

# Memorial Day



**General John A. Logan's  
Memorial Day Order**





**General Order No. 11**  
**Headquarters, Grand Army of the Republic**  
**Washington, D.C., May 5, 1868**

I. The 30th day of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form or ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized, comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose, among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the soldiers, sailors, and marines who united to suppress the late rebellion." What can aid more to assure this result than by cherishing tenderly the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Their soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains, and their death a tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the Nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders. Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us.

Let us, then, at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtime; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from dishonor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the Nation's gratitude,—the soldier's and sailor's widow and orphan.

II. It is the purpose of the Commander-in-Chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to call attention to this Order, and lend its friendly aid in bringing it to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith.

III. Department commanders will use every effort to make this order effective.

By command of:

JOHN A. LOGAN,  
Commander-in-Chief.

N. P. CHIPMAN,  
Adjutant-General.

## **The Unknown Dead**

## THE UNKNOWN DEAD

**A**BOVE their rest there is no sound of weeping,  
Only the voice of song-birds thrills the air;  
Unknown their graves, yet they are in God's keeping,  
There are none "missing" from His tender care.

He knows each hallowed mound, and at His pleasure  
Marshalls the sentinels of earth and sky;  
O'er their repose kind Nature heaps her treasure,  
Fanned by soft winds which 'round them gently sigh.

Bravely they laid their all upon the altar,  
Counting as naught the sacrifice and pain,  
Theirs but to do and die without a falter —  
Ours to enjoy the victory and the gain.

They are not lost; that only which was mortal  
Lies 'neath the turf o'erarched by Southern skies;  
Deathless they wait beyond the heavenly portal,  
In that fair land where valor never dies.

In the great heart of coming generations  
Their fame shall live, their glory never cease;  
Even when comes to all earth's troubled nations  
God's perfect gift of universal peace.

— *Elizabeth Robbins Berry.*

May 30th is "Indiana Civil War Soldiers' Memorial Day" by proclamation of the Governor, thanks to the efforts of Brother Bruce Kolb, PDC.

2018 Proclamation

STATE OF INDIANA  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
INDIANAPOLIS

Executive Order

# PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS,** three years after the Civil War ended the Commander in Chief John A. Logan, the head of an organization of Union Civil War veterans-the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)-declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30; and
- WHEREAS,** on May 11, 1870, the GAR established Memorial Day to be observed on the 30th of May annually in commemoration of the deeds of our fallen soldiers; and
- WHEREAS,** Indiana contributed approximately 210,000 Union soldiers, sailors and Marines; and
- WHEREAS,** Indiana ranked second among the states in terms of the percentage of its men of military age who served in the Union Army roughly 15 percent of the states; and
- WHEREAS,** Indiana's war-related death toll eventually reached 25,028 and an estimated 48,568 soldiers were wounded; and
- WHEREAS,** Hoosiers are encouraged to observe the day by decorating the graves of those who died in defense of their country during the Civil War;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2018 as**

## INDIANA CIVIL WAR SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL DAY

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

*In Testimony Whereof, I hereto  
set my hand and cause to be affixed the  
Great Seal of State. Done at the  
City of Indianapolis, this 1st  
day of May the year of our  
Lord 2018 and of the Independence  
of the United States 242.*



BY THE GOVERNOR:

*Eric Holcomb*

2017 Proclamation



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2019 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program honoring the 150th anniversary of Memorial (Decoration) Day by placing flowers at the grave of CAPT Richard Burns.









(L to R: Dave Wilson – Bob Winters – Mike Beck – Tim Beckman – Garry Walls – Bruce Kolb – Jim Floyd)

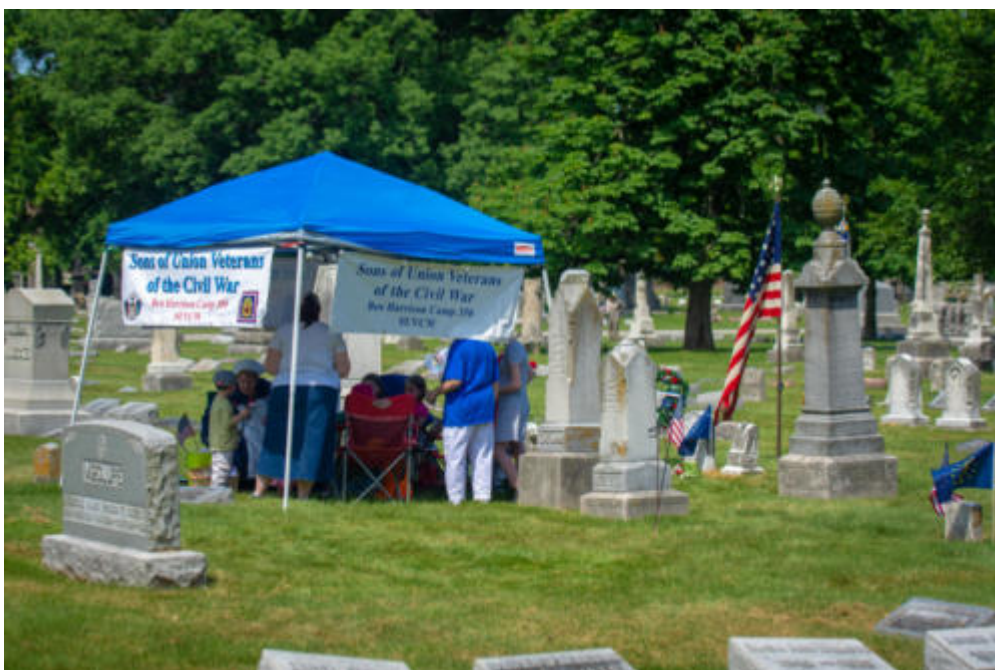


(L to R: Bob Winters – Mike Beck – Tim Beckman – Garry Walls – Bruce Kolb)

2018 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program honoring the 150th anniversary of Memorial (Decoration) Day by placing flowers at the graves of General George Francis McGinnis, Sgt. Jonas D. Goodnoe, Musician 3rd Class Edward Black, Lt. Col. Hans Blume, Private James W. Southard, and Private William Muecke (G.A.R. Member).



DSC 5854



DSC 5939



DSC 5897



DSC 5901



DSC 5851



DSC 5896



DSC 5841



DSC 5845



DSC 5849



DSC 5914





DSC 5913



DSC 5907



DSC 5883



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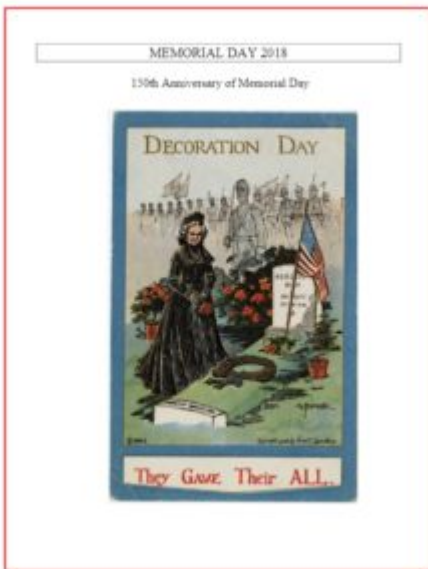
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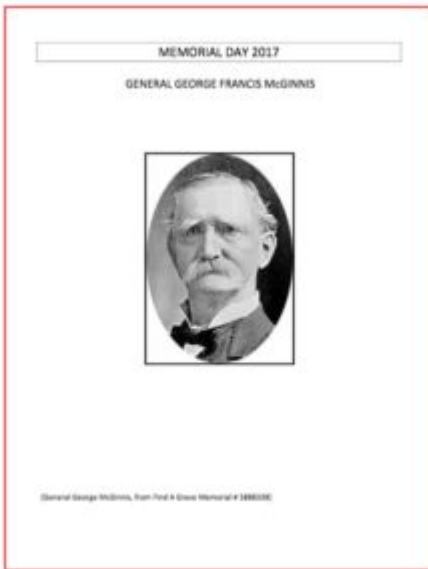


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Edward Black, Mar 30, 1857 - June 26, 1872  
Fullerton-Jew (Richmond, Indiana), 67 Mar 2011, Mar, page 1-4, by Steve Martin  
8-year-old was youngest soldier in war  
Wayne Co. native served honorably in Civil War as drummer boy, died at age 15  
The youngest soldier of the Civil War was born in Wayne County. His name was Edward  
Black.  
Historically the average recruit was a white native-born, single, Protestant male farmer  
between the ages of 18 and 20 who stood about 5 feet, 7 inches tall and weighed about 147  
pounds.  
Edward Black was a white native-born Protestant child.  
At a time when about 1 million soldiers were fighting - 2 million from the North and  
about 1 million from the South - the youngest of all from either side was a boy from ...  
Waynesville.  
Edward Black was born there on Mar. 30, 1857. He was the son of George and Lydia  
Black, who later moved to Indianapolis.  
At 8 years and 2 months of age in third grade by today's standards, little Edward  
enlisted in the Union army on July 24, 1861, and was assigned to the 21st Indiana Regiment as a  
drummer boy.  
Drummer boys had been used before and during the Revolutionary war to maintain a  
'pace' or rhythm for marching or changing a line. They were often out in front of advancing  
troops and were easy targets. The enemy would aim at them in order to cause the advancing line  
to fall out of step.  
Though drummer boys did not fight, they often waded into battle, anyway.  
Whether they fought or not, they just as often paid the ultimate penalty.  
In the Union army it was estimated that 500,000 soldiers were younger than 15 years old.  
Waynes county from Edward Black was the youngest child on record in the Union and the  
Confederate armies, and also the youngest enlisted soldier in all other American wars.  
His service record was exemplary.  
He technically served one year, two months and five days, being honorably discharged  
when his replacement discharged. During his time in the army he was captured in the battle of  
Benton Ridge and held prisoner at Ship Island. At the capture of New Orleans (upon being  
released), young Black's head marched into the city playing the tune "Myra Rose".  
In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln stopped the use of drummer boys since so many  
were needlessly being slaughtered.  
Edward came back home to Indianapolis, but he didn't stay long.  
He re-enlisted with his father immediately, still very much under age. He and his father  
served until war's end.  
In his military career, little Edward was shot at several times and taken prisoner once. He  
served the Civil War as a veteran, at the ripe old age of 11.  
When he returned home at the end of the conflict, he was physically and mentally  
depleted.  
Never having fully recovered from the traumatic experience, he died in 1872 at the age of  
15.  
He is buried in Section 18, Lot 148 of the Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis. The  
second three stars. The youngest soldier in the Civil War, and probably of all American wars, is  
buried under a weather-beaten limestone marker in Crown Hill. This soldier, Edward Black, was

## 2017 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program Honoring General George Francis McGinnis



(L to R) FRONT ROW: Bruce Kolb, PDC – Tim Beckman, PCC – Garry

Walls, PCC – Mike Beck, PDC. BACK ROW: Bob Winters – Jerry Thompson – Jim Floyd – Joe Beckman.





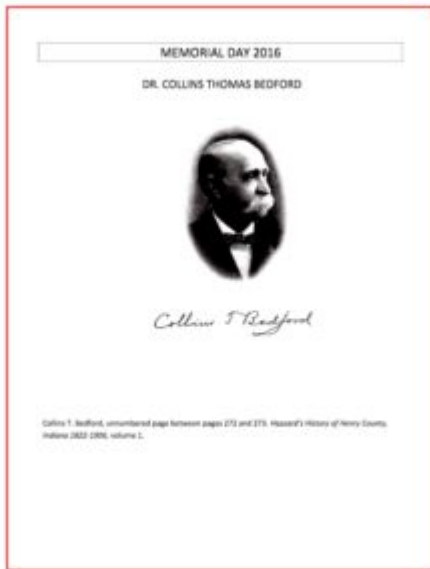




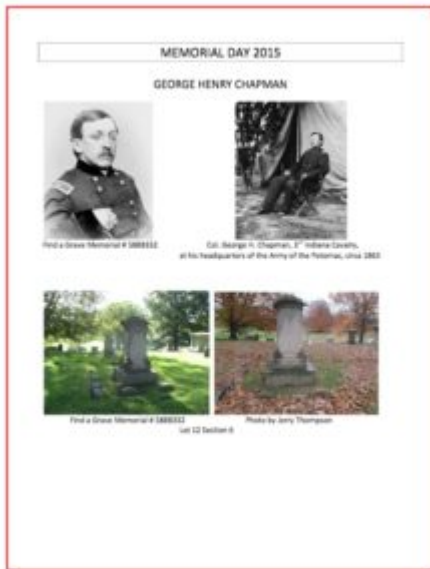


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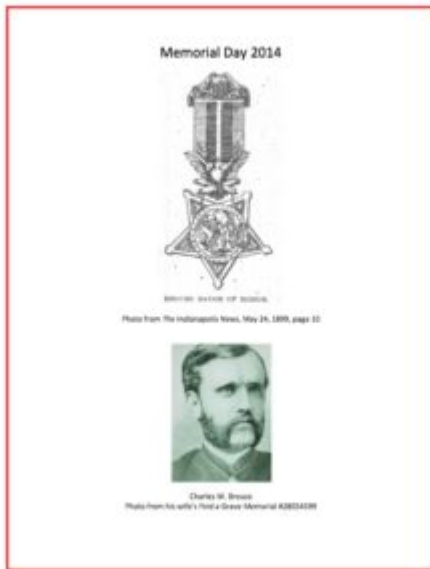
**2016 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program  
Honoring Dr. Collins Thomas Binford**



## 2015 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program Honoring Major General George H. Chapman



## 2014 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program Honoring MOH Awardee Charles W. Brouse



## 2010 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program Honoring

Major General James Richards Carnahan

**Ben Harrison Camp No. 356**

State of Union Veterans of the Civil War



James Richards Cantrick

Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Indiana

Monday, May 11, 2010 11:00 AM

## **2009 Ben Harrison Camp Memorial Day Program Honoring Private John W. Gentry**

**Ben Harrison Camp No. 356  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

**Memorial Day Ceremony  
Honoring Private John W. Gentry**

**Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN  
Monday, May 25, 2009**