



ORIENT: LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE
SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

Lexington, Massachusetts, September 21, 2018

TO ALL FREEMASONS OF THE ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
OF THE OBEDIENCE OF THIS SUPREME COUNCIL

PEERS AND BRETHREN:

ILL.: NORMAN RAY BUECKER, 33°

Active Emeritus Member for this Supreme Council for the state of Illinois, died on Monday, October 1, 2018.

Ill.∴ Norman Ray Buecker, 33°, was born on January 2, 1925, in Springfield, IL, the son of Fred William Buecker and Adda Beth Bradley Buecker. He was educated Springfield school system.

Brother Buecker served his nation during World War II in the United States Army. Also, he was the owner and operator of Norman's Plumbing and Heating.

On February 10, 1951, he was united in marriage to La Dean Spence, who predeceased him. Together they had two children who survive: Nancy Beth Buecker and Bradley Joe Buecker.

Bro. Buecker was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church, where he served on the church council.

Our Illustrious Brother had a distinguished career in Freemasonry:

SYMBOLIC: Raised a Master Mason in Tyrian Lodge No. 333, of Springfield, IL on February 23, 1949. He served in all lodge offices and was Worshipful Master 1960-61.

GRAND LODGE: Brother Buecker was District Deputy Grand Master, 1965-67, and was on the Board of Grand Examiners, 1967-71. In 1979-80, he served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. From 1981-88 Bro. Buecker was Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge.

CAPITULAR: Exalted in Springfield Chapter No. 1 R.A.M. in Springfield, Illinois.

CRYPTIC: Greeted in Springfield Council Council No. 2 R.&S.M., Springfield, Illinois. In 1961-62, he was Chaplain.

CHIVALRIC Knighted in Elwood Commandery No. 6, Knight Templar, Springfield, Illinois. He served in all Commandery offices and was Eminent Commander in 1968-69.

SCOTTISH RITE: Completed the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Springfield, Illinois on April 18, 1949. In 1965, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Award. In the Springfield Chapter of Rose Croix he was Most Wise Master, 1973-75.

SUPREME COUNCIL: On September 1, 1970, he was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council on September 29, 1981, at Philadelphia. He became an Active Emeritus Member September 26, 2000, at Pittsburgh. He was Deputy for Illinois for eight years, from 1992-2000. He was Grand Treasurer General for seven years between 1989 and 1995. In 2009, Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton presented him with the Medal of Honor.

He served on the following committees:

Pension and Retirement Board	1981-1986
Masonic Education & Program Development	1982-1988
Rituals & Ritualistic Matters	1990, 1993-2000
Administrative Council	1991-1996

He was a member of the following Masonic bodies:

Ansar Shrine A.A.O.N.M.S., Springfield, IL.

Philalethes Society.

Quattuor Coronati Lodge of Research.

High Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

York Rite College No. 42.

St. Edward Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine. Puissant Sovereign.

In 1979, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America honored him with the Purple Cross.

For his work on behalf of the Order of DeMolay, particularly as chairman of the Advisory Council of Stephen A. Douglas Chapter, he was awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay.

Masonic services were held on Thursday, October 4, 2018, in the Staab Funeral Home in Springfield. Religious services followed, with interment at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

It is hereby directed that this Balustre be communicated to each Body of the Rite, and be suitably mentioned at the first meeting after its receipt.

May our Heavenly Father have him in His Holy Keeping.

 D. A. G. [Signature], 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

Attest:

 Thomas R. [Signature], 33°
Grand Secretary General