



Edward Scott Milligan

September 20, 1932 - January 19, 2010

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward Scott Milligan*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *I met Ed about 20 years ago at a CMH Meeting and we have been friends ever since. He provided the ideas many a YesterYear for German Life and provided an introduction to an Indian friend when my eldest went to Dehli for her Senior Year at Michigan State. And the list of his kindnesses goes on and on ... We'll miss you, Ed, but if I get to go to the same place you went, I look forward to meeting you again - Bob, Barb, Mary, Sebastian and Hannah*

April 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *LTC Edward Milligan was a beloved comarde and the closest of friends for over forty years. From our time at the U.S. Army Command and General College until his passing, he was a valued colleague with whom we were in continuous contact and could always depend. We held him in the highest esteem and with utmost respect. He was our "Uncle Ed" from the earliest days at Fort Leavenworth. He was a prince among men with those about him all the better for the experience. We are all the poorer for his passing. A devoted parent, soldoer, scholar, citizen and friend to all, he will be sorely missed. In deed, one of the few really good guys has left our midst. Our deepest sympathy goes to the Milligan Family and numerous friends. May Almighty God bless and keep you Uncle Ed until our ultimate rendezvous when the final trumpet sounds. Posted by LTC Edward C. Culbreth and Frances M. Culbreth, U.S. Army Chemical Corp*

March 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Last letter to LTC Edward S. Milligan, U.S. Army (Ret.) Dear Ed I am still and will stay very sad that the connection between us had been definitely interrupted on 14 January 2010. By the way: This is the birthday of Robert Edward Lee, the unforgotten Confederate general. In November 1990 we met for the first time. It was on Mount Olivet Cemetery in Washington D.C. where the annual memorial service for my great-granduncle, Captain Henry Wirz, C.S.A., Commandant of Camp Sumter Prison, Andersonville, Georgia, took place. Since then we have met several times in the United States and in Switzerland. Here you did research on your Swiss ancestors. You have supported me a lot in my own researches for Swiss in the Confederate Army, introduced me to the National Archives and accompanied me to Arlington National Cemetery to find the grave of Swiss born U.S. MG Alfred Girard, who was a surgeon during the Civil War. Every year you mailed me the Confederate Calendar and I sent you documentation on the Swiss Armed Forces in German language which you could easily read. During the last years I received your electronic courier on historical and current military events. This kept me well informed about the defence research and development in the United States and related countries. Dear Ed: You have been a real American friend and a great comrade. I miss you but I wish you the eternal peace in the grand army of the dead soldiers. Heinrich L. Wirz, Col. Swiss Army (Ret.), Bremgarten BE, Switzerland.*

February 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Uncle Ed was one of the nicest people I have ever known. He was a very giving and helpful man. I met Uncle Ed in 1995. During his visit to Istanbul, he learned from my sister that I was in the DC area for a month. He helped me very much during my stay. He lent me furniture, showed me around, and gave me hints about how to do things in the US. He also introduced me to his very good friends, which are all wonderful people. It was a privilege to know Uncle Ed, and he will truly be missed.

February 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I am greatly saddened by the loss of "Uncle Ed". a respectful, loving title bestowed upon him from the historians and authors who worked with me so closely in the upcoming docu-feature film, "Men without a Country, Chinese in the Civil War" Uncle Ed is one of the featured historians in this project and now his presence will live on forever. It is customary in Chinese to use the respectful term "Uncle" for certain elders. I fondly remember him at my mother in laws home in Montgomery County. He ate a down home meal with us just like a real Chinese, utilizing chop sticks and all. Another fun time was with Dr. Tom Lowry and his wife who attended my wedding in 2001. He was a party animal! When it came to military history, he was razor serious. I was his guest to a private OSS/CIA function in 2004. Old spooks, kooks, he knew them all. While the presenter spoke, Uncle Ed stopped him in his tracks to correct a statement. He made his case and was correct! The presenter acknowledged and thanked him. I thought wow, this man knows his stuff. Now what was his connection to these "Black ops" guys? He told me, "don't ask". Trust me, I never did. May he rest in peace. Pleasant journeys! Your Chinese nephew, Monty

February 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to Ed's family and friends. I am one of those who regularly availed myself of Ed's wide-ranging interests and knowledge. I could always count on him for a different perspective or a back door to a research problem. See you later, old friend.*

February 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Ed was a friend for so long that I could not begin to remember when or where we first met but it was probably somewhere in the military collecting circuit. Ed was a faithful customer of the Ft Belvoir Militaria show and at one time, very big in collecting Russian decorations. Ed knew more people around the world than anyone I have ever known. He made a concerted effort to remain in contact with everyone he had ever met. Through Ed, I know men in Canada, around the US, Australia, the UK and other places as Ed would generously share correspondence and information. A second characteristic by which he was well known was his love for the obscure and arcane. Nothing delighted Uncle Ed like information about some curious, probably inconsequential, happening in an obscure place. He could have written a very good book about all the curiosities he uncovered in his wide-ranging research. If you could hang close to Uncle Ed, you would meet interesting people and go to interesting places. Such as the trip to Canada with John Fell and the Order of St John. It was enlightening to meet “the prince” and his chamberlain (read running dog) who was slick at bilking folks for substantial fees for phony Order membership promises. I understand that the “running dog” still cannot safely enter Canada because the Chief of Police has that fraud warrant out for him. But we had a great time and as a subsidiary result, we joined the Australian (now Australasian) Order of Old Bastards. Yes, it really exists and does charitable work in that part of the world. Only Ed could have found such a thing and persuaded some of his collector friends to become members too. I am proud to say that I am still an Old Bastard just like Uncle Ed. Ed was a great guy, knowledgeable collector and a first class researcher at the National Archives. Truly a whole world will miss him. Andy Johnson, friend and fellow Old Bastard

February 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I extend heartfelt sympathy to all who enjoyed a relationship with Ed - especially to his cherished family. He was truly a unique treasure. Ironically, my last correspondence with Ed was a note of condolence he sent upon the passing of my husband, Bill, on Christmas Day. Thewe two earned the respect and friendship of one another in the late 70's. Ed told me that, thanks to Bills genealogy searches, Ed had far more knowledge of the frogs (French) than he ever wanted. Upon learning of Ed's passing, I have a recurring vision of two old friends sitting in front of the Pearly Gates double checking the "begats" to ensure proper reunions. St. Peter will have no peace but he will have some incredible conversations. In closing I want to share the text contained in Ed's card. A quote from Helen Keller - "Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light". One thing I know with certainty. This amazingly generous man will never, ever, walk alone.

February 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Claudette and I wish to extend our condolences to Michael, Wendy and Families. We met "Uncle Ed" while at Staff College at Fort Leavenworth through Peter and Natalie Cole. For the past few years I've enjoyed the many emails from Ed about everything from military history to human nature and beyond with his unique taste of humorous stories. I was shocked to hear of his passing and will miss his exchange of knowledge. May he rest in peace. Jerry

February 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ When living in Annie's house, you were very kind. You taught to me who did not understand English so much a lot. It went to eat Thai food and the Mexican cuisine together. The happiness of the hush was taught, given, and taken. We wish to express our gratitude. Being possible to know is a lot because there was uncle Ed. Thank you for being a friend.

February 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Helen and wish extend our condolences to Michael, Wendy and family on the passing of your Dad "Unc Ed". I met him in Quebec City in 1994 and again in Gagetown in 1999. He was always a cheerful soul who enjoyed life to the full. After those meetings on Canadian Military Museumology he was always helpful with information on such subjects as the Medal of Honor. I being ex British Army took to him as a friend who always helped others. I will certainly miss all his emails.

January 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm sorry to hear about Mr. Milligan's passing. He was one of favorite researchers at the National Archives. He was nice and considerate of both staff and other researchers. He will be missed.

January 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We shared research information on Chinese serving in the American Civil war. I met him once. I called him Uncle Ed., which was once his email address name. We emailed each other for years and I miss him a lot.

January 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ It was a depressing surprise when I received the news about Ed from his son Michael on Saturday, he will leave a large gap in my band of respected researchers in my field of Latin American Military History. I knew him for 15 years having shared a fellow friend in Joe Hefter and his work in this subject, he stayed with me once and I visited him again later when he was in Scarborough, he also had me in his flat for a week, and another time we (my wife and her sister too) stayed around at Anne Dilworth's house for a Company of Military Historians meeting, both times Ed took me round to visit various places of interest in the surrounding area of Washington & Virginia, taking us as far as the site of Yorktown & Williamsburg and more. Great times to remember for all concerned, and ones that I will remember as long as I have an active brain. If there was any questions that I could not find out Ed would be there to either give me the answer or he knew somebody who could help out, hopefully Ed will look at what I do in the future with a smile on his face. Ed will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Terry

January 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Milligan family on the passing of Ed. I knew him for well over 20 years by association with the Company of Military Historians and the American Society of Military Insignia Collectors. When he came to the quarterly ASMIC insignia meets at Fort Belvoir, he would stop and chat with all his friends and flash that great smile of his. God bless him, he will be missed.

January 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ So long, pard. Requiscat in pace.

January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Ed, as late as a few days ago, kept me posted on things of common interest: aviation, armed forces news, events that attracted me for their moral appeal. Ed has now preceded us to that place to which we all aspire. May the perpetual Light shine upon him. May he rest in peace, and I am sure he will.

January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so honored to have had a friend like Ed Milligan in my life. In the nearly twenty years that I knew him he was there to mark many of the major events of my life. Ed was there to guide me when I began pursuing a commission in the Marines; he was there to swear me in the day I pinned on my gold bars; he stood up with me when I married my bride; he gave me sage advice when my son was born, then my daughter and then another daughter; he celebrated my promotions to Captain and then Major as a member of our extended family. Ed taught me that the brotherhood of warriors is not bound by the uniform one wears, or by border or breed or birth. He taught me that combat leadership begins long before the first round ever cracks down range. His intellect was impressive and his gentle mentorship invaluable. He personified not only the practitioner but the student of the profession of arms. Now he is gone leaving behind those of us he raised up in the profession one final unspoken mission; "As I have taught you, teach others; as I have led you, lead others; as I have loved you, love others and our Republic will remain safe." Psalm 91:11 tells us "He will give his angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways." I will always be thankful my family knew Ed Milligan.

January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Words cannot express the loss that my family and I feel at LtCol Ed Milligan's passing. We count ourselves fortunate that his kindness, generosity, cheer and avuncular nature were a presence in our lives for so many years. We are all diminished by his passing but comforted in the sure and certian knowledge that he is with our Lord and he is surrounded now by the past generations of warriors who have gone before us whose memories he helped to preserve for posterity through his life's work. Goodbye, my friend, we will miss you.

January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I always enjoyed his wit and intellect. He was the best Republican I ever met. My thoughts are with his family and all of Ed's friends.
Fondly, Christie Selph

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Ed when I was in Okinawa with the Marine. I was at a fair at Kadina Air base. It was raining and Ed told us to to jump in his tent which he was selling ice cream bars for a charity. After the rain he said the bars were not selling so well. I told him me and my 5 friends would go out on the med way and sell some. We sold over 3000.00 in 2 days.A month later at my base we were told to fall out in front of the Bat. Were given a letter of appreciation From the Commanding Gen of Kadina Air Base. Over the year Ed and his family became our Okinawa parents. They had was over to there hone on all holidays It was wonderful to be welcomes to their home when we were so far away from ours. I had lost track of him for 20 years when one day when I was living in Montana There is Ed on the phone. From then on I was able to visit Ed twice and many phone calls and countless 2 mails. Ed and his family are one of a kind. Every one that has ever met Ed are lucky for him to come ours. Love Mickey or as Ed would say The Gunny

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ 23 years knew themselves hello Eddi, we. You visited us in potsdam, the city of the Prussia kings. And we saw the awake replacement of the NVA in Berlin. We celebrated merrily in our summer-house. Also after the case of the wall were you here. It was beautiful with you Unfortunately I cannot accompany you on your last way. I would have heard gladly the Ehrensolut. I greet you for the last time, Heinz. Written by Karl-Heinz Redlin, Uffz. A.D. Border troops of the GDR

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I am sadden to hear of Uncle Ed's passing. It was less than a month ago we talked about the passing of Jimmy Leach. We met at an investiture for the Sovereign Order of Saint Stanislas in Charleston, SC and have been friends ever since. I will miss our phone calls, emails - I will miss a good friend. My condolences to his son Mike and daughter Wendy and their families. I am proud to say I knew Ed and he was my friend.

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Hello: I am sad to hear this news. Ed has been sending me letters and emails, and sharing some of his research, since the 1990s when I was living in Halifax, Nova Scotia. In 1999 or 2000, after I had moved to New Brunswick, the neighbouring province, he attended a military history conference on the Canadian military base at Oromocto. I drove up to meet him in person and we went to Fredericton to have a beer. On that trip we passed an airport where a forestry protection company was using converted WWII-era Grumman air planes for spraying-a nice military history touch. He was very generous with his time and always asked about how my wife and I were doing with our adoptive son. A few years ago, when our son was younger, Ed kindly sent him a children's magazine. He was an adept user of new technology, given his interesting and often very funny emails and attachments, many of which I shared with friends and family. I thanked Ed and his Canadian friend Tom Brooks in the acknowledgements of my 1998 book *In Armageddon's Shadow*. Professor Greg Marquis

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Ed's generosity in researching for other people, myself included, put him in a class of his own. Nothing was too much trouble for him, and he always showed so much interest and warmth along the way. Humor, too. My heartfelt condolences to his personal and Civil War families, Ruthanne

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Grandpa, I love you and miss you and will think about you always. I will miss your letters, your amazing stories, your humor, and your voice. There is so much more that I wanted to learn from you. You were loved so much by so many, and your work and effort will be remembered. You were a great man of many talents, but to me you will always be Grandpa.

January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dad, We all love you and we will all miss you. More importantly you once said that, "All we leave behind is how we have affected other people. " By the number of people who have called, written, or emailed, it is clear that you had a very positive impact on many people. For this you will be remembered across the world. Your son, Mike

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Donna and I offer our Condolences to Ed's immediate Family and to his International "Family" of Friends and Fellow Military and Naval History Researchers. Ed & I commented almost daily on many subjects, historical and political; and we shared humor as well. I was in the Maritime Museum at Newport News in 2000(?) when Ed sat next to me. While waiting for the lecture on USS MONITOR, I remarked that I was researching an article on Rapharel Semmes and CSS ALABAMA, and I mentioned that I thought Semmes had an English girlfriend. He replied, "I'm going to visit Mike Hammerson in London next week," resulting a new friendship and collaboratrktion with Mike. I occasionally ran into Ed at the National Archives, and he helped me there each time, as well as more recently. Like so many, many others, I will miss Ed very much. May God Rest His Soul.

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I cannot remember how I first came into contact with Ed - me a lone Civil War researcher in London, England and him in Va. - but by an amazing coincidence, it transpired that he was a good friend of two cousins who were descendants of a Civil War family I was researching, and his introduction to them opened up invaluable avenues of research which I would never had found otherwise. I soon learned that he was a good friend of many people, all researchers and all indebted to him for help without which they could not have accessed archives and pursued their own research. He put many of them in touch with each other, thus enhancing their efforts by enabling them to help each other. Few people have surely done as little research on their own account, yet done so much research so selflessly for others. My research on Civil War veterans buried in England would have been immeasurably slower and more difficult - in many cases, even impossible - without him. When he was not researching, he was giving invaluable advice based on his years of experience, or amusing us with his understated but razor-sharp sense of humour and his acute observation of human nature, and particularly officialdom and bureaucracy. I met him a few times - once when he came to London and visited us, when I was able to show him some of the historic sights of our home town and also sites connected with the Civil War. On my visits to the Chantilly Civil War show, he would walk round with me, and on one occasion showed that he actually remembered what we were researching when he spotted an item connected with one of the soldiers he had researched for me, which I had missed. I have used word "invaluable" several times, but that is what he was to many people, as well as a good friend, and he will be very much missed on both scores.

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Ed led me into two memorable experiences. I met a roomful of old OSS men and Cold Warriors, men I'd only read about. I felt honored to be invited. Ed also provided most of the research for our pioneering article on Chinese in the Civil War, aided of course by Gordon Kwok and others. Ed researched long and deep and shared all his findings.

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts go to the all of the family, Ed was a great friend to all Civil War buffs in Australia and will be greatly missed. A wonderful research, a knowledgeable and kind benefactor to a lot of people and a good man to many. Your legacy lives on. Barry.

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ This news just stunned me as I found out from a friend. Ed used to visit the Naval History and Heritage Command about once a week back in the day. Being a photo curator, we crossed paths about 10 years ago. Ed was a quite, nice man. Reminded me a lot of my father who also passed away. As time went by, we became chatty, and I would always stop by and catch up when he dropped by the Library. The past year, we used to meet at the National Archives downtown as I am doing parallel research that Ed was working on for a book/web project for Navy History. It's was great meeting up with him there, and a highlight for me as I knew someone in the building. We would always find each other and point out something new that we found to each while there. My deepest sympathy for his family. He will be sorely missed, and I'll inform the National Archives staff at my next visit as everyone knew him by "Ed". Robert

January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept my sincere sympathies for the death of Ed. He has been a regular correspondent for close to two decades, and had helped a lot in my own research work. Ed was a man amongst men, and there are very few of his caliber in this world. I was very, very saddened and rather shocked to hear of his passing. He will definitely be missed by very, very many persons, throughout the world.

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Sincere condolences to Ed's family from myself and my wife. Uncle Ed was a giant in the military history field and a pioneer Military Intelligence analyst. His generous charity work for allied veterans in Poland via the Order of St Stanislaus was one of the many ways he left the earth a a better place. His legacy will loom large in many fields for decades to come. CW3 Dave Collar (ret), KC, StS

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I have known Ed since about 1974 when I was assigned to the National Guard Bureau in the Pentagon and I was just starting to collect military insignia. He was always a great friend who very generous in his ways. He was one of kind. You were never bored when you were with him. His interest extended far beyond the mainstream of life. He will be missed.

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My condolences to the family.

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this most difficult time. Life is everlasting, eternal....no flame ever burns out....just burns brighter in our hearts and in God's hands.*

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *I love you grandpa, and I will miss you so much! I know I'll see you again when we meet in heaven, and I will think about you everyday until I do!*

January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM