

From the Desk of
Raymond Jones Jr. First Class Scout
Springfield, Ohio

Chair Richardson, Vice Chair Matthews, Ranking Member Lawson-Rowe, and fellow members of the House Veterans and Military Development Committee, Veterans and Military Members of this Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony for HB 452 (761ST Tank Battalion Day) Testimony.

I would like to introduce myself, Raymond Jones Jr. First Class Scout Boy Scouts of America Troop 52 Springfield Ohio. My former Scout Master Lymon Alexander was a member of the 761st Tank Battalion. Some of my earliest memories of Mr. Alexander were marching in the Memorial Day Parade in Springfield, Ohio where our Troop would be recognized in the paper for how sharp we looked in our uniforms and for Mr. Alexander shouting out cadences for us to respond to.

Mr. Alexander lived a life of service, from his time Serving his Country in WWII to serving the Springfield Community. Mr. Alexander was a pillar of his community, his church, and Scouting. At the age of 73 years old in 1993 me and my fellow scouts witnessed and were worn out by Mr. Alexander on a 25-mile bike hike. During that hike we not only rode our bikes, we built a bond and learned to help each other make it to the end and always encourage and uplift each other.

Mr. Alexander lived a life of the 12 points of Scout Law (Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent). Mr. Alexander touched numerous lives through his Service to Country, Community, and his Church.

The Service by Mr. Alexander and his fellow Service men of the 761st Tank Battalion deserves to be recognized and honored as a vital part of our country's history.

May God Bless the United States of America, the State of Ohio and all the men and women who have defended them.

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony to this committee.

Raymond Jones Jr. First Class Scout