

Gilbert Webster Memorial

October 24, 2007



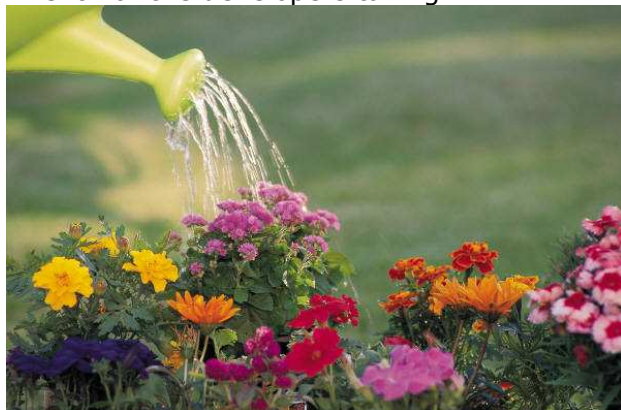
Dear Leah and Fellow Board Members,

Thank you for placing the plaque honoring my husband at the Stonewall Entrance. Thank you too for my beautiful bouquet. It surely brightens my home.

We moved to Stonewall in September 1966. We had been living on Rebel Road next door to "Drex" and Dottie Wells. They moved to Bravington and thru them we became interested in Stonewall.

By about 1968 the entrance had become a no-man's-land with neither the government nor the developers taking responsibility for it. It had become a dump with knee-high weeds, beverage cans and bottles, soiled diapers and more.

One Sunday as we turned into Cindy Blair, Gib said, "For two cents I'd go down and clean that up." I told him that I would give him the two cents and help him. So he went to work with a scythe - the weeds were much too big to mow - and we picked up sacks and sacks of trash, carried it home and sent it away with our household trash.



The project started casually so I don't have exact records but I think the 'clean up' was all that was done that first year. Then he planted flowers in the flower boxes - mostly ones transplanted from home or donated.

Gilbert had a PhD in Agronomy and was a faculty member at UK in the Plant and Soil Science Department. During his twenty-two years there, his duties included administration, teaching, and research. He had a great respect for plants, recognized their needs and uses and cared for them tenderly. He also community spirit and the tow qualities seemed to merge in the Stonewall Entrance project.

As the years went on, other neighbors assisted and when major replacement of plants became necessary, the Stonewall Association provided funds.

He did the job with no thought of recognition. I am sure the new design and plans for providing continued upkeep of the area would meet with his approval.

Sincerely,

Marion L. Webster