



(L-R): Bud Johnson speaking with husband and wife duo Stan and Martha Warth, all three World War II Veterans.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson

Memorial Day ...from Page 1A

Vietnam Veterans are dying at a rate of 390 a day due to Agent Orange exposure, and he urged Vietnam Vets who have not already filed with the VA to find a veterans' service organization or service officer to help them register.

"If you don't want to do it for you, do it for your family," said Lipphardt. "The reason I say that is because it's not just the veterans who are suffering from Agent Orange. It is their children. And it's still being traced."

Added Lipphardt: "When I hear Congress speak to, 'We can't do enough for our veterans,' that's a fair statement. Unfortunately, they need to get started. They think

they've gotten started, but there is so much more that needs to be done."

Veterans of all military branches, ranks, wars and conflicts dating back to World War II attended the Memorial Day Service that day, and the event featured many patriotic observances.

Bart Rodgers, commander of VFW Post 7807, welcomed guests to the ceremony, and Post 7807 Chaplain Dwight Moss led those gathered in prayer.

Pam Leslie asked the audience to join her in singing the national anthem, and later in the program, she and members of the Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church choir performed "Blades of Grass

and Pure White Stones" by U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch.

The North Georgia Honor Guard proudly posted the colors that day and contributed a gun salute to fallen heroes, and the following local service organizations conducted the Laying of the Memorial Wreaths:

VFW Post 7807 and Auxiliary, American Legion Post 23 and Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 23, Marine Corps League Unicoi Detachment 783, and the Army-Navy Squadron 66.

At the end of the service, Moss invited everyone to sing "Happy Birthday" to Rodgers, who graciously accepted everyone's well wishes.

Following the ceremony, Post 7807 invited everyone back to the post for a courtesy lunch.



The highly patriotic Memorial Wreaths during the May 28 service.

Photo by Lowell Nicholson