



## Ralph Clinton Southard

November 14, 1935 - July 24, 2011

LTC (Ret) Ralph Clinton Southard, son of the late James Thomas and Stella (Barnard) Southard, was born November 14, 1935 in Red Oak, Oklahoma. He passed away the evening of Sunday, July 24, 2011 in his home having attained the age of 75 years, 8 months and 10 days.

Ralph grew up in Red Oak and graduated from high school in 1953. On December 15, 1953, Ralph enlisted in the United States Army. He served his country faithfully for 28 years and attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He earned several awards and commendations.

On January 30, 1960 in Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, Ralph married the love of his life, Margaret Lucille Harrington. They shared over 51 years of marriage together and were blessed with five children: Pamela, Jerry, Melissa, Timothy and Lauralee.

After retiring from the military, Ralph began working for Webster University and did so for the next 25 ½ years. After retiring from the university, Ralph and Margaret moved to Linn Creek in June 2009.

In his spare time, Ralph enjoyed being outdoors while fishing. He was a member of several organizations. He was a lifetime member of Masonic Lodge #66 in Oklahoma, Scottish Rite and Shriners of Tennessee, and the

National Sojourners of Alexandria, Virginia. He also had his lifetime membership in 7/8 Chapter, Veterans of Foreign Wars of Crocker, Missouri, National Rifle Association and was a charter member of the Order of Scared White Buffalo. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Salvation Army here in Pulaski County.

Ralph will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him. He is survived by his wife, Margaret of the home; five children: Pamela June Curry (Steven) of Yukon, OK, Jerry C. Southard (Wendy) of Crocker, MO, Melissa Wilson (Sean) of Crocker, MO, Timothy Southard (Nikki) of Lebanon, MO and Lauralee Southard of Crocker, MO; one sister: Betty Romine (Orvil) of McAlester, OK; two brothers: Kenneth Southard (Cheri) of Wilburton, OK and Jerry Southard (Theresa) of Edmond, OK; fifteen grandchildren; five great grandchildren; several other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Ralph was preceded in death by one brother, Jackie Southard.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, July 29, 2011 in the Memorial Chapel of Richland with Chaplain Jeff Militti officiating. The songs "The Old Rugged Cross" and "If Heaven Wasn't So Far Away" were played. Ralph's brother and sister-in-law sang "How Great Thou Art", "Amazing Grace" and "He Leads the Way", a song that Ralph wrote. Serving as escorts were Timothy Southard, Sean Wilson, Jerry D. Southard, Chance Southard, Jason Brandon, Michael Rosencrans, Jerry C. Southard and Kenneth Southard.

Burial with military honors followed in the Freedom Cemetery near Linn Creek, Missouri. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Ralph Southard to the Salvation Army and may be left at the funeral home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Ralph Clinton Southard*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - July 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ralph Clinton Southard*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I attended Infantry Officer Candidate with Ralph and have been trying to locate him for a potential reunion. Sadly I found his obituary today. I will pass the news to his other class mates I have contact with.##imported-begin##Robert Regan##imported-end##*

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October 11, 2011 at 08:09 PM



“ My sincere sympathies and prayers to the Southard family. Ralph meant a great deal to me and truly helped me get my start. Fresh out of college and a newlywed, he hired me to work in the office and had me help him open the Rolla campus for Webster in 1996. He believed I could do it-though I often thought otherwise! He gave me enough rope to hang myself, but made sure it never got too dire! I look back on that so gratefully and fondly as he taught me how to navigate workspace politics gracefully and with a big smile. I always knew he was in my corner...especially the day he removed a grouchy possum who was blocking the front door! Such a big-hearted man. I am so thankful to have known him and that God used him so in my life. My love to all of you.##imported-begin##Kristin Murner- Barre, VT##imported-end##

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October 11, 2011 at 04:55 PM



“ Please keep thowring these posts up they help tons.##imported-begin##Dragon##imported-end##

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September 02, 2011 at 12:26 PM



“ Hey Ducky:  
So sorry to hear about his passing. You guys were together for so long and I know you will miss him bunches. May God bless and keep you in his hands.  
Your life time friend:  
Phyllis Graves##imported-begin##Phyllis Graves##imported-end##

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August 12, 2011 at 11:57 PM



“ *Ralph and I soldiered together over 35 years ago. He was one of the most professional soldiers that I ever knew in my 31 years of active duty. Typical of his concern for his fellow man, happened in Vietnam when Ralphs platoon had captured a Viet Cong prisoner and had to keep him with them overnight. Ralph had the prisoner in his fox hole and that everning he had only on C-ration meal left. Typical of Ralph he shared that ration with his prisoner! Whenever I received a report on something from Ralph I accepted it as gospel and he never once let me or the Arm down. I know you all fee great pride in him and the wonderful things he did for his family, the United States Army and the United States of America. And while we will all miss him, this old world is a better place because he was here. If there is anyway I might help any of his family please do not hesitate to contact me.*

*I remain most respectffully*

**THOMAS G. SMITH**

**BRIGADIER GENERAL**

**UNITED STATES ARMY**

**(Retired)###imported-begin###Brigadier General Thomas G. Smith**

**USA Retired###imported-end###**

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August 05, 2011 at 10:04 PM

**MS**

*15 years later I'm just now seeing this. I am his daughter, Melissa. This memory got home more than you will ever know. He was the best father anyone could have ever asked for. I know of his dedication to not only his family, but to his military life as well*

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**Melissa Southard** - February 04 at 03:07 PM



“ Ralph has been a very good friend to us over the past 8 years. He will be truly missed and always remembered. We enjoyed spending holidays at the lake with his family and always felt welcomed like an extended family member. He taught me much about fishing and we had many long discussions about different topics.

Our condolences to Margaret and all his children. God bless.##imported-begin##Michael & Kristy Palmer##imported-end##

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July 29, 2011 at 12:59 PM



“ Keeping Clint's family in our prayers.##imported-begin##Joy Gumbert and Barbara Preston Daughters of Lois & Brady Hilburn##imported-end##

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July 28, 2011 at 07:53 PM



“ An exceptionally fine person has left us. Ralph was a man with great insight into virtually everything. I will always remember him and admire him for the work he did in support of the students and faculty of Webster University's Ft. Leonard Wood campus. My deepest condolences to Ralph's family.##imported-begin##Jim Jeffries, Adjunct Faculty, Webster University##imported-end##

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July 28, 2011 at 12:19 PM



“ Words are so inadequate at a time like this and there is little one can say, but my heart goes out to Ralph's family and friends.

*Ralph was knowledgeable, skilled, and a rich asset to our Webster team. About five years ago, I first met Ralph. He greeted me with his generous bright smile and those shining eyes. I am privileged to say that it was he that encouraged me to join the Webster team at Fort Sill. I will always admire his understanding, appreciation, and love for the military.*

*I will miss him, dearly. My deepest sympathy.  
Sandra Kunz*

*Director  
Fort Sill/Tinker  
Oklahoma##imported-begin##Sandra Kunz##imported-end##*

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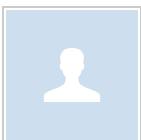
July 28, 2011 at 12:09 PM



“ Ralph was indeed a true gentleman and exceptional leader. His memory will live long in the hearts of Webster students and faculty. I will always remember our brief chats about virtually everything under the sun, and his constant willingness to assist others. Rest in peace, Ralph.##imported-begin##Perry Mathes, Webster University Adjunct Faculty##imported-end##

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July 28, 2011 at 11:23 AM



“ so sorry for your loss ours payers are with you and your family god bless##imported-begin##MR. & Mrs. Leo BOYER##imported-end##

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July 27, 2011 at 02:36 PM



“ Ralph was a very upstanding person who was very delagated to the students. He will be truly missed. My condelences to the family on the loss of your loved one.##imported-begin##Donna M. Gilmore, Assistant Registrar, Webster University##imported-end##

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July 27, 2011 at 11:44 AM



“ I am so, so sorry for your loss. I loved working with Ralph at Webster University. He was so professional, smart, hardworking and absolutely wonderful to work with on marketing projects. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Jennifer Gammage  
Writer/Editor of Office of Marketing  
Webster University  
St. Louis MO##imported-begin##Jennifer Gammage##imported-end##

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July 27, 2011 at 11:31 AM



“ I will never be able to express my admiration and appreciation of Ralph. I was honored to call him my friend and colleague for 25 years as we worked together at Webster University. Ralph never ceased to amaze me with his knowledge and understanding of such a variety of things, from leadership and management to making sorghum syrup. His dedication to his wife and family is also something that can never be forgotten.##imported-begin##Gail Hinshaw. Webster University Adjunct Faculty##imported-end##

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July 27, 2011 at 10:35 AM



“ Melissa,

*I am sorry to hear about the passing of your father. I hope you and your family take comfort in knowing God is with you.##imported-begin##Glenda Blanchard##imported-end##*

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July 26, 2011 at 09:59 PM



“ Ralph was a true gentleman who loved his family, was dedicated to Webster University and always willing to help his coworkers. It was an honor to know Ralph Southard. He touched many of our hearts with his kindness. I send my deepest sympathy to Mrs. Southard and family.##imported-begin##Pat Froeckmann##imported-end##

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July 26, 2011 at 02:46 PM



“ I will never forget Ralph's always being willing to help me, no matter what he was doing.##imported-begin##Margaret Reed##imported-end##

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July 26, 2011 at 02:23 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Southard and family. I am so sorry for your loss. As you know, Ralph was a true patriot and supporter to our military. I will miss his enthusiasm and can-do attitude. His legacy for Webster University's Fort Sill partnership and Captains Career Course initiatives continue to grow and serve Field Artillery and Air Defense Artillery Soldiers throughout the world. There is a special place in heaven for him. God Bless him and God keep you in this time of loss. The Harry S Truman Staff-Fort Sill, Oklahoma##imported-begin##Priscilla Sacks##imported-end##

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July 26, 2011 at 01:56 PM



“ *Ralph was a blessing to my life and I will always remember his smile and laugh. He was a true friend and mentor. I will miss him. I thank God for allowing Ralph and I to meet and for the laughs, friendship and fellowship that we shared.##imported-begin##Carol Nelson - Miles##imported-end##*

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July 26, 2011 at 01:35 PM



“ *I'm so very sorry to hear that Uncle Ralph has passed away. My thoughts are with the surviving family; Aunt Margret, and cousins Jerry, Pam, Lisa, Tim, and Laura. I love you all and am so saddened by the news. May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Mary Jeanette Harrington##imported-end##*

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July 25, 2011 at 10:04 PM



“ *Oh Clint, I am so saddened that you are leaving us. You have been a good, good cousin to me and I will so miss your kind and encouraging notes, email letters, and phone conversations. I have always been proud of your accomplishments and the way you chose to live your life. Thank you for being you. I will ever think of you with love.##imported-begin##Donna Sockey Pitts##imported-end##*

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July 25, 2011 at 09:45 PM