

News and stories

New marker installed for Medal of Honor recipient Antoine Gaujot

Aug 17 2018

Kyle Lovern | [Herald Dispatch](#)

WILLIAMSON, W.Va. - It is rare for two brothers to both win the Congressional Medal of Honor - the highest award the United States gives to someone who has served in the military.

The city of Williamson, West Virginia, has two Medal of Honor recipients: the Gaujot brothers, Antoine and Julien. Antoine is buried at the Fairview Cemetery, which is located on a steep hillside in West Williamson, and Julien is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Fellow Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams, of Huntington, helped get a new marker placed on Antoine's grave. There will be a special ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Williamson cemetery to officially dedicate the new upright marker.

Cpl. Antoine A. Gaujot, 27th U.S. Infantry, swam to obtain a canoe under heavy fire at San Mateo in the Philippines on Dec. 19, 1899.

Capt. Julien E. Gaujot, 1st U.S. Cavalry, crossed a field under gunfire to receive the surrender of Mexican Federals at Agua Prieta, Mexico, on April 13, 1911.

Both brothers graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Williams said Williamson residents should be very proud of the two Medal of Honor recipients. He hopes that many citizens will attend the dedication.

John Toney, a veteran service officer with the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance, helped Williams with finding the grave site and getting the new monument.

The national Medal of Honor Foundation paid for the marker. Volunteer veterans from Huntington and Veolia with the city of Williamson placed the new marker and prepared the grave site for the ceremony on Saturday. The event will go on rain or shine.

The ceremony will include an invocation by the Rev. James Bolen, then opening remarks by Williams, Mayor Charlie Hatfield and Kyle Lovern, the editor of the Williamson Daily News. There will be a final salute by the Huntington Marine Corps League Honor Guard with a rifle salute and taps.

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