



Mickey Gordon, '39, passes away

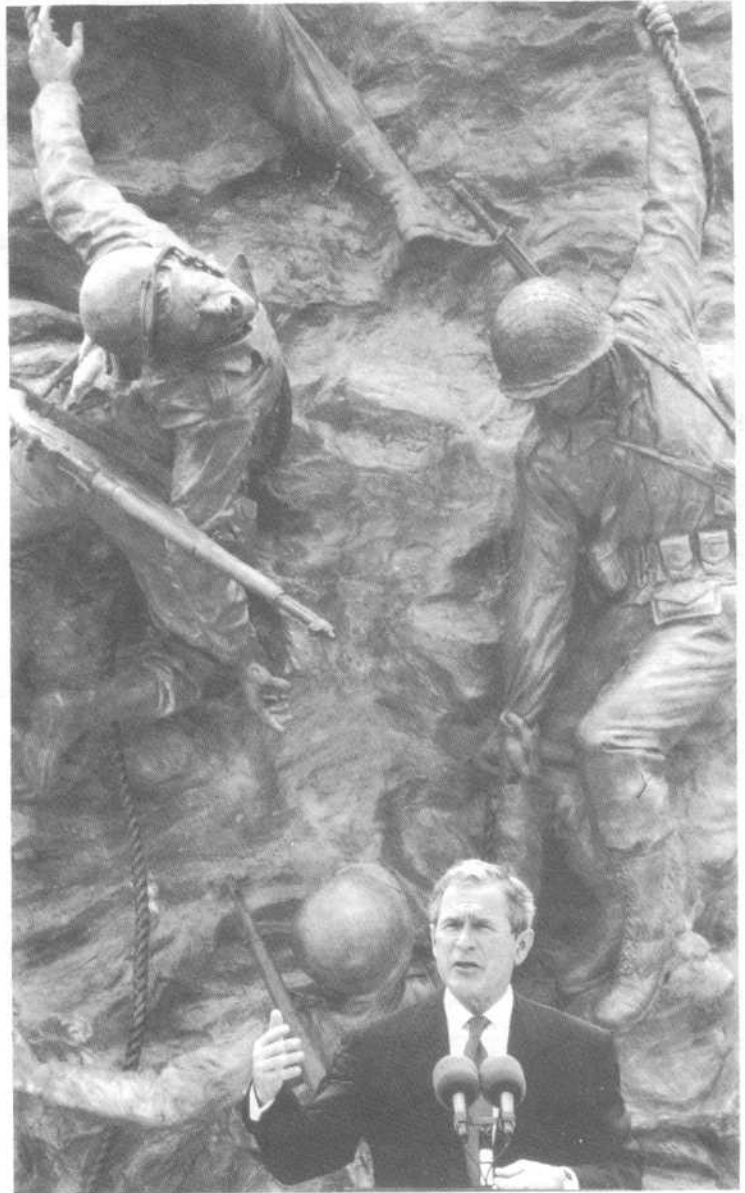
Faithful alumnus Marvin E. "Mickey" Gordon has died at age 79. Details on page 3.

President Bush was on hand to dedicate the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA last year.

Augusta alumni and friends will visit the Memorial during Reunion 2002, a reunion dedicated to all AMA alumni who are veterans of World War II.

Here, right, the President stands before a statue of Rangers scaling the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc.

Bedford suffered the highest per capita loss of life of any community in all the United States on D-Day. Of 35 Bedford men who landed on Omaha Beach, 21 were killed or mortally wounded.



Reunion 2002: something for everyone!

Seeing old friends! Visiting the D-Day Memorial, above! Playing golf or tennis! Great music and dancing! World War II equipment on display! Shooting clays! Enjoying the Shenandoah Valley! There truly is **SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE** at Reunion 2002. This issue of *The Bayonet* is a last look at this wonderful event. Return the BLUE registration form enclosed! See you in May!

**Special Pull-Out
Section on AMA's
World War II heroes**



**All the news
about
REUNION 2002**



Augusta Military Academy
Alumni Association, Inc.



Winter 2002

Dear Fellow Alumnus:

We're in the final planning stages for the May 2002 reunion. **Frank Williamson, '60**, Vice President of the AMA Alumni Association and Reunion 2002 Chair, says this will be the best reunion ever. Send in your registration today! Be sure to sign up for the trip to the WW II D-Day Memorial in Bedford on Friday, or play golf or tennis or shoot clays in organized events. **Julian Quarles, '35**, the Saturday speaker will convey a sense of pride and respect to our weekend festivities (including a fly over) and the Founders Day events will be special as always.

Recently, the Board passed a resolution thanking Liz Hash for her tireless efforts at the Alumni House/Museum. Please join us and let Liz know how much you appreciate her assistance when you see her in May.

Also, during the Board meeting we voted to move forward with the installation of more than \$8,000 in interstate highway signs telling the 1.2 million motorists who pass by our I-81 exits each month, *We have an Alumni House/Museum*. Why a Board vote, you ask? The Virginia Department of Transportation requires that we keep the Alumni House/Museum open six hours a day for six days a week, year round, or we'll lose the signs and never have the opportunity to have them installed again. We struggle now to keep the House open *four* days a week, so we have formed a five person committee (**Tommy Simmons, '53, Gordon Metz, '68, Bill Scarborough, '69, Steve Trent, '70** and Liz Hash). The committee's job is to see that an alumnus mans the House during those hours. You'll be called on to pull duty at the House. When your dates are selected, you'll receive a three-ring binder telling you all about the House, the history of AMA, the details about what is in the Museum, etc. We also have secured a special hotel rate at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center for AMA alumni. Call (540/248-3007) and schedule your time today... please.

Many alumni and their spouses spend countless hours doing things for the AMA Alumni House/Museum. We are grateful for and appreciate their work, which is performed unselfishly... because it has to be done... not because they seek attention or gratification. Please help with your contribution of time and means.

If you are one of those alumni who have the excuse that you can't find the time to help or you simply haven't done your part for the Alumni Association, the time is here to step up and get actively involved.

As I reflect on this year's theme *Over There*, I am overwhelmed at how blessed this Nation is and thankful that her sons and daughters fought, achieved and have protected our independence. I look forward to joining you at this year's reunion as we thank our alumni who served and survived World War II, and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can revere our freedoms. See you in May!

Garry Granger, '71

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



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Please provide your 9-digit ZIP code!

The *Bayonet* welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission. Clear, correctly exposed photos are welcome.

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The center section of this issue is a tribute to all AMA alumni who were in uniform during World War II. The section is designed to be pulled out and kept, if you wish to do so.

From now through 2005, every day will be the 60th anniversary of some World War II event. We will continue to look for stories about AMA alumni and faculty who served in the War. Help us accumulate these stories, if you can.

Mickey Gordon, '39, faithful alumnus, succumbs just six months after wife

Marvin E. "Mickey" Gordon, '39, who attended every alumni reunion from the founding of the AMA Alumni Association in 1970 through Reunion 2001, passed away 31 January after a two year battle with cancer. He was 79. After a funeral service, he was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 20 February next to his wife, Libby, who had died last June, also from cancer.

Flags at the AMA Alumni House/Museum flew at half staff for three days.

Gordon served as the second President of the Alumni Association in 1971-74 following the death in a plane crash of **Parker Ward**, '54, the first president. The Gordons supported the alumni association in myriad ways from accepting leadership roles to funding major parts of the AMA Alumni House/Museum. They were nearly always the first to register for an AMA event and the first to contribute to an AMA cause. In recent years, they made substantial contributions to AMA's VMI Scholarship Fund.

AMA Alumni Association President **Garry Granger**, '71, said, "Mickey never met a stranger. He was dependable because he was at every meeting and every reunion. He was accountable because he was always there to donate his time, energy and money. He was patriotic as he was sure to speak proudly about the USA and his Marine Corps. We will miss Mickey and Libby and wish for them eternity together."

The Gordons had lived in a house called "The Hayloft" near the Stone Church since 1972. Gordon was a native of Washington, D.C. and served as 1st Sergeant of B Company in his senior year at AMA. He went to the University of Virginia where he received a BA in economics in the midst of World War II. Mickey became a Marine and served in the Parachute Air Delivery Section, participating in the battles of Peleliu and Okinawa, attached to the 1st Marine Division. His unit received the Presidential Unit Citation for each engagement.

It was not difficult to get Mickey excited about anything relating to the United States Marine Corps! He was a life member of the 1st Marine Division Association, Marines' Memorial Club, the Marine Corps Association, and a director of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. He also was a board member of the Association of Survivors of Marine Parachute Units of World War II.

The war over, Gordon joined Robert C. Jones and Company in Washington in 1948. In 1957, he became a general partner in Jones Kreeger Company which was a successor to Jones and Company. In 1982, Kreeger merged into Advest, Inc. where Mickey worked as an investment advisor until his death.

He was President of the Bond Club of Washington and a charter member of the International Association of Financial Planners. Gordon was President and a life member of the Navy League of the Shenandoah Valley. He was President of AMVETS, Post 13, Washington, a plank owner of the *USS Shenandoah*, and a member of the Army and Navy and City Tavern Clubs in Washington, and of the Kiwanis Club in Staunton.

A sports enthusiast, Gordon was an Associate Member of NFL Alumni and a member of the Touchdown Club. He and Libby had

season tickets for all the home Washington Redskin games.

At AMA, he had managed the Peep football team and was on the fencing team.

Mickey was consistently on the Honor Roll at AMA, a member of the Honor Committee, and was voted into *Ad Astra per Aspera* in his senior year.

Mickey Gordon's love for Augusta Military Academy may never be equalled.



Mickey Gordon ☆ 1922-2002

The family has requested that memorial contributions be made to the AMA Alumni Foundation, Box 100, Fort Defiance 24437.

