

## **Memorial Day May 29, 2006, a celebration for all our family war veterans who made our freedoms possible**

*Compiled by Richard Roland Grayson, May 27, 2006*

**Memorial Day** is a United States federal holiday that is observed on the last Monday of May. It was formerly known as **Decoration Day**.

### **The American's Creed**

*William Tyler Page*

**“I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.”**

*NOTE: William Tyler Page, Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, wrote “The American's Creed” in 1917. It was accepted by the House on behalf of the American people on April 3, 1918.*

#### **Revolutionary War**

**John Stone**, who married Anne Hunt in 1778, was a private in Captain Edgell's Company of Framingham Minutemen, which marched to Concord and Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm, 19 April, 1775, and was discharged after numerous battles 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1777. His great granddaughter married Wyman Tasker.

**Benjamin Grayson, Sr.**, of Wilkes County, North Carolina, served in the North Carolina Militia, Morgan District, pay voucher dated 31 July, 1784.

#### **War of 1812**

**John Tasker** of Newberry, Vermont, father of **Wyman Tasker**, father of William Frederick Tasker, father of Una May Tasker Grayson, mother of Roland Howard Grayson, served as private in the War of 1812, against Great Britain, for 3 months in the Vermont Militia, in the regiment commanded by Col. Underhill, discharged the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, 1813, at Plattsburgh, New York.

**Andrew C. Cummins**, father of Permelia Cummins, the wife of John Wren Grayson, who was the father of Andrew Jackson Grayson, Sergeant, 28<sup>th</sup> Kentucky regiment fought at the Battle of the Thames in Michigan in the War of 1812.

**Wren Grayson, Sr.**, (Benjamin) father of John Wren Grayson, served with the Third Militia of East Tennessee under Captain James Tunnel, 13 September 1814, to May, 1815, fought at the final battle of Mobile, Alabama after the defeat of the British at the Battle of New Orleans by General Andrew Jackson.

### **Civil War**

**Andrew Jackson Grayson**, Lieutenant, in the 6<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regiment fought from the beginning of the Civil War until after the Battle of Shiloh under Ulysses S. Grant April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

Four cousins of Andrew Jackson Grayson served in Indiana regiments in the Civil War. They were the sons of John Wren Grayson's brother Wren Grayson, Jr.: **Hiram, William, John, and Beryl Grayson**. Beryl died of wounds in the war.

**Wyman S. Tasker** of Cabot, Vermont, served in the Civil War in Company I, Regiment 2, Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 1864-1865.

### **World War II**

**Sherman Lans**, son of Anna Leah Mandelbaum Lans, (sister of Sylvia Mandelbaum Grayson,) served in the United States Army throughout Europe as a medic, including the Battle of the Bulge.

**Robert Jebavy, Sr.**, served in the United States Marine Corps in the Pacific including the Okinawa Campaign and immediately after the war was posted to northern China to protect munitions from the Communists and to help repatriate Japanese soldiers.

**Robert Douglas Clevenger**, Lieutenant Jg., father of Roberta Gerbrecht Grayson, served on the battleship USS Mississippi in the Pacific campaigns and was on board his ship in Tokyo Bay at the signing of the surrender of Japan.

### **Iraq War II**

**Aaron Rutter**, son of Priscilla Grayson Rutter, served as a United States Navy medic attached to the United States Marine Corps for 7 months duty, 2004-2005. September 14th, 2004, he left for Iraq with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines. They were in the city of Mahmudiyah about 25 miles south of Baghdad, which the Marines took over from the Army on March 24, 2004.