

Pastor's Perspective: Take a knee...



By Guest Columnist John Vaughn, Pastor, Cross Roads Baptist Church

Special to Pelahatchie News

"Take a little trip to Valley Forge in January. Hold a musket ball in your fingers and imagine it piercing your flesh and breaking a bone or two.

There won't be a doctor or trainer to assist you until after the battle, so just wait your turn. Take your cleats and socks off to get a real experience.

Then, take a knee on the beach in Normandy where man after American man stormed the beach, even as the one in front of him was shot to pieces, the very sea stained with American blood. The only blockers most had were the dead bodies in front of them, riddled with bullets from enemy fire.

Take a knee in the sweat soaked jungles of Vietnam. From Khe Sanh to Saigon; anywhere will do. Americans died in all those jungles. There was no play-book that told them what was next, but they knew what flag they represented. When they came home, they were protested as well, and spit on for reasons only cowards know.

Take another knee in the blood



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drenched sands of Fallujah in 110 degree heat. Wear your Kevlar helmet and battle dress. Your number won't be printed on it unless your number is up! You'll need to stay hydrated, but there won't be anyone to squirt Gatorade into your mouth. You're on your own.

There are a lot of places to take a knee where Americans have given their lives all over the world. When you use the banner under which they fought as a source for your displeasure, you dishonor the memories of those who bled for the very freedoms you have. That's what

the red stripes mean. They represent the blood of those who spilled a sea of it defending your liberty.

While you're on your knee, pray for those that came before you, not on a manicured lawn striped and printed with numbers to announce every inch of ground taken, but on nameless hills and bloodied beaches and sweltering forests and bitter cold mountains, every inch marked by an American life lost serving that flag you protest.

No cheerleaders, no announcers, no coaches, no fans, just American men

and women, delivering the real fight against those who chose to harm us, blazing a path so you would have the right to "take a knee." You haven't any inkling of what it took to get you where you are, but your "protest" is noted. Not only is it disgraceful to a nation of real heroes, it serves the purpose of pointing to your ingratitude for those who chose to defend you under that banner that will still wave long after your jersey is retired.

If you really feel the need to take a knee, come with me to church on Sunday, and we'll both kneel before Almighty God. We'll thank Him for preserving this country for as long as He has. We'll beg forgiveness for our ingratitude for all He has provided us. We'll appeal to Him for understanding and wisdom. We'll pray for liberty and justice for all, because He is the one who provides those things. But there will be no protest. There will only be gratitude for His provision and a plea for His continued grace and mercy on the land of the free and the home of the brave." **Attributed to Ted Nugent.**

God bless all those who serve our country and who have protected the freedoms we often take for granted. Be sure to take your family to church on Sunday.



FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service

9:00 a.m. - In Person Worship Service with Limited Seating in the Sanctuary. Overflow seating in the Fellowship Hall and Student Center. No Childcare or Sunday School. Service broadcast live on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

6:00 p.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page

Morning Devotions

7:30 a.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook Page

"The Church has not been closed...the Church has been deployed!"
(601) 546-2297 • www.crossroadspel.org

Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Carlos Diaz	71	Morton, MS	8/20/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Brenda Richardson	60	Carthage, MS	8/23/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Hazel Boykin Smith	71	Pelahatchie, MS	8/27/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Bessie Summers Ware	81	Newton, MS	8/30/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Shelby Lynn Bell	23	Forest, MS	9/2/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Billy Wooten	35	Lake, MS	9/3/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Bro. Billy Emmons	83	Lake, MS	9/3/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Laura Renee Twiner Stroud	70	Lake, MS	9/1/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Marc McDaniel	30	Flowood, MS	9/4/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Mary Lucy Monk	81	Lake, MS	9/12/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Danny "Rue" Nutt	65	Morton, MS	9/15/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Fay Weaver	87	Lake, MS	9/17/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Anne Morrow Smith Brown	89	Forest, MS	9/19/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Manning Levoy "Joe" Wicker	79	Lake, MS	9/24/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.



Pelahatchie
Baptist Church

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Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am, 6:00 pm • Wednesday Youth & Children 6:00 pm Adults 6:30 pm