



Washington High School Alumni Association

207 Oak St. S. E.- Massillon Ohio 44646

Telephone (330) 832-1224

Dear Washington High School Alumni,

You are cordially invited to attend the Washington High School Alumni Association Annual Meeting, which will be held on Thursday April 14th, 2011 at 4:00 PM in the Massillon Recreation Center Community Room, located at 505 Erie Street, North, Massillon, Ohio. All WHS alumni are invited to attend. The speaker will be Rudy Turkal.

We will be pleased to introduce the class of 2011 Distinguished Citizens. This year's Honorees are Gerald Graybill (1942), Graydon Eckard (1964) and Bobby Grizzard (1978).

Gerald O. Graybill WHS DISTIGUISHED CITIZEN



HONORED IN AREAS OF: Government Service/FBI

EDUCATION: Earned a B.S. in education from Ohio University in 1950 and went on to complete his FBI training in 1963.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: For two decades, **Graybill** served as a civil-rights agent for the FBI. He was assigned to a facet of the organization that was assigned by Congress to specifically handle matters of civil rights.

He began his career with the FBI in 1962 and was immediately thrown into the middle of the civil-rights turmoil. **Graybill** spent a good deal of his career as an agent assigned to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. During the demonstrations in Birmingham, Ala., **Graybill** was among those agents assigned to monitor the situations.

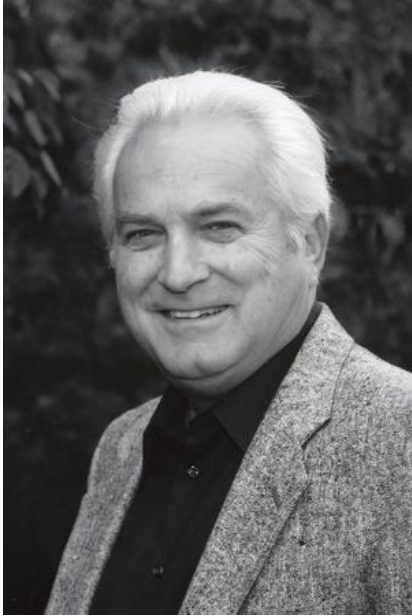
When King was assassinated, **Graybill** was one of the agents assigned to investigate.

Locally, **Graybill** had an impact as a federal agent. In 1978, he played an integral role in a gambling investigation that resulted in a prison term for five restaurant employees and the Perry Township police chief. One year later, he helped to capture a felon destined for America's Most Wanted list.

AWARDS AND HONORS: Received Man of the Year Award from the Massillon Lions Club in 1981 and appointed Canton city safety director in 1982.

SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT **GRAYBILL**: In 1985, **Graybill** was voted into the Stark County Amateur Sports Hall of Fame for his participation in fast-pitch softball teams.

Graydon M. Eckard WHS Distinguished Citizen



MASSILLON —

Graydon M. Eckard

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

HONORED IN AREAS OF Design, construction and military service.

EDUCATION Earned a B.S. in industrial design from Kent State University in 1968.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE As owner of Eckard Construction, Graydon has established a reputation that has people waiting in line to have him design and build their dream home. Some have waited up to four years.

After graduating from Kent State University, Eckard served in the United States Navy and flew 207 missions in Vietnam, including 167 over North Vietnam.

It was, perhaps, Eckard's military service that proved more than anything the strength, grit and determination he held. As a pilot with the U.S. Navy, Eckard survived two aircraft mishaps.

He suffered severe injuries in the summer of 1969 when he was forced to eject from the aircraft and his parachute did not deploy. Initially, doctors were concerned that he would not survive the injuries sustained from the fall, but Eckard beat the odds.

The second incident occurred over Hanoi, Vietnam. While piloting, Eckard's aircraft was hit by a surface-to-air missile (SAM) weaponry but he managed to safely and successfully land his damaged plane back aboard the aircraft carrier.

SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT GRAYDON Eckard was on heck of a football player. He played wingback and defensive back for the Tigers and, in 1994, was voted one of the best to play the positions for Massillon between 1960 and 1969. He went on to play football for Kent State University.

Sports have always been a big part of Eckard's life. While his football days may be behind him, Eckard is an avid golfer – he has three holes-in-one to his name – and snow skis as often as possible.

AWARDS AND HONORS Served as president of Alpha Tau Omega at Kent State University; Named "Who's Who" in U.S. Universities in 1967-1968.

Bobby Grizzard WHS DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN



WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1978

HONORED IN THE AREA OF Law enforcement

EDUCATION After graduating from Washington High School in 1978, Grizzard attended Northern Iowa Community College, earning a degree in 1980. He later attended the University of Akron from 1984 to 1985 and went on to the Medina Police Academy in 1986.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE As a detective with the Massillon Police Department, Grizzard has committed his career to investigating crimes against children and sex crimes. He began investigating sex crimes with the department in 1994 and became a member of Stark County Sex Abuse Task Force that same year. In recent years, Grizzard became an expert in investigating Internet sex crimes; he remains a member of the FBI's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Grizzard's success in investigating Internet sex crimes has garnered local and national attention. He has been featured in WKYC-TV 3 series "Parent Over Shoulder" and, 2007, was featured in the NBC series "To Catch a Predator" hosted by Chris Hansen. Grizzard remains proactive in his work and works to educate children about the dangers of the Internet.

AWARDS AND HONORS Grizzard received the Dawn Marie Hendershot Award in 1998 and was named Stark County Community Officer of the Year in 2000. In 2006 he was featured and

recognized for his work on the Geraldo Rivera show and was nominated for America's Most Wanted All-Star Award one year later. Also in 2007 Grizzard was named the VFW Ohio Officer of the Year and the Knights of Columbus Blue Coats of the Year.

SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT GRIZZARD When he isn't wearing the badge and digging into his cases, Grizzard can be found behind the camera lens. As an amateur photographer, Grizzard takes advantage of every opportunity to snap some pictures.