

## **FACTS REGARDING GLENWOOD**

**The original burial ground of the Collinsville community for the first 75 years of the community's existence. Contains the graves of all the founding fathers.**

**Ground donated in 1822 by William Collins, original pioneer.**

**First burial was Michael Squires, a workman on the Stephen Johnson farm in 1822.**

**Two Revolutionary War soldiers are buried here. Also, 90 Civil War veterans, one Confederate soldier and seven Afro-American Union Soldiers are also interred. Along with these gallant men are buried three from the Black Hawk War, four from the Mexican War, and three from the Spanish American War.**

**Grave of Arthur Fletcher, coach of the New York Yankees.**

**Grave of Angeline Beidler who went to Washington, D.C. to plead for the life of her son from Abraham Lincoln. Request granted.**

**Inventory of graves are on file with the Historical Society at Court House in Edwardsville, IL.**

**Yearly dividends received on endowment are insufficient to cover yearly cost of \$12,000.00 a year for mowing. Additional money needed for upkeep.**

**Half a million dollars is needed in our endowment to guarantee the future care of Glenwood Cemetery.**

**Designating an amount in your estate would help guarantee the future of Glenwood.**

*For further information: [Glenwood Cemetery.Com](http://GlenwoodCemetery.Com)*



**Original Burial Ground  
Of  
Collinsville Community  
Since 1822**



Our special thanks to—

V.F.W. Post 5691 for providing the Honor Guard for today.  
American Legion Post 365 for providing the flags used to decorate the graves.  
Boy Scout Troop 93 and Venture Crew 93 chartered by Meadow Heights Baptist Church for placing the flags at the graves of our veterans. Special thanks to Warren Carter for directing this project.  
Readers for the script for the four divisions of our service today:  
Revolutionary War—Rev. Ann Pitman  
Civil War—Dan Murphy  
I World War—Jim Brickey  
II World War—Larry Krupp  
Lisa Neal for conducting the acappella singing at our service today.  
Mayor John Miller for reading the Proclamation.  
Collinsville Area Recreation District for providing the tent.  
First United Presbyterian Church for providing the chairs and lectern.  
Herr Funeral Home for providing the public address system and paying for the printing of our commemorative booklets.  
Mel Jones for playing Taps.  
Dr. Lloyd Shaw for writing the script for our commemorative booklet. Extra copies are available free as souvenirs from the Glenwood Friends Committee.

Friends of Glenwood Cemetery

## GLENWOOD COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

May 26, 2012—10:00 A.M.

*The One Hundredth and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Civil War*

Opening Statement Dr. Lloyd E. Shaw, Chairman, *Friends of Glenwood Cemetery*  
Honor Guard—Presentation of Colors V.F.W. Post 5691  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Reading of Proclamation Mayor John Miller

### IF THESE STONES COULD SPEAK!

As we gather on this Memorial Day weekend, we gather to honor all those who have gone before us. They lived and died and now are a part of our ancestral roots. As we seek to reach back to them in remembrance, let us join together in singing a song which would have been familiar to them so long ago.

### Shall We Gather at the River

*Verse:*

Shall we gather at the river, Where bright angel feet have trod.  
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God.

*Refrain:*

Yes, we'll gather at the river. The beautiful, the beautiful river;  
Gather with the saints at the river That flows by the throne of God.

We have gathered here among these graves to identify with those who have gone before us. If these stones could speak, what would they say? One over there has on it the name of the founder of this community. Let us listen as I read a summary of that person's life and activity at the beginning of this community.

My name is William Collins. I was born in Litchfield, Connecticut in 1760. In 1777, as a lad of seventeen, I fought with Colonel Meigs' Connecticut Regiment in the battle of Guilford, Connecticut where I shot a Hessian mercenary. My fellow Revolutionary soldiers are buried here near me.

After the war, I learned a trade, married, and raised a family. In 1822, I journeyed with my family over the National Road running from Cumberland, Md to St. Louis. It was an arduous trip by Conestoga wagons over approximately one thousand miles. It took us nearly three months to complete. A few other settlers had already homesteaded on the bluffs above the river valley overlooking St. Louis. My sons decided to develop a community here consisting of various businesses. They opened a distillery, a grist mill, a saw mill, a tan yard, a store and a shoemaking shop. Although the original name of the community was called Unionville, when it was finally plotted in 1837, it was found that there was already a Unionville in Illinois. So the name was changed to Collinsville in honor of their father.



I watched the original generation of pioneers who had traveled over the Cumberland Trail and the National Road: mayors, midwives, farmers, doctors, housewives, teachers, young and old, live and die around me. They are now all here buried around me as silent guardians of the past whose hopes and aspirations are being enjoyed by the present generation.

Names of the Revolutionary soldiers buried in Glenwood

*William B. Collins* Four plaques are located here by the Daughters of the American Revolution recognizing the following men whose exact burial spots are unknown.

Robert McMahon—John Long—Elihu Mather—Henry Revis  
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The next large collection of stone monuments represents veterans who fought in the Civil War. A monument to their honor is erected next to the Collinsville city office building. Only a small portion of those who struggled to preserve the Union are buried here. According to historical records, approximately two million men volunteered for military service. Collinsville township provided an allotment of 365 men. Of those, many of them are now resting in some battlefield graveyard somewhere across the nation. It might be in the military graveyard at Bull Run, or Chancellorsville, or Vicksburg, or Richmond, or Gettysburg. In each major battle, thousands of soldiers were lost in those deadly engagements. A wave of nostalgia sweeps over us as we contemplate the struggle which they endured. To identify with those feelings, let us join in singing that mournful song which was sung around a thousand campfires by soldiers as they awaited the battle on the following morn.

### Tenting On the Old Camp Ground

*Verse:*

We're tenting tonight on the old camp ground, Give us a song to cheer.  
Our weary hearts, a song of home And friends we love so dear.

*Chorus:*

Many are the hearts that are weary tonight, Wishing for the war to cease;  
Many are the hearts looking for the right To see the dawn of peace.  
Tenting tonight, tenting tonight, Tenting on the old camp ground.

Of all the brave men who served in the Civil War, ninety of them are buried here in this hallowed ground of Glenwood. Right down there at the brow of the hill is the grave of Lt. N. H. McKeen, a Congressional Medal of Honor winner. He lead a cavalry charge in the battle of Stones River near Murfreesboro, TN in 1862. Three hundred and three men of his cavalry unit died out of a force of six-hundred and sixty-six men. Lt. McKeen was wounded there and eventually died from his wounds.

Their stories and struggles are documented in many letters and papers written by men facing battle. A letter written by Corporal Oliver C. Look, who is buried right over there, tells his wife of his anxiety and fear while he was stationed in Camp Butler in the summer of 1862.

A more descriptive letter of his personal struggle was written by his commanding officer as the Illinois regiment faced the Confederate lines around Chattanooga. On the night before the battle, Col. Tim O'Meara wrote this letter to his brother in New York:

Headquarters 90<sup>th</sup> ILL Vol's  
Chattanooga, Nov. 23, 1863

Dear John,

After a march of two months length from Vicksburg, we find ourselves situated and encamped in front of the Rebels. We arrived here yesterday after making one of the longest marches made during the war. It would be very interesting and entertaining to you if I could describe the incidences that transpired during our very long journey. Time, however, will not permit a detailed account at present. Instead, I have to communicate this intelligence that on the morrow we meet the enemy to fight the great battle of the war. Tonight we cross to the East bank of the Tenn. River. Be not alarmed about me. If it is my lot to fall I cannot have avoided it. If I am spared, it will be another proof of Almighty God's goodness and mercy to me. If the former should take place, I appoint you in behalf of my family to look after my affairs. Tell my Mother and Mary to pray for me. If I am killed, I want at least a dozen masses offered up for the welfare of my soul. Poor Mother will feel worried over this. I wish you could keep it still until after you ascertain the result. If I live, I will write in a very short time after the fight. I write this by the light of a log fire. I cannot say much more. I was never in better health, thank God.

To my poor dear Mother and my affectionate sister I send my warmest love. Say to them that my hopes are high. I am proud of being a Union soldier. Victory must crown with God's assistance in tomorrow's labors and if the sacrifice of my life is necessary to gain it, it will be offered freely for after that victory the Union is saved and a lasting peace is sure to follow. To all my friends and acquaintances I send kind regards. If I have enemies I send them defiance in life, forgiveness in death only—

To you my brother everything  
Tim O'Meara  
Col. Comd. 90<sup>th</sup> Regt. Illinois

The following morning, the armies of the North and South clashed and the Union cause prevailed. Nevertheless, thousands of Union soldiers lay dead on the field of battle. They had given their lives for the preservation of the Union.

From Chattanooga, the Illinois Volunteers moved eastward until they joined Grant's army in Virginia. There they battled until General Lee surrendered at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.

On this one hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of that Civil War, it is well for us to remember the words of Abraham Lincoln which he spoke on the occasion of the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery. He said: ...“The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but we can never forget what they



did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."

By our seeking to preserving this historic cemetery, and the graves of ninety of those Civil War veterans who struggled to preserve our nation and make all men free, we, members of the Friends of Glenwood Committee, are attempting to remember what they did and why we should further their endeavor. In unison, let us arise and repeat together again solemnly the pledge of allegiance to our native land: *I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

Names of the Civil War veterans buried in Glenwood

<i>William Henry Altman</i>	<i>August C. Hampton</i>	<i>John Pointer</i>
<i>John W. Anthony</i>	<i>William H. Hedden</i>	<i>Mathias Pollack</i>
<i>J. Artis</i>	<i>Frederick Hoge, Sr.</i>	<i>Howell Prosser</i>
<i>John R. Babbs</i>	<i>Reuben Howard</i>	<i>Charles M. Purdy</i>
<i>James Edmund Bailey</i>	<i>Frederick Johnson</i>	<i>Rev. J. R. Reasoner</i>
<i>Henry J. Baker</i>	<i>Moses Joiner, Sr.</i>	<i>Edward H. Rechner, Sr.</i>
<i>Wesley Beaver, Sr.</i>	<i>Christopher Killinger</i>	<i>James Henry Rhodes</i>
<i>Rev. Freidrich Peter Beidler</i>	<i>John Killinger</i>	<i>William Schultz</i>
<i>Louis Boening</i>	<i>James Harvey King, Sr.</i>	<i>Andrew J. Stoner</i>
<i>Philip J. Bohnenstiehl</i>	<i>Henry R. Kingsbury</i>	<i>Simon Strasdas</i>
<i>James H. Border</i>	<i>William U. Kingsbury</i>	<i>Andrew Sutter</i>
<i>Arthur James Bostick</i>	<i>Charles Henry Kraft</i>	<i>Silas Thomason</i>
<i>Issac Brown</i>	<i>William Lacher</i>	<i>Dr. George Thompson</i>
<i>Warren Case</i>	<i>Jacob LaSurs</i>	<i>Leander Tilton</i>
<i>Benjamin Chappel</i>	<i>Jeremiah I. Lawson</i>	<i>James Turner</i>
<i>John Carol Clark</i>	<i>Henry Thornton Lee</i>	<i>Jonathan Turner</i>
<i>James V. Cole</i>	<i>John C. Long</i>	<i>Samuel Vincent</i>
<i>Thomas C. Carey</i>	<i>Oliver Childs Look</i>	<i>Anthony Vujtech</i>
<i>John J. Daniel</i>	<i>George Miley McCormick</i>	<i>Bartholomew Vujtech</i>
<i>Joseph Lee Darrow</i>	<i>Samuel McGlukire</i>	<i>Peter Roe Wagner</i>
<i>Dr. John W. Davis</i>	<i>Nineveh Shaw McKeen</i>	<i>Solomon Ward</i>
<i>John Demerest</i>	<i>Thomas Mitchell</i>	<i>William Whittaker</i>
<i>George W. Dugger</i>	<i>John Mueller</i>	<i>Dr. Charles Wickliffe</i>
<i>Joseph N. Farmer</i>	<i>Mathew H. Morrell</i>	<i>Thomas Wilkins</i>
<i>Charles H. Flood</i>	<i>John Herman Morriss</i>	<i>John H. Willoughby</i>
<i>John William Friend</i>	<i>William H. Mottershead</i>	<i>Hugh B. Wilson</i>
<i>J.B. Gerstenecker</i>	<i>James Abbott Muirhead</i>	<i>John A. Wilson</i>
<i>Jacob W. Gerstenecker</i>	<i>Mathias Nekola</i>	<i>Dr. Henry Wing</i>
<i>Ananias Gibson</i>	<i>Anthony Neustadt</i>	<i>John M. Wolff</i>
<i>William Gower</i>	<i>Charles H. Osborn</i>	<i>William H. Thompson</i>
<i>Henry C. Hall</i>	<i>Chas. Paradee</i>	

The dreams of those men, who fought in the Civil War for a better society, continued to inspire our nation to move forward. For fifty years, our nation lived in peace and prospered. Then in 1914, war broke out in Europe. Our leaders sought to keep us out of that conflict. President Wilson won a second term having been elected on a "keep us out of war" slogan. Nevertheless, German submarines were sinking our merchant ships and interfering with our world-wide commerce. These acts of war against our merchant fleet, eventually prompted our government in April of 1917 to declare war on Germany. This conflict resulted in 126,000 soldiers killed in battle.

This time 136 young men were conscripted from Collinsville township to go to France. The rallying cry was proclaimed in the words of a familiar song. Let us sing it as we seek to identify with those doughboys of long ago.

Over There! Over There!

Verse:

Johnnie get your gun, get your gun, get your gun  
Take it on the run, on the run, on the run  
Hear them calling you and me-Every son of liberty.

Hurry right away, no delay, go today  
Make your daddy glad to have had such a lad  
Tell your sweetheart not to pine--To be proud her boy's in line.

Chorus:

Over there, over there—Send the word, send the word over there  
That the Yanks are coming, the Yanks are coming—The drums rum-tumming everywhere.  
So prepare, say a prayer—Send the word, send the word to beware,  
We'll be over, we're coming over,—And we won't come back till it's over over there.

The Yanks did come over there and the Germans were confronted with a new style of military warfare. It was called "over the top". In this style of fighting, the soldiers went over the top of the trenches and scattered out individually before the enemy guns instead of the traditional method of lining up in a solid line and marching toward the enemy. This new approach to battle decreased the effectiveness of the German's new weapon, the machine gun. This new approach to battle lead to the German defeat at Chateau-Thierry, Battle of the Marne, and later at Belleau Wood. As the German army was being swept back toward their border in defeat after defeat, the Germans sued for peace. Peace was signed in the hall of mirrors at the Palace of Versailles outside Paris on Nov. 11, 1918.

The volunteers from Collinsville contributed their share of effort to the war in France. James V. Gill wrote "A Historical Survey of the City of Collinsville" in 1964. This document is on file at our Memorial Library. According to Gill's report, about 136 men left from Collinsville for France.

The first Collinsville boy to die overseas was Leighton Evett. When the American Legion Post was organized here in 1919, it was named the "Leighton



Eyatt Post" in his memory. Altogether, seventeen soldiers died while in the service of their country.

Today, thirty-four veterans of the First World War, the War to end all wars it was said, are buried here in Glenwood Cemetery. If their stones could speak, they would tell of poison gas, artillery bombardments, and the sound of German machine guns firing. Death and destruction was evident all around them yet they charged forward with courage and determination of victory. That victory, they did obtain. We honor them by providing a proper resting place for their mortal bodies.

Names of the First World War veterans buried in Glenwood

John L. Appel	Edward S. Phillips	David J. Kingsburg
Howard H. Bailey	William R. Reid	Tony Lucci
Augustus Boemier	George Jerome Upton	Rudolph Palecek
Harry Harold Brecka	Benjamin Babbs	Thomas Ponzetti, Sr.
August Cardot	James Babbs	George Povilat
Frank Cardot	Wesley Beaver	John Trumpot
Edwin M. Fields	Walter W. Bowker	Philip T. Turner
Charles Leonard Grafe	Joseph F. Brockman	Benny Leroy Wells
Joseph Vernon Gregware	Ralph B. Conway	Edgar Leo Wrigley
Albert Hadfield	Ray D. Cox	William Yanousek
Eugene Kohler	Enid Jerome Elmore	
Joseph James Lemen	Joseph Edward Kalina	

"The war to end all wars" was not successful. Peace was established by the Treaty of Versailles but the reparations demanded by the French and English imposed on the defeated Germany planted the seeds of future aggression. Payment of reparation caused great poverty and depression throughout Germany. This social problem brought into being the Nazi party under the leadership of Adolf Hitler. German revenge and nationalism broke out on Sept. 1, 1939 when Germany invaded Poland. Within weeks, the continent of Europe was involved in the Second World War. America's involvement transpired on Dec. 7, 1941 with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

This time, ten million American boys were drafted into military service. Approximately, twenty-five hundred of these came from the Collinsville community. These men fought in either the European or the Pacific theater of war. In both areas of conflict, the longing of the soldiers was to win the war quickly and get home again. A favorite song sung by those who fought in Europe emphasized this longing in their hearts. Let us sing that song and think how it must have emotionally felt to soldiers thousands of miles from home.

### The White Cliffs of Dover

*Intro:*

I'll never forget the people I met braving those angry skies.  
I remember well as the shadows fell the light of hope in their eyes.  
And tho' I'm far away I still can hear them say, "Thumbs Up!"—

For when the dawn comes up:

*Chorus:*

There'll be bluebirds over The White cliffs of Dover Tomorrow just you wait and see.  
There'll be love and laughter And peace ever after Tomorrow When the world is free.  
The shepherd will tend his sheep, The valley will bloom again,  
And Jimmy will go to sleep In his own little room again.  
There'll be bluebirds over The white cliffs of Dover Tomorrow Just you wait and see.

Before tomorrow could come, our soldiers had to endure the sacrifice of blood, sweat, and tears. The best descriptive account of that struggle is portrayed in some of the Hollywood movies relating to our military struggle. Movies such as "Tora, Tora, Tora," "Twelve O'Clock High", "The Battle of Midway," "D-Day," and "Saving Private Ryan" depict the death and destruction our soldiers endured in order to preserve our freedom.

Fifty men from Collinsville were lost in that struggle. Their names are recorded in the records at the Collinsville Historical Museum. In addition, twenty-five veterans of World War II are buried here in Glenwood Cemetery. We must never forget their sacrifice.

Other veterans are also buried here. Five are from the war of 1812: Daniel Berkey, Matthew W. Brown, Stephen Johnson, Solomon Stayback, and Albert Whitehead; three from the Blackhawk War: Stephen W. Gaskill, W. T. Robertson, and O.O.G. Robinson; four from the Spanish-American War: Everett G. Drake, Hiram Hood, Thomas Albert Riggan, and Michael Vincent.

By the beginning of the twentieth century, other cemeteries were being utilized by the Collinsville community. As a result, we only have the graves of Louis A. Dieu, from the Korean War, and David P. Meyer from the Vietnam conflict.

Glenwood, however, had the distinction of being the first burial place for our pioneer forefathers. For the first seventy years of this community, people of all faiths, all nationalities, all occupations shared this common ground in death: English, Italians, Lithuanians, Germans, Frenchmen, Jews, Irishmen, African-Americans and others.

Thomas Gray in his poem, *An Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, immortalized the lives of those ancestors of earlier days who are buried here. He wrote of them: "Beneath those rugged Elms, that Yew-Tree's Shade, Where heaves the Turf in many a mould'ring Heap, Each in his narrow Cell for ever laid, The rude Forefathers of the Hamlet sleep."

And these graves around us were the forefathers of Collinsville. If these stones could speak, they would tell of their struggles to build this community where people enjoy life because of their devotion to a dream.

It is the duty of us the living, the benefactors of their labor, to remember and honor their resting place with love, devotion, and care. Let us acknowledge this by singing a national anthem together in closing.



## My Country, 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.  
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,  
From every mountainside let freedom ring!

Our Fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing:  
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by thy might, great God, our King

Closing Prayer

Rev. Ann Pitman, Interim Pastor  
First United Presbyterian Church

Rifle Salute

V.F. W. Post 5691

Taps

Mel Jones

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Names of the Second World War veterans buried in Glenwood

Charles E. Beaver	Robert Louis Karger	Richard S. Melville
Raymond M. Boever	Henry Roger Kingsbury	Wayne Emanuel Roper
George R. Bullock	Peter F. Nash	Wade Hampton Sanders
William B. Carlyle	James D. Pitts	Clifford N. Smith
Leo Leroy Chamness	Bernard J. Blaine	Paul N. Taylor
Irving Dilliard	Robert Lee Feagan	William Ray Whitney
Lawson W. Fletcher	Raymond D. Flinn	Clifton J. Wieduwilt
Barney H. Gillmore	Lewis J. Lazier	Stephen Elijah Wright
	John McCanna	