



Orton T. Begner

September 15, 2016

Chili: Thursday, September 15, 2016, age 72. Orton was a graduate of Webster High School in 1962 and received a Bachelor degree from State University at Albany and a Masters degree from State University College at Brockport. Certified as 7-12 Social Studies Teacher, he taught at Gates Chili for 32 years. He is remembered by his students for his many living history demonstrations. Orton was an avid military historian who was published in several military history journals. A longtime Civil War reenactor, he was currently a member of 140th NYVI. He was Director of the Military History Society of Rochester and worked regularly at the museum. He was a collector of both Civil War and World War I militaria and enjoyed sharing his hobby with friends all across the country. He also enjoyed gardening and was the volunteer head gardener at the Susan B. Anthony House. The biggest joy in his life was his 2 granddaughters. He is survived by his wife, Pat Buchan Begner; son, Owen Begner; daughter-in-law, Colleen Czerwiec Begner; grandchildren, Olivia and Emma Begner; sister, Noreen Goodman (Gil Goodman) all of Rochester; cousins, nieces, nephews and many very good friends. Orton was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Lorraine Niles Begner.

Friends may call at the Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home, Sunday 4-7. Funeral Service, Monday 10 AM at the funeral home. Interment, Grove Place Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Military History

Society of Rochester, Susan B. Anthony House or American Heart Association. Condolences may be left at: www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

GS

“ I had hope to reconnect with my favorite teacher and tell him what an impact he had on my life. I was deeply saddened to see he had passed but will be forever grateful for the passion for history he gifted me. Even though this is very late I want his family to know they are in my prayers, especially Owen who I remember from high school.

Greg E Solomon - February 03, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Orton was a good friend. I always enjoyed speaking to him at military shows and sharing stories about World War One veterans and relics. I cannot properly express in words how much I will miss seeing him at the shows. God bless him and his entire family. "There's a Long, Long Trail A-winding...."

Mike Willey - September 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I was a student of Mr. Begner he was my history teacher at Gates-Chili High school. To the family I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Begner was my favorite teacher. He had away to make me love history. I do to this day because of him. I am truly sorry for your loss. Kathleen Dickey Class of 1988.

Kathleen Measday - September 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Pat & Owen, I want to share my deepest sympathy with you and the entire family. Orton was a kind man and a wonderful part of our neighborhood. I have many nice memories of him from childhood all the way to a few months ago when he lent a helping hand - as he was always willing to do. He will be missed.

Sandi Baly Middleton - September 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ I only recently met and got to know Orton through Civil War and Militaria shows over these last three years. He was a quiet, polite man and, like myself, an avid collector of Civil War photography. He was someone I wish that I'd known much earlier as we always had much to talk about when we spoke together at shows. We both shared a mutual love of American history and the study of our Civil War. I will miss him greatly. He has gone on far too soon. God bless him and I wish to extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Karl E. Sundstrom - September 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Pat, Owen & Colleen - We are saddened to hear of Orton's passing. It was a pleasure to have spent time with him at the lake. God Bless and our prayers are with you and your family at this sad time of loss.

Bob & Marie Loran - September 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ I am sad to hear of Mr. Begner's passing. He was a great teacher and taught me more than just history, he taught me to work hard and success will follow. When I think back to my highschool days he is one of the first teachers I remember. Please know he will be missed but his memory will live through his years of teaching. Please accept my deepest sympathy. I live in New Hampshire and am unable to make the wake or funeral.

*Pat Robertson
Class of 1987*

Patrick Robertson - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ Orton was such a gentle, curious, loving man. He held love as his source and brought love forth in his interactions. He will be so sorely missed.

elizabeth osta - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ I have known Orton Begner for over 30 years. During that time he has been a friend and colleague to me. His knowledge of history knew no boundaries, and I consider him a mentor. From our time together in the 64th NY Reenactment Organization to our time together volunteering for the Military History Society of Rochester, I will always cherish our endless conversations about military history and life in general. In addition, my wife and I are extremely grateful for all the expert gardening advice and assistance we received from Orton over the years. Truly an expert in his field, I will always marvel at the lives he has touched over the years. We offer our condolences and sympathy to Pat, Owen, Coleen and his entire family. May God Bless.

Michael & Carolyn Vasile - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ To the family of Orton Begner:

I want to express my sympathy over Orton's death. I enjoyed meeting him at his 70th birthday party and have heard such wonderful things about him from his sister, Norene. He will certainly be missed but will live on in your hearts and minds. My prayers are with you at this sad time. God bless.

Jeanne Sloan - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ To Pat and Family. Orton was a friend of some 40 years in the world of militaria collecting and in particular WW1. He will be missed in the trenches by his fellow WW1 Collectors and Historians. Our deepest condolences and sympathies are extended to his wife Pat and everyone in his family. Fairwell my friend, Hayes and Lia Otoupalik, Missoula, Montana

Hayes Otoupalik - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of this loss. My condolences to Owen and the entire Begner family. I have to say that Mr. Begner left his mark on me. I have always been a lover of history and social studies, but he truly made it come alive through his engaging and challenging teaching. He was a wonderful teacher and friend to his students, and I remember his sense of humor and kindness. The Gates-Chili community will never be the same. Thank you for sharing him with all his students over the years. He will be fondly remembered and sorely missed.

Traci Hamm - September 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Shocked and saddened at the passing of a man I truly loved. Orton will always be my 1st Sgt! Until we meet again to rest in the shade of the trees and talk for hours. I wonder...do they play The Rolling Stones in heaven? You will be loving it! Prayers for your family. It is definitely a sorrowful time.*

Jim Fraboni - September 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *To my old friend may we meet again on the other side and talk about reenacting and other things my god bless you Orton on your long journey*

Frank and Barbara Cutler - September 17, 2016 at 12:00 AM