

# ROBERT M. UTLEY

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## PERSONAL

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Born Bauxite, Arkansas, October 31, 1929. Father Don Williams Utley; mother Valeria Haney Utley (both deceased). Sister Nancy Jane Utley O'Connell, born February 14, 1934. Married to Lucille Dorsey of Youngwood, Pennsylvania, May 5, 1956. Two sons: Donald W., born June 12, 1957, Washington, D.C.; Philip L., born March 4, 1959, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Divorced December 31, 1977. Married to Melody Webb of Fairbanks, Alaska, November 12, 1980.

## EDUCATION

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DAYTON HIGH SCHOOL, DAYTON, INDIANA  
*1947*

PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
*B.S., History, 1951*

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA  
*M.A., History, 1952*

## MILITARY (U.S. ARMY)

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*1952-53* Infantry basic and leadership training, Camp Roberts, California.

*1953* Division Faculty, Seventh Armored Division, Camp Roberts, California. Taught general subjects and intelligence.

*1953-54* Infantry Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, Georgia (*Distinguished Graduate*).

*1954* Tactical Officer, Infantry OCS, Fort Benning, Georgia.

*1954-56* Historian, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.

*1956-59* U.S. Army Reserves, Santa Fe, New Mexico (captain).

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

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- 1947-52* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Historical Aide (summers only), Custer Battlefield National Monument, Montana.
- 1954-56* DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. Historian, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Military: second lieutenant, first lieutenant.
- 1956-57* DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. Historian, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Civilian: GS-11.
- 1957-62* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Historian (GS-12), National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, Southwest Region, Santa Fe, New Mexico. (Southwest Region included states of Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah.)
- 1962-64* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Regional Historian (GS-13), Southwest Region, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 1964-70* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Chief Historian (GS-14, GS-15), Washington, D.C. (Chief Historian also Chief, Division of History, which included the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings and the Branch of Park History Studies, the latter a cadre of research historians providing research services to the parks.)
- 1970-73* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C. (GS-15). (OAHP consisted of the National Register of Historic Places and the Divisions of History, Archeology, Historic Architecture, and Grants Administration. Included within this organization were the following programs: National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings and National Historic Landmarks, Historic American Buildings Survey and Historic American Engineering Record, and Interagency Archeological Investigations and Salvage.)
- 1973-77* DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. Assistant Director of the Service for Park Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C. (GS-15). Concerned with historic preservation within the units of the National Park System. Organization included the Divisions of History, Archeology, and Historic Architecture.

1977-80 PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION. Deputy Executive Director (GS-15, GS-16, Senior Executive Service-4). Executive staff to full Council, responsible for advising President and Congress on all matters relating to the national historic preservation policy and program and formulating and overseeing the protective system for historic properties authorized by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended.

1980 Retired. Freelance writing, teaching, consulting.

## ADVISORY POSITIONS

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- ▶ Editorial boards of *The American West Magazine* (1964-80), *Western Historical Quarterly* (1968-73), *Arizona and the West* (1970-73), *Pacific Historian* (1964-80), Yale University Press Western Americana Series (1966-present); *Montana the Magazine of Western History* (1985-2001), *New Mexico Historical Review* (1987-present), *Journal of Arizona History* (1989-present), *North Dakota History* (1991-2001).
- ▶ Member Board of Advisors, National Historical Society (1969-85),
- ▶ Member Advisory Committee, Center for the History of the American Indian, Newberry Library, Chicago (1972-80).
- ▶ Board of Directors, Eastern National Park and Monument Association, 1978-87, 1990-98 (Chairman, Donations Committee, 1979-81; vice chairman of the Board, 1981-84; chairman of the Board, 1985-87, 1991-92.)
- ▶ Honorary Advisor, National Wildlife Art Museum, Jackson, Wyoming, 1993-96.
- ▶ Board of Directors, Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum, 1995-96.

## MEMBERSHIPS

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- ▶ VARIOUS, PAST AND PRESENT. American Historical Association. Organization of American Historians (chairman, Billington Award Committee, 1980-81). National Historical Society (member Board of Advisors). Historical Society of New Mexico (vice president 1959-60). Santa Fe Westerners (founding member 1962). Council on America's Military Past. Western Writers of America. Texas State Historical Association. George Wright Society. Wyoming State Historical Society. North Dakota State Historical Society.

- ▶ WESTERN HISTORY ASSOCIATION. One of six founders of WHA in 1961-62, council member 1962-66, vice president 1966-67, president 1967-68, council member 1969-71, coordinator of publications and ex officio council member 1972-75, chairman, Award of Merit Committee 1980, 1996), Caughey Award Committee, 2000.
- ▶ POTOMAC CORRAL OF THE WESTERNERS, Washington, D.C. Founding member, 1955; sheriff, 1973. Jeff Dykes Award, 1997.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- ▶ National Park Service Outstanding Performance awards, 1963, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1975, 1976.
- ▶ Buffalo Award, New York Westerners, 1964, for *Last Days of the Sioux Nation*.
- ▶ Award of Merit, American Association for State and Local History, 1964, for *Last Days of the Sioux Nation*.
- ▶ President, Western History Association, 1967-68.
- ▶ Distinguished Service Award, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1971.
- ▶ Honorary Doctor of Letters, Purdue University, 1974.
- ▶ UNESCO Senior Fellowship to Japan, 1974.
- ▶ Interior Department mission to India, 1974.
- ▶ Honorary Doctor of Letters, University of New Mexico, 1976.
- ▶ Distinguished Service Alumni Award, Indiana University, 1977.
- ▶ Huntington Library Research Fellowship, 1981.
- ▶ Emil W. Haury Award, Southwest Parks and Monument Association, 1982, for contributions to research in national parks of the Southwest.
- ▶ Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Indiana University, 1983.
- ▶ Adjunct Professor of History, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, 1984.
- ▶ Wrangler Award, National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center, for *High Noon in Lincoln*, best nonfiction western of 1987.

- ▶ Western History Association Prize (Caughey Award) for distinguished published writings in the field of American western history. 1988.
- ▶ Wrangler Award, National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center, for *Cavalier in Buckskin*, best nonfiction western of 1988.
- ▶ Edgar Lee Hewitt Award of Historical Society of New Mexico, 1988, for public service.
- ▶ U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, Chair of Military Affairs, Quantico, Virginia, 1990.
- ▶ Adjunct Professor of History, Utah State University, Logan, 1993-96.
- ▶ Spur Award, Western Writers of America, for *Lance and the Shield*, 1994, for best nonfiction western of 1993.
- ▶ Owen Wister Award, Western Writers of America, 1994, for distinguished lifetime achievement.
- ▶ Caughey Prize, Western History Association, 1994, for *Lance and the Shield*, best western of 1993.
- ▶ George Melendez Wright Award for Excellence, George Wright Society, 1995.
- ▶ Fellow, Society of American Historians, 1995.
- Samuel Eliot Morison Prize, Society for Military History, 1997
- ▶ Jeff Dykes Award, Potomac Westerners Corral, 1997
- ▶ “Affiliated Scholar,” Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX, 1997
- ▶ President’s Award for Outstanding Service, Western Writers of America, June 2001.
- ▶ Beinecke Senior Research Fellowship, Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders, Yale University, September 2001-May 2002. Resident Fellow, Ezra Stiles College, Yale University, 2001-02.
- ▶ Fellow, Texas Institute of Letters, 2003.
- ▶ T. H. Fehrenbach Award, Texas Historical Commission, for *Lone Star Justice*, 2003.
- ▶ Wrangler Award, National Cowboy Museum and Western Heritage Center, for “Tales of the Texas Rangers,” in *American Heritage* 53 (June/July 2002), 2003.
- ▶ Distinguished Alumnus, Purdue University College of Liberal Arts, April 2005.
- ▶ “Spirit of the West” award for literary achievement, Mountain-Plains Booksellers Association, February 2006.

- ▶ Western Heritage Award, Wrangler for Outstanding Nonfiction, for “Geronimo”, 2013.
- ▶ Spur Award, Best Western Nonfiction-Biography, Western Writers of America, for “Geronimo”, 2013.
- ▶ Inducted into the Western Writers Hall of Fame, 2015.

## TEACHING

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Periodically taught courses in historic preservation and related topics at National Park Service training centers at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia., and Grand Canyon, Arizona, 1973-85. Under contract to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, in 1980-81 created two-day training course in federal historic preservation law, regulation, and practice; and in 1981-84, under contract to the Office of Personnel Management, periodically taught the course at various locations around the nation. Have lectured periodically on military history topics at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York; and the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico, Virginia.

## TELEVISION

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Served as consultant and on-camera commentator for television productions relating to the history of the American West, including:

- ▶ “A.K.A. Billy the Kid” (Coyote Films for Disney Cable, 1989).
- ▶ “The Real West” (Greystone for A&E Cable, 1992-94).
- ▶ “The Wild West” (Rattlesnake for Time-Warner, 1992).
- ▶ “The West” (Insignia for PBS, 1992-95).
- ▶ “The Way West” (Steeplechase for PBS, 1993-95).
- ▶ “How the West Was Lost” (Gannett for Discovery Cable, 1991-92, 1994-95)
- ▶ Contract with Telepictures Productions (Time-Warner) to work with Rattlesnake in developing a proposal for a ten-hour documentary production, “The First Americans,” and serve as producer-director if funded, 1993. Not funded.
- ▶ “Custer” (Greystone for A&E Cable, 1997).
- ▶ Two-day consultation with DreamWorks Animation for “Spirit” (1998).
- ▶ “Mountain Men” (Greystone for History Channel, 1999).

Publication record. See my website, [www.robertmutley.net](http://www.robertmutley.net).