

“Today is not a day for war heroes and veterans to proudly swagger and boast with pride of their valor in war. Heroes are amongst us...in our minds and in our hearts. Let us give Donald this day and remember him and others with fondness and pride. The young and the old. The bold and the reluctant. The husbands and sons and daughter and neighbors. The cousins and uncles and the kid down the block. Let us remember them all—from those who fell at our Nation’s first call to those whose loss is still today’s news. Too often America has called for them. Too often they have answered. Too often they have died. Too seldom do we remember. Let us now remember them all.” Robert J. Pine, USMC Viet Nam Veteran, Member of American Legion Post 18

FORMAL DEDICATION OF THE SGT DONALD H. SISSON MEMORIAL

SATURDAY, 21 JULY 2007 @ 10 AM



Making of the SGT Donald H. Sisson Memorial

American Legion Post 18 decided to honor fallen veteran SGT Donald H. Sisson by donating a flagpole and flags for the baseball fields to his alma mater, Portsmouth High School. With former Post Commander Robert T. Kain, USA (Ret.) at the helm, fund raising began in earnest. In 2005, the flagpole was dedicated in a pre-game ceremony. His father, Prescott Sisson, threw out the first pitch. In the fall of 2006, thanks to assistance provided by Norbury Construction, a monument with a bronze plaque was installed at the site. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 18 has arranged for the Portsmouth Garden Club to perpetually beautify the Sisson Memorial.



Speaker gifts provided by Elliott Storm, author of
“These Scars are Sacred.”

AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 ~ PO BOX 307 ~ PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871
www.americanlegionpost18ri.homestead.com



**Honoring the sacrifice of
SGT Donald Henry Sisson
DOB: 23 April 1948
KIA: 23 February 1969**

Donald Henry Sisson was born on April 23, 1948—the third of six children to Prescott and Rita Sisson. He enjoyed sports and was especially fond of baseball. A car enthusiast, he enjoyed tinkering with his dad's World War II-era Jeep and proudly restored a 1938 Chevy.

Donald graduated from Portsmouth High School's first graduating class in 1966. Family members and classmates describe him as quiet and content.

SGT Sisson planned to order a Corvette from a dealership in California, pick it up after his tour in Viet Nam and drive it home across the country...sadly, a trip of a lifetime that he would never make.



For more information, please visit:
<http://www.bobcat.ws/history1969.htm#sisson>
and <http://thewall-usa.com>.

SGT Sisson's name can be found on the
Vietnam War Memorial Panel 31W - Line 22.

Thank you to the Sisson Family, PHS Alumni Class of '66; the Limoge Family; Naval War College-Army Office; RI Patriot Guard Riders; Portsmouth Police Department; Portsmouth Garden Club, Cub Scout Pack #1; Boy Scout Troop #50 sponsored by VFW Post 5390; Girls Scouts of RI; Michael Jackson/Bugles Across America; Portsmouth School Department; Norbury Construction; Island Garden Shop; Naval Station Newport Public Affairs Office; Denis McDonough, 5th Infantry Chapter; musicians, speakers and others named elsewhere in this program; and everyone who participated in and attended this ceremony. A special thank you to all who have worn the uniform in service to our Country, especially those like SGT Sisson who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

0900 to 1000—Flag Collection Station/Flag Give-Away

~ PROGRAM ~

OPENING CEREMONY

- RI Patriot Guard Riders Post
- “To the Colors”—Patrick Hentschell, Bugles Across America
- Honor Guard—Portsmouth Police Department
- National Anthem—Julie Zecher
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Opening Prayer—Pastor Don Boucher
- Welcome—Vincent D’Andrea, Commander, AL Post 18

A SOLDIER REMEMBERED

- Family Remembers Donald
Immediate family members:
Gold Star Mother Rita Sisson; brothers and sisters-in-law Roger & Judy Sisson, Paul & Maria Sisson and Dave & Sue Sisson; and sisters and brothers-in-law Nancy & Donald Winning and Anne Lecuivre & Steve Young
- Samuel “Mickey” Finn (Purple Heart recipient and fellow Army “Bobcat”)
- MAJ Ron Winter, USA (Ret.) (PHS Class of '66)
- COL Gregory D. Reilly, USA (2 tours as Squadron Commander in Iraq; Instructor, Naval War College)

CLOSING CEREMONY

- “Taps”—Patrick Hentschell, Bugles Across America
- Honor Guard Retires Colors
- Folding of the Flag
- Presentation of Flag to Family
- Closing Prayer