

# *Veterans Day Program*

**November 11, 2022**

**Honor Time: 11 A.M.**

*Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery*

**“Just a Common Soldier”**

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,  
And he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,  
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.

And tho' sometimes, to his neighbors, his tales became a joke,  
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer for old Bill has passed away,  
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,  
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.

If we cannot do him honor while he's here to hear the praise,  
Then at least let's give him homage at the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say,  
Our Country is in mourning, for a soldier died today.

**A. Lawrence Vaincourt**

**Cemetery Staff**

**\*Terry Wright \*Marcel Desper \*Harry Harvey \*Ronald Miller  
\*Jamaine Palmer \*Shawn Treherne \*Kevin Leftwich \*Duane Allen  
\*Mario Jackson \*Kevin Mason \*Kent Brewer \*Oscar Casillas**

**Welcome**

Dimitra A. Johnson, Superintendent

**Master of Ceremony**

Lonnie Upchurch- Chairman Cemetery Trust

**Invocation**

Rev. Ben Nelson

**Present the Colors**

Military Order of Purple Heart, Chapter 2222

**Pledge of Allegiance**

ALL

**National Anthem**

Victoria V. Prince, Master Chief Petty Officer, US Navy (Retired)

**Introduction of Special Guests**

Lonnie Upchurch-Chairman Cemetery Trust

**Proclamation**

Mr. Michael Raymond, Cheltenham Cemetery Trust

**Congressional Respective Representatives**

Senator Ben Cardin

**Keynote Speaker**

Mr. Andrew Holloway

Chief Master Sgt. US Air Force Retired

**Wreath Laying**

Lonnie E. Upchurch

Military Order of the Purple Heart

**Memorial Firing**

Maryland National Guard Honor Guard

**Taps**

Dough Sorensen, US Navy (Retired)

**Benediction**

Rev. Ben Nelson

**Retire the Colors**

For further information about the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs and our Cemetery Program, please visit our website at [veterans.maryland.gov](http://veterans.maryland.gov).