

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| What's In This Book..... | 1 |
| Researching a Cold Case..... | 2 |

CHAPTER 1 ~ FINDING ANCESTORS AND OTHERS 5

| | |
|---|----|
| Help is Available..... | 5 |
| Find A Grave – Search by Memorial (Name)..... | 5 |
| Find A Grave – Search by Cemetery | 6 |
| Managing Cemeteries & Grave Sites..... | 9 |
| Advanced GPS Data Useage | 11 |

CHAPTER 2 ~ VISIT THE CEMETERY 13

| | |
|--|----|
| Types of Cemeteries | 13 |
| Find a Cemetery Plot Map | 15 |
| Ticks, Critters, Snakes, and Poisonous Plants..... | 17 |
| Personal Safety..... | 18 |

CHAPTER 3 ~ DECIPHERING THE GRAVESTONE 19

| | |
|--|----|
| Grave Stones - What Is It Made Of? | 19 |
| Gravestone Symbology..... | 23 |
| Religious Affiliation..... | 24 |
| Popular Symbols | 25 |
| Fraternal and Affiliation Symbols..... | 26 |
| Morbid, Not Morbid? | 29 |
| Veteran Markers..... | 31 |
| Replacement Medallions | 34 |
| Read the Unreadable | 35 |

CHAPTER 4 ~ VETERANS AND NATIONAL CEMETERIES 39

| | |
|---|----|
| Public Cemeteries | 39 |
| U.S. Supplied Grave Markers | 40 |
| U.S. Veteran Cemetery Organization..... | 43 |
| CSA Cemeteries and Gravestones | 49 |
| Soldier and Gravestone Research | 50 |
| Veteran Burial Benefits..... | 55 |
| Finding Veterans Records..... | 56 |

CHAPTER 5 ~ PHOTOGRAPHING GRAVESTONES 57

| | |
|---|----|
| Are You a Morning or Afternoon Person? | 57 |
| Optimum Lighting | 59 |
| When the Light is Behind the Gravestone | 59 |
| Advanced Flash Technique..... | 62 |
| In Ground Markers | 62 |
| Manual Ways to Enhance Lettering..... | 63 |
| Enhancements with Photo Editing Software..... | 63 |
| Make A Simple Reflector Card..... | 64 |

CHAPTER 6 ~ CLEANING GRAVESTONES 67

| | |
|---|----|
| To Clean or Not To Clean..... | 67 |
| Who's Gravestone Are You Cleaning?..... | 68 |
| Understand the Problem | 68 |
| Equipment and Solutions..... | 71 |
| To The Cemetery We Go | 72 |
| The Cleaning Process..... | 73 |
| Step by Step Cleaning | 74 |
| Two Case Studies..... | 74 |
| A Word About Cleaners..... | 81 |
| Judging Results | 82 |

APPENDIX A – EMBLEMS OF BELIEF. 83***APPENDIX B – NATIONAL CEMETERIES 84******APPENDIX C – STATE, TERRITORY, TRIBAL CEMETERIES. . . 88******APPENDIX D – OVERSEAS VETERAN CEMTERIES . . . 92******APPENDIX E – CSA CEMETERIES 93******APPENDIX F – COMMON MILITARY RANKS 95******APPENDIX G – BRANCH OF SERVICE ABBREVIATIONS* . . . 97******APPENDIX H – RESOURCES AND LINKS 98******INDEX. 99******BOOKS BY GARY W. CLARK 101***