



Collection Summary

Title

The Wall That Heals

Date

2010

Extent

17 archival boxes

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1062-WTHC

Processed by: Nicole Schlagel; Reprocessed and finding aid created by Jolene Clark, 2020.

Name of Creator

Midwest Genealogy Center

Biographical History

In 1996, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) revealed a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. called The Wall That Heals. The Wall travels to communities throughout the country to allow veterans, family, friends, and students in their home community to honor the 58,000 men and women who fought in the Vietnam War and were killed or missing in action.

The Wall That Heals came to Blue Springs, Missouri from September 30 to October 3, 2010. During the 4 days, over 50,000 people visited The Wall at Pink Hill Park. As members of the community visited the memorial, many left objects at The Wall. Each night volunteers collected memorabilia from The Wall. The Midwest Genealogy Center catalogued and archived those items.

Scope and Content

Many notes, photos, computer printouts of service information from the Wall website, and other paper memorials were left at The Wall. The majority of the items had names but a few of the memorials were not labeled or were intended as a thank you to all. Other items left at the wall include wreaths, M.I.A. bracelets, medals, pins, flowers, and even personal items such as a teddy bear. When fresh flowers were left at The Wall, the flower cards were removed, the location noted, and only the cards were kept. The flower cards have been grouped either by cards that were unsigned to unknown soldiers, ones that were signed to unknown soldiers, and those that were given to a specific soldier. Some cards to soldiers only list their first name. The numbers (section and line) and letters (E=east, W=west) following an entry indicate the location of the individual on The Wall or the location where an item was left. The collection has been arranged by item type and then alphabetical by soldiers' name when known.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in 12 series.

Box 1

Series 1, Memorials, notes, photographs, and clippings

Folder 1, unknown, scripture-20W

Folder 2, unknown, photograph-19E

Folder 3, unknown, scripture-9E

Folder 4, unknown, Thank you for your service cards (4)

Folder 5, unknown, card with dove and poem-East section

Folder 6, unknown, note card from Cass County Lodge 2791

Folder 7, unknown, poem 101st Airborne Division-30-31W

Folder 8, "Wes," cartoon-35E

Folder 9, Adenir, Restituto Poblete, laminated memorial

Folder 10, Adam, John Quincy, 6 pages computer printouts-65E, Line 6

Folder 11, Aspey, Darrell Wayne, computer printout-13W, line 60

Folder 12, Avant, Joe, photo-4W

Folder 13, Bergfield, Phillip Rex, 2 pages of computer printouts

Folder 14, Black, William Ray, 1 handwritten note and 1 typed note-30W, line 72

Folder 15, Blair, Ivy Louis, veteran information card-58E, line 30

Folder 16, Bove, Harmon, yearbook dedication in 1970 *Oread* (Burlington High School, Burlington, VT)-12W

Folder 17, Bowers, Jerome, memorial and attached photo-18W

Folder 18, Boyles, Jerry Lee, computer printout from virtual wall-50E

Folder 19, Brady, "Joe" Joseph, thank you note-51E

Folder 20, Cagley, James Nelson, computer printout from virtual wall-12E

Folder 21, Carroll, Robert Hugh, veteran information card-58E, Line 31

Folder 22, [Clark], Tim, letter in sheet protector-14F

Folder 23, Clay, Russell, handwritten note and computer printout-4W

Folder 24, Condon, Frank Alloysius "Pappy", computer printout-60W

Folder 25, Dale, Bennie, veteran information card-59E, Line 3

Folder 26, Dale, Richard D., computer printout, copy of photo, copy of patches-1E

Folder 27, Dalton, Michael F., poem, flower tag, and note-60E, Line 10

Folder 28, Davis, John Lawrence, laminated computer printout from virtual wall-46W

Folder 29, Davison, Guy Allen, computer printout-46W

Folder 30, Donics, William Caldwell, copy of yearbook photo from Kemper Military School-24W

Folder 31, Dornon, Charles William, 4 pages computer printouts, 1 The Wall flyer, 1 laminated memorial-22W, Line 75 (items left between sections 1E and 1W)

Folder 32, Droz, Donald Glenn, computer printout-27W

Folder 33, Ecklund, Arthur Gene, memorial and letter and envelope from Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ecklund-27W



- Folder 34, Etchberger, Richard Loy, 11 pages computer printout-44E, Line 15
- Folder 35, Evans, Richard A. Jr., copies of newspaper articles and photos in sheet protector-46W
- Folder 36, Flynn, Daniel Joseph, 3 pages computer printouts-69W
- Folder 37, Frasch, Robert Louis, computer printout-8W, Line 126
- Folder 38, Hartman, Donald Owen, 2 printed photos-22W, Line 1
- Folder 39, Hazelwood, John Edward, computer printout-64W
- Folder 40, Hein, Charles John, Jr., Newspaper clipping from *The Valley News, Shenandoah, IA, 17 Mar 2020*-11W, Line 131
- Folder 41, Hipkins, Colin Keith, poem written by Darlene Hipkins (mother)
- Folder 42, Hobbs, Charles, photocopy of photo-30W, Line 4
- Folder 43, Hoppers, Micheal E., typed note-68W
- Folder 44, Hubbard, Robert Stephen, handwritten note-57E
- Folder 45, Hudgins, Carl William, Jr., computer printout-23W, Line 110
- Folder 46, Isbell, David Gene, yellow printout on cardboard-39E
- Folder 47, Johnson, Bernard Derek, computer printout-32E
- Folder 48, Johnson, Milton Jay, 2 pages computer printout-52W
- Folder 49, Lane, Sharon Ann, 21 pages computer printout, typed letter in sleeve-23W, Line 112
- Folder 50, LaPlant, Kurt Elton, 10 pages computer printout-59W, Line 6
- Folder 51, Lara, Apimienio "Manny," 2 pages computer printout-63W
- Folder 52, Lovell, Lewis Randolph, Jr. 2 pages computer printout-59W
- Folder 53, Madison, Steve, memorial page-2W
- Folder 54, McCullough, Marvin L, photocopy of photo-34W
- Folder 55, Mclean, Ronald Walsh, 6 pages computer printout-23W, Line 113
- Folder 56, Meyer, William, typed note
- Folder 57, Michael, William Arthur, 3 pages computer printout-29E, Line 32
- Folder 58, Mundt, Henry Gerald, III, photo and poem
- Folder 59, Nore, Kenneth H., photo-31E, Line 6
- Folder 60, Paialii, Pasia, photo-2E
- Folder 61, Preslipski, Michael, Jr., photo with bio-18W
- Folder 62, Pulliam, Dale Allan, 7 pages computer printout-19E (found in 29E)
- Folder 63, Rauber, William "Billy," handwritten poem-52E, Line 10
- Folder 64, Reinhold, Michael J., bio-40E
- Folder 65, Ryder, Edwin B., handwritten bio and photo-18W
- Folder 66, Shields, Marvin, computer printout from virtual wall-2E, Line 7
- Folder 67, Shook, Boyd L., handwritten bio and photo-8W
- Folder 68, Smith, James W., memorial with 2 patches attached
- Folder 69, Sorensen, Kenneth, mounted computer printout photo in sheet protector, flower card-3E
- Folder 70, Swazick, Danny "Dan" G., mounted computer printout photo in sheet protector, flower card-42E
- Folder 71, Sweatt, Theodore Alfred, computer printout-37W
- Folder 72, Thomas, Robert James, 7 pages computer printout-1W, Line 95
- Folder 73, Toomey, Samuel K, III, newspaper article and photocopied photo
- Folder 74, Vivona, Ronald M., computer printout photo-50E
- Folder 75, Walter, Ward Gunner, computer printout-31E



Folder 76, Weatherby, Jack W., computer printout, photocopy of patches-2E
Folder 77, Webster, Rhena Charles, typed memorial in sheet protector-32W
Folder 78, Wood, Patrick Herdy, computer printout-15E
Folder 79, Woods, Alexander, photo, photo of medals with service information

Box 2

Series 2, Flags

Folder 1-Folder 24, American flags for unknown recipients collected from East wall

Box 3

Folder 25-Folder 47, American flags for unknown recipients collected from West wall

Box 4

Folder 48, Wes

Folder 49, Barnes, Bruce Michael-18-19W

Folder 50, Cagley, James nelson-12E

Folder 51, Clark, Timothy-14F

Folder 52, Cole, Muril Steven-3W

Folder 53, Elling, Roger-42W

Folder 54, Etchberger, Richard Loy-44E, Line 15

Folder 55, Michael, William Arthur-29E, Line 32

Folder 56, Smith, James W.-16W, Line 65

Folder 57, Stanley, Frank Skipper (large tri-fold flag)-19W

Folder 58, Thomas, Robert James-1W

Box 5 [oversized]

Item 1, medium cloth flag-67W

Item 2, Vietnamese battle flag-1W-3W

Item 3, Tri-folded flag in display case

Item 4, Tri-folded flag in display case

Box 6 [oversized]

Item 5, Allen, W. T. (Vern)-31E

Item 6, Winfrey, James Arthur, flag with attached photo-20W, Line 111

Item 7-Large flags to unknown recipients collected at the Wall (17 flags)

Box 7

Series 3, Flower cards

Folder 1, unsigned cards to unknown soldiers

Folder 2, signed cards to unknown soldiers

Folder 3, Edward-12E

Folder 4, Fred-42-43W

Folder 5, Gerald-12E

Folder 6, John-52W

Folder 7, Michael-56W

Folder 8, Mike-14W

Folder 9, Mike-22W

Folder 10, Mike-29-30E

Folder 11, Pete-14-15W

Folder 12, Ron-41E

Folder 13, Ronnie-18W



Folder 14, Ronnie-17-18W
Folder 15, Tom-24E
Folder 16-"Salem"-26-27E
Folder 17, Teddy-61E
Folder 18, Allen, Raymond-25E, Line 21
Folder 19, Aspey, Darrell Wayne-13W
Folder 20, Barham, Larry Gene-37 E, Line 48
Folder 21, Barker, Larry
Folder 22, Boston, Kenneth-13W
Folder 23, Bowdon, Bruce-12W
Folder 24, Buell, Craig
Folder 25, Butler, Gary-2W
Folder 26, Condrey, George T., III-56E, Line 37
Folder 27, Crook, Tom-62E, Line 1
Folder 28, Culwell, Jimmie Lee-33W, Line 13
Folder 29, "Mr. Dalltow"-57E
Folder 30, Darnell, Jimmy A.-39E, Line 19
Folder 31, Dornon, Charles William-22W-5 tags and 1 photo
Folder 32, Estes, Brian R.-30W
Folder 33, Harston, Mark-3W
Folder 34, Hix, Keith E.-11E
Folder 35, Holtman, John T-25E
Folder 36, Jenne, Robert E.-57E, Line 4
Folder 37, Jurecko, Daniel E.-57E, Line 4
Folder 38, Keck, Warren-16E
Folder 39, Kimbrell, Louis-54W
Folder 40, Lankford, J.W.-52E
Folder 41, Leon, Pedro-16E
Folder 42, Lindquist, Bill-21W
Folder 43, Longston, Henry R-29W
Folder 44, Lynten, Larry-8W
Folder 45, McClafferty, James E.-52W, Line 20
Folder 46, McClafferty, James Edward-52W-2 tags and note
Folder 47, McDowell, Steven-5W, Line 91
Folder 48, McMillin, Gary D.-5W
Folder 49, Moon, Raymond Ross-14W
Folder 50, Patterson, Jerome D.-25E, Line 49
Folder 51, Perez, Richard-18W
Folder 52, Pope, Charles A.-6W, Line 69
Folder 53, Puckett, Dennis Ray-17E
Folder 54, Saltey, James, Jr.-4W
Folder 55, Santa Cruz, Jose Angel-14W
Folder 56, Sherman, William W.-28W, Line 3
Folder 57, Smith, David William-65W
Folder 58, Smith, Jack-12W
Folder 59, Smith, James "Jim"-18W
Folder 60, Smith, Kenny-12W



Folder 61, Steinbom, Russell Albert-15-16W
Folder 62, Tribble, Preston-25W
Folder 63, Ward, Ronald-24W
Folder 64, Williams, James R-33E, Line 1
Folder 65, Wolfe, Richard O.-15W
Folder 66, W[right], Bill-26E

Box 8

Series 4, Hats

Item 1, Pith Helmet—Carroll, Roger W., Jr.-1E
Item 2, Blue baseball cap-15W
Item 3, Red 3rd Battalion 6th Field Artillery cap—Ward, Johnny-18W
Item 4, Air Force camouflage hat-46E
Item 5, Green hat-21W

Box 9

Series 5, Framed photos and memorials

Item 1, photo of memorial for John Quincy Adams in front of DC Wall-69E, Line 6
Item 2, memorial with flag and patches-2E-3E
Item 3, photo of memorial for Kurt E LaPlant in front of DC Wall-59W, Line 6
Item 4, framed scrapbook page for William E Brown-35E
Item 5, photo and message left as tribute to all from Michael A Dobbs family
Item 6, framed testimonial by Kathy Lee to Sharon Lane-23W
Item 7, picture “I Think I Won” with note, memorial to Daniel J. Gutierrez, 1969
Item 8, photo in plastic stand, Leo Miller Jennette-47W
Item 9, photo in plastic stand, Jeff L. Wenger, Army '69-15W

Box 10

Series 6, Wreaths

Item 1, grape vine army wreath for Colin Keith Hipkins-26E

Box 11

Item 2, wreath from Girl Scout Brownie Troop 1714

Box 12

Item 3, twig base wreath covered in red white and blue fabric with stars-9E-10E
Item 4, hands memorial wreath from Girl Scout Troop 490

Series 7, Oversize items

Item 1, black easel
Item 2, Large poster with photos and clippings in memorial for Larry Gene Barham-37E
Item 3, Poster from Mission Valley High School in Eskridge, KS 1
Item 4, Poster from Blue Springs, MO Brownie Troop 1582
Item 5, Bi-fold with 2 large photos and flag for Colin Keith Hipkins-26E

Box 13

Item 6, Quilt

Box 14

Series 8, MIA Bracelets

Item 1, Adam, John Q
Item 2, Brown, Harry (with note)
Item 3, Carroll, Jr., Roger W.
Item 4, Ecklund, Arthur G.



- Item 5, Griffin, Rodney L.
- Item 6, Grubs, Newk
- Item 7, Hoskins, Charles L.
- Item 8, Masterson, Michael
- Item 9, Silver, Edward
- Item 10, Toomey, Samuel K. (2 bracelets and button "Mill Creek Mustangs")

Series 9, Misc. Items

- Item 1, Box of Lucky Strike cigarettes, David Alexander Woods
- Item 2, Box of Marlboro cigarettes
- Item 3, Red, white, and blue ribbon with flag and angel pins
- Item 4, Red ribbon
- Item 5, Medals (2)
- Item 6, Service bars and green ribbon bar
- Item 7, String of beads
- Item 8, pencils (2), used as anchor to memorial for Russell Leland Clay
- Item 9, Airborne patch
- Item 10, Army green macramé bracelet, Sharon Ann Lane
- Item 11, 52 cents
- Item 12, 36 cents
- Item 13, Commemorative coin, Robert Lewis Frasch
- Item 14, Commemorative coin, Joe Avant
- Item 15, plastic merit token "I was caught doing good" (2)
- Item 16, Welcome home pin and commemorative coin
- Item 17, Bracelet
- Item 18, Wounded heart pin (2)
- Item 19, Roll white electrical tape
- Item 20, Dog tag on chain, Jeremy Drexler
- Item 21, Rocks (2)-7E
- Item 22, Budweiser beer can-16W
- Item 23, Tabasco sauce bottle-6W
- Item 24, Schlitz beer bottle, David A Woods-29E
- Item 25, 2-Welcome Home medals with ribbons with patches-one with pin in case (left with white mum wreath-6W
- Item 26, U.S. Marine Corps mug with gold bow-53W
- Item 27, 5-medals (including 2 purple hearts) on cardboard backing with note-53W
- Item 28, Block of wood-36-37E
- Item 29, Miniature orange construction cone, Tim-44-45W
- Item 30, Green Beanie Baby bear-45W

Box 15

- Item 31, Glass vase (original contained red roses and plastic flag)-12-13E
- Item 32, Boots Restituto Poblete Adenir
- Item 33, Stuffed bear for Jeff L. Wenger-15W

Box 16

- Item 34, patches-2
- Item 35, photo and poppy on flower stake, Woodrow C. Akers-10W
- Item 36, pencil (used to anchor virtual wall printout to ground), Marvin Glen Shields-2E,
line 7



- Item 37, star banner
- Item 38, Paper American flag-36-37W
- Item 39, Student art work
- Item 40, Note "You should've let me go first sorry it was you"

Series 11, Promotional material

- Folder 1, Committee notes and volunteer information
- Folder 2, Notes on items removed from Wall
- Folder 3, The Wall That Heals brochures
- Folder 4, The Wall That Heals DVD
- Folder 5, Newspaper clippings

Box 17

- Folder 6, *The Kansas City Star Magazine*, February 20, 2011
- Folder 7, "The Wall That Heals," *The Examiner* (special insert), September 25, 2010
- Folder 8, Proclamation from Jackson County Legislature in support of The Wall that Heals, July 26, 2010 (2 copies)
- Folder 9, The Wall That Heals poster
- Oversize items- Wall That Heals panels with signatures from Library display (4 panels)

Series 12, Artificial flowers

- Item 1, Red Wooden rose-17E
- Item 2, Silk rose with photo in plastic sleeve-John W Wright
- Item 3, Silk roses with cards, Larry W Kilgore-6W, line 12
- Item 4, Velvet red silk rose-30E
- Item 5, Silk red rose
- Item 6, Burnt orange silk rose bouquet-20-21E
- Item 7, Red silk rose bouquet with note, Delbert Leroy Ryan

Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access

Many items within this collection are housed within file folders and artifacts are wrapped in acid free tissue paper in archival boxes.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

Materials in the collection are entirely in English.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Memorial items collected by the Midwest Genealogy Center at The Wall That Heals in Blue Springs, MO in 2010.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Notes

The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical history:

- "The Wall That Heals." *Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund*, 2020, www.vvmf.org.
- "The Wall That Heals: City of Blue Springs, MO - Official Website." *The Wall That Heals | City of Blue Springs, MO - Official Website*, www.bluespringsgov.com/818/The-Wall-That-Heals.
- Turner, Sandy. "Items Left at The Wall That Heals Are Handled with Special Care." *The Examiner*, Supplement, 25 Sept. 2010, p. 15.