MEMORIAL MASS
Memorial Mass will be held Sunday, May 30th at 11:30 a.m. Father Gene Contadino will preside. Services will be held in a tent outside the Memorial Chapel. Please join us.

All gave some—some gave all. We honor all the soldiers who give us our freedom.

JOHN ULRICH KREIDLER
CIVIL WAR VETERAN

John U. Kreidler was born on October 31, 1832 in Wurttemberg, Germany to parents Joseph and Mary Ann Dettling Kreidler. In the spring of 1847 Joseph and Mary gathered up John and his younger siblings James and Mary and immigrated to America, arriving in New York on June 7, 1847. Making their way west, they arrived in Dayton, Ohio in April of 1848. Joseph died of cholera the following year in June 1849 when John was only sixteen. John found work as a canal boat driver, blacksmith, shoemaker and policeman. In 1857 Kreidler studied law and became a notary, but never applied for admission to the bar.

Kreidler met Rosa Bobe, daughter of John and Anna Bobe. The couple married on November 28, 1854 and had five children; Rosa C. (Legler), Edward, Caroline C. (Bauman), John E., and William A.

When the Civil War started on April 12, 1861, Kreidler was a lieutenant in a National Guard unit that was not immediately going to war. Dismayed but undeterred, John resigned his officer’s commission, leaving the National Guard to become a private with the 1st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Company C on April 16, 1861. He served only four months and returned to Dayton. In 1862 Kreidler re-enlisted as a Captain in Company E, 108th O.V.I. When Kreidler re-enlisted, his company presented him with a ceremonial ivory handle gilt metal sword. Kreidler promised his men that the sword would never be taken by the enemy. During battle in Hartsville, Tennessee in December 1862, Kreidler was wounded in the leg. He and his regiment were taken as prisoners. A Confederate officer demanded Kreidler’s sword. Captain John U. Kreidler broke the sword in three places and threw it at the officer’s feet. For this defiance, John was taken to Murfreesboro jail and denied food and water. He was then taken to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. Libby Prison was used for Union officers and conditions were very harsh. Many officers died from illness. Kreidler was imprisoned for four months before being released on April 17, 1863 in Annapolis, Maryland. He continued serving in the Army until he was mustered out on February 10, 1864.

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Captain John U. Kreidler—con’t.

Once home Kreidler was elected City Clerk in April 1864 and was re-elected three times. In 1870 John was appointed Superintendent of Dayton Street Railroad, Route No.1. The Dayton Street Railroad was chartered in 1869. Route No.1 ran on Third Street from Western Avenue in west Dayton to Findlay Street on the east. Route No. 1 took one hour and twenty minutes to complete the round trip.

John Kreidler’s last position was secretary of the Dayton Board of Fire Underwriters. Captain John Ulrich Kreidler died May 29, 1892 one day before Memorial Day. Per the wishes of Capt. Kreidler, his funeral was to be free from ostentation and he wanted no flowers. However, all the insurance companies of the city closed their doors during the funeral. Funeral services were held at Emanuel Church on June 1, 1892 at 8:30 a.m. Captain Kreidler is buried in Section 1, Lot 293.

CALVARY SPONSORS SCHOLARSHIP AT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

To honor America’s veterans the Board of Trustees of Calvary Cemetery granted a scholarship for a University of Dayton student. The scholarship provides help for a student that is a military veteran or child of a military veteran. The scholarship was presented to Jarhel Duncan during a University of Dayton basketball game on February 18, 2010. Jarhel is in his third year at the university and his father was killed in action. Presenting the scholarship is Harry Finke, President of the Board of Trustees of Calvary Cemetery and Rick Meade, Superintendent.

This past basketball season, Calvary Cemetery also honored veterans by sponsoring the University of Dayton ROTC Honor Guard during the men’s basketball games.