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MEMORIAL DAY

On this Memorial Day, like all others, citizens of New Bern and Craven county can be justly proud of their hero dead.

From the agonizing hours of the Revolution to the uncertain moments of our Atomic Age, this region's native sons have measured up gloriously to the demands of military crisis.

The stalwart soldier of 1776, and our Confederate lad of the tragic early Sixties, had their duplicates in World Wars One and Two. Weapons were different, but in the final analysis it was stoutness of heart that proved the determining factor.

Today, primarily, we are thinking of our World War dead, and of those who subsequently gave their lives in the prolonged Korean conflict. To honor them is to honor all men who made the supreme sacrifice for this blessed Land of the Free.

Many who read these lines weren't born when the American dough-boy fought, bled and died at Cantigny, Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, Vaux and Buresches. To them the battle of the Marne, and later engagements at Verdun and in the Argone Forest, are strange sounding names in history books.

Not so with the boys who died there, nor their luckier comrades in arms who lived to return to their native shore. The carnage was real to them, and it was equally real to mothers and wives who placed gold stars in cottage windows in remembrance of loved ones lost.

More familiar are the battlegrounds of World War Two and the supplementing bravery on sea and in the air. No branch of service could claim the victory nor the gallantry exclusively. There was glory for all, and death and maiming for all. Such is the grim impartiality of war, and such it has been since the beginning of Time.

Robert Conderman came face to face with that fact on Wake Island, when he was mortally wounded in a sneak air attack, while trying to reach his plane.

Pete Cook, bleeding his young life away in the viciously cruel Death March of Bataan, learned in his dying moments that man's inhumanity to man is merciless beyond belief.

Hardy Moore, encircled and trapped with other brave Americans in the Battle of the Bulge, knew what it meant to give your life for a cause, to die so that others might live and successfully resist a would-be conqueror.

What did Robert, Pete and Hardy—and other native sons equally courageous—die for? Among other things they died so you and your children, and you children's children, could live in peace and freedom.

They died so that you could attend the church of your choice on Sunday morning, or, if you felt so inclined, hasten to a neighboring beach or fish along the banks of Neuse or Trent and in the Atlantic's Gulf Stream.

They died for Mary and Jimmy, heading for school or kindergarten, for the right to work and play and dream that God intended for all mankind and Democracy has sought to preserve.

They died for ball games at the park, chocolate sodas at the corner drug store, for a little old lady planting petunias, and an old man swapping yarns with his fellows. They died for babies in their cradles, and kids playing hop-scotch on a chalk-lined sidewalk.

Heaven forbid that The Mirror ever loses sight of the fact that they died for freedom of the press—the right to be all that a newspaper should be, without fear or favor—proclaiming the good, condemning the evil as it presents it.

(Continued on back page)



FOR CRAVEN'S SONS
CLOAKED IN LASTING SLEEP,
WE WHO ARE LIVING
MUST THE VIGIL KEEP.

*The stranger
who is my brother*

"Known But To God" . . . so reads the inscription on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, but his memory is enshrined in all our hearts. For, he, and thousands like him, bravely fought and died to preserve our democratic traditions, to assure a better life for those who follow.

Let us resolve to keep faith with our brothers who died for us, in our firm resolve to work for the understanding among nations that will insure lasting world peace.

Henry Purifoy
Herring Jr.

Wade Meadows Jr.
Douglas Peek

Donald F.
Patterson Jr.

Thomas
Wetherington

Francis C. Caton
Joseph Rouse

W. Van Donnersen
Ben O. Civils

Emmett Jenkins
George T. Skinner

F. L. Stilley
J. E. Daugherty

Solomon Claudius
Jackson

Toler W. Herring
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James R. Hardison

George Phillip
Pipkin Jr.

Marcus Cicero
Daugherty

Paul F. Mills
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Sam N. Mills

Guion V. Heath
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John M. Powles
Fred P. Willis

Joe Stallings
Zeb Tripp Jr.

Sam Parrott
J. F. Bennett

Kenneth Rea
Wyatt Stallings

Deppe Rowe
W. J. Weatherly

Jodie Ipock
Danie Adams

Bert Stilley
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W. H. Toler
H. L. Lancaster

Milam G. Price
Moses Allen

Joe N. Harper
James Cleveland

Robert J. Conderman
Furnifold M. Simmons

H. Edward Tilghman
Woodrow W. Connor

Donald Ivan Ryman
Clyde A. Ballenger Jr.

Hardy Perry Moore
Richard Gray Morris

Harold Wetherington
Charles Percy Mason

Walter Ralph Jones
Ed S. Laughinghouse

William M. Mitchell
Randford Coward

Richard Stapleford
Charles E. Cook

Elvin Allen Herring
Thomas D. Faulkner

Clennie M. Hawkins
David L. Daugherty

Raymond Hawkins