

Name: _____
Address: _____
_____ Zip _____

Telephone: () _____

Email address: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Print choice:

7th WVa. Inf. Monument _____

1st WVa. Cav. Monument _____

3rd WVa. Cav. Monument _____

1st WVa, Arty. Monument _____

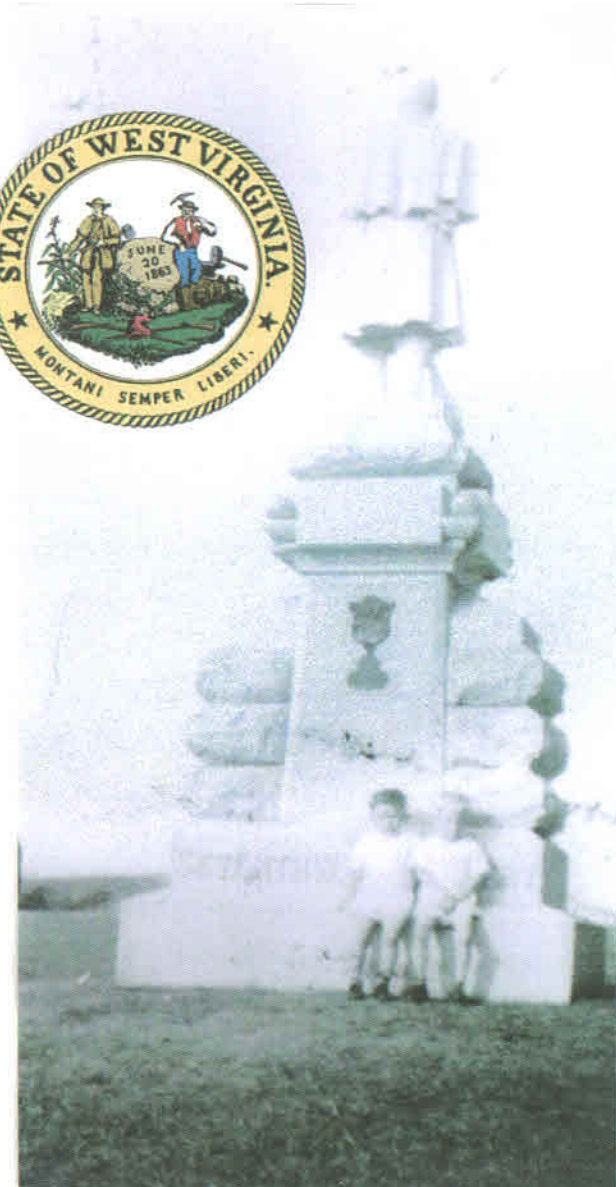


Please!
Preserve the
7th West Va. Inf.
Monument at
Gettysburg

*Make checks payable to the
Casteel Sculptures, LLC, Gettysburg
Monument Preservation Fund.
Sorry, no credit cards can be accepted.*

Send donations to:
Casteel Sculptures, LLC
PO Box 246
Cashtown, Pa. 17310

(717) 387-0461
garycasteel@comcast.net
www.garycasteel.com



In 1950, at the youthful age of 4, my parents along with my brother and I made a two day visit to Gettysburg. The purpose was a family tradition, to see the national park and walk the battlefield, but, more importantly, to visit the sites of the West Virginia regimental monuments. This was the first of many visits I would make over the next 60 years, eventually to return and live near the battlefield.

Being born in Preston County, West Va. of a farming and coal mining family, vacations were rare if ever. The family joke was that we did not have a whole lot, but we did have the family history. That history, so important to us, was passed from generation to generation. We all knew the good, the bad and the ugly of our familiar offspring, and we regarded each story as if it were a dividend of being called Casteel.

The War Between the States had its own special place in the hearts of the family. Many Saturday evenings, in the winter, sitting around the old burn side stove while drinking coffee or tasting some of Dad's special brew and feasting on my mother's latest pie or gingerbread cookies, the war would make its appearance with stories of my Great Grandfather who served with the 3rd Md. Potomac Home Brigade, the Union army. Eventually, other Casteel relatives would become part of the adventure; in particular, those who served at Gettysburg, in all, four, both North and South. Summer in the mountains and its occasional warm Sunday afternoons would serve as an opportunity to share

the dramatic event of the march to Gettysburg as relayed to us by my Father, to him from my Grandfather, and to him by his father, the veteran. Of all the past told and retold throughout the clan, Gettysburg had a very special place in our hearts.

Now, after living, visiting, and working at locations around the world, along with my interest in the history of my family's Civil War past, I reside in Cashtown, Pa. just west of Gettysburg. With over 1300 monuments within the Gettysburg National Park honoring those valiant soldiers North and South, four are dedicated to those who served from West Virginia, the 7th WV. Inf. on E. Cemetery Hill, 1st W.Va. Cav. on Taneytown Rd., 3rd W.Va. Cav. on Buford Ave. and the 1st WV. Arty, Batty. C in the National Cemetery. Of these monuments, all, except the 7th Inf., are in excellent condition considering they were installed over 125 years ago. The 7th Inf. monument is missing 4 granite cannon balls due to past vandalism.

As a professional sculptor, historian, and veteran, my goal, with the help of the people of West Virginia and the monument maintenance staff of Gettysburg Nat. Park, is to replace the missing granite cannon balls and return the monument to its former glory during the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, 2011 – 2015.

The cost of the 7th WV. Inf. monument restoration effort is \$1000.00. Once the funds are raised, I will obtain the granite balls and work directly with the Park staff on the installation. After the project is complete, a monument rededication date will be announced to all contributors.

To this end, your help is needed; a contribution of any amount will further the cause and bring about the former dignity of the monument honoring the 7th at Gettysburg.

For a contribution of \$25.00, you may choose one of the signed giclee prints of the West Va. monuments at Gettysburg; these I have created for the fund raising effort. Each unframed print, signed by the artist, is approx. 12" X 12" with a title block below the drawing identifying the unit. All proceeds, except that which is required to produce the print and the cost of shipping, will go toward the restoration effort.

Please help to preserve the legacy left by those from the mountains who fought at Gettysburg.

Montani Semper Liberi

Thank you!

