



THE VIRGINIA CAVALIER



The Virginia Society, Order of Founders and Patriots of America

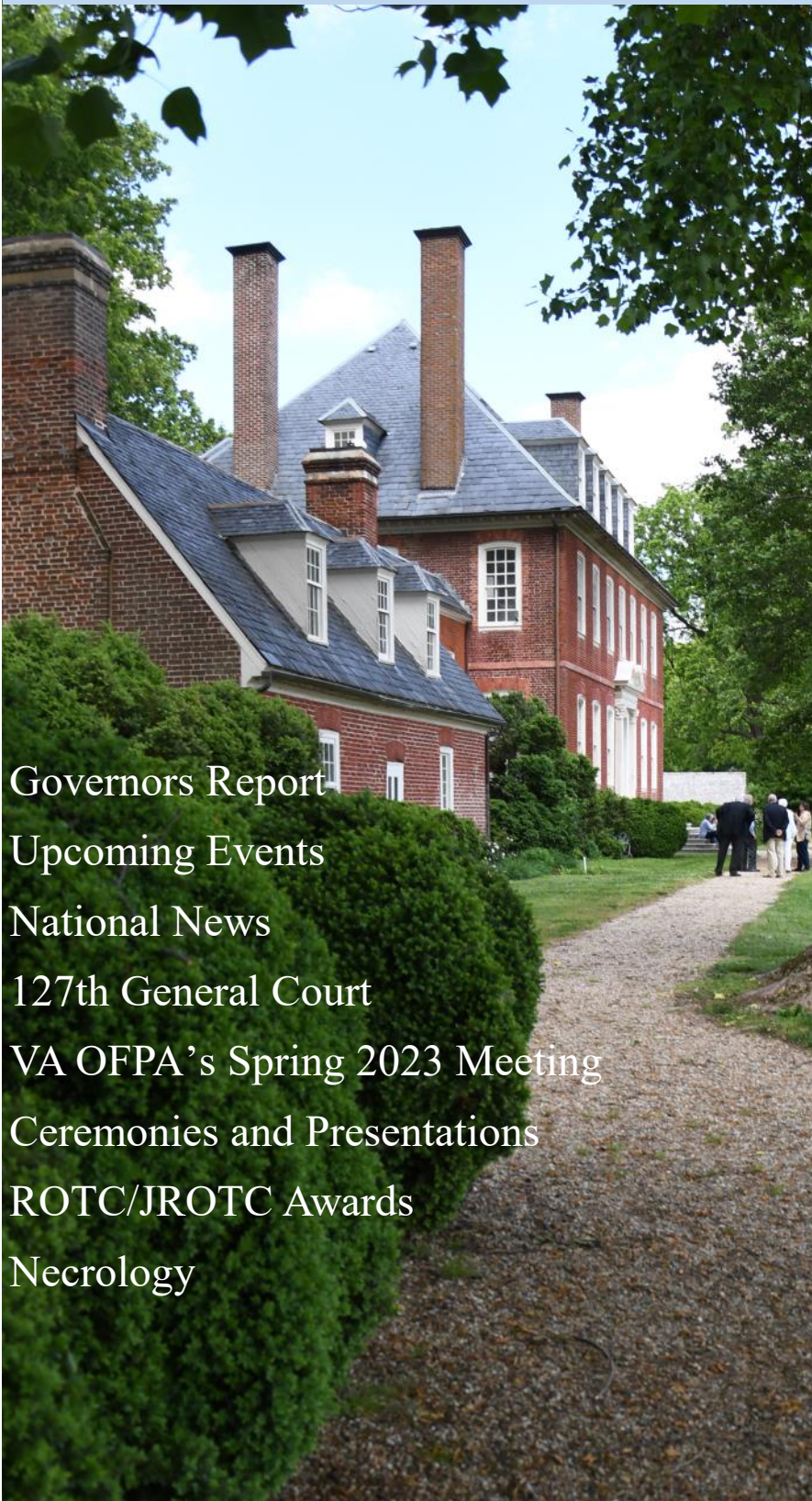
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Vol 18, No. 2

Summer 2023



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The Virginia Cavalier is an official publication of the Virginia Society of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America (VAOFPA) and is a newsletter currently published in Portsmouth, Virginia. Material which is original with The Cavalier may be published and/or quoted in whole or in part with attribution. Inquiries and requests for information should be made to the Editor.

Input or comments are welcome at any time.

Cover photo: 4th of July celebration in Mobile, Alabama. Photo by John F. O'Dell.

Inside cover: : Approach to the Westover Mansion, Charles City County, Virginia. Photo by Tim Ahlgrim

Governor's Report on the Second Quarter of 2023



Last fall I received a phone call from then-Governor General Ed Horton. He asked me how the Virginia Society had consistently promoted the Order and increased membership. This, he said, was important information to capture and share with the other societies.

My response was that our officers and members were engaged in the society's activities. Programs were not dependent on a single person. The success of every society-sponsored event was because of the work of many. Some of them worked behind-the-scenes while others were up front. But the success depended on the work of all.

This past quarter was no exception. I want to thank all of those involved in the grave marking of Theodorick Bland at the Westover Plantation, the presentation of awards to university ROTC and high school JROTC cadets, the presentation of wreaths as well as the promotion of our Society at many events throughout the Commonwealth. The effort by so many is what makes our Society the best! Thank you all for your hard work.

The third quarter promises to be equally rewarding as there are many patriot grave markings and historical events for our participation. One of the last for the quarter will be the Battle of the Capes to be held at Ft. Story in Virginia Beach on September 9th. It will truly be an international event as it is jointly sponsored with the French military. Attending this event demonstrates our deep appreciation for their alliance and gallantry which ensured our Colonies the chance to be the great Nation it is today.

Many of you will be representing our Society at events throughout Virginia in the coming months. Please remember to document with photos and a brief summary which should be submitted in a timely manner to the editor of our newsletter, Tim Ahlgrim. Let's continue to lead by example.

Steadfast for God and Country,
Kenneth L Hawkins, Ed.D.
Governor, Virginia Society



The VA OFPA has several wreaths, a parade banner and an OFPA flag which can be used by any VAOFPA Associate at an event. It is a good way to let people know you are an OFPA member.

If you participate in an activity where you are identified as an OFPA Associate, please advise the Governor and Secretary. Save a copy of the program, and a photograph of your participation if possible. If you write an article, save a copy and send to Governor Hawkins and Secretary Russell to be included in the annual Governor's report.

Upcoming Events

The following is a compilation of observances and ceremonies being held statewide by many of the societies that the VA OFPA interacts with. Please check with the local chapter or entity before making any travel plans.

July 1st, 2023, Saturday: Reading of the Declaration of Independence and Wreath Presentation, hosted by the Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR and Warren Heritage Society at the Warren Heritage Society, 101 Chester St., Front Royal, VA.

July 2nd, 2023, Sunday at 7:00 pm: Military Appreciation Night at the Ball Field, hosted by Sgt. Maj. John Champe Chapter VASSAR at Fireman's Field Park, 250 S Nursery Ave., Purcellville, VA.

July 4th, 2023, Tuesday at 9:30 am: Independence Day and March to the Tomb at Mount Vernon, VA. Hosted by the George Washington Chapter VASSAR.

July 4th, 2023, Tuesday at 10:00 am: Reading of the Declaration of Independence, hosted by the Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR at the Walking Mall, Winchester, VA.

July 4th, 2023, Tuesday at 1:00 pm: Reading of the Declaration of Independence, hosted by the Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, VASSAR at Yowell Meadows Park, Charters of Freedom, N. Blue Ridge Ave, Culpeper, VA.

July 4th, 2023, Tuesday (4:00 pm) - Fourth of July Parade, Middletown, VA, hosted by the Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR and the City of Middletown, Middletown, VA.

July 6th, 2023, Wednesday (10:00 am) – 242nd Commemoration of the Battle of Green Spring, hosted by the Williamsburg Chapter VASSAR at the Church on the Main, 4644 Yeardeley Loop, Williamsburg, VA.

July 8th, 2023, Saturday (10:00 am - 4:00 pm) - Colonial Kids Day, hosted by the Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR at Location: Burwell-Morgan Mill, 15 Tannery Ln., Millwood, VA

July 8th, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) - Commemoration of the 247th Anniversary of the Battle of Cricket Hill, hosted by the Richard Henry Lee Chapter VASSAR at Morningstar Marinas, 249 Mill Point Rd, Hudgins, VA.

Cont' on next page

July 9th, 2023, Sunday (10:00 am) - Fourth of July Celebration, hosted by the Gen. William Campbell Chapter VASSAR at the Abingdon Muster Grounds 1780 Muster Place, Abingdon, VA.

July 14th, 2023, Friday (6:00 pm) - Opening Ceremony at Norfolk Tides Ball Game hosted by the Norfolk Chapter VASSAR and Great Bridge DAR at Harbor Park, Norfolk, VA.

July 22nd, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) - 249th Anniversary of the Signing of the Fairfax Resolves, hosted by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter VASSAR at Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Hwy, Lorton, VA.

Upcoming Events

August 12th, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) - Reading of the Declaration of Independence, hosted by the Sgt Maj John Champe Chapter VASSAR at the Loudoun County Courthouse, Spirit of Loudoun Rev War Memorial, 18 East Market St., Leesburg, VA.

August 19th, 2023, Saturday (10:00 am) – 241st Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks, hosted by the Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter KYSSAR at Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, 10299 Maysville Road, Carlisle, KY.

August 19th, 2023, Saturday (12:00 pm) – Opening Ceremony of the Nansemond Indian Nation Annual Pow Wow, hosted by the Nansemond Indian Patriot Chapter VASSAR at 1001 Pembroke Lane, Suffolk, VA.

August 26th, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) - Grave Marking for Lt. George Kilgour, hosted by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter VASSAR at the Chestnut Grove Cemetery, 831 Dranesville Road, Herndon, VA.

September 9th, 2023, Saturday (11:00 am) – 242nd Commemoration of the Battle of the Capes, hosted by the Norfolk Chapter VASSAR on Joint Amphib Base, Fort Story, Virginia Beach, VA. Please note: Military ID or prior permission required.

September 17th, 2023, Sunday (10:30 am) - Constitution Day Commemoration, hosted by the Col. James Wood II Chapter VASSAR in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, VA.

September 17th, 2023, Sunday (4:00 pm) - Wreath Laying at the grave of Brig. Gen. William Campbell, hosted by the General William Campbell Chapter VASSAR at 303 Seven Mile Ford Rd, Marion, VA.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

National News



The 127th OFPA General Court was held at the Nassau Inn, in Princeton, New Jersey on May 19th of this year.

Reporting to the State Society, associate Doug Graves noted that:

It appears much business was transacted to include but not limited to:

- ◆ The Order's national publication, the *Bulletin*
- ◆ Archives of the members approved applications and their supporting documentation which will be digitized by NEHGS (New England Historical Genealogical Society)
- ◆ Increase in the Order's annual dues
- ◆ The Governor General's Report
- ◆ General membership reports
- ◆ Financial statements,
- ◆ The Order's website to include making a social media presence in hopes of attracting new membership

If you wish to view or download the file, below is the link (address) for the meeting minutes and is located at: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ttwq2ijqdw9tds/OFPA%20128th%20GENERAL%20COURT%20MINUTES%20%2B%20REPORTS.pdf?dl=0>



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Deputy Governor General

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Past Governor General

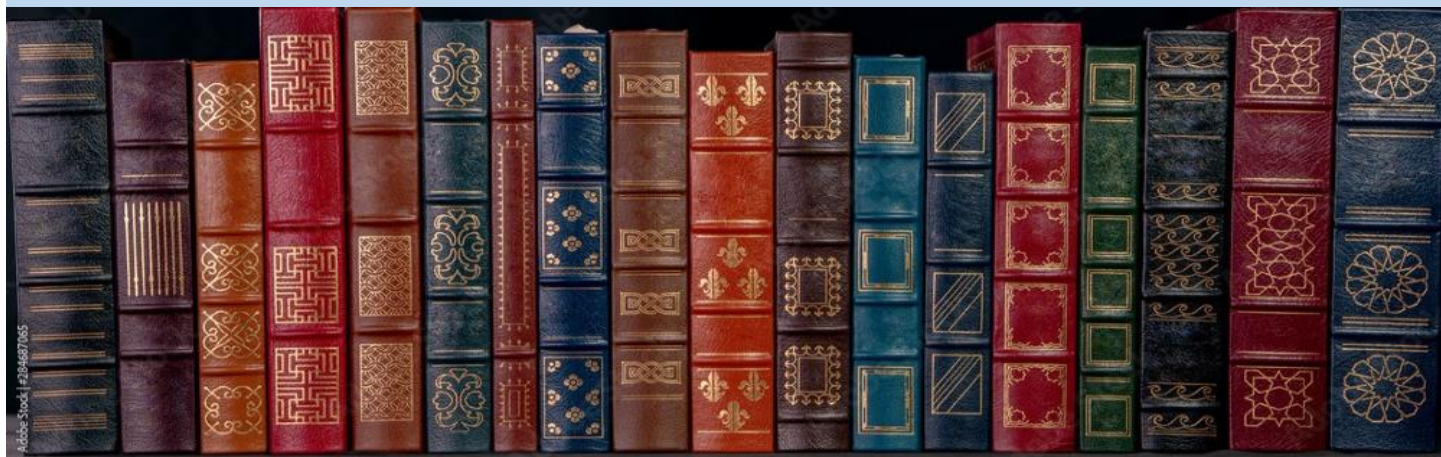
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Past Governor General

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Past Governor General

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Past Governor General

William Allerton III
Past Governor General

Michael Perry Schenk
Councilor General - Council



Planning for the Future – Digitizing Our History

By: Dr. Michael E. Weyler

In October of 2022, our OFPA Governor General Ed Horton established the Archives and Records Committee with the specific mission of getting all of our 127 years of Approved Applications scanned and digitized.

Currently all applications, starting at the Order's inception in 1896, are housed at the University of Baltimore Library.

While some applications and supporting documentation in those archives have been digitized over the last few years, none have been indexed by a man's name in order to be a part of a searchable database.

To date, the only access to any archived information is through a known national number, which the archivist can use to scan what is available on paper under that national number. This makes the use of our archives of limited use in researching ancestral information for new applications. In other words, you have to know a man's OFPA national number in order to find out what was on his application and what sources he used for his documentation.

The Committee's search led us to the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston. We have negotiated a License Agreement with NEHGS that will result in the digitization and indexing of over 6400 archived applications.

There is no cost to OFPA for the digitization and indexing service because the licensing agreement is for the benefit of both OFPA and NEHGS. We get our applications digitized and indexed for the benefit of our Order, and NEHGS gets a license to sell digital copies of the scanned documents to their subscribers. There is no transfer of ownership to NEHGS. We retain ownership of the data, but we are giving the NEHGS a non-exclusive license to use the scanned documents for their profit.

NEHGS will create an index from the Membership Applications and publish the images and index as a searchable database on the NEHGS. NEHGS will also provide copies of all images to OFPA in both archival format (TIFF), and web format (JPEG), when the digitization process is complete.

NEHGS will index every record having either an associated name or date. This includes birth, marriage, military, probate, death, divorce, etc., for every name listed on an application. Lineage society application databases are most useful for NEHGS when all names and records listed on them are searchable.

The 127 years of archived applications and supporting documentation are being prepped for transfer to NEHGS, and should be ready for transport to NEHGS in early July. We expect the digitization and indexing project to be complete in 2024. We will keep you advised as this project progresses toward a useful, genealogical search tool for our membership.

Supplemental Applications

By: Richard Rattan: VA OFPA Registrar and Genealogist

Periodically, an associate discovers that he can trace a second (or third) lineage back to a Patriot/Founder, in addition to the one that is cited in his approved application. And the associate would like to have the OFPA recognize that second lineage.

This potential for identifying a second qualifying lineage has expanded since 2020 with the change of membership requirements allowing a potential associate to use his immediate male or female parentage (mother/father, grandfather/grandmother, great grandfather/great grandmother) to trace his lineage from a direct male ancestor who was alive when the OFPA was founded on 16 March 1897.

The following is the process for submitting a Supplemental Application:

1. Complete a long application form (https://ofpa.org/webServices/files/forms/OFPA_Long_Form_Fillable_11_Jun_2023.pdf). On the long form, the approved national order number should be filled in on the upper right of Page 1, as well as the Society number on the upper left.
2. Also, on the first page of the application, third line, there are two boxes for “Initial” and “Supplemental”. Check the “Supplemental” box.
3. Within the lineage lines, pages 2-4, any line that is a duplicate from the initial approved application may reference the approved application as the source document. If the lineage follows any of the generations of the original application, the applicant may refer to them by the generation and member number. Example: Gen 1 John Hancock
Reference: Nat # xxxx
4. Be sure to include a copy of the initial approved application complete with the cover letter from the Registrar General as the source document for that line. If the initial approved application covers the first 2-4 lines of the supplemental lineage, that source document only needs to be provided once.
5. Of course, each new line of the supplemental lineage needs to be fully documented to OFPA documentation standards. From that male ancestor who was alive on or after 16 March 1897, there must be a direct male lineage back to the Patriot and Founder.

The national fee for submitting a Supplemental Application is \$150, while an initial application fee is now \$200. We are still deliberating the Society fee for a Supplemental Application and will let all know once the Executive Council has discussed it, proposed it, and voted on it (probably mid to late summer 2023). Once approved, the Registrar General will include an “S1” (and/or “S2” if additional Founders are submitted) after the National Order No, designating the lineage as supplemental. And an additional membership certificate will be issued in due course.

127th General Court



(l-r) Captain Mike E Weyler-Virginia Society Governor 2022, Sean Redmond-Awards Chairman, Walt Sheffield-Attorney General, Shane Newcombe-Treasurer General, and Governor General Edward C. Horton

(The 127th General Court was held between May 17 and the 21st, 2023 in Princeton, New Jersey. One of the numerous functions of the General Court is to recognize and present various awards to outstanding Societies of the Order.

The most highly esteemed Society award is the *H. Carroll 'Parish' Award* which recognizes annually the Society demonstrating the highest overall performance in accomplishing the objectives of the Order. The award is made only by the National Order. The selection of the Society to be the recipient of this award is made by the General Court based upon evaluation of Society activities for the previous year--in this case for calendar year 2022. To be eligible for consideration and to compete for this award, a record copy of the Society Governor's Report must be submitted to the Governor General and the Secretary General which is based upon those activities participated in by the Society Associates throughout the year.

The major highlight of the 2023 General Court was the award ceremony where the Virginia Society was

presented, the highly prestigious *H. Carroll 'Parish' Award*. This presentation marks your Virginia Society having earned this award for **15 years in a row!**

The various activities your Virginia Society participated in include, but are not limited to, attendance at meetings whereby an Associate provides OFPA greetings. Attendance additionally includes those numerous lineage society events, presentations of ROTC and JROTC Awards at numerous Colleges and Universities and JROTC High Schools. It additionally includes awards presented to National Guard Units as well and presentation of the prestigious Lt General Herman Nickerson Award at the United States Naval Academy. Other events include special projects completed throughout the year by your Society such as the recently conducted grave marking of the *Founder* Theodorick Bland. These numerous events that your Virginia Society participates in are intended to extend public awareness of the OFPA through our newsletters and coverage of our activities in the news media. Congratulations to all of you that contributed countless hours, as Associates of the most prestigious Society of the OFPA.

VA OFPA's Spring 2023 Meeting



On May 6th, the Virginia Society of the OFPA held its annual meeting at the Indian Field Tavern in Charles City. The meeting was called to order by Governor Ken Hawkins. In attendance were Rich Rattan, Richard T. Rattan, Mike Weyler, Mike Lyman, Shane Newcombe and his guests, new associates Peter Broadbent, Jr., Phillip Barnard, Jr., and John Beranek, Tim Ahlgrim, and our guests Norfolk SAR chapter president and Bland ancestor, Bob and Cindy Bruce.

Past Governors Michael Wyler and Myron "Mike" Lyman uncovering the memorial plaque at Bland's gravesite.



New associates Tim Ahlgrim, John Beranek, Peter Broadbent, and Phillip Barnard were sworn in by Governor Hawkins, and afterwards the company went to the Westover Plantation for the dedication of a memorial plaque to Theodorick Bland, who is buried at Westover Plantation on the James River, around 30 miles west of Williamsburg, VA.



Afterwards, the group was invited to tour the mansion and grounds.



Ceremonies and Presentations

Monroe's 265th Birthday Celebration Ceremonies



Past Governor Lt. Col. Mike Lyman presented the OFPA wreath that the ceremony hosted by the James Monroe Memorial Foundation on April 22nd at President James Monroe's birthplace and Park in



Westmoreland County. Associate Peter Broadbent was present to deliver remarks to assembled audience.

A week later, a cool and rainy morning did not stop the celebration and Ceremony at the Presidents Circle at the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond on April 28th. Associate Tim Ahlgrim was onhand to present the OFPA wreath.



Governor Ken Hawkins and associate Tim Ahlgrim presented our wreath at the commemoration of the Battle of Spencer's Ordinary hosted by the SAR's Williamsburg Chapter on June 24th.



Governor Hawkins and associate Tim Ahlgrim represented the State at the annual Flag Day celebration held at the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk hosted by the Daughters of the American Revolution.



ROTC/JROTC Awards



Virginia Associate Richard Raymond presented the Outstanding ROTC Midshipman Awards to MIDN Kaitlynn George, MIDN Holly Hein, and MIDN Holly Hein of Virginia Military Institute's Naval ROTC program. Looking good Brother Raymond!



University of Virginia's Cadet Tyler Williams, Ryan McGee and MIDN Myles H. McIntyre received their awards from Virginia Associate Gerry Culver.



Cadet Joshua Vissicchio of Virginia Military Institute, accepting the OFPA award, which was presented by the AFROTC Detachment Commander, Colonel Nichole K.A. Scott.



Virginia associate Richard Rattan presented the OFPA ROTC medal/award to Cadet Bilal Cheema at George Mason University



Virginia Associate Philip Barnard and Virginia Commonwealth University's Cadet Emily Smith being awarded the OFPA's medal and certificate.

ROTC

George Mason University
Virginia Military Institute (AIR FORCE)
Virginia Military Institute (ARMY)
Virginia Military Institute (NAVY/Marine Corps)
Virginia Military Institute (NAVY)
James Mason University
University of Virginia (ARMY)
University of Virginia (Air Force)
University of Virginia (Navy)
Liberty University
Christopher Newport
Hampton University
Hampton University
Hampton University
Hampton University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech (Navy)
Virginia Tech (Air Force)
Virginia Tech (Marine Corps)
Virginia Tech (Army)

Bilal A Cheema
Joshua G. Vissicchio
Jamison Pitts
Holly N. Hein
Kaitlynn M. George
Andrew Edwards
Tyler Williams
Ryan McGee
Myles H. McIntyre
Addison M. Carroll
William Soos
Kalyn Asbury
Samantha Hamilton
Nyasia Parks
Alexis Ibarra-Bautista
Emily Smith
Thomas Feely
Nicholas Vrabel
Carrie Stinchcomb
Coleman Efirid

JROTC

Tamyah Mullins
Hudson Lyon
Keithon Williams
Sophie Lema
Austin Reeves
Ryan Deubler
Annabelle Woods
Gavin Jones
Nahzir Davis
Randell Elliot
Lynzie Atkins
Lauren Flaig
Ethan Swartz
Dixie Owen

Booker T Washington
Cox
Granby
Harrisonburg
Lake Taylor
Landstown
Maury
Mountain View
Norview
Prince George
Princess Anne
Salem
Smithfield
Tunstall

Necrology

David Lawrence Grinnell



Our esteemed colleague and Associate, Registrar General David Lawrence Grinnell passed quietly last Tuesday, the 18th of April.

He was a kind, gentle soul who did yeoman service on behalf of our Order nearly to the end. His tenacity and dedication were responsible for the marked increase in efficiency in the processing of membership applications in recent years. He will be missed by all.

He was born on September 17, 1943, to Clairmont and Mildred Grinnell of Newport, Rhode Island. He spent most of his life on Aquidneck Island with his family and friends.

He graduated from Newport HS in 1962 and in 1966 he received his BS in Business Finance at Bryant College. David was the VP of Finance at Edgehill Newport from 1979 until they closed. He then became the CFO at Codac for many years. He moved to Cranston RI in 2003 and in 2009, when he retired, moved to Palm Springs CA with his husband, Victor M Ranieri.

He is survived by two children, his son, Nathan Grinnell and wife Jaclyn of Georgia, two grandchildren, Ryder and Lila Grinnell also of Georgia, his daughter, Jodi Grinnell Brierley of Missouri, and his husband. He is also survived by a brother in Newport RI, Ronald Grinnell, 3 sisters in law, and many nieces and nephews. Two other brothers, Alfred and Roger Grinnell, predeceased him.

Besides the OFPA, David was a member of the SAR, the Mayflower Society, and many other genealogical groups. He often held an office in several of these groups, either as treasurer or registrar.

David's final arrangements were made by All California Cremation and his ashes were scattered in the Pacific Ocean. He will be missed by many family members, friends and professional organizations.