November 11, 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the armistice ending World War I. We used to call it “Armistice Day,” but changed the name to “Veterans Day” to honor all veterans of all wars or even of peacetime service.

It’s probably good that we do. We have long been bad about not honoring those who serve, except when we desperately need their services in times of war. Rudyard Kipling once wrote of British soldiers (called “Tommy,” the way we talk about “GI’s”) “Oh, it’s Tommy this an’ Tommy That, an Tommy get behind” until the drums are beatin’, then it’s “Tommy you’re so fine.”

We tend to think of the problems veterans have today as a new phenomenon. It is not. We now talk about combat veterans having PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) as if it is a new illness. It is not.

When I was a kid, we called disabled WWI veterans “shell-shocked.” They were men who seemed really old, but they weren’t. If you think this is strange, consider this: The typical American GI who served in WWI would have been about 19 years-old. (Wars tend to be fought by the very young.) So the typical WWI vet would have been born right around 1900, which would have made him 19 in 1919 and 38 when I was born, in 1938.

These “old guys” shook a lot, had an exaggerated startle response to loud sounds and often seemed to most
From the President

Jobs Matter

By President Sheila Stinson

Those of us who work full time outside the home generally spend more time with the people we work with than the people we live with. Our jobs and our careers directly impact our lives. We all chose to be lawyers, whether it was because we liked the idea of helping others, liked history and how laws apply to facts, succumbed to the pressure of one’s family, or for a thousand other reasons. However you got here, you’re here and it’s your job.

I always find it interesting what other jobs lawyers had either before entering the law, or while they were practicing law. My first job was making snow cones at Wild Bill’s Putt-Putt in Boise City. That job is the primary reason I haven’t eaten a snow cone since my sophomore year in high school. But that job taught me customer service, money management, chemistry, vendor relations and how to drain a putt through a wagon-wheel - all important skills for a 14 year old.

I asked other people about their first or early jobs and what they learned. My friend David worked as a lab assistant at OPSU. One of his lessons - if you work to keep the bathroom immaculate, people will tend to keep it that way. My friend Brian learned compassion from her first job at a funeral home. Crystal’s first job was at a dress shop owned by a Holocaust survivor where she learned graciousness. Steve Barghols - Head houseboy at the OU Theta House...enough said.

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Dear Roscoe: Is it possible for an entire court to be recused? J.B., Oklahoma City.

Dear J.B.: I’m sure there’s a fascinating back story to this question. If you’re talking about every single judge in a particular State, I tend to doubt it. In your own State’s history, the Oklahoma bombing case came about as close as anything I’ve ever heard of as having that potential. There are numerous cases, however, where all judges in a particular venue or insular judicial body such as a Tribal, municipal, or appellate bench may come under scrutiny, but those only rarely come along. For example, in United States v. Gordon, et al., 354 F. Supp. 2d 524 (D. Del. 2006) the court found disqualification of the whole court appropriate where another judge was likely to be a witness. In Talbott v. Thomas, 151 S.W.2d 1 (Ky. 1941) and entire court recused in a case where 6 of the 7 judges in the court were also parties to the case. A similar situation led to the recusal of the entire Arizona Supreme Court in Hall v. Elected Officials Retirement Plan, 383 P.3d 1107 (Ariz. 2016).

Compare also Caperton v. Massey, 556 U.S. 868 (2009) where the plaintiff in a pending dispute worth tens of millions of dollars spent an extraordinary amount of money in support of a successful candidate for Justice of the West Virginia Supreme Court, who subsequently cast the deciding vote in favor of his contributor. Here the SCOTUS found the “extraordinary effort” might conjure the specter of a debt of gratitude on the part of the recipient of the largesse. However, in Republican Party of Minnesota v. White, 536 U.S. 765 (2002) where the Court observed that recusal on the basis of previous judicial alone inappropriate because “it is virtually impossible to find a judge who does not have preconceptions about the law.” So, I’d never say “never”, but, as Carl Sagan so wisely observed: “Extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof.”

Dear Roscoe: Is it true that one can be sued for reckless sex but not negligent sex? What’s the difference anyway? Is it a matter of quantity or quality, or maybe their absence? R.G., OKC.

Dear R.G.: First off, let me tell you if you’re who I think you are I a) sense a set-up and b) know where you live. Giving you the benefit of the doubt, welcome to the wonderful world of amatory torts. This area of law once accommodated such oldies but often baddies as Breach of Promise, Seduction, Criminal Conversation and other “heart balm” lawsuit of yore. Today, as the late, great Warren Zevon once musically noted “there’s no magic spell for a broken heart.” There’s also no cause of action. Most American jurisdictions have abolished it for good reasons, which may be found in the 1960’s re-runs such as Love American Style, The Abbot and Costello Show, Beverly Hillbillies, Gomer Pyle, Batman, Andy Griffith, and Laredo.

The legal ground you seem to be wandering was staked out in the Massachusetts Appeals Court in a case called Doe v. Moe, 827 N.E.2d 240 (2005). I present for your amusement and comment JOHN DOE vs. MARY MOE, the case of pseudonymous sweethearts whose romance ended in both insult and personal injury. A long-term couple decided to engage in sensual games including what, I’m told, is called a “reverse cowboy.” You’d probably know more about that sort of thing. Anyways, see the opinion for details. While in motion and engaged, Ms. Moe: “landed awkwardly on the plaintiff, thereby causing him to suffer a penile fracture.” John sues Mary.

The trial court granted defendant summary judgment. The appellate court affirmed, holding that it was inappropriate and unreasonable to hold consenting adults to a standard of reasonable care in the conduct of private consensual sexual behavior, but that it was appropriate that they be held to a standard that requires them not to engage in wanton or reckless conduct toward each other during such consensual sexual conduct. I wonder whether result in this case came about as a result of the courts not wanting to get involved in what constitutes “reasonable” sexual conduct in the said Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I wonder if, hypothetically, the case involved a lady of negotiable virtue, she could be held to a professional standard. Finally, I wonder why, if you had to ask a question like this, you couldn’t least have waited ’til Valentines’ Day.”

The defense attorney grilled Chips for almost an hour. Next, he called Buddy Orenstein who testified about the meeting in my office when Chips revealed the fruits of his labors. Wisely, Buddy neglected mentioning the presence of Ernie Trani since no question directly broached that issue. The defense played a sort of “six degrees of Kevin Bacon” game, seeking to link Chips to me and us to the Secaucus PD. At the end of the testimony counsel argued: “Your Honor, while this case seems to involve the brave new world of modern technology, it really involves a very simple application of Fourth Amendment jurisprudence. The Supreme Court, back in 1971 in Coolidge v. New Hampshire, 403 U.S. 443, 487, laid the groundwork for validating the defense attorney’s arguments by a variety of methods. In short, the courts have adopted a range of approaches for distinguishing between private and government searches. About half of the circuits apply a “totality of the circumstances” approach that examines three factors: whether the government knew of or acquiesced in the intrusive conduct; whether the party performing the search intends to assist law enforcement efforts at the time of the search; and whether the government affirmatively encourages, initiates, or instigates the private action. See, for example, States v. Smythe, 84 F.3d 1240, 1242-43 (10th Cir. 1996) This test draws a line between situations where the government is a mere knowing witness to the search and those where the government is an active participant or driving force.

“So, Importantly, the fact that the person conducting a search is not a government employee does not always mean that the search is “private” for Fourth Amendment purposes. The totality of the circumstances in this case demonstrates that, for reasons unknown, the police officers involved in this case have invited the participation of this Mr. Pound in various stages of the investigation. Mr. Pound is a known intermeddler in the criminal justice realm both here in Jersey and elsewhere. Mr. Perricote, it seems, has become enamished in Mr. Pound’s by a variety of factors both familial and economic. In fact, even romantically when you consider his relationship with Mr. Pound’s secretary. It severely strains credibility to suggest he acted as anything other than an agent of law enforcement.”

“Mr. Coleman?” the judge inquired.

“Thank you, Your Honor and may it please the Court. I call the Court’s attention to a line of private search cases in our Reply Brief involving individuals hacking into computers of child pornographers for the purpose of collecting and disclosing evidence of their crimes. These mostly stem from United States v. Steiger, 318 F.3d 1039 (11th Cir. 2003). The hacker, who refused to identify himself or meet directly with law enforcement, emailed the incriminating evidence to law enforcement. The evidence was admissible because when it was gathered, the individual was not an agent of law enforcement. Because the relevant searches by the hacker took place before the hacker contacted law enforcement, the hacker was not acting as a government agent, and the private search doctrine applied. In Steiger, a law enforcement agent thanked the anonymous hacker, assured him he would not be prosecuted, and expressed willingness to receive other information from him. As Mr. Perricote testified, his motivation was a prophylactic one, aimed primarily at the protection of Ms. Kearny from further harassment and abuse.”

After a brief recess, Judge Ohara read: “Fourth Amendment protection guards against unreasonable searches and seizures by Government officials and those acting as its instrumentality as per Coolidge. It does not provide protection against searches by private individuals acting in a private capacity. Thus, ‘evidence secured by private searches, even if illegal, need not be excluded from a criminal trial. ‘Although I find the Government operated quite close to the line, it did (at least on the evidence before me) demonstrate the requisite level of knowledge and acquiescence sufficient to make Mr. Perricote a Government agent, taking at face value his intent to protect Ms. Kearny. While I find the collegial approach between Mr. Pound and law enforcement somewhat discomforting, I agree with the Coolidge holding in that it is not the purpose of the Fourth Amendment to discourage private citizens from uttermost of their ability in the apprehension of criminals. “Motion to Suppress is denied.”
Excerpts from OCBA News:

**HOLIDAY BOOKS FOR YOUR CHILDREN**


Time for pre-Christmas reviews of books for kids. This first one is about the title, Love, and how it makes itself present through the differing times of life. The first scene is of the child’s parents, with the explanation that at the beginning, just the sound of their voices is love. So are fire hydrants in the summer, suitable for frolicking. There are challenges, hard times, but love is there also. There is a scene where adults shield the child from appalling news on TV. This also is love. The wide variety of love is seen in a day-to-day content, people going to work, a sibling eating the burnt toast. Vibrant colors and perceptive scenes drive the narrative. Look through it first before deciding, as there are real life situations.

**Good Rosie** by Kate DiCamillo, Pictures by Harry Bliss, Candlewick Press, 2018, Hardback, Water Colors, 36 pages, $16.99

Rosie is a mid-sized dog, used to seeing only the dog in the reflection in the water bowl, or when the owner points out a dog in a cloud formation. She is afraid on her first trip to the dog park. She fears Maurice, the St. Bernard, and even Fifi, a dog smaller than her. Rosie hides behind her owner. She freaks out when Maurice puts Fifi in his mouth, not realizing they are playing. Rosie bites at Maurice, who drops Fifi. Over several panels, everybody makes friends. Rosie wants to come back to the park. This is a good book to introduce kids to experiencing the new and different. It is told over several cartoon-like panels on each page. The attention to detail makes it a sweet story.


This and the next book are about change. The family lives in said Lighthouse, starting as a couple, then a new arrival. As the story progresses, different views of the sea and the lighthouse help tell the story. The sea scenes are powerful, but there are also dramatic views of more tame things, for instance a ticked bed from above, or a spiral staircase standing alone. The colors are also powerful, and deftly used.

The change involves a machine doing what the lighthouse operator used to do…and the family watching from the shore.


This work about change is probably for a little older child. The story is that the creation of a dam will flood the area where the adult and the child live. They roam over the area to be inundated, going in and out of structures, breaking in as needed, for it will all be covered with water. They sing, dance, and play musical instruments. The whole effect itself is ghost like. Sepias, dark blues accentuate the flow of the story. It really is joyful in the end, a celebration of a change that is inevitable, and of making memories count before it is too late. It is based on a true story, set out separately.
Cato’s Letters: No. 25
The Destructive Spirit of Arbitrary Power

By Geary Walke

Cato continues to push the envelope by cautiously prodding the powers that be, yet not so much that they would strike back at him. He writes in oblique reference to England by referring to other parts of the world, yet he invokes the words of Algernon Sidney who, a mere forty years earlier, was executed for his words against King Charles II. He artfully uses the Ottoman Empire as a foil.

Since the good of the governed is the sole end of government, then they who make their people great and happy must be the greatest and best governors. They who make their people little, wicked and miserable must be the worst governors. Power in a free state is a trust committed by all to one or a few to watch for the security, and pursue the best interests, of all the people. When that security is not sought nor that interest obtained, then we know what opinion the people will have of their governors.

It is the hard lesson of the world that there should be any difference in the views and interests of the governors and governed and yet it is so in most countries. Men who have a trust frankly bestowed upon them by the people too frequently betray that trust and become conspirators against their benefactors or turn the sword upon those who gave them their trust, insomuch that in the greatest part of the earth people are happy if they can defend themselves against their defenders.

Let us look round this great world and behold what an immense majority of the world is groaning under the yoke of a few tyrants, naturally as low as the meanest of themselves, and by being tyrants they are worse than the worst. As Algernon Sidney observes, these tyrants use their subjects like asses and mastiff dogs to work and to fight, to be oppressed and killed for them. Even the good qualities and courage such subjects are their misfortune, by strengthening the wicked hands of their brutal masters and strengthening their own chains.

Thus, the most of mankind are become the wretched slaves of those who are or should be their own creatures. They maintain their haughty masters like gods and their haughty masters often use them like dogs. A fine specimen of gratitude and duty!

Yet this cruel spirit in tyrants is not always the natural condition of mankind since they are naturally like other men but it is owing to the nature of the dominion which they exercise. Good laws make a good prince if he has a good understanding, but the best men grow miscchievous when they are set above laws. Claudius was a very harmless man while he was a private man, but when he came to be a tyrant he proved a bloody one, almost as bloody as his nephew and predecessor Caligula, who had also been a very good subject but when he came to be the Roman emperor he became the foppish executioner of mankind.

Thus, the most of mankind are become conspirators against their benefactors, insomuch that in the greatest part of the earth there scarce ever was a human spirit that could bear it. The mind of man, which is weak and limited, ought never to be trusted with a power that is boundless. The state of tyranny is a state of war and where it prevails, instead of an intercourse of confidence and affection, as between a lawful prince and his subjects, nothing is to be seen but jealousy, mistrust, fear and hatred. An arbitrary prince and his slaves often destroy one another to be safe. The slaves are continually plotting against the life of the prince and the prince is continually shedding their blood and plundering them of their property.

Cuncta ferit, dum cuncta timet. (He strikes everything because he fears everything)

I think it was Justinian the emperor who said, “Though we are above the law, yet we live according to the law.” But, by his Majesty’s favor, there was more turn than truth in the saying for princes that think themselves above the law act almost constantly against all law, and Justinian himself is a known instance. Good princes never think themselves above the law.

It is an affecting observation that the power given for the protection of the world should, in so many places, be turned to the destruction of it.

Mr. Waller (unable to identify, but perhaps Sir Thomas Waller, 1569-1613) in a speech of his in Parliament said, “As if the law was in force for their destruction and not for their preservation, that it should have power to kill, but not to protect them. A thing no less horrid than if the sun should burn us without lighting us or the earth serve only to bury and not feed and nourish us.”

Despotic power has defaced the Creation and laid the world waste. In the finest countries in Asia, formerly full of people, you are now forced to travel by the compass; there are no roads, houses nor in habitants. The sun is left to scorch up the grass and fruits or the rain to rot them. The gifts of God are left to perish, there being none of his creatures, neither man nor beast, left to use and consume them. The Grand Seignior, who (if we may believe some of his subjects) is not addicted to lying) is the vice regent of heaven, frustrates the bounty of heaven, and being the father of his people has almost butchered them all. Those few, comparatively very few, who have yet survived the miserable fate of their brethren and are reserved for sacrifices to his cruelty, as occasion offers and his lust prompts him, live the starving and wretched property of ravenous and bloody Pashas, whose duty to their master as well as their own avarice, obliges them to keep the people over whom they preside, poor and miserable.

But neither Pashas nor armies could keep that in such abject slavery if their priests and doctors had not made passive obedience a principle of their religion. The holy name of God is profaned and holy war is set above laws. Power in a free state is a trust committed by all to one or a few to watch for the security, and pursue the best interests, of all the people.

Merciful God! Is this government? And do such governors govern by authority from thee? It is scarce credible what...

Monsieur

L’Estoille
d e

tells us: He says he traveled in the Indies for above twenty days together, through lanes of people hanged upon trees by command of the King who had ordered above a hundred thousand of them to be thus murdered and gibbet-ed, only because two...
Ken Brokaw Obituary

By Rex Travis

I certainly never thought I would be writing an obituary for Ken Brokaw. He died October 31, just short of his 67th birthday, which would have been November 14. Ironically, he survived throat cancer, only to have his life taken by choking on a bite of food.

When Ken first came to work for me, I was not completely sure he would work out. He was a little “feisty,” did not suffer fools lightly and, from time-to-time, would engage in too-sharp exchanges with other employees.

But, he proved to be very bright (I later learned he was a Phi Beta Kappa in his undergraduate history program at OU) and soon developed into an excellent researcher and brief writer. I hired him as a lawyer when he graduated and he practiced with me for several years.

At the time, we were doing almost exclusively an insurance defense practice. When I began to convert to representing plaintiffs, Ken left and practiced with a series of really good defense firms, as he did not want to make the conversion with me to a plaintiffs’ practice. He practiced with Edmonds, Cole, Hargrave and Givens, Stewart and Elder, and Abowitz, Timberlake, Dahnke, and Gisinger, among others. Later, after winning his battle with cancer, he retired and then came out of retirement to help Mort Welch while Mort recovered from cancer, following which Ken retired again.

Before he came to work for me and became a lawyer, Ken had had a more involved background than most young lawyers. He came from a troubled family background and was mostly raised by his grandmother, with whom he remained close throughout her life. He was pretty much on his own from age 16 and held lots of different jobs, most recently before law school working for a grocery store.

He became of draft age during the Viet Nam war and enlisted to get a choice of assignments. He did his three-year enlistment on a Pershing missile crew in Germany. His specific job was to operate the truck which transported and elevated the missile to a firing position. It looked and worked much like a wrecker truck. He spent a lot of time in the field in that job during the height of the cold war when the Pershing was a big part of the U.S. nuclear deterrent.

After he got out of the army, he used the GI bill to go to law school, and the rest is history. Because he was such a good researcher and writer, a West Law search shows a large number of cases in which he participated, although he contributed greatly to a lot of cases which appear under other names, including mine.

Ken was never much for ceremony, so it came as no big surprise that, at his request, there will not be a funeral. He was cremated and his ashes will be scattered at various vacation spots he has enjoyed over the years. His wife of more than 20 years, Cassie Wilson, has suggested memorials to the state parks of Oklahoma, the Regional Food Bank, or your favorite charity.

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Cassie scheduled a wake for November 14, just short of his 67th birthday, which would have been November 14. Ironically, he survived throat cancer, only to have his life taken by choking on a bite of food.

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A JUDGE’S PRAYER*

Our Father, we ask Thy blessings on these proceedings.

We ask that we may successfully exchange ideas that will sharpen the tools we use to decide and settle the disputes which bedevil those who come before us.

Give us the humility and the wisdom to seek Thy guidance in what we do; give us the industry to prepare ourselves and apply ourselves so that the cases before us may be handled expeditiously; but most of all, Father, may we remember that those who came before us, embroiled in litigation, whether they be rich or poor, black or white, humble or arrogant, are sons of God, and therefore our brothers.

May we always judge them with such compassion that when that day comes, as it must for all of us, when we stand in Thy presence, and all our faults and shortcomings are known, we may ask, with some hope: Father, judge us with the same compassion we have shown our fellow man.

Amen

* Linda Dodson, an assistant Oklahoma County Court Clerk with Rick Warren’s office, was sorting her mother’s papers and ran across this prayer which was in her mother’s handwriting. Linda’s dad is Retired Judge John M. Amick and Linda believes this prayer was given by him at a function of some sort and her mother wrote it down to preserve it. We thank Mrs. Amick for that kindness and we thank Judge Amick for the prayer that is likely imitated in substance in courtrooms every morning by American judges.
The OCBA has many opportunities to volunteer with their Community Service Committee, Law Related Education Committee, Lawyers For Learning Committee and Voices for Children Committee. However, this new monthly column will list other opportunities for our members to help the community. If you know of something that should be listed here, please contact the Bar Office at 236-8421 and we will add it to this new monthly Briefcase column.

RED ANDREWS CHRISTMAS DINNER

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3550 West Robinson, Norman, OK. 73072
1200 East Lindsey, Norman, OK. 73071
401 West Main Street, Norman, OK. 73069
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The Red Andrews Christmas Dinner Foundation is approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (C) (3) tax-exempt organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Red Andrews Christmas Dinner Foundation’s Federal Identification Number (EIN) 80-0865847.

Tax donation letters will be mailed in January of each year.
OCBA Hosts Judicial Forum

Bench & Bar Committee Chair Luke Abel emceed the judicial forum for Oklahoma County district judge candidates on October 18.

Judicial Candidates included:
Heather Coyle, Rand Eddy, Judge Michele McElwee, Kendra Coleman, Susan Stallings, Judge Bill Graves, Chris Sloan & Natalie Mai.

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The Christmas Star

By Jim Croy

The honor guard gathered to the side of the cemetery entrance as the mourners, all in their Sunday best, hurried from the funeral. The officer-in-charge, a second lieutenant, moved from the other soldiers as a colonel approached. The two talked for a few seconds, and the colonel continued to the guard while the lieutenant went on his way.

“What is that all about?” one of the soldiers asked another. “Two funerals in one day too much for the lieutenant?”

“At least they are just across the street from each other,” the other answered. He shook his head in wonder. “Two funerals on Christmas Eve afternoon, and the cemeteries across the street from each other. Why is that? Two cemeteries across the street from each other?”

“Don’t you know?” his friend answered. “This one is for one kind of folks,” he nodded at the one they were leaving, “and that one is for a better kind of folks.”

As if to prove the soldier’s point, the colonel addressed the honor guard. “All right men, be at your best for this next one. These people are very important and it is a sad time for them.”

As they crossed the street, the soldier looked back at the grave of the soldier they had just honored. A young widow sat alone on the ground, weeping and talking to the casket in grave. It was the same for everybody, he thought, no matter who you are. Sadness and grief and emptiness.

Alone, the young woman talked to her dead husband. “Why did you have to go? I told you this would happen. And it did happen. Why?”

She was still there almost an hour later when the second funeral drew to a close and the first salvo of the gun salute echoed through the cemeteries, jolting her with its brittle loudness. She cried even more. “And that army never cared about you, Thomas Jefferson Lincoln Jones. Not one bit.”

OAMIC Introduces Employed Lawyer Policy

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CHRISTMAS STAR Continued on PAGE 13
The first world war ended by an armistice effective November 11, 1918, just 100 years ago. Following that event, there was a great controversy over whether American and Allied lives, along with German lives, were sacrificed unnecessarily in the process.

By November of 1918, Germany was reeling and near defeat. On November 7, the Germans sent a peace delegation across allied lines to negotiate peace and end the war. Their request for an armistice was rebuffed. The Allied command insisted that nothing short of a surrender would be required.

The allied command gave the German peace delegation a list of 35 demands, many of which ended up in the Treaty of Versailles, which concluded that war and likely contributed to the rise of Hitler and the next world war. It included Germany giving up territory, some of which Germany had held since 1870, and paying large reparations, which impoverished Germany and led to the conditions which later brought about the Nazis and World War II.

The German’s suggested an armistice which would result in an immediate cessation of the fighting while the terms of a German surrender were worked out. That allies refused, insisting that the Germans had 72 hours, until November 11, to agree to an armistice and end the fighting.

Within that time, the Germans capitulated and signed an armistice about 5 a.m. on November 11, to be effective at 11:00 a.m. that day—the now famous 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

Instructions were sent out from allied headquarters that the armistice had been signed and would go into effect at 11:00 a.m. that day. These instructions did not give any direction as to whether offensive operations were to continue after the armistice was signed and before it took effect. This left to individual commanders whether to continue the fighting for the 6 hours between five and eleven a.m. However, General Pershing, commander of the American troops, said that Marshall Foch, the French commander, in charge of the overall allied effort, directed that allied operations continue, to assure that the Germans actually honored the armistice.

As a result, artillery fire continued almost all along the front. Infantry actions varied greatly among allied units. Some commanders took the position that no more lives should be sacrificed to take ground that allied forces could simply walk into after 11:00 a.m.

Other commanders wanted to take as much territory from the Germans as possible, even if the result was great losses among allied troops. One such life lost was Pvt. Henry Gunther of the 313th Regiment, a former Maryland National Guard unit. He had been drafted and assigned to the unit in France.

He was involved on the morning of November 11 in an advance on a German-held French village when word came that the armistice had been signed and would be effective at 11:00 a.m. However, the attack in which he was engaged continued and he died in a burst of German machine gun fire. He died at 10:59 a.m. and was the last fatal casualty of WWI.

Most of the evidence seems to be that there was clear knowledge from about 11:00 p.m. on the 10th that the armistice would be effective at 11:00 a.m. the next day. However, a French division received two sets of orders the morning of the 11th. One was to attack at 9:00 a.m. and the other to cease fire at 11:00 a.m.

A congressional committee investigating the losses incurred after the armistice was signed but before it went into effect found that 320 Americans were killed and 3,240 seriously wounded in the last hours of the war. Total French losses on the final day were 1,170, while the British Empire (Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) units lost 2,400. German losses for the same period were 4,120. All told, total casualties on the final day totaled 10,900, killed, wounded and missing.

So, on the last day of the last war, there were horrendous and probably unnecessary losses. Everyone knew it was the last war. It was, after all, the war to end all wars. It was clear to everybody that we would never again fight a war like that. Until we did less than 20 years later with the even more destructive World War II.

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Crowe & Dunlevy announces co-chairs of Cannabis Industry Practice Group

Crowe & Dunlevy recently announced the appointment of attorneys Eric S. Fish- er and J. Blake Johnson as chair and vice- chair, respectively, of the Cannabis Industry Practice Group. They lead a team of attorneys representing the interests of more than 100 marijuana and hemp businesses in Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and Arkansas, while bringing the resources and experience of a full-service corporate law firm to North America’s — and Oklaho- ma’s — fastest growing industry. The growth of Oklahoma’s legal cannabi- sis industries offers tremendous opportu- nity for innovative and responsible busi- nesses. In addition to providing clients cannabis-related advice and assistance, Crowe & Dunlevy boasts a deep bench of legal professionals with even deeper roots in other practices areas including corporate law, taxation, labor and employment, envi- ronmental law, administrative and criminal investigation and defense, and other legal areas in which a growing business and evolving industry may need assistance.

Fisher serves as a director of the firm’s Oklahoma City office. In addition to working with clients in the cannabis industry, he frequently serves as outside general coun- sel to closely held companies, family busi- nesses and entrepreneurs and their early stage and emerging market businesses, offering guidance on the legal aspects of the organization, operation and financ- ing of such businesses. Fisher graduated with a bachelor’s degree from the Univer- sity of Kansas and a master’s degree from Northwestern University before graduat- ing with honors from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

As an associate working with canna- bis-industry clients in the firm’s Oklahoma City office, Johnson was the founding member of the Cannabis Industry Practice Group. Experienced in all stages of litiga- tion, he also works with entertainment industry, product liability and Indian law and gaming clients. He is an American Bar Association Appellate Advocacy National Championship quarterfinalist and received the National Order of Scribes Legal Writing Award. Johnson graduated with a bache- lor’s degree from the University of Okla- homa before attending the University of Oklahoma College of Law. He received his law degree with several honors, including Order of the Coif, Order of the Barristers and Law Review.

Though Oklahoma’s medical-marijuana market is still in its infancy, Crowe & Dunlevy has advised and counseled cli- ents in the cannabis-cannabinoids industry since 2017. The firm’s Cannabis Industry Practi- ce Group currently works to provide businesses in the industry with crucial counsel concerning every facet of their development, operation and growth.

**Meritas Names Doerner as the Oklahoma City Affiliate**

Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson, LLP has been selected as the Oklahoma City market affiliate by MERITAS, Law Firms Worldwide, an exclusive global membership of leading law firms. Doerner is the sole member within the law firm network representing Oklahoma state- wide.

Meritas™ is a premier global alliance of independent law firms working collabora- tively to provide solution-focused legal expertise. With more than 7,500 lawyers from 182 independent law firms spanning across 90 countries worldwide, the organi- zation provides access to qualified legal expertise throughout the world.

Doerner is the oldest law firm in Oklahoma. The Firm serves small to large businesses, as well as individuals needing counsel for private or family matters. In 2011, Doerner was chosen by Meritas™ to be the Tulsa market affiliate. Doerner’s Oklahoma City office will join its Tulsa office as Meritas™ affiliates to serve clients in a greater capacity by offering trustworthy, global legal services.

**Phillips Murrah’s Legal Team Welcomes Oil And Gas Title Attorney**

Phillips Murrah law firm is proud to wel- come Morgen D. Potts to our downtown Oklahoma City office. Phillips Murrah welcomed Morgen to the Firm’s Energy and Natural Resources Practice Group as an associate attorney.

Morgen represents both privately-owned and public companies in a wide variety of oil and gas matters, with a strong emphasis on oil and gas title examination.

Morgen has represented large and small families at the University of Oklahoma’s legal clinic, assisted a University professor with research to update a Real Property treatise, assisted with title work for a land acquisition company, and assisted on cases as an Associate Attorney at a general prac- tice law firm located in Oklahoma. Before joining Phillips Murrah she practiced law in Norman, Oklahoma where she practiced a variety of different types of law.

Morgen graduated early from law school, was published in the Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal for the University of Oklahoma, competed on an American Bar Association negotiation team, and earned an Academic Achievement award in her Mineral Title Examination class while attending law school.

Morgen was raised in Moore, Oklahoma and is currently living in Oklahoma City with her husband. She enjoys reading, yoga, playing golf, and spending quality time with friends and family.

**Barbara Kлепper accepted into ACTEC Heart of America Fellows Institute**

McAfee & Taft attorney Barbara Kлепper has been accepted into the inaugural class of the Heart of America Fellows Institute of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). The Institute, which consists of six pro- grams spread across three sessions, begins in November 2018 and concludes in May 2019. The Heart of America Fellows Institute was created by ACTEC Fellows located in the states of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska to develop the profession’s future leaders in trust and estate law through a series of in-depth educational presentations led by outstanding subject matter experts in each field. Topics include asset protection and business succession planning, wealth transfer strategies, fiduciary taxation, generation-skipping transfer tax, estate and gift tax returns, and estate and trust litigation.

Klepper’s practice focuses on all aspects of tax and family wealth planning as well as executive compensation and employee benefits planning. Earlier this year, the 2012 honors graduate from the Oklahoma City University School of Law earned her master of laws in taxation from New York University.

**Baer & Timberlake, P.C. Announces New Associate**

We are pleased to announce that Alex M. Sharp has joined the firm of Baer & Timberlake, P.C., as an associate with offices in Oklahoma City. Mr. Sharp gradu- ated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2013. Prior to joining the firm, he had been in private practice with Paulding, Kennedy & McPhail. Mr. Sharp’s practice will focus on civil litiga- tion for foreclosures.

**Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville Welcome Five New Attorneys**

Hartzog Conger Cason & Neville is proud to welcome T. Scott Spradling, Mark R. McPhail, John H. Edwards, Jesse C. Chapel and Michael P. Whaley to our Firm.

T. Scott Spradling has practiced law in Oklahoma City for over 40 years. In his practice, he represents businesses and individuals in a wide range of trans- actional matters with an emphasis on com- mercial real estate transactions.

Mark R. McPhail graduated with honors from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1992. McPhail’s practice is con- centrated in civil litigation, with emphasis in aviation, employment, real estate, con- struction and business disputes.

John H. Edwards graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2005. Edwards also received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma Price College of Business in 2005. Edwards has significant experience in commercial lending and financial transactions, mergers, acquisi- tions and divestitures, and general corpo- rate and business matters.

Jesse C. Chapel graduated summa cum laude from the Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2008 and obtained an LL.M in Taxation from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2009. Chapel, the immediate past chair of the Oklahoma Bar Association Section of Taxation, will join the Firm’s tax, estate planning and corporate law practice areas. Michael P. Whaley graduated with honors from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in May 2018. While pur- suing his law degree, Whaley served as the assistant managing editor of the Oklahoma Law Review and was a judicial extern for the Honorable Robert E. Bacharach. Whaley will join the Firm’s litigation and energy and environmental practice areas.

**OU College Of Law To Honor Two Prominent Oil And Gas Lawyers With Prestigious Kuntz Award**

The University of Oklahoma College of Law will honor two of its alumni, Richard K. Books and Richard A. Grimes, with the Eugene Kuntz Award at the Oklahoma Oil and Gas Reception on Nov. 1. The award recognizes their many contributions to the energy indus- try and to oil and gas law in particular.

The Eugene Kuntz Award is named for former OU Law dean and renowned oil and gas professor Eugene Kuntz. The award is presented annually in conjunc- tion with the Eugene Kuntz Conference on Natural Resources Law and Poli- cy, the largest conference in the nation focusing on oil and gas law. The confer- ence, which will be held Friday, Nov. 2, is hosted by OU Law and the Oklahoma Bar Association’s Energy and Natural Resources Law Section.

Books earned his B.A. in political science from Phillips University and his juris doctorate from OU Law. After law school, he practiced law for 15 years with the firm of Watson and McKenzie. Books has been with the Oklahoma City firm of Elias, Books, Brown and Nelson since its inception in 1997. Over the course of his career, he has helped to define oil and gas law in Oklahoma through participa- tion in over 50 published and unpub- lished appellate decisions. Most of his practice has been before the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, where he has represented many oil and gas operators actively developing natural resources in Oklahoma.

While pursuing his bachelor’s degree at Oklahoma State University, Grimes was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1970. Upon his release from active duty, he went on to earn his B.S. in business from OSU and his juris doctorate from OU Law. After law school, he became an associate and then partner at Mon- net, Hayes and Bullis. In 1982, Grimes formed a small oil and gas firm with John Gelders, which remained together for 25 years and would later include Wayne Anderson and Jerry Day as part- ners, forming what is today known as Grimes, Anderson and Day. Grimes ceased litigation in August, but his law practice continues to represent independent operators at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and district court litigation involving oil and gas related matters. He is a past president of the Oklahoma City Minerals Lawyers
Association.

OU Law is an international leader in oil and gas, natural resources and energy law – known as “ONE.” The college’s offerings in this area are synthesized within its ONE Center, which houses the elements of OU Law’s energy program: a J.D. certificate in energy and natural resources law; an online Master of Laws degree in energy and natural resources through the John B. Turner L.M.M. Program; and an online Master of Legal Studies degree in oil, gas and energy law. In addition to hosting the annual Eugene Kunz Conference, OU Law is also home to the Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal (ONE J), the first journal of its kind.

The Oklahoma Oil and Gas Reception is sponsored by Devon Energy Corp., Echo Energy, Mahaffey and Gore P.C., and Spencer Fane LLP. For more information on the reception or the Kunz Conference, email cle@law.ou.edu or call (405) 325-7479.

Crooks Stanford & Shoop announce new associate

In addition to hosting the annual Eugene Kunz Conference, email cle@law.ou.edu or call (405) 325-7479.

Crooks Stanford & Shoop is pleased to announce that Joseph E. Stall has joined the firm. Joe’s practice includes litigation, employment law, business transactions, corporate structuring, contract drafting, and administrative law. Joe received his law degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Crowe & Dunlevy attorney honored as Top 20 Under 40 in Edmond

Crowe & Dunlevy attorney Kari Hofhines was recently named to the Top 20 Under 40 list by The Edmond Sun and The Business Times of Edmond. This honor is given to the next generation of Edmond community business leaders who are already making their presence and influence within their respective industries.

Hofhines is a director in the firm’s Oklahoma City office and a member of the Banking & Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Wind & Renewable Energy Practice Groups. She represents lenders, investors, tenants and property owners in both small and large-scale property acquisition, development, leasing and financing transactions for a wide array of clients and industries.

As a member of the wind energy team, she counsels clients on real estate matters such as lease and easement interests, pipeline crossing issues and title defects and title insurance coverage.

She graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law, where she was on the faculty and dean’s honor rolls. Hofhines serves on the board of directors of the Oklahoma City Commercial Real Estate Council and is a founding member of CREW-OKC, the Oklahoma chapter of an international commercial real estate network with a mission of advancing women in all aspects of commercial real estate.

Each year, The Edmond Sun’s 20 Under 40 nominations look to honor the next class of go-getters from the Edmond community. Hofhines will be recognized for her achievement at a reception this fall.

Phillips Murrah’s legal team welcomes labor and employment attorney

Phillips Murrah law firm is proud to welcome Lauren Barghols Hanna to our downtown Oklahoma City office.

The Firm welcomed Lauren to the Firm’s Labor and Employment Practice Group as an Of Counsel attorney.

As a part of her employment practice, Lauren counsels and represents management in all phases of the employment relationship, including litigation matters involving discrimination, retaliation, harassment and wrongful discharge claims, whistleblower claims, claims related to employment agreements and theft of trade secrets, and other disputes arising from the workplace.

She also works with employers in crafting appropriate employment policies and procedures, employee handbooks, non-disclosure/non-solicitation agreements, and employee severance agreements and releases.

Lauren’s practice in the area of water rights frequently involves the representation of landowners in obtaining groundwater and streamwater permits for irrigation, oil and gas industry production, and other beneficial uses.

Lauren is a contributing author to the Oklahoma Employment Law Letter and has been interviewed by The Oklahoman, served as a guest legal columnist for The Journal Record business newspaper, and spoken at seminars on a variety of employment-related topics. She also authored the Oklahoma chapter of the LexisNexis Waters and Water Rights treatise.

Lauren’s achievements have earned her inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America (employment law—management, labor and employment litigation) and Oklahoma Super Lawyers.

In addition to her legal practice at the firm, she serves as a volunteer attorney for Oklahoma Lawyers for Children. She has represented many national organizations in employment matters, including parental termination jury trials before the Oklahoma County District Court (Juvenile Division).

In 2014, the Oklahoma CASA Association honored Lauren with its “Attorney of the Year” award for her work with OLFC. Lauren and her family also work with the Tinker Air Force Base Home Away From Home Program, welcoming Airmen serving their first tour into their family for holiday meals, birthday celebrations, summer cookouts, and other activities to create community and mentorship for young enlisted airmen.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Lauren lives in Edmond with her husband Adam and her two children. Her hobbies include rowing, camping, and OU sports.
or three robberies had been committed amongst the people.

It is one of the great evils of servitude that let the tyranny be ever so severe; ‘tis always flattered, and the more severe ‘tis, the more flatter’d.

The oppressors of mankind are flattered beyond all others because fear and servitude naturally produce, as well as have recourse to, flattery as the best means of self-preservation. Whereas, liberty has no occasion for flattery and scorns it. Sir Paul Rycaut ascribes the decay of the Ottoman Empire to the force of flattery and calls the Turkish court a prison and boneyard of slaves.

Old Muley, the Lord’s anointed of Morocco, who it seems is still alive, is thought to have butchered forty thousand of his subjects with his own hands. Such a father is he of his people! And yet his right to shed human blood being a characteristic of the church of Morocco, as by law established, people are greedy to die by his hand, which, they are taught to imagine, hath matched them forthwith to paradise. I am told every time he mounts his horse he slices off the head of the slave that holds his stirrup to show that he is as good an executioner as he is a horseman, yet there is a constant contention among his slaves, who shall be the happy martyr on that occasion? Several of them will crowd to his stirrup at once for the gracious favor, his Majesty has sometimes the honor to cut off two heads and to make two saints with one blow.

The exercise of despotic power is the unrelenting war of an armed tyrant upon his unarmed subjects: it is a war of terror which certainly produces general discontent which certainly produces general discontent; the parent of revolutions, ’tis innocent as well as lovely. In all contentions between liberty and power, the latter has almost constantly been the aggressor. Liberty, if ever it produce any evils, does also cure them. Its worst effect, licentiousness, never does, and servitude naturally produce, as well as have recourse to, flattery as the best means of self-preservation. Whereas, liberty has no occasion for flattery and scorns it. Sir Paul Rycaut ascribes the decay of the Ottoman Empire to the force of flattery and calls the Turkish court a prison and boneyard of slaves.

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Oh! Abject state of such as tamely groan
Under a blind dependency on one!
This is a sort of government which is too great and heavy a curse for any one to wish, even upon those who are foolish enough or wicked enough to contend for its lawfulmess, or which is the same thing, for submission to it. But surely, if ever any man deserved to feel the merciless gripes of tyranny, it is he who is an advocate for it. Phalaris acted justly when he hanselled his brazen bull with the wretch who invented it. Phalaris killed the man who sculptured the bronze bul! by placing him inside the bull and lighting a fire beneath it.
As arbitrary power in a single person has made greater havoc in human nature and thinned mankind more than all the beasts of prey and all the plagues and earthquakes that ever were. Let those men consider what they have to answer for, who would countenanced such a monstrous evil in the world, or would oppose those that would oppose it. A bear, a lion, or a tiger, may now and then pick up single men in a wood, or a desert; an earthquake sometimes may bury a thousand or two inhabitants in the ruins of a town; and the fits of a tyran! may once in many years carry off a much greater number. But, a tyrant shall, out of a wanton personal passion, carry fire and sword through a whole continent and deliver up a hundred thousand of his fellow creatures to the slaughter in one day without any remorse or further notice than that they died for his glory. I say nothing of the moral effect of tyranny though ‘tis certain that ignorance, vice, poverty and vileness always attend it. He who compares the world now with what it was formerly, how populous it once was, how it is now, and considers the cause of this doleful alteration, will find just reason to fear that spiritual and temporal tyranny, if they go on much longer, will utterly extinguish the human race. Of Turkey I have spoken already. The great continent of America is almost peopled. The Spaniards having destroyed it is thought, about forty millions of its natives and for some kingdoms in Europe, especially towards the north, I do not believe that they have now half the inhabitants that they had so lately as a hundred years ago.

Blessed be God, there are still some free countries in Europe that abound with people and with plenty and England is the foremost. This demonstrates the inestimable blessing of liberty. Can we ever overrate it, or be too jealous of a treasure which includes in it almost all human felicities? Or can we encourage too much those that contend for it and those that promote it? It is the parent of virtue, pleasure, plenty and security and ‘tis innocent as well as lovely. In all contentions between liberty and power, the latter has almost constantly been the aggressor. Liberty, if ever it produce any evils, does also cure them. Its worst effect, licentiousness, never does, and servitude naturally produce, as well as have recourse to, flattery as the best means of self-preservation. Whereas, liberty has no occasion for flattery and scorns it. Sir Paul Rycaut ascribes the decay of the Ottoman Empire to the force of flattery and calls the Turkish court a prison and boneyard of slaves.

Some quacks in politics may perhaps venture public disturbances out of an opinion that they shall be able to prevent them by art or suppress them by force. But this shows their capacity, as well as their wickedness, not to mention the malignity of their hearts in risking public ruin to gratify a private appetite. How can any event be certainly foreseen when the measure of rebellion cannot be certainly known? They can never ascertain the degree of opposition, they cannot foreknow what circumstances may happen, nor into whose hands things may fall. Cicero did not dream when he employed Octavius for the commonwealth that his young champion for liberty would ever be a tyrant of his country. Who could foresee that Cromwell would enslave those whom he was employed to defend? But there is no trusting of liberty in the hands of men who are obeyed by great armies.

But surely, if ever any man deserved to have butchered forty thousand of his subjects.

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Oh! Abject state of such as tamely groan
Under a blind dependency on one!
This is a sort of government which is too great and heavy a curse for any one to wish, even upon those who are foolish enough or wicked enough to contend for its lawfulmess, or which is the same thing, for submission to it. But surely, if ever any man deserved to feel the merciless gripes of tyranny, it is he who is an advocate for it. Phalaris acted justly when he hanselled his brazen bull with the wretch who invented it. Phalaris killed the man who sculptured the bronze bul! by placing him inside the bull and lighting a fire beneath it.
As arbitrary power in a single person has made greater havoc in human nature and thinned mankind more than all the beasts of prey and all the plagues and earthquakes that ever were. Let those men consider what they have to answer for, who would countenanced such a monstrous evil in the world, or would oppose those that would oppose it. A bear, a lion, or a tiger, may now and then pick up single men in a wood, or a desert; an earthquake sometimes may bury a thousand or two inhabitants in the ruins of a town; and the fits of a tyran! may once in many years carry off a much greater number. But, a tyrant shall, out of a wanton personal passion, carry fire and sword through a whole continent and deliver up a hundred thousand of his fellow creatures to the slaughter in one day without any remorse or further notice than that they died for his glory. I say nothing of the moral effect of tyranny though ‘tis certain that ignorance, vice, poverty and vileness always attend it. He who compares the world now with what it was formerly, how populous it once was, how it is now, and considers the cause of this doleful alteration, will find just reason to fear that spiritual and temporal tyranny, if they go on much longer, will utterly extinguish the human race. Of Turkey I have spoken already. The great continent of America is almost peopled. The Spaniards having destroyed it is thought, about forty millions of its natives and for some kingdoms in Europe, especially towards the north, I do not believe that they have now half the inhabitants that they had so lately as a hundred years ago.

Blessed be God, there are still some free countries in Europe that abound with people and with plenty and England is the foremost. This demonstrates the inestimable blessing of liberty. Can we ever overrate it, or be too jealous of a treasure which includes in it almost all human felicities? Or can we encourage too much those that contend for it and those that promote it? It is the parent of virtue, pleasure, plenty and security and ‘tis innocent as well as lovely. In all contentions between liberty and power, the latter has almost constantly been the aggressor. Liberty, if ever it produce any evils, does also cure them. Its worst effect, licentiousness, never does, and servitude naturally produce, as well as have recourse to, flattery as the best means of self-preservation. Whereas, liberty has no occasion for flattery and scorns it. Sir Paul Rycaut ascribes the decay of the Ottoman Empire to the force of flattery and calls the Turkish court a prison and boneyard of slaves.
people “Not quite right.” In other words, they acted about like today’s combat veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars or the earlier Viet Nam war. It’s just that what we call PTSD, earlier generations called “shell shocked.”

But the phenomenon didn’t start there. It’s been around a lot longer. War, while it’s now somewhat more mechanized, with machine guns and airplanes, has always been a dirty, brutish pursuit.

There was a saying among soldiers in the Civil War, 150 years ago. When a soldier had been in battle, they said he had “Seen the elephant.” The saying came from a vaudeville joke of the day. The story was that a farmer had never seen an elephant. A circus, which had elephants, was coming to a nearby town and there would be a circus parade.

The farmer hitched his horse to his carriage and went to the nearby town to see the elephants. It appears his horse had never seen an elephant either. The frightened horse ran away and overturned and dragged the carriage, with the farmer in it. When he returned, considerably beat up and with his head bandaged, someone asked him: “How was the circus?” The farmer replied: “Well, I have seen the elephant.” Hence the saying of a combat veteran: “He has seen the elephant.”

Ambrose Bierce became a famous author, but had problems getting along with others and holding jobs as a newspaperman. He ended up disappearing into Mexico during a Mexican revolution led by Pancho Villa in 1914. He just went off to report on that war and never came back. It is now thought that he had what would today be called PTSD.

Now, the youngest World War II vets are in their nineties (a vet who was 18 in 1945, when that war ended, would have been born in 1926 and so would now be 92.) As a result, most of the WWII generation is gone.

Many of the people who fought in the Korean War also fought in WWII since the Korean War started in 1950, just five years after WWII ended. The younger Korean war combat veterans are now quite up in years. Someone who was 18 in 1950 would have been born in 1932 and would be 86 now.

Korea was followed by the Vietnam War whose veterans are now in their 60’s or older. Someone who was 18 in 1975 when Saigon fell, would have been born in 1957 and so would now be 61. Most would have served earlier, before the general American withdrawal after the Paris Peace Accord in 1973.

Of course, since then we have had the seemingly endless wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, each producing a lot of soldiers (mostly, but not all, men) who have major problems. And, in between, we had large numbers of people who served during the “Cold War” from 1945 to 1990, after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989. From time-to-time, it became a hotter war with reservists called up and larger numbers on active duty.

Throughout all this time, veterans, particularly combat veterans, had social problems disproportionate to those suffered by their comrades who did not serve. They have higher than ordinary homelessness, criminal law involvement, drug use and mental problems. Appropriately, we spend a lot of money on programs to assist with these problems.

We shouldn’t, and don’t, ignore those who served, but were not in combat. That includes most of us who served. One of these told me one time: “We went where they told us to go and did what they told us to do.” Often this involved serving at an airbase behind the lines or even stateside. These people deserve our respect and honor.

The Veterans’ Administration handles a lot of problems relating to the health of veterans. However, much of the relief work for our veterans depends upon non-governmental actors ranging from barbers who give free haircuts to lawyers who provide free legal services and veterans’ courts which help to assure problems caused by their military service are appropriately taken care of.

The Oklahoma Bar Association provides legal help to low-income veterans and lower-ranking active duty troops through OBA’s Lawyers for America’s Heroes program. If you have not participated by volunteering to provide free legal services within your area of expertise, you really should. Contact my daughter, Margaret Travis, at the bar margaret@okbar.org or call her at 405-416-7000. She’ll send you a monthly list of people qualifying for the assistance and you can choose whatever is in your area of expertise.

And, when you identify someone as a military member or a veteran, thank them for their service. It will make you both feel good.
In our firm, it’s actually fun to do our billings and get paid. I send our bills out first thing in the morning and more than half are paid by lunchtime. LawPay makes my day!

– Cheryl Ischy, Legal Administrator
Austin, Texas

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