

Oberlin honors veterans

Men who served in World War II get recognized

The cemetery was packed and the red, white and blue seemed to fly a little higher Monday.

It was the annual Oberlin Memorial Day celebration, which meant that instead of two or three American flags flying over the graveyard, there were some 380, each one donated by the family of a deceased veteran.

Guns from many of the nation's wars were set up for the crowd to view. A wreath was placed at the monument and a few words were said.

Oberlin American Legion members, who organize the event, decided this year to honor those known as the Greatest Generation — those who fought in World War II.

At least 58 veterans, all men, showed up to be honored. They were called to be recognized and be seated and pictures were taken of the veterans, all survivors from the nation's greatest struggle.

Commander Walter Pennell said he thought the ceremony had gone well, even without a speaker. There was a large crowd at the cemetery, he said.

"We tried something new, the weather was good and it just all came together," he said. "That doesn't mean we won't have a speaker in the fu-

ture, but it did go well without one."

Next year, said Mr. Pennell, they may try to do something with Iraq veterans, or they may ask someone who served during the war in Iraq to speak.

World War II veterans who were honored included: Donald Wasson, Wally Marcuson, Russell Rhodes, Paul Wray, Rhomine Smith, Howard Janousek, Elmer Kathka, John Lamb, David McGee, Sylvester Meitl, Donald Scott, Dale Carlisle, Bob Ridgway, Elmer Zodrow, John H. Ready, Glenn Martin, Lee Waldo, Harold Walton, Eldon Black,

Jerry Schuetz, Vernon Haas, Charles Corcoran, Dean Groneweg, Walter May, Howard Mace, Gail Marcuson, Eldon Smith, Cloyce Harold, Fredrick Reith, Norman Gallentine, Martin May, Dale Young, Arthur May,

Elmer Lawver, Calvin Ufford, Lloyd Emerson, Harwood Kolsky, Gene Van Otterloo, Gene Leitner, Herschel Betts, Varlan Neal, Darrell Landau, Jack O'Toole, Johnnie Richards, Lawrence Wenger, Ray Lohofener, Don Claussen, Bill Woods, Ivis Hanson, Albert Unger, Delbert Townsend, Byron McCarty, Murlin Krizek, Harry Eiler, Jerald Leitner, Val Beneda and Don Fredrickson.



STANDING AT ATTENTION, Jerry Harris of Herndon (above) was part of the honor guard during Memorial Day ceremonies at the Oberlin Cemetery on Monday. After the service, Warren and Jan Bainter (below) admired a rifle and helmet display, which was set up around a simulated World War II grave marker.



Photos by Cynthia Haynes



THE FIRING SQUAD stood at attention after giving a salute for the honored dead at the Oberlin Cemetery on Monday.