

*OMD Presentation for SCR 19 - RE: In memoriam: Brigadier General James Burdette Thayer, 1922-2018.*

Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Williamson & Wilson, and members of the Committee.

I am Major General (Retired) Dan O'Hollaren. I am a former Commander of the Oregon Air National Guard which I held prior to my last assignment as the Air National Guard Assistant to the 4-star Commander of *Air Force Materiel Command*, at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH.

Currently, I continue to serve at the state and national level, supporting the Board of Directors of the *National Guard Association of the United States* in Washington, DC as well as being a member of the *Oregon National Guard Association* Board of Directors. I am also the Chair of the *Oregon Military Museum Support Council* as a volunteer within the Oregon Military Department.

On behalf of the Oregon National Guard members past and present I would like to offer my full support of SCR19 which recognizes Brigadier General James Burdette Thayer for his service to his state and nation.

I first met Gen Thayer several years ago at a senior leader seminar hosted by our then Adjutant General Fred Rees. Though his reputation as a proven leader in the Army, the National Guard and the community had certainly preceded him, I had yet to have the privilege of speaking with him. Gen Thayer personally sought me out to introduce himself and to chat on the state of the Oregon National Guard. Very quickly, two observations were evident: Gen Thayer was still fully engaged in the issues and opportunities within our state and his vision and insight were remarkable. He clearly had the best interests of our state and nation in the forefront of his thinking.

I continued to remain in touch with Gen Thayer on matters related to the National Guard and welcomed his advice and counsel. He was never without an opinion on any given issue! Reflecting back on his life, two character traits stand out: integrity & service. He was the quintessential citizen soldier, serving his nation with valor in times of war and his state in times of peace while serving and excelling in his community. Gen Thayer is most deserved of this proposed recognition.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts about General Thayer this morning.

*Quil B. O'Hall*

MAJ GEN (Ret)