

27 May 2024

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY SPEECH
PARK HEIGHTS CEMETERY

By Tim Wilson, Historian
Steadman-Keenan American Legion Post 96
Brunswick, Maryland

Good morning, everyone! Thank you for attending this very, VERY special occasion!

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Tim Wilson. I am the Historian for Steadman-Keenan Post 96, Brunswick, Maryland, United States of America.

Steadman-Keenan Post 96 is named for two Brunswick natives, Harold Steadman and Alvey Keenan who entered the military 107 years ago, answering their Country's call in 1917 during World War I. Although serving in separate outfits, both Steadman's and Keenan's units were sent to France in 1918.

Both were killed with 14 days of each other in separate stages of the Battle of Meuse-Argonne, the defining and decisive battle of World War I.

Harold Steadman was buried in France. Alvey Keenan's body, however, was returned to his hometown of Brunswick. He is buried here--where we are all standing--at Park Heights Cemetery. His gravestone is appropriately marked with the American flag down the hill.

Corporals Harold Steadman and Alvey Keenan are just two of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have given their lives for us----FOR US----so that we may have the opportunity to live our lives as free Americans today.

Thank You