

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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**Friday**  
September 10, 2010

## Briefly

### Volunteer meeting set for wall helpers

There will be a meeting at 5 p.m. Sunday at the American Legion for anyone wanting to help at the Moving Wall.

Volunteers are needed to work at the Vietnam Memorial Wall from Thursday, Sept. 23, to Monday, Sept. 27. If you can help call, Jon Wyatt, Director of the American Legion Riders, Post 63, at 785-202-0282.

### Donations needed for winter clothes

The Norton chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is hosting a coat drive at the football game tonight. Bring you old hats, coats, jackets, gloves, mittens and other winter wear to the game against St. Francis and help the needy keep warm this winter.

### Tailgate party planned at game

On Friday, Sept. 24, the Oberlin Business alliance is sponsoring a tailgate party before the Oberlin-Norton football game at 5:30 p.m. in the park in front of the stadium.

### Booster club holds membership drive

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will be selling 2010-'11 memberships during the Norton-St. Francis football game this evening at Travis Field.

The membership table will be located at the top of the stadium between the concessions and announcer's stands.

Single and family memberships are each \$10. New members will receive a free Blue Jay gift with their membership.

### No school Monday for Norton USD 211

USD 211 schools will not be in session on Monday, September 13 so staff and students can attend the funeral for Nan Smith. Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Norton.

## Markets

Friday, September 10, 2010

Wheat	\$5.83
Milo	\$3.83
Soybeans	\$9.43
Corn	\$4.03

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

**Tonight** - Mostly clear with a low around 46. **Saturday** - Sunny with a high near 81. **Saturday Night** - Clear with a low around 2. **Sunday** - Sunny with a high near 89. **Sunday Night** - Mostly clear.

## Kingham Report

Tuesday, September 7...Low 44, High 80  
Wednesday, Sept. 8.....Low 54, High 86  
Thursday, Sept. 9.....Low 55, High 78  
.05 Rain  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Dear God, help us to look to the future with confidence in your promises. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

# THEY DIED SO WE CAN BE FREE

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BARTON BROOKS

## Young man was first to go from Norton

*This is the first in a four-part series about servicemen killed in the line of duty.*

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

He did his duty. He served his country.

That's the matter-of-fact way Weldon Brooks, Norton, explained how his son, Bart Brooks, came to be in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Bart was the first of four Norton County servicemen to give the ultimate sacrifice during that war.

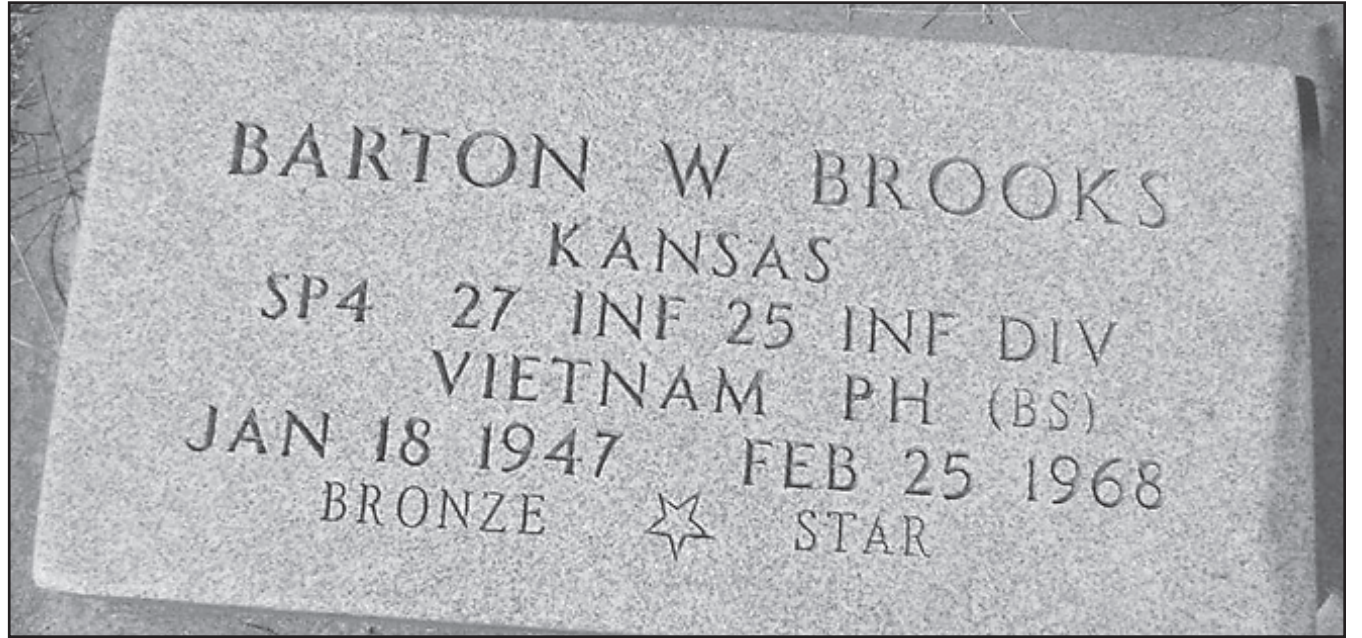
The second son of Weldon and Merrice Brooks, Bart graduated from Jennings High School in 1965 and attended Fort Hays State University before being drafted.

He took his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and his advanced training at Fort Polk, La.

He was an infantryman attached to the Big Red One Division out of Fort Riley when he was sent overseas.

His father said, "At that time there was a lot of unrest about the war. But, my father served his country; I was in World War II; we felt everyone is obligated, when it's your turn to go. You just consider it your duty as an American."

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks learned of their son's death when a warrant officer from the Norton National Guard and their minister, the Rev. Wayne Sharp,



A simple headstone marks the final resting place of a Norton hero.

came to their home. Mrs. Brooks said at first they were told Bart was missing in action.

Later, they came to say their son had been killed. The Brooks asked Steve Wright, one of their son's high school buddies, to accompany his body to Kansas for burial.

Specialist Fourth Class Brooks was killed in action in late January of 1968 while on a search and destroy mission near Saigon.

His funeral was held March 10 at the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Clayton. Services were conducted by the Rev. Sharp.

Burial was in the Clayton Cemetery. An honor unit from Fort Riley came to the burial and presented a flag to Mr. and Mrs. Brooks.

After their son was killed, members of the national news media pressured

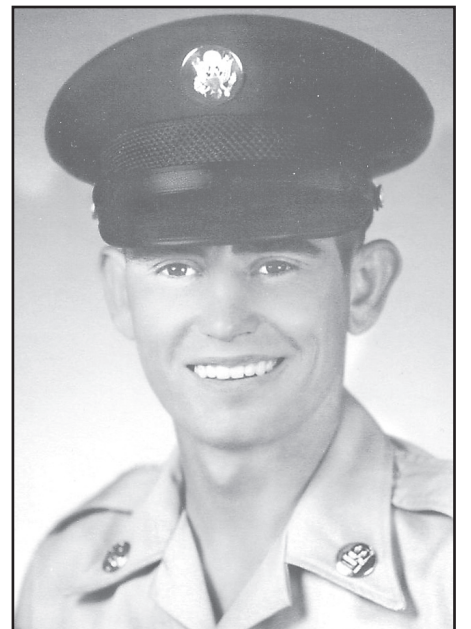
the Brooks to make negative statements against the war. Mr. Brooks said, "We wouldn't do it. We just tried to accept it as the way it was."

"We were just humble dirt farmers who lost a son. Anyone who has lost a child knows how we felt."

Mrs. Brooks added, "Without our faith, we couldn't have gotten through it."

The Brooks have seen the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall in other cities and have visited the real wall in Washington. Mr. Brooks said, "It's nice Norton is getting the wall. We are proud to see it here."

Thursday, Sept. 23, they will be participating in the opening ceremonies where they will lay a wreath in honor of their son.



Barton Brooks' service photo

# Logan attracts folks to Labor Day party

By DICK BOYD

[nortontelegram@nwkansas.com](mailto:nortontelegram@nwkansas.com)

The 34th annual Labor Day Celebration was held Sunday on the golf course in Logan and attracted another crowd of people from a wide area who enjoyed the full, full day of a wide variety of fun events and entertainment.

The celebration began early with the Radio Control Fly-in for model airplanes coordinated by Mickie McElroy. The crowd enjoyed the acrobatics and demonstrations of technique by the 14 pilots and 40 planes.

Pilots were present from Mankato, Hill City, Russell, La Crosse, Natoma, WaKeeney, Palco, Logan, Wilcox, Neb. and Funk, Neb.

Mickie has been flying model airplanes for 22 years.

The Logan Chamber of Commerce sponsored Church Service began at 8 a.m. Troy Buss of the Logan Christian Church was in charge of the service, which was well attended by approximately 50 persons.

**Sand Volleyball**

Sand Volleyball began at 9 a.m. with Brandon and Tina Gehring as coordinators.

"Fifteen teams were represented and played at a fast pace," said Shirley Henrickson, director of the Dane G. Hansen Museum, sponsor of the event.

Champions of the tournament were the "Out of Towners". Team members were:

Josh Schemper, Kirk Girard, Clark Cox, Beth McDonald, Tammy Girard, Peggy Cox and Jodi Bretz.

The runner-up team was the "Ultimate Machine". Team members were: Chad Lenker, Jesse Pfortmiller, Nick Rhodes, Stephanie Pfortmiller, Kaley Rhodes and Kellie Henderson.

Third place winner was "Sets on the Beach". Team members were: Mike Howell, Kyle McClurg, Zach Long, Megan Howell, Shelley Kemper, Mara Huck and Kaitlyn Noone.

Inflate-o-Fun from Inman set up a 22-foot slide and climbing wall for youths and they spent all day enjoying them.

**Boy Scouts**

Boy Scouts entertained the youths from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with a tomahawk throw, bow and arrow range and sling shots. A pinewood derby was held from 1 to 2 p.m. for present day scouts and former scouts. Winners were: Michael Daniels, first; Dawson Goble, second; Trey McGraw, third. Slow Poke winner was Caden Shellito and Cole Wenzl received Best of Show. Rob Wenzl won the Open Class Division. Other participants in the scout group were A.J. Grammon, Mason Nichol, Caden Slate, Mason Higer, Chase Slate, Tycen Hilger and Ian Sparks. Other Open Class participants were Nichol Family, Chad Hammons, Ryan Grammon, Sam Pinkerton and Ryan Prewo. **(Labor Day - Continued on Page 5)**



Children had fun all day during the Logan Labor Day Celebration going down the 22-foot slide. For safety's sake, only one child was allowed to slide down at a time but the supervisor allowed these four to go down side-by-side to have their picture taken. They are, from left, Shantell Zeiters, Graci White, Logan White and Brynlee Pollock. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

## Judge to assist Supreme Court

William B. Elliott, chief judge of the 17th Judicial District, will sit with the state Supreme Court Wednesday, Sept. 15, to hear appeals in five matters on the Court's docket.

The Supreme Court appointed Judge Elliott to join them in place of Chief Justice Robert E. Davis, who died Aug. 4. Judge Elliott is completing his ninth

year as a district judge. He has been chief judge of the 17th Judicial District, which includes Decatur, Graham, Norton, Osborne, Phillips, and Smith counties, since his election to the bench.

He will hear oral arguments in five criminal cases and then participate in the high court deliberations and opinion **(Judge - Continued on Page 5)**

## Norton man killed in car crash

Wednesday afternoon at 5:40 p.m. on U.S. Highway 383 at mile marker 73.4 a one vehicle accident claimed the life of Eric E. Bell, 38, of Norton.

Mr. Bell was traveling west on U.S. 383 when his 2002 Oldsmobile Bravada skidded into the south ditch. The vehicle went over a driveway, became airborne

and rolled. Mr. Bell was ejected and was rolled over by his vehicle.

He was transported by Norton County Emergency Service to the Norton County Hospital where he was pronounced dead by Dr. Jeffery McKinley.

The accident was investigated by the Kansas Highway Patrol.

