



Highway Patrol Communiqué - 29 January 2018

Greetings Highway Patrol Friends & Colleagues

The new year has been cold and wintry in my part of Northern Virginia. I just read an email from a former colleague from my early police department days. He was grouching that he was looking for a sweater as it was only supposed to reach 75 degrees at his home in Phoenix. I guess it is a matter of perspective, but my perspective is that I am still chilly.

TAPS I received an email which advised that "**Eugene O'Gara**" has passed away!". A check of our HP records revealed that Eugene had been assigned to Detachment A – sub post in Alsfeld during 1954-55. I sent condolences and requested any further details or information. I received this subsequent reply: "Thank you, my father didn't talk much about his time in the army. My niece was doing research so that is how I found you, he passed away on July 9 2007! Originally from central Islip NY, then moved to new Smyrna beach Florida! I have a picture of him in his snow gear, operation ski jump 11/abn Jan. 1954. He got in a bad accident in his patrol car, was hurt pretty bad. Lost his knee cap and many broken bones, that ended his military career! He went back to Long Island got married and had 4 daughters and myself, he became a union carpenter and retired at the age of 55. They moved to Florida where he passed away from a brain tumor, thank you for responding! I know there are pictures somewhere, will send if I find them. Stay well and thanks to all of you for watching out for us!"

F.Y.I. Alsfeld is a smaller (population approximately 16,000) older (dating back to around the 10th century) medieval town located in the center of [Hesse](#), in Germany. Large towns nearby are [Bad Hersfeld](#) about 33 kilometers (21 miles) to the east, [Fulda](#) 36 kilometers (22 miles) to the southeast, [Gießen](#) 47 kilometers (29 miles) to the west and [Marburg an der Lahn](#) about 36 kilometres (22 miles) to the northwest. Alsfeld is located on the upper part of the [Schwalm](#) in the northern [Vogelsberg](#) and just to the south of the [Knüll mountains](#) at the western edge of the Alsfeld basin. [[Wikipedia](#)]

Another reported **TAPS**. I have received word from Jerry Hawkins, Rockville, MD, jc.hawkins@outlook.com, that he had "received a call from Eugene Hughes' wife, Otilie who informed me that Eugene passed away on December 30, 2017.

Eugene M. Hughes was a Pfc and Sp4, assigned to Det. A in -Darmstadt, in

1957 -58. Jerry added, "He is survived by Otilie and a son and a daughter. I was saddened to hear this news but he had been in gradual failing health. A good man and a good member of the 62nd family. We had remained in touch since leaving Darmstadt in 1959."

Webmasters note: Remember to keep both Eugene's families in your thoughts and prayers. Both names have been appropriately noted on our web pages and on our membership rolls. Our ranks continue to thin.

Following the posting of the last communiqué (26 December 2017), I have also received messages from several of our members that were sending replies or "checking in".

- ▼ Ron Harp, Wolcotville, IN & winter in FL, rah386@gmail.com. Ron advised, "I was chosen to go on the honor flight out of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. What a great experience, hope all can do the same. Thank you so much for the latest info." **Webmasters note:** If/when more information is received, - it will be passed on to the group.
- ▼ Roger MacDonald, Lewiston, ID, macdonald212@yahoo.com sends greetings to all and provided info regarding his law enforcement career.
- ▼ Gene Klompus, Vernon Hills, IL, klompus@sbcglobal.net, advised "prior to my service in the 62nd Highway patrol, I served several months in the 540 MP Battalion (Railway Guard) in Munich. I was transferred from that outfit to the 62nd ... a blessed experience!"
- ▼ Paul Elmstrom, Delray Beach, FL, cpcus@aol.com, also checked in. It is always good to hear from our group.
- ▼ George Blumenfeld, West Hills, CA, georgegb12@hotmail.com, provided information regarding his law enforcement career after leaving the HP.

Webmasters note: I am still gathering information for a future article regarding those former HP members that had law enforcement careers after the HP. So far the incoming information is very sparse. I would like to include all of those that were so involved, but I need input.

I have attached the list of member's names that are known, to thought to be remaining in our group. As mentioned in other missives, this listing is small, and as we have had no contact with some for a very long time, it may not be accurate. I have sent several letters to some, and have made many phone calls (sometimes repeated calls) to others, however, I have not been able to add to the list. **PLEASE** look over the list. You may have communicated with some of these folks. Kindly advise if you know that an individual has moved, or may no longer be with us! Far too many no longer make contact, so it is quite difficult to keep our list maintained and up-to-date.

I will be happy to provide you with the address and/or phone number of any individual (s) if you so desire. Just let me know. Your help in updating or "cleaning" the list is always appreciated.

Larry



[Webmaster - 62HP.org](http://62HP.org)

Should you no longer wish to receive these Communiqués, please advise the webmaster - [DROP ME](#).