



Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief

Ken L. Freshley

4287 Windsor Avenue

Willoughby , Ohio 44094

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**Special General Order #2
SERIES 2013-2014
6 February 2014**

Brothers,

It is my sad duty to report the passing of one of this organizations long term and active Member, PDC Merlin Thomas Doyle, "Tuffy" of the Department of Vermont.

He was a member of the Sons of Union Veterans H.E.K. Hall Camp #28 of Chelsea for sixty-five years, he was a member of the George Washington Lodge #51 F. & A. M. of Chelsea where he was a Past Master; he was a member of the Lady Washington O.E.S. Chapter #86 of Chelsea, Coburn-Eastman V.F.W. Post #8451 of Chelsea and V.F.W. Post #792 of Montpelier, VT. He served as VFV Vermont State Commander from 1997 to 1998. He was a member of the Knights Templar of Barre, VT, Orange County Farm Bureau and Chelsea Fish & Game Club, where he helped with the ski tow and fishing derby. He was a lister for the Town of Chelsea from 1966-1983, and also served as Justice of the Peace, Fence Viewer and on the Board of Civil Authority. He also served as a Masonic representative to the Veterans Administration Hospital in White River Jct., VT. He was a charter member of the Advisory Board of the Vermont Veterans' Memorial Cemetery located in Randolph Center, VT; and on the Board of Directors of Upper Valley Services. For many years Tuffy, coordinated the annual Memorial Day and Veterans' Day programs. He and his wife placed American flags on the graves of Veterans and were responsible for the flags up and down Main Street in Chelsea. Patriotism was important to Tuffy and he was instrumental in helping his fellow Masons place the new flag pole on the town green in Chelsea.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Boardway & Cilley Funeral Home, 300 VT RT 110, Chelsea, VT 05038. A funeral service will be held on Sunday, February 9, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the United Church of Chelsea in Chelsea, VT with Pastor Tom Harty officiating. A Masonic burial service will be held later this spring in the Highland Cemetery in Chelsea with full military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to either: First Branch Ambulance Inc., P.O. Box 74, Chelsea, VT 05038; or Chelsea Volunteer Fire Dept., P.O. Box 264, Chelsea, VT 05038 or the United Church of Chelsea, P.O. Box 98, Chelsea, VT 05038.

Ordered this 6th Day of February, 2014.

Ken L. Freshley
Commander-In-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Alan Russ
Secretary, National Order,
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War