

## Veterans Day 2016 Fallen Warrior Portrait Dedication November 7, 2016

McKinney, Texas, October 31, 2016 – The portraits of seven Collin County young men who died while in the service of our country will be presented for permanent display in the lobby of the Collin County Courthouse, 2100 Bloomdale Road, McKinney, at 11:00 am, Monday, November 7, 2016. The seventh installment ceremony of the Fallen Warrior Portrait Project will make a total of 42 portraits that line the walls of the “Hall of Heroes”. This installation will mark the completion of the first wing. There are 377 names engraved on the “Wall of Honor” at the Collin County Veterans Memorial Park in McKinney, and the goal of the project is to put as many faces as possible with those names. The seven heroes to be honored are:



**Weldon H. “Stokes” Stallcup 28, Celina**, US Navy, Lieutenant, Pilot. Didn’t pass the physical to join the Navy; used his brother’s name of “Vance” to get in. Killed 30 January 1942, while on mission between Canton Island and Makin Island in the South Pacific. The PBY-5A patrol plane, with eleven men onboard, went down in bad weather and was never heard from again. Listed as Vance Stallcup on the Tablets of the Missing, Honolulu, Hawaii; Memorial headstone at Cottage Hill Cemetery, Celina. Vance Stallcup also served in the US Navy in WWII and survived the war and became a prominent citizen in Celina who passed away a few years ago.



**Joe R. Holley 23, Allen**, US Army Medical Corps, Technical Sgt. Medic, 33rd Armored Regiment, 3rd Armored Division. Landed at Normandy, France, on D-Day 6 June, 1944. Killed in Action 19 Sept. 1944, in Germany, while evacuating casualties under enemy artillery fire without regard for his own personal safety, and in the process saved many lives.



**Robert E. “Pete” Cuffman 21, Plano**, US Army, Pvt. Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached to the 104th Infantry, 26th Infantry Division. Killed in Action 26 December 1944, at the Battle of the Bulge, near Luxembourg, Germany. Buried at Allen Cemetery.



**Herman W. Tyner, 28, Farmersville, US Army, Tech 5, B Battery, 453rd Anti-Aircraft Battalion, 83rd Infantry Division.** Landed on Utah Beach in France about a week after D-Day in June of 1944. Fought through France, Belgium and Germany. By the end of World War II, his battalion was credited with downing 94 enemy aircraft in defense of the infantry troops they supported. Killed in Action in Germany, 8 April, 1945. Buried at Netherlands American Cemetery, Margraten, Netherlands.



**Bobby G. Harris 19, McKinney, US Army, Specialist 4th Class, Machine Gunner, 128th Assault Helicopter Company.** Killed in Action 17 March 1971, during Top-Secret mission, when his UH1-Huey helicopter was shot down on an enemy controlled mountaintop, deep in the jungles of Kratie Province, Cambodia. Listed as “missing in action” for 32 years, until his remains were returned in 2004. Bobby was the last man from Collin County to die serving our nation in Vietnam. Buried at US National Cemetery, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.



**Michael Luke Boatright 25, Frisco, US Army, Sgt. 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.** Killed in Action 4 Dec. 2004, by a roadside bomb, while involved in combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq. Buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio.



**Matthew R. Courtois 22, an Eagle Scout from Lucas and Allen, US Air Force, Senior Airman, 366th Security Forces Squadron.** Served one tour of duty in Iraq, died 20 September 2009, as a result of a non-hostile incident on Abdullah Al Mubarak Airbase, Kuwait. Buried at Idaho State Veterans Cemetery, Boise, Idaho.

The Collin County Fallen Warrior Portrait Project is privately funded and sponsored by American Legion “Bill Bryan” Post 110, VFW “Lone Star” Post 2150 and Collin County Freedom Fighters.com. The portraits are created by McKinney artist and US Air Force veteran, Colin Kimball, who donates his time and talents to this historic project.