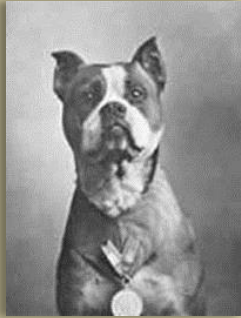


WWI - SGT STUBBY



SERGEANT STUBBY (c. 1916 or 1917 – March 16, 1926), When the soldiers of the 26th Division of 102nd Infantry Regiment, nicknamed “the Yankee Division,” reached the coast of France, they disembarked along with a four-footed stowaway named Stubby. The devoted mascot even had his own set of dog tags that read, STUBBY, 102nd INF, 26th DIV. Stubby had joined the troops as they trained on the athletic fields of Yale University, awaiting deployment to Europe to fight World War I. Stubby followed twenty-five-year old soldier Robert Conroy aboard the troop train to Newport News, and with a little help, the dog was smuggled onto the U.S.S. Minnesota bound for France.

MILITARY SERVICE

Stubby served with the 102nd Infantry Regiment in the trenches in France for 18 months and participated in four offensives and 17 battles. He entered combat on the front lines on February 5, 1918 at Chemin des Dames, the northeast section of France.



In his first year of battle Stubby was injured by mustard gas. After he recovered, he returned with a specially designed gas mask to protect him. Also, he learned to warn his unit of poison gas attacks, located wounded soldiers in no man's land, and — since he could hear the whine of incoming artillery shells before humans could — became very good at letting his unit know when to duck for cover. He was solely responsible for capturing a German spy by the seat of his pants. In the northeastern front near Toul, Stubby's luck ran out when a hand grenade exploded near him. The soldier dog received treatment at a field hospital, and after weeks of recovery, he returned to the battlefield. In

August of 1918, following the retaking of Château-Thierry by the US, the women of the town made Stubby a chamois coat on which were pinned his many medals. At the end of the war, Stubby returned home with Robert Conroy, free to roam aboard the U.S.S. Agamemnon.

POST WAR

After returning home, Stubby became a celebrity and marched in, and normally led many parades across the country. He met three sitting presidents: Presidents Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, and Warren G. Harding. In 1921 General John J. Pershing presented a gold medal from the Humane Education Society to Stubby. Starting in 1921, he attended Georgetown University Law Center with Conroy, and became the Georgetown Hoyas' team mascot. Wearing a blue and gray cape with the letter G on the sides, Stubby would nudge a football around the field to the amusement of the fans. Some say this was the stat of the halftime show.

Stubby died in his sleep in 1926. After his death, he was preserved with his skin mounted on a plaster cast. Conroy presented Stubby to the Smithsonian in 1956.

LEGACY



Sergeant Stubby's brick at the Liberty Memorial

Stubby received an obituary in the *New York Times* following his death in 1926. The obituary was half a page, which was much longer than the obituaries of many notable people of the time period.

Stubby was the subject of a portrait by "Capitol artist" Charles Ayer Whipple. Stubby was featured in the *Brave Beasts* exhibit at the Legermuseum in Delft, The Netherlands July 18, 2008 - April 13, 2009. During a ceremony held on Armistice Day in 2006, a brick was placed in the Walk of Honor at the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City to commemorate Sergeant Stubby. Stubby was the subject of at least four books. In 2014, BBC Schools World War One series used Stubby as a Famous Figure to help teach children about the war, along with creating an animated comic strip to illustrate his life.



Stubby has his portrait on display at the West Haven Military Museum in Connecticut and now proudly stands guard with his Military K-9 Band of Brothers at the AVM War Dog Memorial...

STUBBY at the AVM War Dog Memorial

Nancy Roe Pimm

Nancy Roe Pimm is an award-winning author of nonfiction narratives for young readers. She is a Choose to Read Ohio author and her books have been chosen as Junior Library Selections. Pimm's newest title, *Bonded by Battle: The Powerful Friendships of Military Dogs and Soldiers from the Civil War to Operation Iraqi Freedom* explores the unbreakable bonds formed by military dogs and soldiers as they face life and death in the war zone. These heroic, intelligent four-legged soldiers are always full of courage and a whole lot of heart. Open the pages of this book to meet a bunch of unforgettable canine commandos.

Books can be purchased at QuindaroPress.com or Amazon.com.

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