



# A Duvall Daughter Found By Country Roney

While working with the non profit organization known as Missing in America Project (MIAP for short), Lynn Lake; MIAP, Volunteer Genealogist located a reference to Helena Duvall who is identified as unclaimed at one of the Seattle cemeteries. Helena Duvall died 5/27/1960 at Fort Steilacoom, Pierce Co, Washington. She was born in Sept of 1885 to James Duvall and Stephanie Dyer. Her parents were pioneer settlers of Cherry Valley. Findagrave.com has Stephanie Dyer Duvall buried at the Cherry Valley Pioneer cemetery in Duvall, WA.

The purpose of Missing in America Project is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations. To provide honor and respect to those who have served this country by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes.

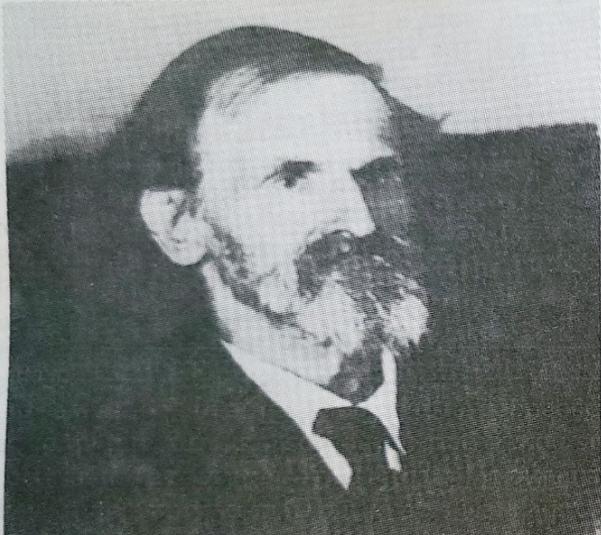
Because Helena Duvall does not have a military service connection, MIAP will not be able to secure her final resting place through the organization. Novelty Hills Cemetery will be providing this for her. Because MIAP been unable to go into the community storage location to verify the cremains, they are still going off the assumption that she is there. There has not been any other research information to make them question otherwise. Once the pandemic settles and allows the team to return to normal lives, Lynn will be retiring within weeks and will then be free to be more available for inventory at this location.

### DUVALL'S DIAMOND JUBILEE EDITION: 1913-1988



PRESIDENT: Ray Burhen  
VOLUME 8, NUMBER 4

EDITORS: Bob Kosters & Mary Lampson  
MAY, 1988



**JAMES DUVALL**

75 years ago, James Duvall founded the town that now bears his name. On its Diamond Jubilee, the town honors its namesake.

The land that is now Duvall was actually homesteaded

by James Duvall's brother, Francis, in 1871 with full title received Oct. 15, 1875. The acreage was owned by a number of people before James Duvall bought it from the Port Blakely Mill Company in 1887.

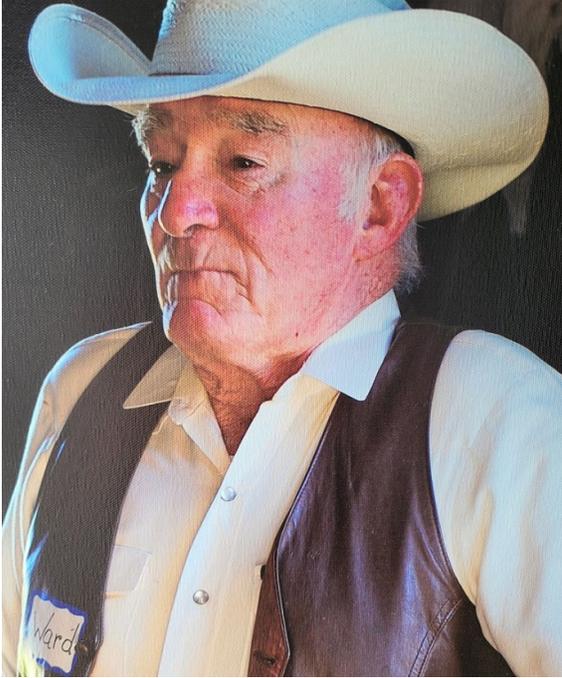
Mr. Duvall had been a logger in the Everett area and moved his oxen and equipment to the land he had recently acquired in the Snoqualmie Valley.

Mr. Duvall, who married Annie Dyer, a Tulalip Indian, had four children, George, born in 1878, James C., born in 1883, Lena, born in 1885, and Olive, born in 1889. Mrs. Duvall died January 9, 1890, and was buried in the old Cherry Valley Cemetery.

Duvall built a shed for his ten yoke of oxen and a blacksmith shop north of the present bridge. He had a split cedar house below the present bookstore. He built skid roads from the top of the hill to the river.

During the Alaskan Gold Rush, Duvall and his two sons went to Dawson, Yukon Territory, in search of gold. He returned to Cherry Valley and after some legal difficulties, sold his property in 1909 and left the area. His name lives on in the town that was built on the land he logged so many years ago.

# Remembering Ward Roney (02/18/1931-05/18/2020) By Country Roney



The Snoqualmie Valley suffered a huge loss recently with the passing of Ward Roney, long-time farmer, Korean War Veteran, businessman, foster parent, Duvall Historical Society Board member, and community leader. He was the third generation of Roneys to live in the Snoqualmie Valley.

Ward began life precariously as he arrived ten weeks prematurely and weighed only three pounds, 2 ounces. He moved to the family farm in the Snoqualmie Valley in 1948 where he lived with his grandparents, William “Bill” and Cora Roney.

A proud veteran of the Army, specifically the 31st infantry Regiment, known for its distinguished designation as the Polar Bears. The regiment is one of three to bear such designation in the history of the Army. He was a part of the American Foreign Legion and served in Korea from 1951 to 1954. He landed in Inchon and was front line during battles including Frozen Chosen, Old Baldy, Pork Chop Hill, West View, and finally Suicide.

Ward was a confirmed bachelor at the age of 40 and his mother did a 40- day novena and on the 40th day, he met and swept Vinna Ann “Val” Leahy off her feet while dancing and socializing at the Chancellor’s Club for Catholic singles. In true Irish fashion, they partied into the early morning, spending all night talking on a hay mound in the barn that stood on the Roney River Ranch until the early 80’s. Val even joined Ward as he completed his chores the following morning. Their engagement was quick and nuptials followed shortly after. A long-lasting love affair continued for almost 50 years. To the last day, Val always made sure to get her daily kiss. They were commonly seen holding hands and singing to pass time in their last years together.

Together, Ward and Val raised two daughters, Marilyn “Lynn/Country” Roney and Bridget Kathleen “Katie” (Roney) Hunt. His granddaughters, Haley and Paige, adored him, climbing on his lap when they were young to help him drive the tractor, or playing endless games of dominoes and Uno.

Besides his military service, Ward served his community on the Washington State Agriculture Commission, the Washington Farm Bureau, King County Soil & Water Conservation Board of Supervisors, Lower Snoqualmie (now Riverview) School Board. He was also a member of the VFW Post 7511 in Monroe, American Legion Post 91 in Carnation, Knights of Columbus, Duvall Historical Society, and a Charter Member of the Duvall Rotary Club.

The Roney basement was always boarding one or two foster kids in the 70s and 80s and was a “go to” house for newly recovering alcoholics and addicts. After spending his many years drinking, Ward decided to sober up in 1967 and spent the last 53 years of his life sober and helped many men in recovery along the way.

After graduating from Monroe High School in 1949, he attended Pullman for a year (pre-med for Veterinarian Science) before being drafted for the Korean War. After the War, Ward returned home and began farming for himself and never went back to school. Roney River Ranch saw various renditions of farming, including dairy cattle until the late 1960s, then black angus until the early 1980s. He then moved into hogs and swine and dairy-replacement in the early 1990s to its current status of production of culinary herbs for grocery store produce departments.

# Remembering Ward Roney *continued*

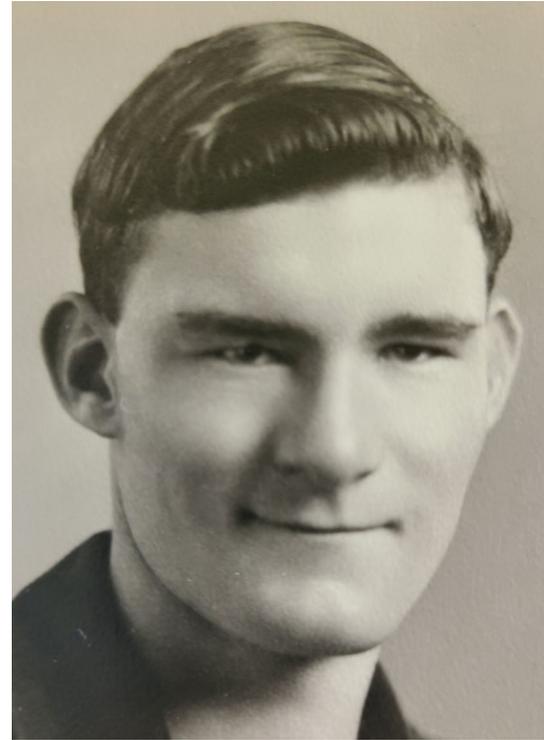
By Country Roney

Ward's entrepreneurial spirit led him to co-found HerbCo International Inc., an organic culinary herb farm that produced herbs and edible flowers, even hydroponics in recent years. This coupled beautifully with his Farmer's Market pursuits he began in 1990 where he was assisted by his daughter, Country.

Ward was known for his Cheshire cat grin that indicated he was up to something while looking angelic. He had a sparkle in his eyes and stories to be told—many about his mischievous (and sometimes dangerous) exploits as a young man.

Ward Roney suffered for years as a result of shrapnel tearing into his right knee from a direct hit in a bombing on Old Baldy in Korea. He was taped up and sent back to the front line within 24 hours. Years later, he aggravated his injury breaking horses with his father on the farm. In 2001, while helping a friend sweep out a barn after a fire, Ward heard a "pop" and felt a jab in his back, but continued to work. As days moved forward, his walking and ability to stand diminished which ultimately resulted in loss of feeling and use of his legs. Eventually, he lost the ability to stand on his own.

From that moment, his goal was to walk again and had knee and hip replacements and was diligent in his physical therapy and was eventually able to pull himself up with the help of the kitchen faucet. After he and Val spent some time in an assisted living facility, their daughter, Country, brought them home where she has cared for them for the last couple



## Upcoming Events

2020

**Stay Safe, Stay Healthy order: We postponed the opening of the Dougherty House for tours and all other events at least until the middle of July due to Washington's Stay Safe, Stay Healthy order for the Covid-19 pandemic. We will re-open as soon as the order has been lifted and our volunteer structure is secured.**

### MUSEUM, ART GALLERY & CULTURAL SECTOR REOPENING PLAN Draft. June 5, 2020

Washington State has a strong and diverse museum sector made up of institutions large and small exploring history, art, science, and culture. As educational and cultural institutions, we are eager to re-open to the public so that we can once again bring meaning, wonder and joy to their lives. We propose the following shared re-opening protocols. Please note, however, some institutions may choose to enact more stringent standards than those presented here. As well, we strongly recommend that institutions adhere to county-level protocols, which may exceed the standards recommended here. These protocols will be enacted in the earliest phase we will be allowed to re-open, and subject to change in ensuing phases with approval by the Office of the Governor.

We are grateful to Savor Snoqualmie, WSHS & 4Culture, the King County Cultural Services Agency, for their support in the preservation of our heritage.



**CULTURE**

Margaret Ullman-Hess  
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Pronouns: *she, her, hers*

Washington State Historical Society  
1911 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

# Duval Days falls victim to the virus

By Lisa Allen

On Saturday, June 6, on what would have been the 60th anniversary of Duval Days, the only reminder of the missing festival was a lone citizen in a giraffe costume on Main Street waving at passers-by. Duval Days, and the annual Firemen's Breakfast, which would have taken place on Sunday, were among the many casualties of the coronavirus, which caused cancellations of most outdoor festivals this spring and summer.

Inside the giraffe costume was Jeff Hansen, pastor of the Duval Adventure Community Church, which has had its home in the former Catholic Church building on Stella Street until it burned to the ground on the morning of March 16. The Adventure Community Church purchased the historic building, which dated back to 1913, from the Archdiocese in August, 2004. At the time, the Archdiocese was in the process of beginning to transfer its congregation into a new building, which was still under construction at the time, on Cherry Valley Road.

The Adventure Church community is currently working towards rebuilding, with plans for a similar structure as the one that was lost, according to Hansen. At this writing, the cause of the fire has yet to be determined.

Note: The "giraffe" has been considered the town's unofficial mascot ever since resident Jeremiah Judd, after taking notice of the fun being made of the Novelty Hill wildlife bridge, photoshopped a picture of a giraffe on the bridge and posted it on Facebook.



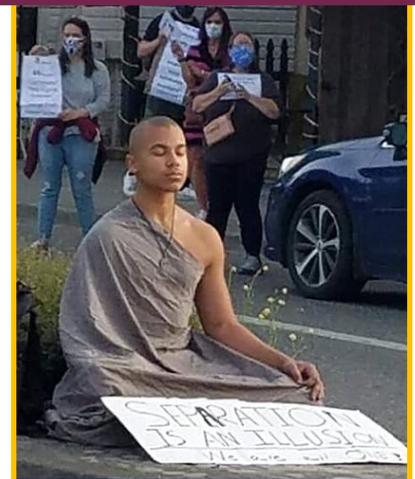
Jeff Hansen, in the giraffe costume, waved to passersby on Main Street June 6 to remind them of what normally, if it weren't for the pandemic, would have been a street full of townsfolk and activities. He is flanked by his two sons, Micah, on the left, and Daniel, on the right. (Photo by Lisa Allen)

# Creating History Today to Archive Tomorrow

## STATEWIDE SILENT MARCH AND GENERAL STRIKE ON FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH

JUNE 9, 2020

Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County is calling for a **statewide day of action** in support of all Black lives in Washington State on **Friday, June 12th**. The day of action will include a general strike and a silent march to honor lives lost and send a powerful message that Washingtonians no longer tolerate the racism that is built into so many of our institutions. For those who can't march in Seattle, we encourage local groups to **organize a march in their communities**.



# Covid-19 ~ Historical Society's "New" Normal

**Dougherty House Unable to Open To Serve the Community**

## Duvall Historical Society



Home **About** Visit Events Our Collections FAQs Volunteer Contact/Directions Gift Shop

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy order: We will be postponing the opening of the Dougherty House for tours until further notice due to Washington's Stay Safe, Stay Healthy order for the COVID-19 pandemic. We will re-open as soon as the order has been lifted.



Duvall Historical Society would like to collect anonymous survey results from our community. We would appreciate handwritten experiences as well to archive. Mailed to PO Box 385 Duvall, WA 98019. During WWI there was a Spanish Flu outbreak and several community members passed as a result. They are buried up at Novelty Hills Cemetery.

SurveyMonkey  
Self Archiving Responses from Community



SURVEYMONKEY.COM

Creating History Today to Archive Tomorrow ~ Duvall Responds to covid-19

Kimberly Engelkes is with Mary Lampson and CountryMarilyn Lynn Roney.  
Admin · April 2 ·

The Duvall Historical Society conducted their first virtual board meeting. Consider this historical!!

Electronic BOD Meetings via Zoom

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Trusted, up-to-date information with AI from Watson.

Duvall, WA

King County

As of Fri, Jun 12, 2020, 8:21 PM EDT

CONFIRMED CASES

**8,611**

+2.3% Since last week

DEATHS

**586**

+1.7% Since last week

COVID-19 with Wa

Ask Watson information Centers for World Health



Check us out on Facebook

- Current 2020 Officers**
- "Country" Roney ~ President
  - "Fiver" Pilon ~ Vice President
  - Connie Zimmerman ~ Treasurer
  - OPEN ~ Secretary
- At-Large Board Members**
- Mary Lampson (Former President)
  - Kimberly Engelkes (2020-2022)
  - Tom Norenberg (2020-2022)
  - Greg Giuliana (2018-2020)
  - Janet Kuller (2018-2020)
  - Nicole Cohn (2020-2021)
  - Lynette Ziuchkovski ~ Archivist

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## Main Street goes mobile!

Is your community part of the national distrx network? Main Street directors and community managers across the country now have a FREE tool to reach today's huge mobile audience.

How it Works

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MAIN STREET AMERICA 2020 Allied Members

1:40

Tours

**DOUGHERT...**

In 1886 James O'Leary bought 162 acres from homesteader

Future mobile app to tour Dougherty Farmstead

Home Map Search

1:40

Historic Downtown

TOURS DINE SIP S

**DUVALL** 1913

Home Map Search