



Indiana Supplement

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Michael Robbins KCT, GC

SKs Dwight Lanman, PGC, and George Kivett, HPGC

Indiana loses two PGCs

SK Dwight E. Lanman Jr. KCT, PGC



LANMAN

ANGOLA, Ind. — SK Dwight E. Lanman Jr., KCT, PGC, died June 16.

A member of Angola Commandery No. 45, Lanman served as Grand Commander of the Grand Commander Knight Templar of Indiana 1991-92.

He was also a founder of the Tri-State Festival, which annually has brought together Companions and Sir Knights from Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, to confer the Royal Arch and Cryptic Mason degrees and the Orders of Templary upon candidates from all three states.

“I know that Dwight’s main Masonic interest was York Rite,” said SK Paul Friend KCT, a neighbor and fellow Past Grand Commander. “Dwight sup-

ported the organizing and ritual assignments for the Tri-State Festival for 35 years. He could perform a ritual part in all York Rite degrees. His personality was like a magnet when Masons would assemble. If you saw a group of Masons and there was laughter, Dwight was in that group. He certainly will be missed in northeast Indiana.”

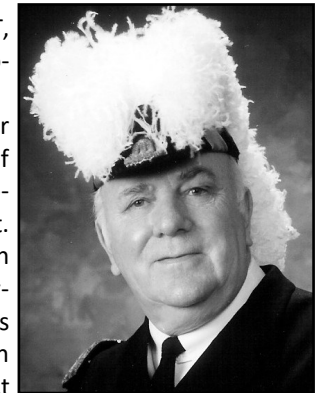
One of his favorite projects was a constant collection of donations from the general public for the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. In a 2017 interview, Lanman said Angola Commandery put before-and-after photos of young KTEF patients on plastic containers, then put those containers on counters of businesses along U.S. 20. The result was about \$1,000 per year in external donations.

SK Lanman was cremated. His funeral was June 19 at Weicht Funeral Home, preceded by a Masonic Memorial Service and a Templar Honor Guard.

SK George D. Kivett Jr. KCT, HPGC

INDIANAPOLIS — SK George D. Kivett Jr. KCT, KTCH, HPGC, 90, called “the winningest drill captain in history,” died June 9.

A member of Raper Commandery No. 1, Sir Knight Kivett had a national reputation as one of the finest and most accomplished drill team captains in the history of the Grand Encampment. From 1970 until 2007, with a brief interlude in 1998, Kivett captained the Raper drill team. During that time he took his team to nine triennials and led them to national championships in seven of the nine years including six in a row. At the 2006 Houston Triennial, Sir Knight Kenneth Fisher, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, presented Sir Knight Kivett with a beautiful replica Civil War saber and pronounced him the number one drill captain in the United States.



KIVETT

Kivett was one of a handful of Hoosier Sir Knights to receive both the Knight Templar Cross of Honor and the Knight Commander of the Temple honors. He was also named an Honorary Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana in 2006, a very rare honor.

SK Steve Barton, KCT, PGC, PDC, who served Indiana as Grand Commander in 1990-91, now a member of Greenfield Commandery, served for years as drill captain of the former Knightstown Commandery No. 9 drill team. Under his direction, Knightstown — which merged into Greenfield — fielded a 31-man “A Team,” while Raper fielded a 21-man “B Team.”

“George and I were both very competitive people,” Barton said. “We never competed at national level, but we competed against him a few years at state level. At one competition, Knightstown beat Raper by a few points. His wife always filmed the competition, and after George reviewed the films he called me and said ‘You formed the Passion Cross like an A team (9 SKs on the crossbar) rather than a B team (6 men on the crossbar). You should have lost 6 points!’”

Off the drill floor, Kivett was happy to teach the fine points of drilling, Barton said. “He’d invite all drill captains up to his room, and his instructionals would last until 1 a.m.,” Barton said “But on the floor, competition was competition!”

Sir Knights formed an honor guard for Kivett before his private funeral at Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Home. Then, at the cemetery, they formed an arch of steel as HPGC Kivett’s casket was carried between the lines.