him to Camp Pendleton, in October of that year. He was among 5,000 Marines who boarded a troop ship in San Diego in November. Some of the troops disembarked at Pearl Harbor and Guam but Dedmond was transferred to a ship headed to China arriving at Taku Bar in December, 1946. "(We) spent the night in an old Japanese prison camp. Snow was waist high and we had to unload our sea bags off the ship. It was past midnight before we got to sleep," he remembered.



After a six-hour train trip to Tientsin, he received his assignment to G-2 section Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division. "The Marines were in China to disarm the Japanese and send them back to Japan," he said. "We would go to work every day by rickshaw, which cost a nickel one way." Dedmond earned \$75 a month but lived on just \$10 of that. One dollar bought a case of beer, eight cents bought a pack of cigarettes and one dollar per month was spent for a houseboy to clean and run errands. "The Marine Corps paid us in \$2 bills because they wanted the Chinese to know where that money was coming from."



During the sixth Central Valley Honor Flight, Harrison Dedmond, a WWII veteran, visited the Korean War Memorial, (shown here). The Korean War Veterans Memorial is located near the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. It was dedicated on July 27, 1995. The memorial commemorates the sacrifices of the 5.8 million Americans who served in the U.S. armed services during the three-year period of the Korean War.

(continued on page 2)



(continued from page 1)

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“One of my jobs was to investigate White Russian women who wanted to marry Marines,” Dedmon said. “They were paying \$5,000 and when they got to the states and got their citizenship, you could get a divorce. Our colonel put the word out, no applications would be approved.” Then on May 10, 1947 four battalions of Marines were shipped 300 miles south to Tsingtao, China. The Marines were leaving China as the “Communists were taking over. “The 1st Marine Division was being shipped back to the states and the rest of us formed the 1st Marine Brigade. I didn’t have a job. I found out that they had an Armed Forces Radio Station on base.” Dedmond was asked if he wanted to be an announcer or an engineer and he chose the engineer position.

“We had a 500 watt transmitter and ships at sea could hear us 200-300 miles away.” Because he had a Marine Corps driver’s license, Dedmond was called on to drive Marine officers and their families while in Tsingtao. “In February, 1948, (we) boarded a ship for the states and ended up at Marine Barracks Naval Air Training Base in Pensacola, Florida,” Dedmond continued.



Needing to finish his four-year commitment to the Marines, Dedmond returned to his hometown of Chattanooga serving in the Active Reserves. “I decided I needed more education so I enlisted in the Air Force to let them pay for my education.” He was trained in basic electronics and in electronics counter measures and taught electronics. “We could jam all the enemy’s radar, radio and TV stations.”

After receiving orders to go to Japan, he extended his enlistment so that he could bring his wife and son there. His work involved the conversion of B-50 bombers to “weather reconnaissance” planes. These planes would fly missions over China. “We could map radar units,” Dedmond said. “We could tell everything but the guy that was running it. If a plane went down, it was always a weather plane.”



Arriving back in the states, a divorce followed. His plans to return to civilian life changed when it became necessary to pay child support and he reenlisted in the Air Force. An assignment with the Strategic Air Command in Ohio and another in Denver working in the Precision Measuring Equipment Laboratory followed. Following his military service, he worked for the Philco Corporation and for the Kellogg division of ITT, developing stable platforms for tracking Apollo Missions.

Harrison was employed by General Dynamics to teach the military internet and long distance systems and computers. Other employment in the field of computers followed.

He met Ann in an officers’ club in 1973. Ten days later they decided to get married and they celebrated 41 years of marriage this year (2015). She retired as a major in the Air Force. The most recent Central Valley Honor Flight left Fresno June 16. Applications and information on future flights can be found at cvhonorflight.org.

Approximately every three minutes a memory of World War II – its sights and sounds, its terrors and triumphs – disappears. Yielding to the inalterable process of aging, the men and women who fought and won the great conflict are now mostly in their 90s. They are dying quickly – at the rate of approximately 492 a day, according to US Veterans Administration figures,” the National WWII Museum in New Orleans website said.



Harrison Dedmond is in his U.S. Marine Corps uniform in a 1946 photograph taken when he was on leave from boot camp.

I remember meeting Harrison at our Family reunion around twenty years ago. He and Jim Dedmon drove to Georgia from California to be part of that event. It was amazing to sit and listen to Harrison and my parents discuss our common ancestors. His great grandfather and my grandfather were brothers with different mothers... Family tree maker shows us to be kin seven different ways, I guess this has to do with some of the cousins marrying cousins up the line... Our closest kinship is simply fourth cousins. We corresponded some during the last twenty years and he was always good to send me any information that he might run across on family members. I also was privileged to meet his son, Richard, who lives in Chattanooga. Harrison was the only one of his brothers to add the (d) to the end of his surname. One of his uncles, James Lee Dedmond, added the (d) to his name to keep his mail from getting mixed up with another James Dedmon in Chattanooga. His family continues to this day spell the surname Dedmond. If I remember correctly, Harrison’s son did not add the (d). -Leroy



3 QUIT AS FACTS FORUM CHANGES RADIO PROGRAM

DALLAS, Tex., July 12 (AP).

Facts Forum is going to change the format of one of its national radio programs, but President Robert H. Dedman said yesterday the controversial adult educational organization is "definitely not retrenching."

At the same time, Mr. Dedman revealed that Moderator Dan Smoot, Medford Evans, Facts Forum news editor and O.M. Spence, circulation manager of the News Bulletin, has left the organization. "Propriety," Mr. Dedman said, kept him from discussing reasons for the trio's leaving. Mr. Smoot, however, said he planned to start his own program of broadcasts on "Current Events of the Day."

"There was no rupture of relationships between Facts Forum and myself," Mr. Smoot said. "On the basis of mail received, I just felt that I could best present my views by giving only one opinion about current topics - my own."

CHANGE SET AUGUST 1

Mr. Dedman said the Smoot program, on which he presented pro and con opinions of a topic, would be changed about August 1. After that, he said, an outstanding liberal and an outstanding conservative would each state their views on various topics. "It won't be a debate," Mr. Dedman said. "But the two principals will continue to appear and discuss the subject as long as they retain keen public interest."

Mr. Dedman also said that some 400 radio stations carry the program and that an attempt will be made to increase this number.

Facts Forum broadcasts are made available to radio stations without charge, as a public service, Mr. Dedman said.

The organization has been criticized as being biased. Mr. Dedman denied this. Mr. Dedman said Mr. Evans, former chief of plans and training for the Atomic Energy Commission, had returned to teaching and is now at Northwestern State College at Natchitoches, La. He said he did not know Mr. Spence's new address.

OILMAN IS BIG DONOR

H. L. Hunt, Dallas oilman reputed to be the richest man in the world, has long been the leading contributor to Facts Forum. The changes in the radio program and the facts that Mr. Smoot, Mr. Evans and Mr. Spence have left Facts Forum do not mean a lessening in interest in the organization by Mr. Hunt, Mr. Dedman said. "As far as I know, Mr. Hunt continues to have as much interest as ever." Mr. Hunt is not an official of the Facts Forum. "He's just one of the donors," Mr. Dedman said. The oilman was unavailable for comment.

**Evening star. July 12, 1955
(Washington, D.C.)**



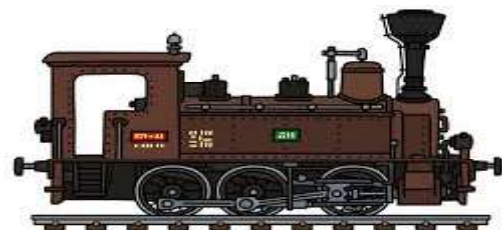
A VERY SHARP CURVE A Badly Mixed up Fireman - A Real Railroad Joke

Purchasing Agent Dedman, of E.P. & N.E., was entertaining a crowd of railroad clerks yesterday and railroad jokes were on tap. After several had finished telling about the wonderful scenes on various lines they had gone over, Mr. Dedman opened up with a few points on the corkscrew route above the clouds. He said that the curves up there were calculated to make a man dizzy. "I took a trip up there a short time ago," he said "and when I went to wipe the dust from my face I placed the handkerchief on the back of my head."

His listeners looked suspicious but Mr. Dedman offered a little more evidence to substantiate his statement. He continued:

"You may think it strange but on the same train, in rounding one of the curves the fireman threw a stick of wood into the headlight instead of the firebox. This I will prove by any man in town if you allow me to talk to him five minutes before he is asked to substantiate it."

The crowd took Mr. Dedman at his word and adjourned to the nearest drugstore to get a supply of nerve medicine.
El Paso daily herald, July 15, 1899, (El Paso, Tex.)





FRANK LOUIS DEDMON

Frank Louis Dedmon, 85, died at home on November 16, 2019 after a battle with cancer. He was born in Chestnut Mound, TN the son of Sheal and Flora (Smith) Dedmon.

After graduation he joined the U.S. Navy. While serving in Boston, he met his future wife, Meredith Martin. They married shortly thereafter and lived in Portland briefly before moving to Sullivan. Frank quickly became involved with the town. He was on the budget committee from 1971-2008, school board for 3 years, fire chief from 1973-1985 and was a selectman for 20 years. He also coached little league and was a scoutmaster. He served his town well. Frank worked a number of different jobs until he settled into one that he stayed with until his retirement. He was a caretaker for the Gamble estate in Sorrento for over 40 years. He was not only their employee but became a part of their family.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and loved to go to Township 16 with his great camping buddy, the late Edward Jellison and the rest of the crew. Frank also enjoyed raising a big garden and was proud of the fruits of his labor; especially in the middle of winter when eating the vegetables he raised.

Frank is survived by his son, Sheal and significant other Katy Nichols; daughter, Marni Larrabee and husband Wayne all of Sullivan; grandchildren, Logan Pung, Jordan Harden and husband Brant, Jason Grindle, Patrick Dedmon, Dylan Dedmon, Cassidy Dedmon and Amanda Bohuki; two great-grandchildren, Paisley Pung and Tye Harden. He was predeceased by his wife Merry in 2004; and by his two great dogs, Suzy and Sally. He will be remembered by special friends, Robert Johnson, Hank Hosking and Lynn Dunbar.

A celebration of life will be held at 1:00-3:00, November 23, 2019 at the David A. Hooper Masonic Lodge, Rte. 200, Burt Gray Road, Sullivan

Contributions in Frank's memory may be made to the Mary Dow Cancer Center, 50 Union St. Ellsworth. Arrangements by Jordan-Fernald, 113 Franklin St. Ellsworth. Condolences may be expressed at www.jordanfernald.com

I dont have information as to Frank's burial, but his wife Meredith is buried in the Simpson Cemetery; Sullivan, Hancock County, ME

Find a Grave Memorial 185305830

LORRAINE SMITH DEADMON

Mrs. Lorraine Smith Deadmon, 83, of High Point, died Friday, September 24, 2010 at High Point Regional Hospital. Born February 25, 1927 in Guilford County, she was the daughter of the late Harris and Myrtle Smith. She was a member of Hayworth Wesleyan Church, and was retired from High Point Regional Hospital where she worked as a CNA II in the emergency department for 35 years. She was a very loving mother and grandmother, and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, Charlie Deadmon in October of 1979, and a sister, Doris Albright, in November of 1990. Survivors include her daughter, Brenda Ruddock and her dear companion, Benny Folsom, of High Point; her son, Charles Deadmon, of High Point; three grandchildren, Cindy (David) Lyndon, Eddie Ruddock and Freddie Ruddock; three great grandchildren, Allen (Dana) Lyndon, Christina (J.C.) Ruddock and Travis Ruddock; two great-great grandchildren, Nathan Presnell and Haidyn Carpenter; a nephew, Terry (Genell) Albright; a niece, Toni (Larry) Wright; two great nieces and one great nephew. A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Monday at Floral Garden Memorial Service officiated by Rev. David Emery. The family will receive friends Sunday night from 6 until 8 at Cumby Family Funeral Service in Archdale. The family wishes to extend a special thank you to the entire Hall 1 Staff, Nurses and Assistants of Westchester Manor for the special care given to Mrs. Deadmon. Memorials may be made to Hayworth Wesleyan Church, 1696 Westchester Dr., High Point, NC 27262.

Find a Grave Memorial 59748207

EARLENE NICHOLS DEADMON



Funeral services for Earlene Nichols Deadmon, 86, of Irmo, will be held at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, November 25, 2018 at Bush River Memorial Gardens Mausoleum Chapel. Services will be ministered by Preacher Gary Hoss and Elder John Dennison. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the Mausoleum Chapel at 2:00 p.m. Temples Halloran Funeral Home is in charge. Earlene Nicholas Deadmon died Friday, November 23, 2018. She was the daughter of the late Carl and Bessie Blackwood Nichols. She was born in Davie County, NC on November 27, 1931. She was a long time member of the St. Andrews Road Church of Christ. Earlene retired as a receptionist for the SC House of Representatives. Surviving in addition to her loving husband of 70 years, Baxter B. Deadmon of the home; two daughters, Vickie L. Deadmon and Karen Furtick (Ronnie) both of Lexington; as well as two brothers in NC. In addition to her parents she was predeceased by two brothers. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Southeastern Children's Home, PO Box 339, Duncan, SC 29334. On-line condolences may be sent to www.templeshalloranfuneralhome.com.

Published in The State on Nov. 24, 2018

HARRISON DEDMOND

Harrison A. Dedmond, husband of Ann Boyajian Dedmond, died July 18, 2020 at 11:11 at the age of 90. He was a China Marine, and also served in the USAF. His civilian years were spent in the electronics field. Following retirement he joined the Marine Corps League and the VFW. His main hobby was woodworking, and made many pieces not only for the household, but also for silent auctions for military organizations to raise money to support veterans. He was most proud to participate in Military Funeral Honors, serve in different positions of the MCL and VFW, and helped establish the Avenue of Flags which are flown in the Oakhurst, CA cemetery on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Military Funeral Honors are pending due to COVID-19 to be followed by burial at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in Santa Nella, CA.

CHARLIE GREENHILL

Durham, June 3.—Funeral services were held here this afternoon for Charlie Greenhill, who died at his Angier avenue home, at the age of 24 years, late Tuesday. Services were conducted by Rev. W. F. Elliott, of Branson Memorial Methodist church, assisted by Rev. W. E. Mangum, interment took place in Maplewood cemetery. Surviving are the widow, one son, C. F. Greenhill, Jr., his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Greenhill; nine brothers, Johnnie, Linwood, Ellis, Lenwood, Clyde, Claude, Reid, Marvin and Chadbourne Greenhill; and two sisters Misses Christine and Minnie Greenhill, all of Durham. (News and Observer, Raleigh, Wednesday, June 3, 1925, Page 2, column 8) [Incorrectly transcribed as Thursday, June 4, 1925.] Find A Grave Memorial 43141305

DOLORES GAYLE SIMON



SHERMAN, TX -Dolores Gayle Simon, 81, passed away peacefully Friday, October 25, 2013 at The Sherman Healthcare and Rehabilitation.

Mrs. Simon was born April 13, 1932 in Farmington, the daughter of **James and Myrtle (O'Neal) Dedmon**. She was a devoted mother and grandmother and the greatest joy of her life was family. She worked for T.I. in Sherman for many years before retiring. After retirement she continued to work in motels and cafes in the area. She will be missed deeply by those who she has left behind.

Mrs. Simon is survived by her family: son, Timothy Simon and wife, Vicky; son, James Hall; daughter, Sarah Simon and husband William Strobl; brother, Bobby Dedmon; five grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Charles and Phillip Simon, parents, two brothers, sister, Gwendolyn Chandler, and granddaughter, Tiffany Simon.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Mon., October 28, 2013 at Van Alstyne Cemetery. There is no set time for visitation. The family would like to extend a very sincere thank-you to the staff of Home Hospice of Grayson County, Sherman Healthcare and Rehabilitation, and to Connie and Kevin Lee. Words could not begin to explain how much you all are appreciated.

Condolences may be registered online at www.fisherfh.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Fisher Funeral Home, 604 W. Main, Denison, Texas

**Published in The Herald Democrat
from Oct. 27 to Oct. 28, 2013
Find a Grave Memorial 119429569**

ANN SHELLABARGER

Ann Northcutt (Cline) Shellabarger, 98, of Decatur, Illinois, passed away Thursday, February 28, 2019.

Ann was born January 14, 1921 to Commodore Perry and Sidney (Dedman) Cline in Decatur, IL. She was a graduate of Decatur High School, attended Christian College in Columbia, MO, and graduated from Millikin University, where she was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority.

She married David S. Shellabarger in Decatur on August 27, 1951.

She is survived by her children, Sidney and her husband, Chuck Shonkwiler of Decatur, Emily Shellabarger and her husband, Martin Bourque of Bozeman, Montana, Sally Williams of Decatur, David and his wife, Nona Shellabarger of Blissfield, Michigan and Mary and her husband Ken Klump of Chesterfield, Missouri; ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Besides her large family and home, she loved books, antiques, travel, art, and her cats.

Ann was preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister, Emily Cline and one great-grandchild.

**Herald & Review (Decatur, IL)
Find a Grave Memorial
197260295**

DOROTHY A. DEDMAN

Dorothy A. Dedman, 65, of St. Simons Island, passed away Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at her residence. Golden Isles Cremation Center, Brunswick Memorial Park is in charge of arrangements. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Dorothy A. Dedman please visit our Sympathy Store.

NANCY LEE DEDMON



Nancy Lee Dedmon age 76, of Hot Springs passed away Thursday, April 11, 2019. She was born January 28, 1943, in Murfreesboro, Arkansas to McKinley and Pauline Willis Thompson. They preceded her in death as well as her husband, M.T. Dedmon; daughter-in-love, Jackie Thompson; siblings, L.J., A.D., Tellious, Odell, Charlie, Shirley, Avant, Fred Thompson, and Ruby Johnson.

Nancy was a graduate and salutatorian of the Historic Langston High School Class of 1961. She was a longtime member of the Entre Nous Social Club. Nancy was also a longtime member of Nazarene Baptist Church serving as a Deaconess and numerous other ministries.

Survivors include her sons, Frank (Vanessa) Thompson, Gregory (Claira) Thompson, Brian Thompson; her brother, Tyree Thompson; her bonus and extended children, Kathryn (James) Bruton, Marilyn Hughes, Charlotte (John) Primm, Lorrie Harrison, Vance Dedmon, and Ronald Davis; a host of extended family and friends.

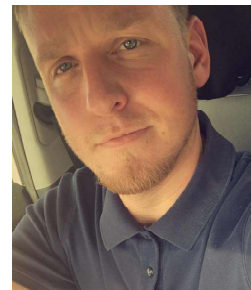
Funeral service will be 12:00 noon, Saturday, April 20, 2019 at Nazarene Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Crestview Cemetery. Visitation will be today, Friday, April 19 from 5:00 -6:30 PM at the funeral home. Arrangements are entrusted to Carrigan Memorial Funeral Services. Guest registry is at <http://www.carriganmemorial.com>.

**To Plant Memorial Trees in memory,
please visit our Sympathy Store.
Published in Malvern Daily Record on
Apr. 19, 2019.**

MASON ANTHONY BRILLO

DECEMBER 22, 1997 ~ JULY 23, 2020 (AGE 22)

Mason Anthony Brillo, a resident of Henryetta, passed away Thursday, July 23, 2020 in McIntosh County, OK at the age of 22. He was born December 22, 1997 in McAlester, OK to Mark & Janice Brillo. Mason loved the outdoors and was an avid Catfish Noodler. He worked for the City of Okmulgee as a Mechanic. He was preceded in death by his aunt, Tiffany Brown and uncle, Mike Dedmon.



Mason is survived by his parents, Mark and Janice Brillo of the home, sister, Kelsey Brillo of the home, brother Jared Brillo of the home, grandparents, Mike & Brenda Brillo of Eufaula, and Barbara Dedmon of Henryetta, as well as a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be from 4-8 pm on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at Integrity Funeral Service. Funeral Services are scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 11:00 AM at the Porum Assembly of God with Rev. Raymond Doak, officiating. Interment will follow at Fields Cemetery in Porum. Services are under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service in Henryetta.

Find a Grave Memorial 213843882

PEARL D. HARRISON

Mrs. Pearl D. Harrison of South Point died at 11 a.m. Sunday in Lawrence County General Hospital. Born June 9, 1896 in Petersburg, Virginia, she was a daughter of the late Samuel and Lillian Deadman. She spent her early life in in Virginia and was a member of of Petersburg Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Harrison was preceded in death by her husband, William Edward Harrison. Survivors include a daughter, (Bruce) Mildred Barrow of South Point, two sons William E. Harrison, Jr of Petersburg, Va, and Randolph R. Harrison of South Point. The body is at Tracy Brammer Funeral home where friends wisll be received 6-9 p.m. Tuesday. On Wednesday the body will be removed to the JT Morrisonand Son Funeral Home at Petersburg and friends will be received there 7-830p.m. Wednesday. Funeral services will be conducted at 2p.m. Thursday at the funeral home with interment in Blandford Cemtery, Petersburg.

LARRY J. DEADMON



Larry James Deadmon, 72, of Little Rock, passed away on Saturday February 8, 2020. He leaves to cherish his memory his mother; Dorothy Deadmon, children; Shalawn Leavy, Capresha Morris (Michael), Garrick Deadmon (Shameka) and Cody Deadmon, siblings; Cleveland Deadmon Jr. (Ruth), Michael Deadmon (Carolyn), Carl Deadmon, Cooley Deadmon, a long time companion; Lilly Fairchild and a host of relatives and friends. A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 22, 2020, 11 a.m. in the Hardy Funeral Home Memorial Chapel, 5300 West 12th Street. Professional services entrusted to Hardy Funeral Home, 5300 West 12th Street (501) 372-4129. To sign the online guestbook visit www.hardyfuneralhomeinc.com.
Published February 20, 2020