



# City of Marlborough Office of the Mayor

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2020 JUL 16 AM 11:11  
Mayor G. Vigeant  
Nathan R. Boudreau  
EXECUTIVE AIDE

Patricia Bernard  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

July 16, 2020

City Council President Michael H. Ossing  
Marlborough City Council  
140 Main Street  
Marlborough, MA 01752

## Re: Disbursing Clerk 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Harold Cole

Honorable President Ossing and Councilors:

I wanted to provide you with additional information on Disbursing Clerk 2nd Class Harold Cole, whom I have suggested as the veteran honored with the naming rights to the baseball field previously known as Community Center Field, located behind 1LT Charles W. Whitcomb School. In recent discussions, it was noted that this honoree was not killed in action, however, Disbursing Clerk 2nd Class Harold Cole has honorably served in two of our nation's conflicts, the latter of which resulted in the loss of his life.

Harold Clark Cole was born on December 10, 1920, here in Marlborough, Massachusetts. Harold Cole grew up on Mechanic Street and was proudly educated at Marlborough Public Schools. After his formal education, he worked as a cab driver for the city's cab company before enlisting for World War II. On April 11, 1944, he joined the United States Navy reserve and was put directly into active military service during World War II.

In World War II, Cole was assigned to LMSR-Group 52. This group escorted and provided security for the landing crafts in Japan. During their service, LMSR-Group 52 experienced great sacrifice due to enemy attack.

Disbursing Clerk 2nd Class Cole was honorably discharged from the US Navy on April 4, 1946 and returned home. Cole received several awards and citations for his actions during World War II. After his service, Cole was employed by Ethier Motors Company as a salesman, but according to his son, he sought more in life, so he re-enlisted during the Korean War.

During his time in Korea, Cole served attached to the SS. General A.E. Anderson, a ship that received a Silver Star for Service in Korea. During Cole's time on the ship, he moved Airborne

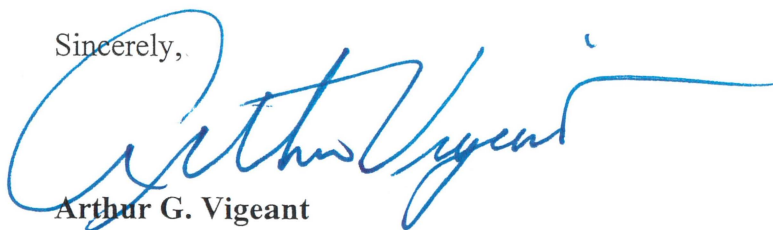
units between California and Japan. After transporting the airborne division, the ship maintained the same route supporting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's mission. Cole was an active crew member of the Anderson at the time of his death.

On May 18, 1951, Harold Cole was the only man from a 5-man crew to perish in a plane crash on their way home from serving our country. One of the engines in their B-52 lost power and unfortunately crashed. Harold Cole received numerous posthumous awards and citations for his service in Korea. Dispersing Clerk 2nd Class Cole left behind his wife Agnes, daughter Leonita, and son Harold Cole Jr.

Cole's devotion lead his family to a life of military service, Harold Cole Jr went on to serve a long career in the US Navy, followed by his three children. His eldest son has been in the US Army for over 22 years, middle son is in the Army Reserves, and his youngest daughter is currently serving in the United States Air Force.

I hope that you can consider Disbursing Clerk 2nd Class Cole's devotion and life cut short by service in totality and bestow this honor upon this worthy veteran who gave his life for his country and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Arthur G. Vigeant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Arthur G. Vigeant**  
**Mayor**