



American Legion Post 201

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### **WW II Vet to be Honored With Memorial Brick On Old Soldiers Day**

Paul Lowry was a husband. He was the father of five children. He was the grandfather for 10 and great grandfather for nine. And he was a member our nation's "Greatest Generation" - - - those who came of age during the Great Depression and fought in or significantly contributed to World War II, and are celebrated for their contributions to rebuilding America after the war.

But he chose, upon his death, to have his ashes scattered on the football field of Seacrest High School in Boynton Beach/Delray Beach, Fla. However for nearly three decades his second child, Cheiri, along with her sister and three brothers, harbored the thought that he should be honored somewhere (other than in the hearts and minds of the members of his family) for his service during World War II.

"He was my inspiration and I think now is the time for his wartime service to be recognized," said Cheiri Lowry.

That honor will be accorded to him on Old Soldiers Day at Post 201. At 10:30 a.m. Saturday, along the Walk of Memories, a memorial brick honoring Major Paul L. Lowry (Sept. 7, 1916 – Oct. 29, 1994) will be placed among other World War II memorial bricks in a brief ceremony. ([Click here](#) to see Lowry online photo page.)

#### *A Look at Paul Lowry's Life*

Paul's wartime service started when, at 24-years-old, he was drafted and stationed initially at Ft. Snelling, Minn. However, he was transferred to Aviation Cadet School, taking his pre-flight training at Kelly Field, Tex.; Bombardier

training in Midland, Tex., Navigation school in Hondo, Tex., and Radar Instructor training in Boca Raton, Fla.

He earned his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant on Nov. 25, 1942 and remained on active duty with the U.S. Army Air Force until May 7, 1947. After being commissioned, he had a variety of training assignments at various East Coast locations until he was transferred to the 97th Bomb Group in Italy in July 1944.

From then until the War in Europe ended in May 1945 he flew 49 missions as a B-17 Flying Fortress bombardier/navigator with the 97th. He flight record credits him with a total of 287 hours flying time in B-17s, with 237 of those hours recorded as “combat time.”

He returned to the states in May 1945 for a one year, serving with the 3501st Army Air Force Base unit in Boca Raton. Then it was back to Schweinfurt, Germany in April 1946 to an assignment with the 355th Fighter group until he returned to the states and left active duty for civilian life on May 7, 1947. However he couldn’t make a total break from the military as he continued to serve in the newly established USAF Reserve until he was honorably discharged on Sept. 27, 1955 from Hq, Continental Air Command, in Denver, Colo.

His awards and decoration include the Air Medal with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the European–African–Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 2 bronze battle stars, the Rome/Arno Campaign Star, the Southern France Campaign Battle Star, one overseas service bar, the Victory medal, and the German Occupation ribbon.

As a civilian he, like so many of his generation, turned the page to the next chapter of their live. He went to work in the plumbing and heating department of Sears, Roebuck & Company, initially in Champaign, Ill. and retiring from the company’s Palm Beach, Fla. location in 1971. Retirement didn’t sit well with him so he spent the next 10 years serving warrants for the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s office.

But it’s the memories of him as a father, not a military veteran, which his family treasures. “He was adamant that his children should all attend college - - - and we did,” Cheiri said. “I still have the letter he sent congratulating me on my graduation from Illinois State,” she added.

She also carries other memories of him. She said he could do a ‘wicked’ imitation of Jackie Gleason’s signature catchphrase, “And away we go!”. It’s a phrase which became one of the most famous lines in television history. And in true Jackie tradition, his musical repertoire included singing his version of “Lulu’s Back In Town” as well as reciting the poem “A Farmer’s Life.”

Perhaps the last four lines of that poem testify to why Paul Lowry was a member of the Greatest Generation:

When Spring rolls around, I’ll take another chance,  
While the fringe grows long on my old grey pants,  
Give my ‘spenders a hitch, my belt another jerk,  
And, by heck!, I’m ready for a full year’s work!

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Schedule

**OLD SOLDIERS DAY OPEN HOUSE**

Saturday, Aug. 2 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- 10 a.m. – Alpharetta Brass Ensemble
- 10:30 a.m. – Opening Ceremony on Walk of Memories
- 11 a.m. – Clubroom/Bar Open to General Public - \$1off on Bloody Mary cocktails for the entire day
- 12 noon – Food for Sale at Concession Stand
- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. – VA Reps Available to Meet & Provide 1-to-1 Guidance to Vets on First Come, First Served Basis; New Membership Info & Renewal for Legion, Sons of the Legion & Auxiliary; Volunteer Sign Up Opportunity
- 4 p.m. – “Truths and Myths about the Vietnam War” - a 47-minute documentary Honoring Those Who Served
- 6 p.m. – Open House Day Concludes

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## ~ Auxiliary News Notes ~

**Purple Heart Day Ceremony** - - Auxiliary Unit 201 will hold a brief service Thursday, Aug. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Purple Heart Memorial on the Walk of Memories to honor those Vets who have been awarded the Purple Heart. Light refreshments will be served in the Clubroom following the ceremony. RSVP to Ellen Terrell-Youngblood at 678-462-9003 or email her at [eftot57@gmail.com](mailto:eftot57@gmail.com) All drinks at the bar will be reduced by \$1 for veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart. [Click here for more information.](#)

**Bingo Attendance Record Set** - - The number 102 was a good number at this past Sunday's Bingo at the Post afternoon. "102" was the new record-attendance head count and "102" was also the age of the oldest Bingo player that afternoon. At the other end of the age scale, the youngest person in the room was three-months-old Tatum. Guess this is a testimony that one is never too young to start learning the game.

But before the Post hears from gaming folks at the State, rest assured that Tatum was not playing. However, at three-months-old we wonder just how close Tatum may have been to being 102-days-old on that Sunday afternoon. Unfortunately, no one thought to run that calculation.

Also don't forget: the next BINGO Sunday afternoon at the Post will Aug. 10. Play starts at 2 p.m. So arrive early to buy your cards and get settled in for the 2 p.m. start time.

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## ~ Post News Notes ~

**Driving Training at the Post** - - Starting Monday, Aug. 4 the local office of Drive Smart Georgia will begin using a portion of the back parking lot next to the fence and the FODAC storage container to teach parallel and back-up parking. Training will be seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. except on Friday, Saturday and Sunday when training will be halted at 6 p.m. to open up parking for weekend evening events. The spaces will be marked off with cones. But a word to the wise - - - Drive with care and SLOW DOWN when making that left hand turn into the back lot.

**Post Needs Hands On Volunteers** - - Grounds and building maintenance, party/special event planning, general

administrative help, helping with specific activities, you name it. The Post is always in need of and looking for volunteers who can give some time to help make the Post better. Drop by the Ballroom between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Old Soldiers Day and visit with Penny Kumpf. She'll be at a volunteer sign up table. Let her know you're available and can give some time to the Post, how or where you'd like to help, and what time windows can you can generally be available.

**Weekend Custodian Job Still Available** - - The Post is still looking for a part-time custodian who can work Saturday and Sunday mornings and plus additional days at times depending on scheduled activities at the Post. Details are posted on the bulletin board in the Clubroom. If interested contact the Post at 770-475-9023 or email [americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com).

**Clubroom/Bar Special Drinks for August** - - Old Soldiers Day, Saturday, Aug. 2, Bloody Mary Special. \$1.00 off the regular price. Don't forget: the Clubroom/Bar will open at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 4, Coast Guard birthday. \$1.00 off all rum drinks. Thursday, Aug. 7, Purple Heart Day, \$1.00 off all drinks for all Purple Heart recipients.

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## Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

***Every Sunday at 7 p.m. - - Karaoke in the Clubroom/Bar.***  
*Lots of Laughs, Good Times, and even Greater People.*  
*Libations at a much better price than downtown!*

***9-Ball Pool Tournament, 2 p.m.***  
***Every 3rd Sunday in the Clubroom/Bar***

**VIEW FEATURED  
POST EVENTS**

**Sunday, Aug. 3, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Shuffleboard Tournament.** Entry fee is \$10 per person. A signup sheet for those interested is posted on the black board in the Clubroom. Six were signed up to play as of Tuesday afternoon

**Monday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Game Nite in the Clubroom.** Come play. Various board games and card games will be set up. This is a no-cost, no-wager, fun way to spend an evening at the Post.

**Thursday, Aug. 7, 6 p.m. Purple Heart Day.** All drinks at the bar will be reduced by \$1 for veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

**Thursday, Aug. 7, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.**

**Sunday, Aug. 10 and 24 at 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom.**

**Tuesday, Aug. 12, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, Aug. 19, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** Complimentary dinner served starting in the 6 p.m.

time frame.

**Saturday, Aug. 23, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. SAL Spaghetti Dinner.** The SAL will be preparing and selling Spaghetti Dinner Boxes (at \$15 per box). The meal includes spaghetti, meat sauce, meatballs, salad, and garlic bread. No word from the SAL yet on whether a signup sheet will be posted in advance, or if they're just going to be ready to dish-it-out to all who show up and order it that evening.

**Wednesday, Oct. 15. 8th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament,** at the Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. A flyer is posted in the Clubroom with more information. [Click here](#) to see the online version. The SAL will start having golf tournament planning meetings at the Post every other Wednesday after the July 4th weekend. Meetings will be on 8/6/25, and 8/20/25. After Labor Day meetings will be every Wednesday: 9/3/25, 9/10/25, 9/17/25, 9/24/25, 10/1/25, and 10/8/25. All meetings will start at 6:15 p.m.

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**CLUB 201 DANCE -  
LEARN MORE**

## VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the [Resource Page](#) at Post 201's website, [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) for a significant amount of information concerning various resources available for veterans. You'll find a Survivor Assistance Checklist, Benefits for Georgia Veterans, Burial at Sea Information, Veteran's License Plates Information, Emergency Housing Information Guide and many other resources.

**Past Issues of the Post's E-newsletter - [Click here](#).**

**Veterans Crisis Line**

**Call 988 and Press 1 or Text 838255**

**Visit [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)**

**VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387**

**Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022**