



REMEMBERING OUR NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER EMERITUS

MAJOR NELSON O. NEWCOMBE, U.S. ARMY (Retired)

37 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR ORDER, (JUNE 1976 - OCTOBER 2013)

LEGION OF HONOR

Sunrise: May 19, 1933 – Sunset: March 9, 2022

Brother Nelson O. Newcombe passed away on March 9, 2022. He was the son of the late Walter Owen and Edna Newcombe of Auburn, Maine. He was predeceased by his wife, Carole, in 2014. He is survived by Walter O. (June) Newcombe, Jeffrey A. (Rebecca) Newcombe, Dawn E. (William) McGraw, and Judy (Bill, deceased) Saccardi. He has seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was a 1951 graduate of Edward Little High School and the University of Maine in 1956. He served 20 years in the U.S. Army including tours in Korea, Germany, and Vietnam (2). He then served as the National Secretary-Treasurer of National Sojourners, Inc. for 37 years.

He was a Mason for 68 years and was a Past Master of Semper Paratus Lodge No. 49 in the District of Columbia and a member of Tranquil Lodge #29 in Auburn, ME. He was a member of the Order of Eastern Star in Pine Cone Chapter #26 in Auburn, ME and Faith Chapter #177 in Annandale, VA for 66 years. He was a York Rite Mason and Scottish Rite Mason in the District of Columbia for 62 years, where he received his KCCH. He was a Past Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine, a Past Grand Tall Cedar of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon. He was the recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor, National Sojourners Legion of Honor, and the Silver Beaver of the Boy Scouts of America.

Viewing is 16 March, 2022, from 6 PM to 8 PM at Demaine Funeral Home, 5308 Backlick Rd, Springfield, VA 22151. The family has also requested an OES and Masonic service for that evening, but the times have not been set. Please call the National Sojourners National Office at 703-765-5000 for further details on Monday, 14 March. He will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, please make your donations to the National Sojourners Endowment Memorial Fund (SEM). Please mail checks payable to:

**National Sojourners Headquarters
7942 R Cluny Court
Springfield, VA 22153**

**Notate in the memo field:
In memory of Nelson Newcombe**

Condolences and letters may be sent to:
Newcombe family
c/o Heather McGraw
8523 Parliament Drive
Springfield, VA 22151



BACKGROUND & BIOGRAPHY:

Tranquil Lodge #29 A.F. & A.M. - raised 27 October 1954
Semper Paratus Lodge No 49, F.A.A.M., Washington D. C. - 1979
Worshipful Master 1983
Secretary - 1984 - 17 Oct 98 Lodge merged with #17
Federal Lodge No 1, F.A.A.M. 1988-1992
Secretary 1988-1990
Harmony Lodge No 17 F.A.A.M. October 1992-
Chaplain 2000, 2001
Trustee (3 yr term) 2000 - 2003
ASSR Valley of Bangor
Maine Consistory, Portland, Orient of Maine - May 12, 1961
Orient of District of Columbia. SMJ ASSR - 1990
Appointed Ambassador to Lodge No 49-1993
Mt. Olivet Chapter No 29, Order of Eastern Star, Lewiston, Maine
November 1956
Faith Chapter No 177, O.E.S. Annandale Virginia
Worthy Patron 1987
Member Grand Chapter Credentials Committee-1993-94
Associate Patron-1994-95
Worthy Patron-1995-1996
Worthy Patron 1998-1999
Worthy Patron 2001-2002
Worthy Patron 2002-2003
Grand Chapter of Virginia OES
Credentials Committee
Assistant Grand Sentinel-1996
Grand Chapter Decorating Committee-1996-97
Area 14 -Star Festival Committee 1998 - 1999
Assistant Grand Sentinel 1999- 2000
Sessions Committee – 2000 - 2001
Royal Order of Scotland, 1977
Kena Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. 1974 Fairfax, Virginia
Legion of Honor-Chaplain, Quartermaster, Captain of Color Guard
Presented Permanent Contributing Membership by Legion of Honor November 1999
Capitol Hill Shrine Club, Washington D. C. 1975
Arlington Royal Arch Chapter No. 35, Arlington Virginia
Arlington Commandery K.T. No. 29 Arlington, Virginia
Washington-Lee York Rite College, Virginia
Neptune Forest No. 41 Tall Cedars of Lebanon - 1979 demitted
St. Simeon Stylites Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine 06/28/95
Temple Forest No 136, Alexandria, Virginia 1988
Grand Tall Cedar - 1989
Scribe-Treasurer - 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996,1997, 1998, 1999
2000, 2001, 2002
Life Member - Key Club 1994
Life Member - Temple Forest
Life Member Tall Cedar Foundation
Order of DeMolay, Auburn Chapter, December 22, 1951
Senior DeMolay
DeMolay Legion of Honor, Active - 1977
Dean, Legion of Honor Priory, D. C. 1989

3rd Preceptor - Legion of Honor Degree, Virginia
District #20, Officer and Past Officers Association, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, 2nd VP 1991, 1st VP-
1992, President 1993, Secretary/Treasurer 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998. 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002
Knights of Mecca, Kena Temple 1984
Hillbilly Clan No 15, Kena Temple
Gentlemen of the Creek, Accotink Chapter No 38-1995

GRAND LODGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

Grand Sword Bearer - 1987
Grand Representative to Permubuco, Brazil
Secretary, Grand Lodge Secretaries Association - 1991
Vice-President, 1992
President, 1993
Secretary, Past Masters Association-1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002
Committees:
Solomon II - 1985
Accounts and Audits- 1991, 1992, 1993
Correspondence - 1996,1997
Recipient of 3 Gold and 1 Silver Solomon II pins and 3 Grand
Lodge Special Awards.
Recipient of Grand Lodge Outstanding Service certificate-1991

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INC.

Monterey Bay Chapter No 136, 1958-1960
Inchon Chapter No 351, 1960-63
National Headquarters Chapter, 1963-1968
Ft. Benning Chapter No 8, 1968-1974
President 1970-71
Daniel Morgan Camp, Heroes of '76
Commander 1971-72
Old Dominion Chapter No 364 (MIP) 1974-
Golden Gate Chapter No 18 (MIP)
Saigon Chapter #409 (MIP)
Wright Brothers Chapter No 449 (MIP)
Danang Chapter #498 (MIP)
Hamilton Chapter #277 (MIP)
Past masters Club #997 (MIP)
Royal Order of Barrow Wheelers - 1977
Barrow Wheeler of The Year: 1990-91
National Secretary-Treasurer, June 1976- October 2013
Associate member of Grand Secretary's Conference - 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
2001, 2002
Recipient of the Legion of Honor, 2002

OTHER HONORS:

U.S. Department of Treasury Awards - 1988 & 1989
Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels - 1981
Honorary Brigadier General - Armenian Air force
Blue Forget-Me-Not Society
Who's Who in Masonry
Outstanding Citizen Award, Rhode Island

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Boy Scouts of America - 1942
Pack Secretary, Cub Scouts, Kitzigen, Germany, 1964-65
Committee Chairman, Troop 39, BSA, Ft. Benning, GA, 1968
Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 237, Ft. Benning, GA, 1969-73
Scoutmaster, Troop 1533, Fairfax, Virginia 1973-1978
Council Chairman, Leadership and Training, Chattahoochee Council,
Columbus, GA. 1971-1973
Order of the Arrow, Brotherhood Member - 1971
District Committee At Large, Fairfax, VA 1979-1992

AWARDS RECEIVED:

Woodbadge, Atlanta Area Council, Atlanta, GA 1970
Woodbadge Patrol Counselor (3 beads), 1973 Chattahoochee Council
Scouter's Training Award- 1971
Scouter's Key-1976
District Award of Merit, Ft. Benning District, 1973
Silver Beaver Award-Capitol Area Council- 1977
Certificates of Appreciation: Chattahoochee Council (3)
Mt Vernon District, NCAC (1)
Outstanding Assistant Scoutmaster- 1973

FAMILY:

Married: Carole Anne - 12 September 1953 thru 3 November 2014 Minnesota Chapter bought her a 3-6-5 life membership.
Children: Walter O., Jeffrey A., Dawn Eileen, and Judy A.
and 7 Grand Children and 2 Great-Grand Children.

MILITARY BACKGROUND:

Commissioned: ROTC, University of Maine, 10 June 1956
Service: Infantry Officers Basic Course, Nov. 1956-April 1957
Ranger Course, April 1957-June 1957
2nd Brigade, CST, Company Commander, July 1957-May 1959
Hqs, 8th U.S. Army, Locker Fund Custodian - June-August 1959
8th Battlegroup, 1st Cavalry Division-Co. Executive Officer
August 1959 - July 1960
U.S. Army Recruiting Main Station, Bangor, Maine July 1960-
January 1963
Infantry Officers Advance Course, Ft Benning, GA. January
-June 1963
Nuclear Weapons Employment Officer Course-June 1963
HHC 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Kitzigen, Germany,
Aug-Dec 1963
Division Reenlistment Officer- January 1964- March 1966
5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, Republic of Vietnam-
April 1966- April 1967
Instructor, Nuclear Weapons, U.S. Army Infantry School
June 1967-August 1968
199th Light Infantry Brigade- Republic of Vietnam, Battalion
Executive Officer, August 1968-March 1969
HQs IIFV (BHTAC) Deputy Operations Officer-March 1969-
August 1969
Chief of Systems Engineering, USAIS, September 1969- September 1973
Post Commander, CO Student Company (Language), Suitland, MD

September 1973-January 1974

Plans Officer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Military District of
Washington, Ft McNair, February 1974-October 1974

Operations Officer, Ft. Myer, Virginia October 1974-January 1976

Operations Officer, Facilities Engineer, Ft Myer, Virginia,
January-December 1976

Retired: 1 January 1977

MILITARY AWARDS:

Meritorious Award (Service Medal)

Bronze Star w OLC

Air Medal w/ 2 OLC

Army Commendation Medal

Purple Heart

National Defense Service Medal

Vietnam Campaign Service Medal w/ 6 Stars

Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/Hourglass

Honor Medal First Class (RVN)

Republic of Vietnam Service Ribbon

Valorous Unit Citation

Meritorious Unit Citation w/OLC

EDUCATION:

Edward Little High School, Auburn, Maine 1951

University of Maine, B. A. Degree - 1956

Postgraduate Studies, University of Maine (1961-63)