

Root Scoop II

Vol. VI, Issue 2

“The First Duty is to Remember”

July/August 2009

26th Remembrance Update

Remembrance Committee Announces Plans

The BVA planning committee has been canvassing Jacksonville hotels and businesses in preparation for the upcoming 26th Beirut Remembrance in October.

The Holiday Inn Express has offered an \$85 per night rate. Thirty rooms have been blocked for the the BVA. Interested attendees must call the hotel by September 25th at **(910)-347-1900** and mention you are with the BVA to get the special rate.

Thirty rooms are also blocked at the Comfort Suites (expected to be the command post again this year), across Marine Boulevard from the Holiday Inn, at the same \$85 rate. Call (910) 346-8900 and again mention the BVA and Beirut Remembrance.

A new hotel, the Candlewood Suites, is under construction behind the Holiday Inn Express and is expected

to be opened in time for the Remembrance. Room availability and cost was not available at press time but will be announced at the BVA website, beirutveterans.org when available.

The Jacksonville USO, at 9 Tallman Street in Jacksonville (zip code 28540) has also been reserved for BVA use from October 21-23. The USO is used as a check-in location where people will be able to obtain updated information about activities. BVA representatives will be available on Oct. 21 from noon to 6 p.m. and Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to



7 p.m. (910) 455-3411.

The main events will again be October 23rd, starting with a candlelight service at 6 a.m. at the Beirut Memorial. Each name on the wall will be read by family members or Beirut veterans, a solemn reminder of the lives lost during the Beirut operation between 1982-84.

At about 10 a.m. the primary Remembrance event will be held at the Memorial. Exact time and details were not available at press time but will be announced at the BVA website as they come available.

The Military Order of the Devildogs is also planning its Remembrance at Camp Geiger, generally held about 2 p.m.

Time constraints may not allow the opportunity for another Root Scoop II before October, so be sure to watch the BVA website (beirutveterans.org) for updated information.

Message From the Editor**Time is of the Essence Lately: No Relief in Sight**

I must apologize for not getting a Root Scoop II out before this. It's been a blur since the last publication in January. I can offer no good excuse but can provide an explanation that many of you will hopefully understand, if not identify with.

It's the blasted paying job that's getting in the way! I work as the director of parks, recreation and library services in Peachtree City, GA. It's been a great job working for the city I live in since I retired from the Marine Corps in 1996 (another blur, but that's another story).

The economy hit us like a ton of bricks in 2009; it really started in 2008 but hit hard this year. For the first time in the city's 50-year history, we had to lay off employees – 23 of them, four from my division and 19 from public services. We outsourced grass mowing and landscaping to “save money.”

What really hurts is that we have been planning

a big 50th Anniversary year for the past three years or so, the city being the first planned community in Georgia in 1959. I've been chairing the committee to do this. So it is especially hard as we try to plan festive events amid the atmosphere of layoffs; doing more with less – where have I heard that before?

At the same time I assumed leadership of our 2,400 seat-amphitheater and 24-court tennis center, either one of which is a full-time job in itself.

So, for me, every moment is filled. As I sit here at 0116 (that's 1:16 a.m. in CivDiv terms) attempting to fill these pages with useful and entertaining information for you, gentle reader, please know that I stay committed to doing so to the best of my ability and energy. Because the First Duty Is To Remember!

Randy Gaddo, RSII Editor

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Ron Evans, left, commander of Siloam Springs, AR American Legion Post 29, and Bennett Howell, World War II veteran and former POW, place a flag on the grave of David "Mike" Randolph at Oak Hill Cemetery in May 2009. Randolph was one of 241 U.S. Marines killed Oct. 23, 1983, by a suicide bomber in Beirut, Lebanon. The Legion held its annual Memorial Day service Monday May 25 at the Community Building in Siloam Springs. (Photo, Gary Burton)

Article On Doc. Hudson Recalls Sacrifices Made by Root Vets

I think you will find the article starting on page 6 a moving and emotional memorial to a man many of us remember as Doc Hudson, the BLT 1/8 battalion surgeon.

The article was done by Damon Cline, a reporter for the alumni magazine for the Medical College of Georgia, Doc Hudson's alma matta. Mr. Cline contacted me last year after reading about the 25th Remembrance and finding out that Doc Hudson was a Root Vet killed in the October 23rd bombing. I worked with him to get him material and interviews to produce the article. He gave me permission to use the article once it had been published.

It's a bit long, since it was originally published in a magazine. But I found I had a hard time cutting anything out. It brings forth a side of our Beirut experience that most of us never saw...the view of war through the eyes of a healer.

I didn't know Doc Hudson well in Beirut, just in passing. But I feel now that I know him a lot better and would have like him. It seems everybody who knew him did. Enjoy...

The Editor

ROOT SCOOPS

Court Case Continues

Attorneys have filed a number of actions on behalf of various slain servicemen and their families in the ongoing court case against Iran. The Judge has entered findings holding Iran responsible for the deaths of victims in the 1983 Beirut Bombing. The next phase of the case is the determination of damages.

Depositions of various family members are ongoing, as is the gathering of income reports on each of the deceased servicemen who attorneys from Heideman, Nudelman and Kalish represent, in order that they may be submitted to the Special Master for his findings to be submitted to the Court.

The Root Scoop II will report new information as it is made available, or continue to watch the BVA website, beirutveterans.org.



Embassy Honors Lost Lives

Ambassador Michele J. Sison presided over the annual commemoration ceremony at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut on April 16th honoring the Americans who lost their lives during the 1983 and 1984 bombings in Lebanon. American and Lebanese staff members of the U.S. Embassy, survivors of the attacks and guests were all present at the commemoration.

Bagpiper, Root Bug Lead D.C. Parade

BVA board member Bill Kibler organized another successful Root Vet participation in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. in May.

Kibler reports that, "A total of 8 Beirut Veterans and their families turned out for the parade. One Bag Piper, the Beirut Bug, and Boots on his Motorcycle. The weather held up long enough for us to get to the last block before it started raining."

The lineup was Wayne Hodges & family with their Beirut Volkswagen Bug, Boots on motorcycle, Garrett McKenzie on Bag Pipes, Kibler, and Robert Buie and

his wife who came all the way from Louisiana, who were there last year and had so much fun, they came the distance again this year. A total of 8 were marching under the BVA Banner.

The parade featured 8 active duty service members as grand marshalls and included celebrities such as Ernest Borgnine and Gary Sinese.

Kibler has organized the BVA participation over the past several years and urges more Beirut Veterans to plan to be in D.C. next May to join the parade and help carry BVA colors for the nation to see.

USMC Beirut Archive Seeks Contributions

Historical documents and photos of the Marines and Sailors who served in Beirut will form the cornerstone of the newly created Beirut Archive in the Library of the Marine Corps in Quantico. The Archives & Special Collections department of the library, part of Marine Corps University, has gathered a variety of records pertinent to the Marines' presence in Lebanon to form the new collection, according to department head J. Michael Miller. By bringing together a range of materials from both official and individual sources, the archive will provide future historians with a well-rounded view of the Marines' service in Beirut. Among the current collection of source materials are official records, still images and oral history interviews covering the 1982-1984 period. The university wishes to grow the collection by obtaining materials from personnel who served in Beirut during that time. Photos, letters, diaries, audio recordings, and other materials are greatly desired. Submissions may be either originals, duplicates, or digital files.

Archives & Special Collections staff will be present at Camp Lejeune around the time of the anniversary in October, planning to set up a table at the USO or other convenient locations. They will have contact information and CDs with samples of the kinds of material in the collection. Additionally, a web site tribute to the Marines in Beirut is under construction at: <http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/MCRCweb/Archive/Beirut/intro.html>. For further information about the Beirut Archive and how you can donate materials, contact Michael Miller at millerm@grc.usmcu.edu.

Beirut Veterans of America

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 Vice President - John Jackson
 Secretary - Michael Fullarton
 Treasurer - Steve Godfrey
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Root Scoop II

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Hand Salute!

CMC Confirms: USMC Tradition Rules

A recent widely publicized change in law gives current or former service members the option to salute the national flag, covered or uncovered, in or out of uniform, indoors or out. However, Root Vet General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps, has ruled otherwise, at least for the active Marine Corps.

In December 2008 ALMAR (All Marine Bulletin) 052-08, the general directs that tradition trumps contemporary changes in the law.

Customs and traditions provide a link to the past and they bond Marines who have gone before with Marines who will carry the torch through the future, the ALMAR reads.

CMC said, "Any loss of tradition or improper observation of custom blurs Marines' identity and weakens us as an institution. Through the faithful adherence by commanders and each individual Marine we preserve our identity and reputation as a unique and elite fighting organization."

As regards the change in law, the Commandant directs in the AL-

MAR, "By custom and tradition, Marines do not render the hand salute when out of uniform or when uncovered. Let there be no confusion; this has not changed.

"During the playing of the National Anthem or the raising, lowering or passing of the National flag, Marines will continue to follow Naval traditions and policy."

The message goes on to cite Marine Corps Order P5060.20, Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual, as the prevailing guidance. That order states, "Marines not in uniform will face the flag, stand at attention and place the right hand over the heart. If covered, Marines not in uniform will remove their headgear with the right hand and place their right hand over their heart. When the flag is not present, Marines will act in the same manner while facing in the direction of the music. In cases such as indoor ceremonies, when Marines are in uniform and uncovered, they will face the flag or the direction of the music when the flag is not present and stand at attention."

The RSII editor has confirmed that this ALMAR is in full effect. Leatherneck Associate Editor Ron Keene, a retired master gunnery sergeant, confirmed that, "The ALMAR is still in effect. Keep in mind that it applies to active duty types." Keene pointed out that it is optional for retired and former Marines, "But us master gunnery sergeants are going to stand at attention and put our hands or covers over our hearts. Saluting the flag is not about us veterans or drawing attention to ourselves. Saluting the flag is about honoring this great country by rendering honors to her flag. Putting one's hand over your heart is as good as saluting and I think a little more personal and demonstrates humility."

While no specific guidance has

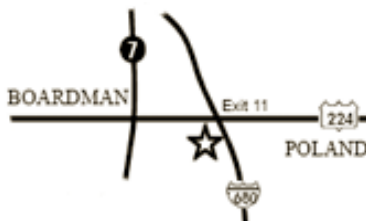


Ohio Beirut Memorial Event October 18th

BVA Member "Big Al" Opra reports an upcoming memorial event in Ohio.

"A Beirut Remembrance ceremony will be held on Sunday October 18, 2009 in Boardman, Ohio, just outside of Struthers, where there is a Beirut Memorial," he wrote in an email. "I've made arrangements at the Holiday Inn in Boardman. The regular room rate is \$129.99, but we get our rooms for \$109.99 so we get a \$20.00 discount."

The hotel can be contacted at (330) 726-1611 for reservations. Tell them you are with the Beirut Veterans of America for the discount, which must be reserved by Sept. 17th.



been issued for retired or former Marines, generally speaking a directive issued by CMC to his active force can be interpreted as applying to the retired and former force. Each individual will have the option to decide how they interpret it and organized groups in this status will interpret this directive and instruct members accordingly.



Carry On: A Forum for Beirut Families

Information of, for and by Families of Beirut Vets

Carry On is a forum to share information about families of Beirut veterans. Families may forward their information to Rosalie (Ro) Milano: email, ojgroup@ojcpi.com or fax 610-268-0305 or call 610-268-0304. The RSII will attempt to include as much information as possible but may need to edit for space considerations.

Park with Beirut KIA Marker Upgraded

A park in Gardendale, Alabama that includes a marker for a Beirut KIA will receive long overdue improvements.

A marker for Hospitalman Jimmy R. Cain, killed October 23, 1983 already exists in the park. The Gardendale Beautification Committee has already received \$15,000 from the North Jefferson County Commission towards the \$30,000 project that will honor sacrifices made by all area residents who served in the military.

Sales of memorial bricks at \$30 each will be one fundraising effort. For more information on how to donate to the Veterans Memorial Park project or to purchase a brick, contact Louie Pearson at 205-631-9804 or e-mail him at pearson915@msn.com.

Legion Post Named After Beirut Bombing KIA

American Legion Post 533 in Mooresville, N.C. named their new post in honor of Lance Corporal Timothy D. McNeely, KIA in the Beirut Bombing. On Sunday morning Oct. 23, 1983 a suicide bomber drove a truck loaded with explosives into the Marine Barracks at the Beirut International Airport. The resulting explosion killed 241 Americans, consisting of 220 Marines, 18 Sailors and three Soldiers. This attack ended in the largest single day loss of life for the Marine Corps since the battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. Tim was born and raised in Mooresville, a graduate of Mooresville Senior High School; he was the son of D.S. and Dorothy "Dot" McNeely. After graduating in 1982 he joined the United States Marine Corps. He was

assigned to 8th Marines, which was part of the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit, 2d Marine Division. His unit deployed to Beirut, Lebanon in 1983 as part of a Multinational Peacekeeping force, which had been in place for nearly a year. The McNeely family has given their permission for Post 533 to honor Tim and a formal dedication was planned for this past spring.

Veterans interested in learning more about this post are encouraged to contact membership chairman Bob Watts at 704-664-6204 or rwattsnc@windstream.net. Tim McNeely Post 533 meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., Fat Boy's Restaurant in Mooresville, I-77 at Exit 36.

Proud Dad Reports Son's Promotion at Beirut Wall

While at Camp Lejuene I found out that Seth was to be promoted to Corporal on the 1st of April, but we were leaving for home on the 31st of March. I ran into the Company Gunnery and asked if it were possible to have him promoted a day early. He said he would talk to some people and get back with me. That was on Thursday. On Saturday, Family Day for the BLT 2/6, the gunny told me that the 1st Sergeant said they could not do it. Later we ran into the BLT Commanders (LtCol Kostic) wife (Sharon). When she found out about us missing the promotion she just said "Follow me." She talked with her husband

then they both started looking for the CO of L Battery. After they found him he said he did not have a problem with it. While I was talking to the CO he said I see your Beirut Veteran shirt, how about we do this at the Beirut Memorial wall. That just about floored me. Next thing I know it is set. On Monday at 1000 we were at the wall. The CO Capt. Randall, First Sergeant Everett and Gunnery Lamay. All of Lima Battery 3/10 came off a 96 to promote Seth. I got to pin his Corporal chevrons on during the ceremony. It was truly a pleasure. I am a really proud father of a United

States Marine Corps NCO, Corporal Seth Handy. Now there are two Corporal Handy's in the family.

**By (Cpl.) Jeff Handy,
RSII Mailout Chief**



Root Vet Jeff Handy promotes son, Seth

RSII readers may remember that Seth helped engineer a ship-wide 25th Remembrance event last year while stationed onboard the USS San Antonio.

Doc Hudson

Root KIA, Georgia Resident, Well Loved

Reprinted with permission

By Damon Cline

Public Affairs Specialist

Medical College of Georgia

Alumni Publications

See page 2 for further information

John Rice Hudson, by all accounts, had a promising future.

The 1981 graduate of the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine had a beautiful wife, a healthy newborn son and dreams of opening a family medical practice in middle Georgia. The 28-year-old Naval lieutenant and physician was well-liked for his easygoing personality and his peers admired his ability to excel at seemingly any task, be it surgery, making music or overhauling a car engine.

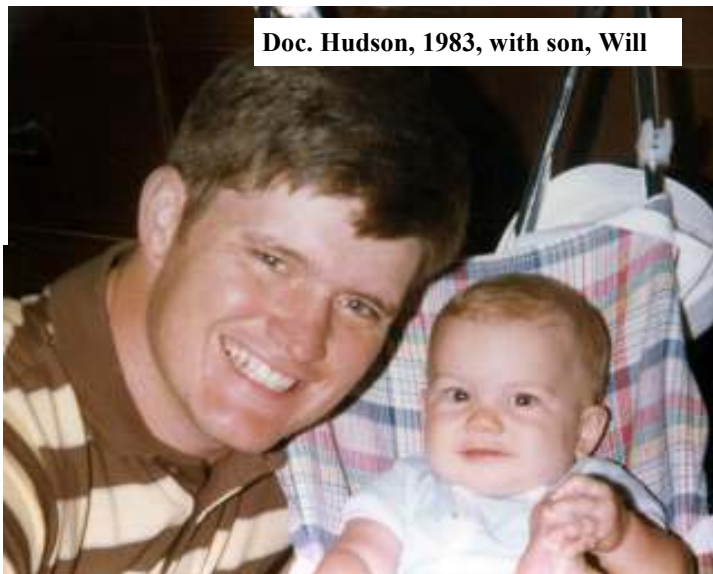
But his future was cut short on Oct. 23, 1983, when he and 240 other military personnel stationed in Beirut, Lebanon, were killed when a suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden truck into the U.S. Marines' barracks.

In the minds of Dr. Hudson's family, however, it never faded from memory.

"For 99 percent of Americans, terrorism started on Sept. 11, 2001," said Dr. Hudson's son, Will, who was 8 months old when his father died. "For my mom and me, terrorism started on Oct. 23, 1983."

Dr. Hudson was the eldest of Samuel and Losie Hudson's three children. The family moved often during his father's 23-year career in the U.S. Army, where he was a decorated veteran of the Korea and Vietnam wars.

The family eventually settled in Fayette County near Atlanta, where Dr. Hudson met David An-



Doc. Hudson, 1983, with son, Will

ders, a fellow trombone player in the elementary school band. The two remained best friends through high school and were inseparable as roommates at the University of Georgia and MCG, which Dr. Hudson paid for through a Navy scholarship that required him to enlist after medical school.

Dr. Anders, who now practices internal medicine in Fayette County, said Dr. Hudson had an extraordinary personality.

"He enjoyed life to the fullest and wanted everyone to come along for the ride," he said. His antics, including wearing a gorilla suit to the student center and strolling into his anatomy finals playing his trombone, tested the patience of administrators but provided comic relief to his stressed-out classmates.

"His friends have told me he was the guy who made everyone loosen up and enjoy themselves," Will said.

Those who knew him cited an almost childlike innocence.

"John had a real dry sense of humor, but he was a very caring person" said Dr. Bob Parrish, for-

mer MCG chief of pediatric surgery and founding member of Code 99, a band Dr. Hudson played with for two years.

Dr. Hudson was a sophomore in 1979 when he met his future wife, Lisa, at an Augusta night spot. He had gone to pick up an amplifier he

loaned to a friend but ended up staying once he saw the 23-year-old registered nurse from Milledgeville, Ga. He called her the next day and the two hit it off immediately.

"He was so unpretentious," Lisa recalled. "He was probably the smartest man I've ever known, but he was so unpretentious about it."

The two discussed marriage, but Dr. Hudson initially wanted to put off a wedding date until after completing his military commitment.

"He made up his mind he was going to complete medical school and pay back his time to the Navy before he settled down," Lisa said. "But I interrupted that process."

The two were married on Sept. 13, 1980, with Dr. Anders as best man.

"I lost a good roommate," Dr. Anders said. "But she got a good one."

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Hudson...from page 6

Dr. Hudson enlisted in the Navy, which provides health care services to the U.S. Marine Corps, after completing the first year of his residency at MCG. The newlyweds moved to Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C., where Will was born on Feb. 15, 1983.

Having grown up an Army brat, Dr. Hudson was comfortable with military service. However, he was far from the average recruit.

Will recalled one particular story relayed to him by his father's commanding officer, Lt. Col. Larry Gerlach.

"My dad would drive the officers crazy because he wouldn't put his boots on," Will said. "He told them, 'These boots are putting blisters on my feet. If I was seeing a patient who had blisters like these, I would tell him to stop wearing these boots.' My dad was a doctor first and foremost."

Dr. Hudson's service was uneventful until then-President Ronald Reagan ordered the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment to participate in a multinational peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, which was in the midst of a civil war.

He left for Beirut on April 9, 1983. The Marines set up their headquarters at the Beirut International Airport and were initially successful at preventing attacks from militant factions operating in the country.

However, as the year wore on, it became clear to Dr. Hudson that militants were becoming increasingly confrontational.

"Rockets and artillery are coming into our area but we don't shoot back because we're not supposed to be in a war, but we are in a war," he said in a taped message to his wife on Sept. 5. "We're in a com-

bat war zone." Most of Dr. Hudson's skills went unused early in the deployment. On one recording he said he was unable to practice "99 percent of the knowledge" he learned in medical school. Even depression was rare among the troops.

"They like being Marines and they like the job they have to do," he said. "They motivate themselves. I'm really impressed with them."

However, Dr. Hudson became concerned about his fellow troops – and his own wellbeing – as the skirmishes intensified. Marines no longer came to his basement clinic with sore throats and earaches; they now had bullet and shrapnel wounds. In an Aug. 31, 1983 postcard to Dr. Anders, he said he was worried about "coming home in a box or altered state," and that "things are so different here, more than anything you could ever imagine."

And he continued to express his dismay at the rules of engagement. Weapons were constantly

pointed at the Marines, but they were prohibited from actively engaging the enemy unless fired upon. Dr. Hudson wrote about the futility to Sen. Sam Nunn, then chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services.

Dr. Hudson reunited with his wife and 6-month-old son in Greece while on leave from the base from Aug. 20-28. It was the last time they would see him.

The Root was peaceful during early dawn on Oct. 23, 1983. The cacophony of distant artillery fire had fallen silent.

At approximately 6:20 a.m., a truck packed with explosives accelerated through the compound's gate, barreling past two sentry posts and another gate before crashing into the lobby of the barracks. The Marines, under strict rules of engagement, barely had time to load and shoulder their weapons before the suicide bomber detonated explosives equivalent to six tons of TNT.

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Doc Hudson's son, Will and his wife

Doc Hudson

Remembered for his wit, music

Continued from page 7

Those not killed by the blast were crushed when the four-story, reinforced-concrete building collapsed into a heap of rubble.

Recovering the bodies took several days. Dr. Hudson was found on day two, inside his sleeping bag.

Ms. Hudson feared her husband was dead the moment she saw news footage of the destruction. Those fears were confirmed by a visit from two Naval officers.

"They came up to the door, just like they do in the movies," she recalled.

Her husband's body was returned to the United States two weeks later and buried at her family's dairy farm south of Milledgeville, an area where he hoped to one day build a home and practice medicine.

The U.S. government ruled in 2003 that the attack was carried out by the militant Islamic group Hezbollah with backing from the Iranian government.

Military analysts say the attack was America's first brush with "fourth-generation warfare," in which ideologically motivated insurgents use guerrilla tactics and civilian populations to create tactical dilemmas for an enemy. The insurgents' strategy is to achieve victory not through superior military strength, but by convincing the enemy's political leaders that victory is either unachievable or not worth the human toll.

President Reagan withdrew the troops less than five months after the attack.

Will met Mr. Nunn for the first time at a charity event in At-



lanta last year. To his surprise, the former senator remembered the letter his father wrote 25 years ago.

"He said, 'That letter will haunt me for the rest of my life,'" Will recalled. "He said, 'Your dad was exactly right. He knew exactly what was going on.'"

A scholarship fund was started in Dr. Hudson's name shortly after his death, and in 1987, the clinic at the U.S. Naval Supply School in Athens was renamed in his honor.

The building's plaque rekindled memories in Dr. Sam Richwine, a 1977 MCG graduate who completed his surgical internship and residency at MCG.

"It finally rang a bell that John Hudson had been an intern of mine when I was a general surgery chief there," said Dr. Richwine, a plastic surgeon in Gainesville, Ga.

The Athens native hopes the memorial remains after the 58-acre Naval School property is transferred to the University System of Georgia in 2011 for use as an MCG-UGA medical campus.

"I think it would be great if we were somehow able to keep that name somewhere on campus," he said, "not only to honor John as an MCG grad, but also the gift of his

life to the country."

Ms. Hudson never remarried.

"I've never had another best friend like him," she said. "I miss my friend more than I miss my husband."

Will, who married last June, recently started a professional recruitment firm, Complete Recruiting Solutions LLC in Atlanta. He also has political aspirations, which stem directly from the loss of his father.

"I think some of our leaders make decisions without really thinking about the impact they may have," he said. "When you know what it feels like when those decisions go bad, it makes you think a little more carefully and thoughtfully." Several of Dr. Hudson's friends stay in touch with his widow and son, including classmate Dr. Allan Panter, a Gainesville, Ga., resident who practices emergency medicine.

He said Dr. Hudson would be proud of his son. "I can't say enough about Lisa's parenting," said Dr. Panter, who dropped in to visit Will at Furman University whenever he was passing through. "Will is well-rounded; he seems to be a complete package."

For Dr. Panter, spending time with Will is almost like spending time with the young man's father. Almost.

"I don't think you're ever going to meet anybody like John Hudson," he said. "If you ever meet someone like him in your lifetime, you're fortunate."

Memorial Day Service Honors Fallen Beirut Marines

Reprinted from the News Herald serving Northern Ohio, May 26, 2009

About 100 people gathered in front of Corporal David L. Daugherty Memorial Park in Eastlake Ohio on the morning of Monday May 25th following a Memorial Day service at Eastlake City Hall.

They gathered to remember and celebrate the lives of former Eastlake resident Daugherty and seven other Marines who were killed in action Dec. 4, 1983, in Beirut, Lebanon.

The men were killed by an incoming rocket after several hours of fighting insurgents to protect civilians.

Eastlake Council President Derek Elshaw unveiled the park's new sign and a memorial stone with the names of each person killed.

The park, formally known as Willow Green park, was renamed in honor of Daugherty in December.

Elshaw began the ceremony by quoting Maj. Gen. David F. Bice.

"We pay tribute to their service that allows us to live. They went to protect the innocent and shield the most vulnerable. The mission was inherently dangerous, and they had the courage to be involved in something bigger than themselves," he said. "Beirut was the first battlefield in the global war on terrorism."

Dan Matheke, an Eastlake resident and childhood friend of Daugherty, pushed hard for renaming the park. "I grew up with him. We played baseball together," he said. "He was a quiet kid, but he did his duty and he did

what he was supposed to do."

To help pay for the memorial stone, as well as the park's upkeep, a fund was set up by the city in March to accept donations.

However, the Leathernecks Motorcycle Club donated enough to purchase the stone.

Matheke said there has been an outpouring of support for the park.

"If it wasn't for everyone who came through and helped out and donated, none of this would have been possible," he said.

"This is not my park or the city of Eastlake's park; it is everyone's park.

"It is dedicated to the eight brave young men who went and lost their lives in Beirut and had very little to show for it."

Marty Zak of Willowick, who served in Beirut in 1981, never met Daugherty but still fought back tears while leaning up against the memorial stone, which reads, "They came in peace."

"I didn't know him, but he was a Marine and that is all that counts," he said. "This means a lot because people in Beirut never really got recognized.

"I hope this sparks a better appreciation for all services. Freedom is not free; my brothers paid with their lives."



Spirit Wear !

Photos of all updated Spirit Wear items can be seen at the official BVA website: www.beirutveterans.org

- #1: **25th Remembrance T-shirts, \$15:** youth large, S, M, L, XL, 2XL & 3XL
- #2: **Sweat Shirt** w/ full-front embroidered BVA Logo; 95% pre-shrunk cotton available in white, ash grey, hunter green, maroon, black, light blue. Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, 2x, 3x ...\$23 (3x in white, ash grey, hunter green only)
- #3: **Golf Shirt** w/embroidered BVA Logo; 6.5 oz., 100 percent combed cotton pique golf shirt w/quarter sleeves; welt collar and cuffs; side vents w/2" dropped tail; red, purple, blue (bimini & corporate), true royal, true navy, black, white, sports gray, putty, butter, tangerine, mango, wine, jade; **Adult Sizes: M, L, XL, 2X, 3X - \$27**
- #4: **Sport Cap;** brushed cotton twill, 6-panel, soft crown, low-fitting, adjustable strap, front embroidered logo, script on back; available in Maroon with green visor; Tan or Chestnut w/black visor; Price.....\$15 each
- #5: **New: BVA Christmas Ornament, \$5**
- #6: **BVA K-bar: regular, \$52; Gold Edition, \$102**
- #7: **BVA License Plate Frame: \$6**
- #8: **BVA Bumper Stickers...\$3 each**
- #9: **BVA Mousepads (blue), \$4 (8" x 9")**
- #10 **Round Cloth Patches, \$7.50 (3.5x3.5")**
- #11: **Static Window Clings: \$3.00**
- #12: **BVA Bronze Challenge Coin, \$6.50 each**

Shipping Charge rates:	
Subtotals up to \$9.99.....	\$3.50
Subtotals from \$10 to \$49.99.....	\$5.50
From \$50 to \$99.99.....	\$7.50
\$100 to \$199.99.....	\$12.50
\$200 and up	\$15.50
Over \$300, call Cliff Walling to confirm	
Orders routinely shipped USPS	

25th T-Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____	\$	_____
Sweat Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____	\$	_____
Golf Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____	\$	_____
Cap: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____	\$	_____
Christmas Ornament: Quantity _____	\$	_____
BVA K-bar: Regular, # _____; Gold Edition, # _____	\$	_____
BVA License Plate Frame: Quantity _____	\$	_____
Bumper Stickers: Quantity _____	\$	_____
Mouse Pads: Quantity _____	\$	_____
Patches: Quantity _____	\$	_____
Static Window Cling: Quantity _____	\$	_____
25th Challenge Coin: Quantity _____	\$	_____
Subtotal		\$ _____
Shipping:		\$ _____
TOTAL ORDER		\$ _____

Please Tell Us Your:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Make check payable to BVA. Send order form and check to:
 Cliff C. Walling
 123 Prentice Avenue
 South River, N.J. 08882-2210
 Expect Delivery in 4-6 weeks. For more information
 Call Cliff @ (h) 732-613-0441
 Email: wallingclan@msn.com

Official Newsletter of the Beirut Veterans of America

Root Scoop II

July/August 2009



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