

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ANGELA GRACE (ROBERTS) STOUT (#1047)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pgs. 352 & 353 – Lieutenant Colonel Angela Grace (Roberts) Stout, daughter of Tommy Allen Roberts and Gracie Nell (Ashburn) Roberts, was commissioned in the Air Force Academy. Her career has included a variety of missile and space operations assignments, including crew and instructor time in both the Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile weapon system and the 1st Command and Control space surveillance system. Her previous duty locations have included F. E. Warren Air Force Base (MB), Wyoming; Vandenberg AFB, California; Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colorado; Peterson AFB, Colorado; Langley AFB, Virginia; Maxwell AFB, Alabama; and the Pentagon, Washington D. C.

Lt. Col Stout earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Air Force Academy and two Masters degrees from Lesley College and the Air Command and Staff College. She is a Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force's Squadron Officer School. Her military decorations include five Meritorious Service Medals and four Air Force Commendation Medals. After obtaining her commission, she attended ICBM training at

Vandenberg AFB, California, with a follow-on first assignment as a missile combat crewmember at F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

At F. E. Warren, Lt. Col Stout served as a Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) officer, serving as a Deputy Crew Commander, Standardization/Evaluation Flight, Senior Crew Evaluator, Crew Commander, and Training Flight Chief. After completing missile crew duty, she returned to the 4315th Combat Crew Training Squadron at Vandenberg as a ICBM instructor. There, she taught new missile crew members in the Peacekeeper, Minuteman and REZCT weapon systems. Her last year at the schoolhouse was teaching ICBM Emergency War Order procedures.

Lt. Col Stout was assigned in the 1st Command and Control Squadron (CACS) in Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colorado. While at 1st CACS, she worked as Crew Commander Chief of Training, and Operations Flight Commander. Upon completion of space crew duty, she went to Air Force Space Command Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. There, she worked in the Space Control Division as the Spacetrack Program Element Monitor (PEM), focusing on space surveillance.

Lt. Col Stout was next assigned to the Aerospace Command Control and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center at Langley AFB, Virginia to advocate for space assets and future ISR sensor architectures.

At the Pentagon, Lt. Col Stout was the Air Force PEM and requirements officer for the ICBM, Advanced Cruise Missile, Air Launched Cruise Missile and the UH-I weapon systems. As a PEM, she acted as the primary weapon system advocate before the Air Force Corporate structure, the Department of Defense and Congress.

After her Pentagon assignment, Lt. Col Stout was selected as the 400th Missile Squadron Operations Office at F. E. Warren AFB, Wyoming where she was responsible for the accurate and timely delivery of nuclear war-heads to any target in the world upon receipt of orders from the President of the United States.

Lt. Col Stout was the Commander of the 90th Operations Support Squadron (OSS). 90 OSS was responsible for targeting, cryptographical coding, training, and feeding of over 430 crew members in three different squadrons.

Following her command tour, Lt. Col Stout served as the Deputy Director of Operations for Twentieth Air Force at F. E. Warren AFB, Wyoming where she provided operational oversight and guidance for all ICBM systems at three ICBM wings with over 9,500 personnel and three nuclear weapon systems in a 45,820 square-mile, five-state area.

Lt. Col Stout is currently an Air Command Staff College instructor in the Department of International Security and Military Studies. Following two years of instructing, she will attend Air War College as part of a Senior Development Education program.

She is married to Mark Robert Stout of Kansas, and they have two daughters, Sarah Grace Stout and Molly Katherine Stout. Mark has two daughters by a previous marriage, Kelly Elizabeth Stout and Megan Eileen Stout. She, Mark and the girls live in Montgomery, Alabama but plan to build their retirement home on Roberts Road in Putnam County, Tennessee.

Story by: Lt. Col Angela Stout, 7352 Greenfield Road, Montgomery, AL 36117.

AVERY PHILIP ROBERTS (#1048)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 353 – Avery Philip Roberts, born 31 May 1937 to Clavis Kinnard Roberts and Etta Frances (Phillips) Roberts, entered the Air Force 25 February 1957. After basic training in Texas and technical school in Illinois, he married the former Carolyn Terry Burgess in Sept. 1957. They spent the next three years in Albuquerque, New Mexico where he was involved in rocket and atomic research while assigned to the 4925th Test Group (Atomic). After eleven months of electronics school in Mississippi, the next four years were spent in England, then, three in Oklahoma. Another school at Rocky Mountain Arsenal in Denver prepared him for fifteen months in Tehran, Iran working in Special Electronics. His son, Travis Lee Roberts, was born in Iran. After six years in Michigan, three as an advisor to the Michigan Air National Guard, and three years in Florida as an advisor to the Air Force Reserve unit at Homestead Air Force Base, he retired in 1979. *Story by: Avery Philip Roberts, 9603 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN.*

CLAUDE EDWARD ROBERTS (#1049)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 353 – Claude Edward Roberts, son of Winfield Scott Roberts and Elizabeth (Franklin) Roberts served with the American Expeditionary Force in France during World War One. He was a member of the 316th Field Artillery Regiment, Battery E, 81st Division.

The division was organized at Camp Jackson, near Columbia, South Carolina in September 1917 and went into training. In May 1918 it was sent to Camp Sevier, near Greenville, South Carolina, and in July it was ordered to New York to be shipped overseas. In August the division sailed to England and then to France. It was initially sent to the trenches in the Vosges Mountains in September. On November 6, the division was transferred to the front east of Verdun, on the east side of the Meuse River. Starting on November 8 the division attacked German positions for two days with limited success. From the outset the 81st Division's troops were met with heavy German machine gun and artillery fire. Rumors reached the

81st Division commanders that an armistice might be signed on November 11, but because no official word was received about a cessation of hostilities, they ordered their men to continue their attacks. At daybreak, November 11, 81st Division soldiers were ordered to assault German positions. The troops slowly advanced through the heavy fog and German shell and machine gun fire. Then, at 11:00, the firing abruptly stopped. The war was over. The 81st Division suffered, 1, 104 casualties - - 248 killed or dead from wounds and 856 wounded - - for the short time it was in combat. The 81st Division remained in France and was not part of the Army of Occupation in Germany. In early June the men were shipped back to the United States and discharged from service.

Claude didn't talk much about his experiences except about the Argonne forest campaign. He also related that sometimes it was necessary to rake the maggots aside on his mess tray to get to the food. After his experiences, he returned to live a hill-life at Roberts Switch. He passed away on 19 June 1964 and is buried in the Smellage Cemetery, Boma, TN.

Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

CLAVIS KINNARD ROBERTS (#1050)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

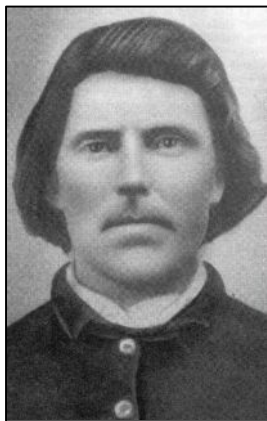


Pgs. 353 & 354 – In the spring of 1944, William Eugene Roberts, son of William Daily Robert and Pearl Dona (Kinnard) Roberts, was in the Army and had been shipped to England in preparation for the invasion of continental Europe. Clavis Kinnard Roberts, Eugene's brother, was at home with three children and another on the way. Clavis wasn't vulnerable to the draft, but felt he wasn't doing his share, so he joined the Army on 31 March 1944 as a volunteer. He was assigned to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The rules at that time required reading and writing skills to a certain grade level. Clavis did not have this skill and was unable to bring his skills to the required level in the time allotted. He received an Honorable Discharge on 16 June 1944.

Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

FRANCIS MARION ROBERTS (#1051)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 354 - Francis Marion Roberts served in Company I, 5th Tennessee Calvary, USA from 24 November 1862 until honorably discharged on 14 August 1865. His unit saw action throughout middle Tennessee and into north Alabama. The most fatal engagement that Company I was involved in was the Dug Hill Road Fight – also called Battle of the Calfkiller. In that 22 February 1864 skirmish, Company I, along with two other companies, was dispatched from Sparta to make a circuit to Cookeville and return through Dry Valley looking for guerrillas. The main band of guerrillas, under Champ Ferguson, was well aware of the Federal movements. Ferguson set an ambush where Dug Hill Road led out of Dry Valley. As the scouting party came down the road, a decoy of two guerrillas lured the Federals into the unexpected ambush. Reported casualty numbers vary but Federal loses were put at about 40 men.

Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

Roberts Cemetery (Co. I Van Buren Co, TN) **Pvt. Francis Marion Roberts**, b. 31 December 1835, Jackson Co., TN – d. 16 January 1912, Putnam Co., TN s/o Joseph Roberts & Rachel Smith. Francis Marion Roberts married 1st on the 22 February 1912 in Putnam Co., TN, Sarah E. Richardson, b. 12 May 1835 – d. 27 February 1914, Putnam Co., TN, d/o William & Sarah Richardson. Francis M. Roberts met 2nd Amanda C. Martin, b. ca. 1840, TN – d. 25 December 1919, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN, d/o Samuel Martin & Rebecca Bryant. Francis M. Roberts met 3rd Sarah McCullie, burial 26 December 1919, Carr Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

GRACIE NELL (ASHBURN) ROBERTS (#1052)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

Pg. 354 - Staff Sergeant Gracie Nell (Ashburn) Roberts is the daughter of Calvin and Lorene (Clouse)



Ashburn of the Ditty Community and the wife of Chief Master Sergeant (United States Air Force, Retired) Tommy Roberts of the Roberts Switch Community. She has served in three different military roles. As an active duty airman, she served as a Still Photographic Specialist (Photographer) in the Air Force from 11 February 1975 through 18 December 1981 with assignments in Texas, Hawaii, and Florida. She also served as the wife of a thirty year Air Force veteran, maintaining a supportive home. She currently serves as the mother of two active duty Air Force officers; Lieutenant Colonel Angela (Roberts) Stout and Lieutenant Colonel Tommy Roberts #2. She believes it has been, and is, an honor to served in these capacities.

Marrying her high school sweetheart, at age 16, resulted in an earlier-than-expected end to her primary education at the end of her sophomore year at Upperman High School. Her husband explained that, “you don’t need no more schooling; I’ll take car of you now”. Although he did “take care of her”, wisdom increased with years and she later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland. Her military awards and decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal and selection as the military person of the year (1978) for the state of Hawaii.

Submitted and compiled by: Gracie Nell (Ashburn) Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

HERBERT FRANKLIN ROBERTS (#1053)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 354 - Herbert Franklin Roberts, son of William Daily Roberts and Pearl (Kinnard) Roberts, served in the U. S. Army from 1950-1952. Herbert was born and raised in the Roberts Switch community of Putnam County. During the Korean Conflict, he was assigned to Seoul, South Korea with an Engineering Battalion building runways for the Air Force. *Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.*

JIMMY RAY ROBERTS, JR. (#1054)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 355 – Jimmy Ray Roberts, Jr., son of Jimmy and Barbara (Judd) Roberts of the Hickey Community, served in the U. S. Air Force from 2002-2008. He married Rachel Niccole King on 19 June 2002 in Wichita Falls, Texas. Rachel is the daughter of Terry King and Rochelle (Elder Buns) King of Lancaster, Tennessee.

Jimmy Jr. was a power generation specialist in the Air Force working on power generators. He served at Aviano, Italy, Washington D. C. and Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. He had multiple deployments to Baghdad, Iraq and At Udeid Qatar in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Submitted and compiled by: Barbara Roberts, 9934 Baxter Herd Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

CMSGT TOMMY ALLEN ROBERTS (#1055)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pg. 355 – Tommy Allen Roberts, son of Clavis Kinnard Roberts and Etta Francis (Phillips) Roberts, joined the United States Air Force on 29 March 1965. After basic training at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), he attended technical training at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Mississippi. Also, while at Keesler, he returned home on leave to marry his high school sweetheart, Gracie Nell Ashburn. After graduating from tech school, Tommy was assigned to Germany for three years. At the end of his Germany assignment, he reenlisted and served over 30 years in the Air Force retiring on 1 September 1995 as a Command and Control Squadron. The unit's aircraft flew orbits over Laos and Cambodia conducting the air war into Vietnam.

In a series of increasingly responsible positions, Chief Roberts developed special experience in leadership training and education. He served in assignments as a professional military education instructor, Commandant of a Leadership School, and as a Command Chief Master Sergeant with oversight for enlisted leadership and Management education for enlisted personnel. He lectured on leadership at locations throughout the United States and overseas.

In his final assignment, he served as the Command Chief Master Sergeant of Air Combat Command (ACC), the largest command in the Air Force. He was responsible to the ACC Commander for matters influencing the effective utilization of over 130,000 enlisted members in the United States and overseas. The command's principal output was fully trained, combat ready individuals and organizations to fulfill its global, war fighter tasks. These were prime resources for conduct of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The command continues to provide well trained airmen to conduct the Global War on Terrorism.

Chief Roberts has a Bachelor of Science degree from Troy University. His military decorations include The Legion of Merit, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Air Force Commendation Medals, Vietnam

Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross and others. He and Gracie reside at Roberts Switch, Putnam County, Tennessee. *Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.*

LIEUTENANT COLONEL TOMMY ALLEN ROBERTS (#1056)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

Pg. 355 – Lieutenant Colonel Tommy Allen Roberts, son of Tommy Allen Roberts and Gracie Nell (Ashburn) Roberts, was commissioned in the Air Force on 27 May 1992 as a graduate of the U. S. Air



Force Academy. His career has included a variety of space operations assignments, including crew and instructor time in both the Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile weapon system and the Millstar communications satellite system. His previous duty locations have included F. E. Warren Air Force Base (AFB), Wyoming; the Pentagon, Washington D. C.; Vandenberg AFB, California; Schriever AFB, Colorado; Peterson AFB, Colorado; and Maxwell AFB, Alabama. He is married to the former Marci Jo Epperson of Colorado, and they have two sons, Jacob Allen Roberts and Ryan Clavis Roberts.

Lt. Col Roberts is currently the Commander of the 4th Space Operations Squadron at Schriever AFB, Colorado. As Commander, he is responsible for the \$31 billion dollar Milstar satellite system. The squadron provides the complete range of secure, survivable, strategic and tactical communications for the president, Secretary of Defense, combatant commanders, and global warfighters.

Lt. Col Roberts has a Bachelor of Science degree from the Air Force Academy and three Masters degrees from Lesley College, George Washington University, and the Air Command and Staff College. He is a Distinguished Graduate of the Air Force's Squadron Officer School, as well as the Air Command and Staff College. His military decorations include three Meritorious Service Medals and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He, Marci, and their boys currently reside in Peyton, Colorado.

Story by: Lt. Col Tommy Roberts, 9114 Oakmont Road, Peyton, CO 80831.

VIRGIL ROBERTS (#1057)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.



Pgs. 355 & 356 – Virgil Roberts, son of Winfield Scott Roberts and Elizabeth (Franklin) Roberts, was born on 9 April 1884 at Roberts Switch. He served with the U. S. Army for a few years prior to World War One. He left home without telling anyone where he was going. Later it was discovered that he had joined the Army. We don't know the exact years, but he was in the Army when his mother died in 1910.

Virgil was first married to Effie Austin, daughter of Bill Austin and Amanda (Wallace) Austin. He and Effie had one son, Howard. Howard passed away without leaving any descendants. After Virgil and Effie were divorced. Virgil married a woman, Lora, who was called "Mom", that he had met in Louisville, Kentucky where he operated a card game in the back of a pool-hall.

Virgil died on 18 November 1969 and is buried in the New Home Cemetery in Boma.
Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

WILLIAM EUGENE ROBERTS (#1058)

Source: Heritage of Putnam County Tennessee – 2008 by Putnam County Heritage Book Committee and County Heritage Inc.

Pg. 356 – William Eugene Roberts, son of William Daily Roberts and Pearl Dona (Kinnard) Roberts was



born at Roberts Switch, Putnam County Tennessee on 16 January 1921. He served in the U. S. Army from 27 October 1942 until killed in action on 18 July 1944. After induction at Fort Oglethorp, Georgia, he was assigned to the 83rd Infantry Division, Headquarters Company, 330th Infantry, 3rd Battalion. The Division began training at camp Atterberry, Indiana in 1942. In July and August of 1943, the Division participated in the Second Army maneuvers in Tennessee where Eugene met and courted Dorothy “Dot” Brown. Dot is the daughter of Bradley Huston and Virgie (Helms) Brown. She was born and raised in the Lafayette Community of Putnam County. In September 1943, the 83rd Division moved to Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky where it trained for the remainder of 1943 and the first two months of 1944. Prior to shipping out to England, Eugene and Dot were married on 5 February 1941. The Division departed the United States on 6 April 1944 and continued intensive training in England and northern Wales. After the Normandy invasion, Eugene was killed in action at Dalton, a town near Saint Lo, France during the battle for that city. The 83rd Division GIs raised the American flag in Saint Lo on the 18th of July, the day Eugene was killed.

Story by: Tommy A. Roberts, 9575 Roberts Road, Silver Point, TN 38582.

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