

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

"SAYING GOODBYE TO THE ORPHANS"

This was the blackest day of our lives." Sgt. Major Johnny Green, of Company B, originally part of the 9th Kentucky Infantry Battalion, First Kentucky Infantry Brigade, on the surrendering of the Orphan Brigade, Confederate State of America, May 7, 1865, Washington, Georgia.

Most of them had been wounded several times during the course of the war. Many of them, like Nicholas County native Lt. Lot Young, were on crutches.

They were the remnants of the brave band of Kentuckians known as The Orphan Brigade.

When they began the war, leaving Kentucky for Tennessee to fight for the Confederate cause, their numbers were estimated between 4,800 and 5,000. Union officer, Captain Abraham, (numbered only 526 survivors among them this day in Washington, Georgia.

The rest were dead, having perished in battlefields like Shiloh, Vicksburg, Baton Rouge, Murfreesboro, Dalton, Jonesboro, Mission Ridge and dozens of less-



Known battles like The 100 Days, when they fought General William Sherman's Union force as it marched to the sea.

And now the crippled and scarred survivors were together this last time. General Robert E. Lee had surrendered the Army of Virginia on April 7, but the Orphans, that formed part of the Army of Tennessee, held out for another month.

Ben Hardin Helm, one of the Orphan Brigade's commanders, was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga in Sept. 1863. I mention his name here in passing, dear reader, only as a reminder of the complexity of the situation of most Kentuckians in the Orphan Brigade fought themselves. Most, like General Helm, had family members that fought for the North.

Helm happened to be a brother-in-law to President Abraham Lincoln, having married a sister of Mary Todd Lincoln in 1856. Several men of the 9th Kentucky Regiment of the

Mary Lincoln in the White House after her husband's death. This created a stir in Washington, and newspapers complained when Lincoln's rebel sister-in-law visited.

Union General Daniel Sickles informed Lincoln, "You should not have that rebel in your house."

Better than surrendering their flag to the Union force, they said as they went together. Sgt. Major Johnny Green's square portion remains with the Filson Club Historical Society in Louisville.

The scene was laced with raw emotions and Lt. Young recorded it in his book "Reminiscences of a soldier of the Orphan Brigade," published in 1917.

"General Joe Lewis, (surviving commanding officer of the Orphan Brigade) and his staff rode through the city, the most sorrowful and forlorn looking men my eyes ever looked upon. The cause for which we had so long fought, sacrificed and suffered, lost, everything lost. God and the world apparently against us, without country, without home or hope, the old family being broken up and separated forever, our very souls sinking within us, gloom and sorrow overwhelming the world's army.

Several men of the 9th Kentucky Regiment of the

most four years of the blood-streaked war were here, to be forever broken up. The eyes that gleamed defiance in the battles' rage were now filled with tears of sorrow at parting. The hand that knew no treading in the bloody on-

slaught now wavered and trembled. The hour for the last parting had arrived, the long struggle ended forever - good-bye, John; (farewell, Henry; it is all over and all is lost, ended at last; good-bye, boys; good-bye."

He was preceded in death by son, Avery Feaback; and a brother, Paul Feaback.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 17, at the Hinton-Turner Funeral Home by Rev. Steve Baker with burial in the Carlisle Cemetery. Casket bearers will be Matthew Backler, Tommy Baker, Robert Shelor, Wayne Browning, Steve Hall, and Ricky Cline. Honorary bearers will be Billy Cline, Tommy Clough, Terry Feaback, Jr., Perry Feaback, Jason Swartz, Buddy Peters, James Willoughby, and Clifton Swartz. Visitation will be 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Monday. Memorials are suggested to New Life Ministries, www.hintonturnerfuneralhome.com

Kenney is survived by four brothers, Terry (Vickie) Feaback, Mt. Sterling, Bobby



Photo by Steve Scott

Wind Damage

High winds gusting as high as 65 mph last Wednesday toppled several trees throughout the county, including this massive pine which fell, blocking the entrance to Carlisle Cemetery. Asphalt shingles could be seen on city sidewalks, as well, serving as reminder to check your roof for missing shingles and leaks before the next heavy rain.



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The Carlisle Mercury welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number for confirmation. Uncorroborated letters and unsigned letters will not be published. Phone numbers are not published. We reserve the right to deny publication of letters and to edit letters for content. The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Friday.

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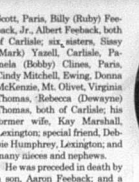
Obituaries



Kenneth E. Feaback 1956-2009

Kenneth Eugene "Kenney" Feaback, 52, of Lexington, a plumber and US Army veteran, died Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at U.K. Medical Center. He was born June 15, 1956 in Versailles, IN, son of Billy Feaback, Carlisle, and Virgilene Washington, Paris, attended Paris High School and was a member of the Millersburg VFW Post and Abundant Life Worship Center.

Kenney is survived by four brothers, Terry (Vickie) Feaback, Mt. Sterling, Bobby



Robert "Jack" Ritchie 1921-2009

Robert "Jack" Ritchie, 87 of Carlisle died on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009. He was born in Nicholas County, Ky. He was a horseman, farmer, a lifelong member of The Foresters Association and a World War II Veteran. He is survived by one son, Robert (Linda) Ritchie, Carlisle; two daughters, Katy (Larry) Price, Ewing, KY and Roberta (Dean) Hinton, Carlisle; a



Robert "Jack" Ritchie 1921-2009

son, Wayne (Cherry) Hunt, Paris, KY; a special sister-in-law Sue Smith; 14 grandchildren: John (Anita) Evans, Jayson (Kathy) Evans, Jackie (Robert) Busell, Lori (George) Walden, Joanne (Tommy) James Newsome, Jo Jo (Jeremy) Orem, Jason (Sharon) Crawford, Kelly Crawford, Marshall (Penny) Hunt, Eddie Hunt, Tina Sargent, Coleman and Owen Hinton; and by 25 great grandchildren, 10 great-great grandchildren.



Kenneth Ray Livingood 1954-2009

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Ruby Crawford Ritchie. Funeral services were Friday February 13, 2009 at the Clark Funeral Home with Rev. Darrell Sexton officiating with burial following in the Carlisle Cemetery. Pallbearers were George Walden, Lill John Evans, Cheesth Russell, Robyn Evans Anita Busell and Marshall Hunt. Honorary bearers were Malcolm Cox, Billy Gene Cox, Shirley Mitchell, Jason Crawford, and Brent Hobbs. Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.



Kenneth Ray Livingood 1954-2009

Kenneth Ray Livingood, 54, died Monday, Feb. 9, 2009, at his home. He was born Apr. 21, 1954 in Nicholas Co. to Grover "Shorty" & Elizabeth "Peg" Capps Livingood. He was a former employee of A.O. Smith, a farmer and a member of the Mt. Zion Church.

He is survived by a son, Kevin (Samantha Busell) Livingood and his expected child of Carlisle; a daughter, Jo Ann (Earl Stone) George; Millersburg; three brothers: Donnie (Mary) Livingood, Cleve (Mary) Livingood of Carlisle; and Roger Livingood, London; a sister, Linda (Larry) Smith, Carlisle; his former wife, Betty Jo Terrell; and a special friend, Sam Terrell.

Services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13, 2009 at Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home with Rev. Howard Livingood officiating. Burial followed in the Carlisle Cemetery. Casket bearers were Ronnie Amburgey, Max Ison, Agustín Jara, Jason Livingood, Dustin Stoddard, and Eric Watkins. Honorary bearers were Donnie, Cleve and Roger Livingood, and Larry Smith. Condolences may be left at www.mathersgaunce.com

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