



Walter G. Sterling
National Society Sons of the American Revolution
President General 1968-1969

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Compiled by John Greer and John Anderson, July 2020

The PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE



WALTER G. STERLING
President General

from Houston, Texas

I am deeply grateful for the privilege of serving you and the National Society as President General, and earnestly seek your cooperation in performing this duty. The task is a formidable one, particularly in view of the many major problems facing our Nation. It is our obligation and it is our opportunity, as a patriotic society, to especially implement the resolutions of our 78th Congress, as well as those of all preceding congresses. If properly done, we can anticipate an increase in membership.

Carefully study the 78th Congress resolutions and in them you will find recommendations of great merit. One in particular, Number Five, has a suggested method to curtail much of the activity of the Federal Courts, especially when they assume jurisdiction in pure state affairs, such as criminal cases. You may ask, "What can I do as an individual member of the Society?" You can contact your Congressman personally or by letter urging his careful consideration of Resolution Five. Request his cooperation and action in this matter. Do this!

Study resolution Number Four. This touches on one of the most dangerous situations facing our Nation today. Again, you ask, "What can I do?" Most states have the necessary laws to cope with riots, arson and looting, but lack public officials with enough courage to enforce these laws. As a patriotic Society, almost 20,000 strong, mobilized for concerted action at National, State and local levels, urging officials to enforce the law, we can have a tremendous impact and produce results far greater than you might imagine. Try it! Study resolution Number Three. It may seem drastic, but why not call for the action it suggests? Our Surgeon General said that he was going to perfect a new surgical procedure: To remove a rubber spine and replace it with good hard backbone. If we exert our collective strength properly, we can strengthen and harden the backbone of many of our public officials. If they fail to enforce the laws they have sworn to uphold, insist they step aside in favor of those with the backbone to do the job. Implementing this resolution will take tact and courage on our part. We, the Sons of the American Revolution, should have the determination and wisdom to accomplish this. Conversation among ourselves is futile. It will take action, positive, intelligent and courteous. Try it!

Many of our compatriots have asked, "How can we attract new members, especially young men?" One solution is obvious, but will require a drastic change of habits and policies. Many chapters are dominated by a small group of retired compatriots who (and thanks to them for keeping our Society alive) are the most active members. Persuade them to devise programs interesting to young men.

Inaugurate a policy of utilizing our medals and awards by giving them to deserving law enforcement officers, patriotic school teachers, other outstanding individuals and ROTC cadets. Whenever possible, the compatriot making the presentation should be one of the younger members. Appoint a different compatriot to make each award. When choosing chapter officers, charge the young compatriots with duties and responsibilities by electing them to an office. Advise and assist them but do not dominate them. As your President General, I will be glad to help and illustrate, to those interested, the methods used successfully by other chapters. Try it!

In the official SAR hymn sung in the memorial service at each Congress, There is the phrase "We are the sons of valiant men". Those valiant men, our forefathers, faced problems equally serious as those we face today. What did they do? Did they adopt the attitude of "Let George do it" as many do today? No, they faced up to the problems; their solutions gave us the rights and freedoms we enjoy today. Are we, "the sons of valiant men" going to take it laying down, and lose our heritage? We must answer with a resounding and emphatic NO, *and mean it*. Let us replace jawbone with backbone. Go to work!

Walter G. Sterling

The PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE



from Houston, Texas

Since being elected President General, I have had the pleasure of visiting in Atlanta, Georgia with the Atlanta Chapter; The Middle Atlantic States Conference at West Point, New York; the San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Society; the Board of Managers Meeting of the California Society in Oakland; New England Conference in Maine; Louisiana Society at New Orleans; the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Society at Erie; the National Executive Committee Meeting and the National Trustees Meeting in Washington. I have enjoyed being with my Compatriots in all these places.

Quoting from a Compatriot's letter: "I joined, not for the prestige or any social status, but because I believe in what the organization stands for. It seems to me though, the way things are handled, our effectiveness could not possibly be noticed, and much less followed. Are we living in the graves of our ancestors, or are we a militant group of live people who make our voices heard and stand on the ground that our Constitution was divinely inspired?"

May I hear from someone who is yet able to stand on his own two feet."

I will attempt to answer this Compatriot.

We are proud of being hard-headed realists, we Americans. Impatient with precedent, intolerant of tradition, unconcerned with convention, we tend to think infrequently of the past and to carry on a perpetual national love affair with the future. This is only to be expected of a people sprung from a stock which crossed an ocean and a continent to escape the dead hand of yesterday and to seek out a tomorrow whose promise would be limited only by the measure of the man and the luck of the draw.

We were hot in pursuit of the "Fast Buck." The Almighty Dollar seemed to loom larger and larger over the whole continent, until it appeared to the casual observer from overseas that we had built in this hemisphere the most crassly commercial civilization in the history of the human race. We worshipped speed, size and science. We were popularly supposed to care little for ancient usage, and even less for spiritual values.

But is this true today? Was it true even in the days when the West was being won, and the great industrial and political fabric of the nation was being woven? Or has there always been something deeper within us than this - something a lot more profound than this frantic surface striving for more money, faster cars and taller skyscrapers?

I prefer to think there is, and that it is the desire to preserve our American Heritage, Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise.

Having received this Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise, and now possessing it in its fullness, it is our responsibility to preserve it for ourselves and to hand it on, undiminished and untarnished, to those who come after us. This responsibility is heavier today than in past generations, because the very concept of individual freedom is challenged as never before, and, in many parts of the world, it does not exist. Even in our own country, limitations and individual freedom are increasing.

Because of this, the subject of individual liberty and freedom is of immediate and vital importance today. For LIBERTY WITHOUT LAW IS LICENSE, LIBERTY AGAINST LAW IS ANARCHY, LIBERTY LIMITED BY LAW IS THE FORMULA FOR CIVILIZATION.

What is the American concept of the source of our individual liberty and freedom? This is set forth quite clearly in the Declaration of Independence. Our right of life, liberty, and also to the pursuit of happiness—namely, our right to determine our own destiny and to use every lawful means to fulfill it—come from the Creator. We are "*ENDOWED* by our Creator *with these unalienable rights*. That great founding father, Thomas Jefferson, who largely composed the Declaration of Independence, left no doubt that Governments were formed to protect and advance those God-Given rights and no Government had the right to take them from its citizens.

With the establishment of Constitutional Government and the *Guarantee of Individual Freedom and Individual Property Rights*, properly limited by law, *THE MIRACLE OF AMERICA OCURRED*. In less than 300 years, the continent has been subdued and developed: Human ingenuity has created new devices for the production of goods and material benefits such as the world had never seen, wealth in unprecedented amount was created. The people of United States have enjoyed, and not enjoy, more leisure, more material benefits and more education than any in the world. Nor have the American people kept these blessings for themselves. The oppressed people of the world have been welcomed to share our freedom as naturalized citizens, and millions have availed themselves of high privilege of American citizenship.

There have been many attacks against our American Heritage in the past few years. We have seen laws limiting the right to freely sell our property. Against the right to control our schools, attempts to pass laws curtailing our Constitutional right to own and purchase firearms. We have seen United States Supreme Court decisions and Justice Department rulings dictating how we must operate our public schools. We have seen the Federal Government send troops into States to enforce the arbitrary rules decreed.

Why have these attacks occurred? To me, the reasons for the attacks on our American Heritage, our Constitutional Government, and free enterprise is the faith that many American people have retreated from responsibility. By this I mean that they want all the benefits of our Heritage, and refuse to accept the responsibility of preserving it: Also, the growing attitude that the only laws to obey are those you approve of, disobeying those that you dislike. The most horrible example of this were the riots following the murder of Martin Luther King. when a great number of American citizens, belonging to a minority group, wanting all the benefits of our system, refused to accept, and retreated from, the responsibility imposed on them to obey ALL laws, set forth on an orgy of rioting and destruction ... attempting to impose their will by violation of our laws!

This retreat from responsibility is also evident in a number of laws that have been passed, particularly social security and medicare, in which the individual citizen shuns and avoids the time-honored responsibility of each family caring for its own and wants to pass this burden on to the State and Federal Governments.

One wonders just how long we will be able to maintain our Heritage under such circumstances.

My plea to you is NOT to retreat from your responsibilities, but accept them as true patriotic American citizens should, knowing that in so doing, you will preserve our American Heritage of Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise for the generations yet to come.

Have you attempted to strengthen and harden the backbone of our public officials by commending them for an outstanding job, or by courteously pointing out to them that which you thought were mistakes in their conduct of their responsibilities? Instead, have you contented yourself by sitting around, complaining to others about the conduct of individuals and public servants?

Since the Williamsburg Congress and the adoption of our Resolutions, we have seen an example of minority groups attempting to force the vast majority to accept their demands through violence and violation of law: bitterly complaining when officers of the law did their duty and denied these minorities the privilege of disrupting the orderly processes (whether we agreed with the ultimate results or not) of public meetings. In Resolution Number One, Section 6, the Society set forth its policy in this matter as follows: "The obligation of the State and Federal Government is to resist all attempts of any groups to enforce their demands through violation of law."

Because many Americans have retreated from their responsibility, we, the members of the SAR must more urgently work to halt this alarming trend. We must make our members count by unified action, implementing our chartered purposes and our resolutions.

Figures from the National Registrar indicate that we are not maintaining the pace set last year in obtaining new members and the reinstatement of former members. What have YOU done to attract new young members? Have you devised programs calculated to attract young people, have you in the various Chapters put young people in positions of responsibility or assigned them to committees, or made the Society attractive to them in any way? It is imperative that we not only maintain but increase our membership if we are to survive as a Society, and have any force and effect implementing our chartered purposes and resolutions. This will take action and a lot of it. We MUST halt the retreat from responsibility.

NOW, LET'S GET WITH IT!

Walter G. Sterling

SAR Magazine LXIII-No.2_October 1968, p. 6

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE NEW NATIONAL OFFICERS

WALTER GAGE STERLING

SERVICE TO NATIONAL SOCIETY S.A.R.:

Delegate to National Congresses, 1958-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68.
National Trustee from Texas, 1965-66-67-68.
Member National Executive Committee, 1959-60, 1963-64, 1965-66.
Member Resolutions Committee, 1962-64-65-66-67 and Chairman for 1967-68.
Vice President General, South Mississippi District, 1961-62-63-64.
Member Budget Committee, 1958-59.
Member Permanent Funds Committee, 1965-66-Chairman 1967.
Awarded Minuteman Medal, 1965.

SERVICES TO TEXAS SOCIETY,

S. A. R.: Delegate to Texas Society Conventions, 1958-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67.
Chairman Resolutions Committee, 1961-64-66.
Chairman Nominating Committee, 1959-1960.
President Texas Society, 1964-1965.
Member Committee to Revise Texas Society By-Laws, 1958.
Awarded Good Citizenship Medal, 1964. 6

SERVICES TO LOCAL CHAPTER, S. A. R.:

President Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5, 1957-58.
Member Board of Directors Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5, 1958-1966.
Charter Member Houston Chapter, 1966.

EDUCATION:

Houston Public Schools.
L.L.B. University of Texas, 1925.

MILITARY SERVICE:

U.S.A.A.F., May 1942-October 1944. Rank: Captain.

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES:

President, Royalty Properties, Richmond Mfg. Co., S. H. Oil & Royalty Co., The Real Estate Corporation.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

Member Board of Trustees Hermann Hospital Estate since 1951-President since 1964.
Chairman 1965-66 Houston-Harris County T. B. Christmas Seal Sale.
Chairman Association for Christian Schools.
Director Texas Medical Center, Inc.
Member Harris County Democratic Executive Committee, 1956 through 1968.
Secretary above Committee, 1962-63-64-65-66.
Member TEXAS Democratic Executive Committee and Chairman of its Finance Committee 1960-62.
Member Texas Election Law Study Committee, 1962-1966.
Chairman Harris County Redistricting Committee, 1966-1967.

AFFILIATIONS:

Member Sons of the Texas Revolution.
Member and Past President Lakeside Country Club.
Member and Past President Petroleum Club of Houston.
Masonic: Houston Lodge A.F.A.M.
Houston Consistory Scottish Rite.
Washington Chapter R.A.M.
Tuthven Commandry K. T.
Arabia Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.

Patriotic Education, Inc.
Life Member University of Texas Alumni Association.
Member Chancellors Council University of Texas.

ANCESTRY: Descendant of Alexander Love, South Carolina; Erastus Chapman, Vermont.

SAR Magazine LXIII-No.3_January 1969, cover



President General Walter G. Sterling is portrayed with Director J. Edgar Hoover in the F.B.I. Chief's office at Washington following presentation of the first SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal.

The PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE



Since my last message, I have attended the South Mississippi District Meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas; the Board of Managers Meeting of the Ohio Society at Columbus; the Annual Maryland Society Colonial Ball in Baltimore; the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Society in Chicago and the Delaware Day Celebration of the Delaware Society. I was awarded a plaque of merit by the National Sheriffs Society at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Early in January, I will attend the installation of a new chapter in Racine, Wisconsin and the Michigan State Society Annual meeting. As usual, everyone has been very cordial to Mrs. Sterling and me, and we have enjoyed our old friends and made many new ones.

Now that the National elections are over and the United States has a new President without the uncertainty, delay and confusion of going through the House of Representatives; it is time for everyone to settle down, bury the hatchet, and go back to work. I am reminded of a quotation of an old friend of mine now deceased:

"I have lived long and been observant. In my youth and young manhood, I found it in my heart to hate, and despise, and to hold some of my fellow men in contempt. But I have long since learned that I have no means of justly judging any man. I cannot know all the facts. I cannot read his heart and perceive his motives. I cannot divine his limitations nor rightly make allowances for his weaknesses. But this I do know-that if those who know a man best like him, or love him, or respect him, or even tolerate him, then I know that in that man is more good than evil. And that is quite as much as can be said for me. For these reasons, I have come to speak no evil of men nor women, not to repeat any harmful or scandalous rumor. If the rumor is true, I still am not able to pass judgement upon it in all its phases and aspects; and so it is uncharitable to join in its spread. If it is false, or not even wholly true, then both legally and morally, it is a crime to repeat it. Remember, Jesus, who spoke all wisdom concerning the minds and hearts of men, said: "Judge not, lest ye be judged!"

We should apply this philosophy, not only to the past Administration, but to the defeated candidates in the campaign for President. But there are some things we cannot and should not overlook. For instance, the statement made by Jerry Rubin, leader of the disgraceful riots in Chicago: "We will see to it that there will be no elections without the National Guard." Of course he failed in this ambition; "that there would be large scale disruptions on high-school and college campuses, all culminating in a mass rally in Washington, D. C. on Inauguration Day." We are seeing the campuses troubled.

Eldridge Cleaver, Minister of Information of the Black Panthers, a central figure in the campus disturbances at Berkeley, California, has this to say "I did this consciously, deliberately, willfully, methodically ... It delighted me that I was defying and trampling upon the white man's law, upon his system of values, and that I was defiling his women." (Eldridge Cleaver, SOUL ON ICE, p. 58)

Or what Stokely Carmichael said not long ago in Washington, D.C.

"In order to stop police brutality, we've got to kill some white cops."

"We don't have to stand and yell about it. We just organize and kill some white cops. There's not a right or wrong about killing. It's a matter of who has the power to do so. It's more honorable to kill a hanky cop than a Vietnamese."

"... We have to create a feeling that the killing of a hanky cop is justified in the black community. Whenever a white cop is killed, no black man should speak out against it." (Washington Star, October 13, 1968)

This disrespect for law and order, the rights of others and advocacy of violence must be stopped.

In recent years the Supreme Court and the Justice Department have been among those who promoted backward steps in law enforcement. They coddled the criminals and completely disregarded the essential needs of the citizens to have law and order as the basis of justice.

You ask what can an individual do? Please look at our Williamsburg Resolutions. Particularly number three and four. Number three pertains to the oath of office of officials to support and defend the Constitution. Number four calls on the President, Attorney General and Law Enforcement Officers at all levels to use all such force as is necessary to quiet the riots and allow every citizen to enjoy peace and safety of their persons and property.

To implement these resolutions is the duty of each member of the SAR. As soon as possible after the Inauguration of the new President, write the President and Attorney General and all incoming officials, reminding them of their duty under their oath of office. Can you imagine the effort of these officials if they should get a letter or even a postcard from every SAR or even one half of them? We have a very fine postcard in the "Keep USA First" program. It should be very effective if used for this purpose. We have a wonderful opportunity to work with a new Administration. This is our responsibility and duty. We must not retreat from our responsibility. NOW LET'S GET WITH IT!

Walter G. Sterling

SAR Magazine LXIII-No.3_January 1969, p. 5

"MR. FBI" IS AWARDED FIRST SAR LAW ENFORCEMENT MEDAL BY "MR. SAR"



President General Walter G. Sterling is shown in the office of J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, after presenting that distinguished American With the first SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Plan NOW to attend the 79th Annual Medal. Mr. Hoover commended the SAR as one of the finest organizations in America.

SAR Magazine LXIII-No.3_January 1969, p. 7

A PRESIDENTIAL CITATION FOR OUR PRESIDENT GENERAL



Following a reception and luncheon of the Gen. Philemon Thomas Chapter, SAR, at the picturesque Baton Rouge (La.) Country Club, President General Walter C. Sterling was awarded the first Presidential Citation of the National Sheriffs Association, the largest law enforcement organization in the world. Executive Director Ferris Lucas of the NSA made the presentation, assisted by District Attorney Sargent Pitcher and Sheriff Bryan Clemmons. National Trustee Graham H. Bienvenu acted as Master of Ceremonies and Chairman. L to R: Sheriff Bryan Clemmons, Compatriot Sterling, Executive Director Ferris Lucas and District Attorney Sargent Pitcher.

The PRESIDENT GENERAL'S MESSAGE



Since my last message I have been in Racine, Wisconsin; Detroit, Michigan; Washington, D. C. for the Executive Committee and Trustees Meetings; South Carolina for three meetings; Huntsville, Alabama; Greenwood Mississippi; Austin, Texas; Denver, Colorado; Salt Lake City; Charleston, West Virginia; Muncie, Indiana; Washington, D. C. and Santa Barbara, California. As always, Mrs. Sterling and I were treated royally and enjoyed our old friends and have made many new ones.

As my term of office nears its end, I want to stress something I have observed in my travels: That as a Society, we are not doing the job we were chartered to do. In a small way, we are improving over the past, but not fast enough, nor in enough ways. As I have visited the State Societies and Chapter, I am appalled at the small number of Compatriots who work at both Chapter and State levels. In my first message, I suggested several methods by which we could increase our membership, increase the respect for the Society in the minds of the public, and be a dynamic part of America ... keeping alive that wonderful heritage won for us by our Revolutionary Ancestors. Please reread my message in the July 1968 Magazine.

I am encouraged to see that in many of our Societies and Chapters, the older members are implementing the idea that younger members are necessary for the future of the SAR, but there are not nearly enough of them doing this. By way of illustration, on one visit to a Society, I was very unhappy to see the age of the Compatriots attending. Only one was in the 40-50 year age group; all others were much above that. This Society, at one time, was a powerful influence in both the City and State where it is located. Now it is resting on its laurels and, of course, stagnating. What this group needs is an infusion of young blood. I hope it is soon to be accomplished.

Another lack in our Society is that of a project, either local or National ... something that will interest not only our members and prospective members, but the public as well. Our Sister Organization, the DAR has several projects, one out of their Headquarters, the American Defense Committee; another, the Kate Duncan Smith School in Grant, Alabama. We have several opportunities to be of service. One specifically is Patriotic Education, Inc. which was started of a group of SAR Compatriots, and now the official staff is almost entirely composed of SAR men. Why not help it? Another, the Board of National Trustees in its February meeting recommended to the 79th Congress that the National Society furnish one full Year scholarship to the School of The Ozarks. Compatriot Graham Clark, Trustee for Missouri is President of this college. If we cannot support an entire school as the DAR's do, surely we can maintain

more than one scholarship in one school. Of course, this may be done on a local or state level, as well as National.

America is troubled today. We see small minority groups, undoubtedly inspired by both our external and internal enemies, disrupting our schools and colleges. What have you done about it? Have you called the attention of your elected officials or appointed Boards to Resolution #4 passed at Williamsburg? Have any of you commended your elected officials, or the appointed Boards, for properly doing the business of the government? When your Governors, Mayors, Police Chiefs, Sheriffs, State Police and Board of Regents or Directors have been abused and harassed by a law breaking minority of students for doing their job of enforcing the laws and regulations, have you given them one word of encouragement or rewarded them for a job well done? Our Society has medals and awards for almost every occasion and situation. Why not utilize them? You have no idea of the impact for good-will, for law and order, and encouragement to your civil servants, a public commendation and presentation of an appropriate medal will have. Try it!

Various miniscule minority groups such as the Black Panthers, Students for a Democratic Society and others are staging demonstrations, fighting with law enforcement officers and seizing college property. There are many people who say, and this comes from Ministers, Councils, Cabinet Officers and others, that it is right and proper and their duty that these groups protest, using violence and illegal means, that this is a right established for them by the American Revolution. But is this correct? I say most emphatically *No*. These groups are encouraging a social or a class revolution such as the French Revolution or the Russian Revolution in 1917. The American Revolution was not social. It was not one class against another. It was the separation of the Colonies from the Mother Country, and required the establishment of a New Government, designed to represent all classes. This New Government was composed of citizens from all walks of life. It incorporated a system of checks and balances within itself. The American Revolution was unique in these respects because it was the first time in the history of the world that such an event had happened especially because none of those individuals composing the leadership were seeking any material reward for himself or his family. On the contrary, they were risking their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

The message of the American Revolution was the statement in the Declaration of Independence that "all men are created free and equal, and are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". By that statement we acknowledged the *eternal inequality* of man. This meant that each and every man should have an equal opportunity and liberty to seek his own level. Just what that level may be depends upon the individual, his skills, ambitions and willingness to work. It does not give any individual, group or class the right to disrupt the orderly processes society and government, as they have set up for their own benefit, regardless of the effect on the Nation as a whole.

We must face up to our National problems as our forefathers did. We must find solutions to their problems as they did. Can you imagine their dismay could they be here and see the complaisant attitude displayed by us, their descendants? I can! So again I say, are we, "the sons of valiant men" going to take it laying down, and lose our heritage? We must answer with a resounding and emphatic NO, and mean it. GO TO WORK

Walter G. Sterling

Texas SAR History Volume 1, Feb. 1980 pp. 113-114

WALTER GAGE STERLING NSSAR #78555 TSSAR #1092



President General National Society 1967-1968.
President Texas Society 1964-1965.
Vice President General National Society 1961-1964.

Services to National Society SAR:

Delegate to National Congresses, 1958-1967;
National Trustee from Texas, 1965-1968; Member
National Executive Committee, 1959-1960, 1963-
1964, 1965-1966;
Member Resolutions Committee 1962, 1964, 1965,
1966, 1967 and Chairman for 1967-1968;
Vice President General, South Mississippi District,
1961-1964;
Member Budget Committee, 1958-1959;
Member Permanent Funds Committee, 1965-1966
and Chairman 1967.
Awarded Minuteman Medal in 1965.

Services to Texas Society SAR:

Delegate to Texas Society Conventions, 1958-1967;
Chairman Resolutions Committee, 1961-1964-1966;

Chairman Nominating Committee, 1959-1960; President Texas Society, 1964-1965;
Member Committee to Revise Texas Society By-Laws, 1958.
Awarded Good Citizenship Medal in 1964.

Services to Local Society, SAR: President Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5, 1957-1958;
Member Board of Directors Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5, 1958-1966; Charter Member Houston
Chapter, 1966.

Education: Houston Public Schools; L.L.B. University of Texas, 1925.

Military Service: U.S.A.A.F., May 1942-October 1944, Rank-Captain.

Business Activities: President, Royalty Properties, Richmond Mfg. Co., S. H. Oil & Royalty Co., The Real
Estate Corporation.

Civic Activities: Member Board of Trustees Hermann Hospital Estate since 1951, President since 1964;
Chairman 1965-1966, Houston-Harris County T.B. Christmas Seal Sale; Chairman Association of Christian
Schools; Director Texas Medical Center, Inc.; Member Harris County Democratic Executive Committee,
1956 through 1968; Secretary of above committee, 1962-1966; Member Texas Democratic Executive
Committee and Chairman of its Finance Committee 1960-1962; Member Texas Election Law Study
Committee, 1962-1966; Chairman Harris County Redistricting Committee, 1966-1967.

Affiliations: Member Sons of the Texas Revolution; Member and Past President Lakeside Country Club; Member and Past President Petroleum Club of Houston; Masonic (Houston Lodge A.F.A.M., Houston Consistory Scottish Rite, Washington Chapter R.A.M., Ruthven Commandry K.T. and Arabia Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.); Patriotic Education, Inc.; Life Member University of Texas Alumni Association; Member Chancellors Council University of Texas.

Ancestry: Descendant of Alexander Love, South Carolina and Erastus Chapman, Vermont.

In Memorial

WALTER GAGE STERLING
President General, 1968-69

Past President General Walter Gage Sterling was called to eternal rest in early June. He had been a member of the Texas Society for over two decades.

Compatriot Sterling's service to the Society was long and varied. It included the positions of Vice-President General for the South Mississippi District (now South Central District), National Trustee and President of the Texas Society, President of the Paul Carrington Chapter and Charter Member of the Houston Chapter. In addition, he chaired or was a member of numerous national committees.

His business interests and activities were manifold. Upon his death, he was President of Royalty Properties, Richmond Manufacturing Co., S. H. Oil & Royalty Co. and the Real Estate Corporation. In 1951 he succeeded his father, Governor Ross Sterling, as a member of the Board of Trustees of Hermann Hospital Estate. He later became Chairman. He was a Director of the Texas Medical Center, Inc. and for four years a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System. And he had an absorbing interest in the Association of Christian Schools, which he served as Chairman.



In World War II President General Sterling was in the U.S. Air Force from May, 1942 through October, 1944 with the rank of Captain. He was interred at Glenwood Cemetery, Houston. Our Society extends sincere condolences to his wife, Ruth, and to his sister. Compatriot Walter's loyal support and wisdom will be greatly missed.

Find A Grave Memorial
www.findagrave.com/memorial/17856308