



From left to right: Troop 39's scoutmaster, Chris Moulding, Bryce Moulding, Douglas Santos, Braden Coryer.  
Photos by: Nadya Korytnikova



The scouts placing the third flag in the fire pit.

## Boy Scout project to help properly retire flags

By Nadya Korytnikova  
reporter@warehamweek.com

Three American flags were retired with proper honors during a Saturday ceremony at the Wareham American Legion Post 220.

And it all got started with a 15-year-old Upper Cape Tech student, Douglas Santos.

"I and other scouts started it about a month ago. We wanted to get it all done for the Veterans Day, especially because it is the 100th year anniversary of the American Legion Post this year," said Santos. "I built this fire pit mainly for the veterans but it will also benefit the community."

Santos, who is a proud owner of 20 merit badges, has been involved with the Boy Scouts since the first grade and will soon become an Eagle Scout after completing this special project.

A few months ago, he approached the veterans organization to see how he could help them.

Bob Powilatis, the Commander for

American Legion Post 220, said, "We are really pleased, appreciative and thankful of this young Eagle Scout and his members and relatives that helped build this so that there is a place here for the benefit of the community and the Legion."

Santos, along with the other 20 scouts of Troop 39, added the square concrete foundation then built the burn pit. But Santos did not stop there: he also sanded and repainted American Flag Retirement Drop Box in front of the Legion. All materials needed were donated by local businesses.

The new burn pit is just "one example of a project that unites our community," said Troop 39's scoutmaster, Chris Moulding, adding that "to do something like a flag burning ceremony really connects the community and gives the sense of togetherness."

"Scouts is all about that: serving people doing something important for the community and bringing folks together," said Moulding.



Douglas Santos also sanded and repainted the Legion's drop box.



Douglas Santos proudly looks at the fire pit.

## Obituary

### Gordon D. Franklin, 61

Gordon D. Franklin, 61, of Marion, died Monday, November 11, at Tobey Hospital in Wareham. He was the husband of the late Deborah (Lopes) Franklin.



Born in Ypsilanti, MI, he was the son of the late Gilbert E., Sr. and Alice P. (Dockett)

Franklin. Gordon graduated from Wareham High School, East Coast Aero Tech and the University of Kansas. He was lead service technician for Abel-Womack.

Gordon was a kind and gentle soul who made everyone smile.

A great high school athlete, he loved all sports, especially football, and his beloved Oakland Raiders.

He enjoyed everything about aviation and was a talented mechanic who worked on all types of engines.

He loved all his family, especially all his nieces and nephews.

Survivors include his step-daughter, Karen Lopes and her husband Brian Bolen of Ohio; his brothers and sisters, Paula Frye of Quincy, Gilbert E. Franklin, Jr. and his wife Pam of Marion, Karen Nixon of Cape Coral, FL, Gary Franklin and his wife Rhoda of E. Hampton, CT, Kendall Burgess and her husband Roland of Cheyenne, WY, Christina Beckham and her husband Roger of S. Beloit, IL, Gregg Franklin of Ocala, FL and Glen Franklin and his wife Robin of Shutesbury, MA. Also surviving are his companion, Maria Gomes of Wareham, his best-friend Joel Campinha of Wareham,

and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother-in-law, the late Richard Frye.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit on Fri., Nov. 15, at the Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home, 2599 Cranberry Hwy. (Rt. 28), Wareham from 9 to 10:30 a.m. with a funeral service immediately following.

Interment will be private.

For directions and on-line guestbook visit: [www.ccgfuneralhome.com](http://www.ccgfuneralhome.com).

**More obituaries** Page 17