

In Memory of Mr. Zane Phoenix

The Friends of Midland and the local historical community lost a longtime and greatly treasured supporter recently.

One of our strongest supporters and dearest friends, Mr. Zane Phoenix, of Harrisburg, died in March. Mr. Phoenix was a Steelton native, graduating from Steelton High School, and had ancestors buried at Midland Cemetery.

Like many of his generation, he served in the U.S. Army during World War II, fighting with the 92nd Infantry Division, the "Buffalo Division." This was the first African American unit to be committed to combat in that war.

Mr. Phoenix was highly involved with his community, serving as Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Steelton. He was a former trustee of that church and a former Sunday School Superintendent.

We most treasure his memory as a highly involved member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Midland Cemetery. Mr. Phoenix was one of the people who helped found the organization, and his name appears on the large memorial, which was placed by the township, and which he helped design, that graces the entrance to the cemetery.

He recently designed the official flag that will represent Midland Cemetery, and which will soon be flying over the final resting place of his ancestors and the others buried here.

Founding President Barbara Barksdale submitted a resolution of sympathy, commemoration, and support for his family at his funeral.

