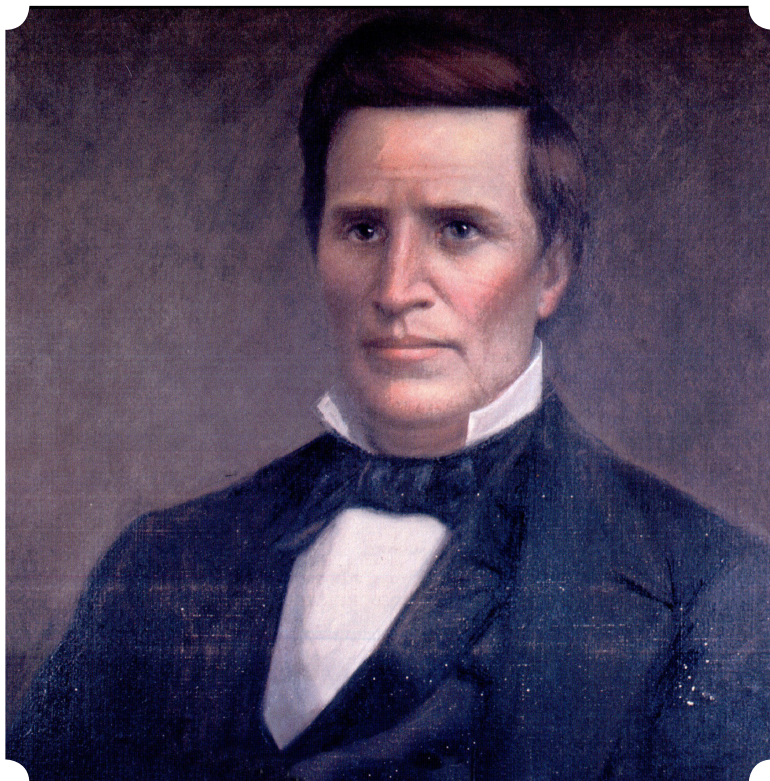


Alexander W. Doniphan

COMMUNITY SERVICE & LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE



Community Service Award

September 11, 2018

*The Alexander W. Doniphan Committee
& Clay County Millennium Historical Board*

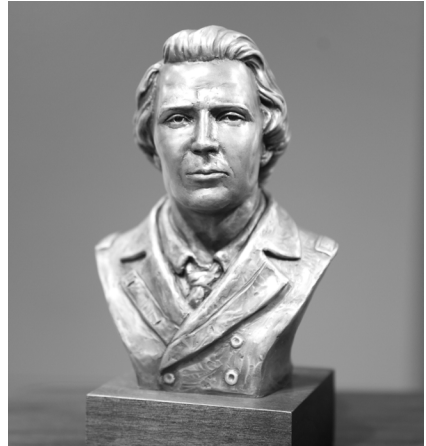
wish to express their sincere gratitude to
the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library for their generous support
and the use of the beautiful facilities.

The Committee offers their sincere thanks for the support of The Church of
Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the greater Kansas City area.

The Committee wishes to express deep appreciation to
DeeJay Bawden for generously creating and providing the
Doniphan award given to Mr. Danforth this evening.

*About the
Alexander W. Doniphan
Community Service &
Leadership Award*

The Alexander W. Doniphan Community Service & Leadership Award recognizes the honoree as one who exemplifies General Doniphan's outstanding characteristics and personal commitments in one or more of the diverse components of his life, namely Education, Jurisprudence, Statesmanship, Patriotism in Defense of Country, and Integrity in Business.



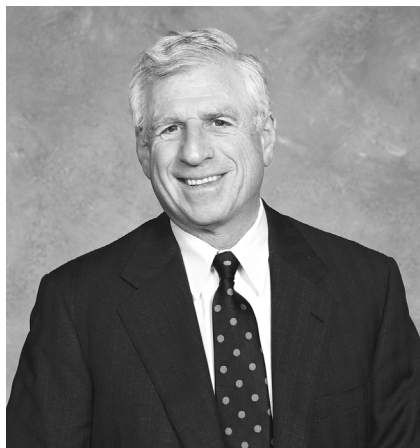
On his 200th birthday, July 9, 2008, Alexander W. Doniphan was inducted into The Hall of Famous Missourians by the Speaker of the Missouri House and a life-sized bust was placed in the Missouri State Capital in honor of his exemplary life and achievements.

The Alexander W. Doniphan Community Service & Leadership Award is made possible through the efforts of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the greater Kansas City area, the Clay County Millennium Historical Board and the Clay County Commission.

*Alexander W. Doniphan Community Service
& Leadership Award Committee*

John A. Dillingham and Cynthia McDavitt, Co-Chairs

Rodney Ames, Robert Arter, Phillip Beem, Raymond Brock Jr., Wendy Dyck, Sheryl Gallagher, Kurt Graham, Chandra Hendren, Laurie Jacobus, Franklin McMillian, Jeremiah J. Morgan, Wayne Parker, Clinton E. Patterson, George Peterson, Steven V. Potter, Tony Sarver, Thomas E. Sims, W. Christian Sizemore, Eric Zahnd



John C. Danforth

Former United States Senator
from Missouri

Senator John C. Danforth served in the United States Senate as a member of the Republican Party from 1976 to 1995. His areas of interest included trade, tax policy and civil rights. In 1999, Danforth was appointed Special Counsel to investigate the federal raid on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. Senator Danforth was

appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in July 2004 by President George W. Bush. An ordained Episcopal priest, he authored the books *Resurrection* (1994), *Faith and Politics: How the “Moral Values” Debate Divides America* and *How to Move Forward Together* (2006) and *The Relevance of Religion* (2015). Prior to his election to the Senate, Danforth was Attorney General for the State of Missouri from 1968–1976.

Senator Danforth graduated with honors from Princeton University and then earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from Yale Law School. Danforth currently serves on the nonprofit, nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates, as well as on the national advisory board of the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University. He is a partner in the law firm of Dowd Bennett in St. Louis. Danforth and his wife Sally have five children and 15 grandchildren.

Past Recipients

2016	Susan Easton Black	2007	Juarenne Hester
2014	Elder Lance B. Wickman	2005	John A. Dillingham
2012	Robert Arter, Lt. Gen., Ret.	2003	John and Mary Pritchard (<i>Deceased</i>)
2010	S. Preston Williams (<i>Deceased</i>)	2002	Judge R. Kenneth Elliott (<i>Deceased</i>)
2009	Dr. W. Christian Sizemore		
2008	Raymond R. Brock, Jr.		

Award Ceremony

Welcome

Eric Zahnd

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member

Invocation

Laurie Jacobus*

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member

Presentation of Colors

William C. Corum Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

National Anthem

Sung by Tim Ritchie

Pledge of Allegiance

Lieutenant General Robert Arter*

US Army, Retired

Welcome to Independence

Mayor Eileen Weir

Independence, Missouri

Introduction to Doniphan March

Dr. W. Christian Sizemore

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member

“Colonel Doniphan Grand March”

Composed by A. Waldoner

Recorded by Alexandra Graham

Help Us Write History

Steven V. Potter*

CEO, Mid-Continent Public Library

Lives of Leadership

Alexander W. Doniphan

Clinton Patterson

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member

Harry S. Truman

Kurt Graham*

Director, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum

John C. Danforth

Eric Zahnd

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member

Presentation of Doniphan Award to

John C. Danforth

John Dillingham and Cynthia McDavitt

Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Co-Chairs

Acceptance Remarks

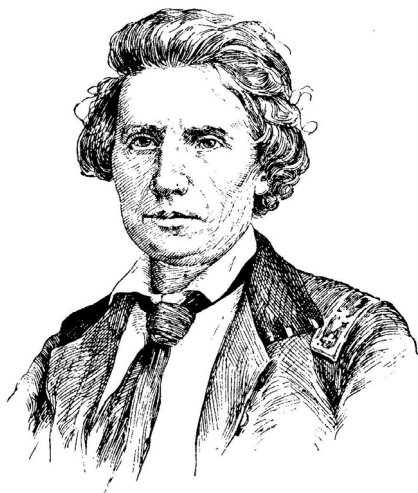
John C. Danforth

Benediction

Phillip Beem*

3rd Great-Grandson of Joseph Smith

**Alexander W. Doniphan Committee Member*



A. W. Doniphan

Alexander William Doniphan was born near Maysville in Mason County, Kentucky, on July 9, 1808, and died in Richmond, Ray County, Missouri, on August 8, 1887. He was 79 years of age at his death.

Descending from Revolutionary War ancestry, Doniphan graduated from Augusta College in Kentucky in 1827 at age 19. In 1829, after studying law for two years, he was admitted to practice in the courts of Ohio and Kentucky. In 1830 he relocated to Lafayette County, Missouri, where he established a law office. Within a few years, he traveled to Liberty, Clay County, where he became known as a fearless orator in the courts of law.

In 1833, Doniphan, along with three other attorneys, represented the claims of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in property disputes with other Jackson County, Missouri, residents. As conditions between Church members and those in Jackson County worsened, Doniphan and the other attorneys played a larger role in representing their Church clients in private mediation, the courts and in petitions for protection presented to the Governor of Missouri.

In 1837 Doniphan married Elizabeth Jane Thornton, a daughter of Colonel John Thornton, one of Clay County's first settlers. That marriage produced two sons, both of whom died in their youth by separate accidents. During Doniphan's 30 years in Clay County he was regarded as a leading citizen, giving the best of his abilities to the county's social and economic development.

Although a member of the Disciples of Christ Church, he was one of the founders of William Jewell College, a Baptist-affiliated school in Liberty, Missouri. Doniphan was a strong supporter of many educational endeavors, and his name appears as a trustee of a number of early schools. In 1853, he became the first Clay County School Commissioner.

While serving in the 1836–1837 General Assembly, Doniphan was instrumental in organizing Caldwell county as a home for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Less than two years later, his defense of these settlers would lead to heroic actions that saved the lives of Church leaders.

In the fall of 1838, Doniphan, a practicing attorney in Liberty, Missouri, was called to lead a detachment of approximately two hundred Clay County militia to Caldwell and Daviess counties, where he was to assist in settling a dispute between the Latter-day Saints and other residents in the area. In what would become known as the Mormon War, then Brigadier General Doniphan was ordered by General Lucas of the State Militia to execute Joseph Smith, Jr., founder of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, his older brother Hyrum and other Church leaders. He flatly refused the direct order stating, "It is cold-blooded murder."

Though his disobedience could have led to his own court-martial, that refusal saved the lives of those Church leaders.

The Church leaders were turned over to civilian authorities, and although Joseph and Hyrum Smith and others were imprisoned over the winter of 1838–1839 in harsh conditions in the Liberty jail, the charges against them were not proven and the prisoners were eventually allowed to escape and rejoin their families.

Doniphan led one of the most famous military expeditions in American history to Old Mexico in 1846–1847. He organized a mounted regiment of Missouri volunteers that formed part of Stephen W. Kearny's force in his march on Santa Fe. Doniphan's service during the Mexican-American war was highlighted not only by military victory but also his administration and the writing of new constitutions for the new territories. His service during this war is recognized by his inclusion in the Fort Leavenworth Hall of Fame.

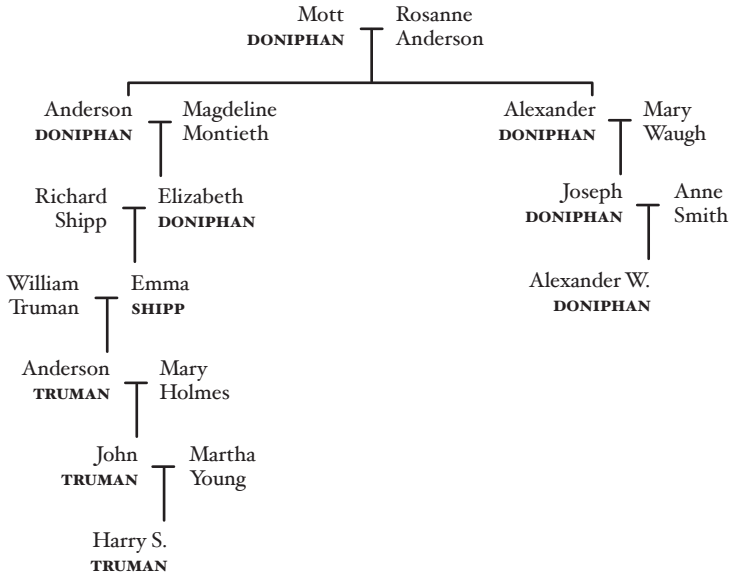
Following his service in the war, Doniphan returned to his law practice in Liberty where he grew in reputation as a supporter of business, political and economic growth of the local community and the nation. He was appointed by President Abraham Lincoln to serve as a delegate to the Washington Peace Conference in 1861. Both Union and Confederate armies actively sought Doniphan's generalship during the Civil War. Rather than take up arms, in 1862 he moved to St. Louis, where he worked as a lawyer with the Missouri Claims Commission seeking pensions for refugees during the Civil War.

Following the Civil War he relocated to Richmond, Ray County, Missouri, where he practiced law until his death. He is buried in Liberty, Missouri, beside his wife and two sons.

Alexander W. Doniphan's outstanding characteristics and personal commitments in education, jurisprudence, statesmanship, patriotism and business remain a hallmark of exemplary citizenship. His service to community and nation were feted in his own life and continue to be celebrated today by the awarding of the Alexander W. Doniphan Community Service & Leadership Award.

Truman and Doniphan, A Shared Family History

As we present the Alexander W. Doniphan Community Service Award in the auditorium of The Harry S Truman Library and Museum, we reflect on a unique concurrence of Missouri history—the family connection between Harry Truman and Alexander Doniphan. Both Truman and Doniphan are direct descendants of Mott Doniphan and Rosana (Anderson) Doniphan. Mott and Rosana being great-grandparents to Alexander and 4th generation great-grandparents to the president.



Truman was aware of this connection in 1952, according to a letter written while president to Walter Gifford, American Ambassador to Great Britain, asking Gifford for his assistance in resolving a genealogical question. According to records in the Truman Library, the President, writing on behalf of a family member exploring Truman genealogy, asked if the Ambassador had someone in his office who could get information on Doniphan. The President enclosed a note saying that Doniphan “came from Plymouth County, Devon [England] to collect some debts from a man in Maryland,” and ended by adding, “I hope this will not cause you too much bother, but you know a fellow has to get along with his relatives.”

Less known is whether or not the president knew of this family connection in 1917, when at the age of 33, as a First Lieutenant in the National Guard, his unit was assigned to train at Camp Doniphan, Oklahoma, before being deployed to Europe and his being selected as Captain to command Battery D in the Great War.

Alexander W. Doniphan

The first Clay County School Commissioner

As a leader in education, Doniphan's name appears as trustee of a number of early schools in Missouri.

William Jewell College

Doniphan is among honored founders, educators and philanthropists.

He joined with Major Alvin Lightburne and others as founders of William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, more than 160 years ago.

Fort Leavenworth Hall of Fame

Alexander Doniphan is one of nine distinguished pre-Civil War honorees who share placement on this Hall of Fame with General Douglas MacArthur, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, General Colin L. Powell, General William C. Westmoreland and other distinguished military leaders. Doniphan was the Brigade Commander in the Missouri State Militia during the Mexican American War. His brigade, including Clay County Militia, marched more than 5,500 miles and fought three important battles—Brazito, Sacramento and El Paso—conquering the states of Mexico and Chihuahua.

A Missouri legislator of the Whig Party

Elected to represent Clay County in 1836, 1840 and 1854, Doniphan was instrumental in organizing Caldwell and Daviess counties. He is also credited as a leading force in facilitating the Platte Purchase.

Washington Peace Conference

Doniphan was appointed by President Abraham Lincoln as a delegate to the conference in 1861.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

As Brigadier General of the Clay County Militia, serving during the Mormon War of 1838, he refused a direct order to execute Joseph Smith, Jr., founder of the Church, his brother Hyrum and five other Church leaders, thus saving their lives. During the following months, Joseph and Hyrum Smith, and four other Church leaders were held in the Liberty jail awaiting trial. The charges against them proved to be false and they were allowed to escape and reunite with their families.



In 2008, on his 200th birthday, Alexander W. Doniphan was inducted into The Hall of Famous Missourians at the Missouri State Capitol. Doniphan's bust was placed among some 40 others which occupy the third floor of the rotunda in the State Capitol.