

# Soldiers Buried in Caledonia Co., Vermont

This is a simple report easily generated in TMG. If you love Word tables, output it to Word for formatting. If you don't like Word tables, output reports that require table formatting to Excel. As with all things in TMG, there may be multiple paths to the same goal. The information I want in this basic table includes:

1. Soldier's name (in a format that can be sorted alphabetically)
2. Soldier's birth and death dates
3. The conflict in which the soldier served
4. The name of the Caledonia County cemetery in which the soldier is buried

These data will appear in the same table row in a *List of People* report.

## The Filter

Report Filter

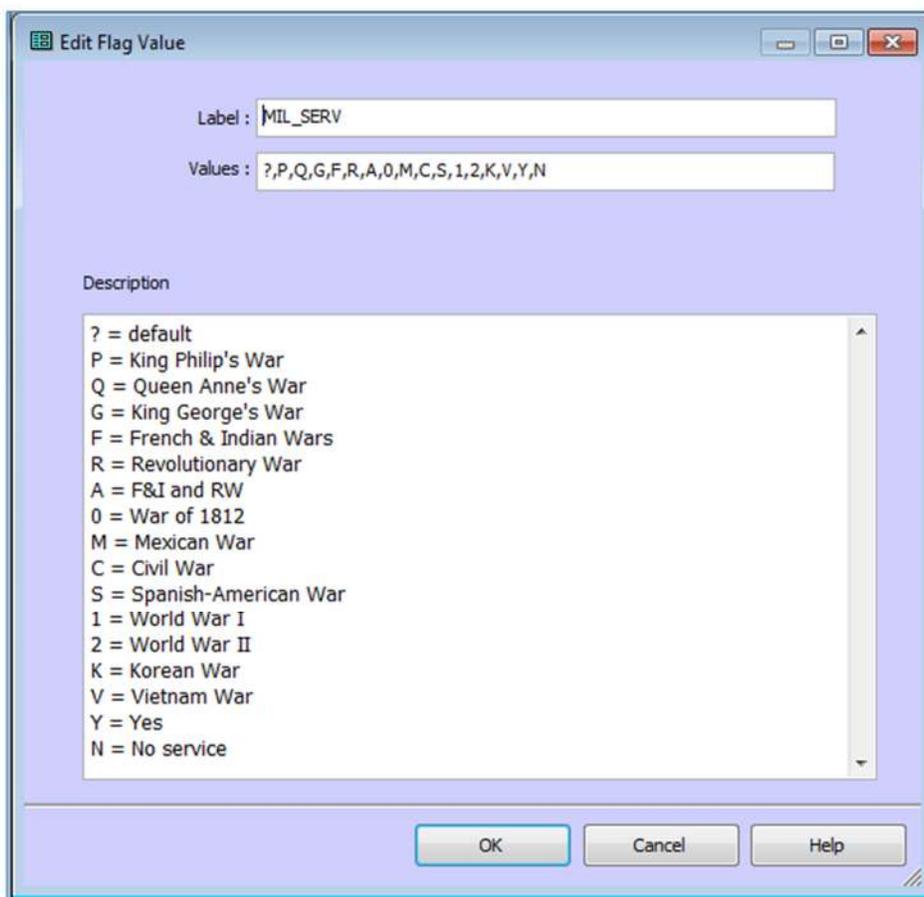
Save Filter As: soldiers\_cemetery

For example: People born in Virginia

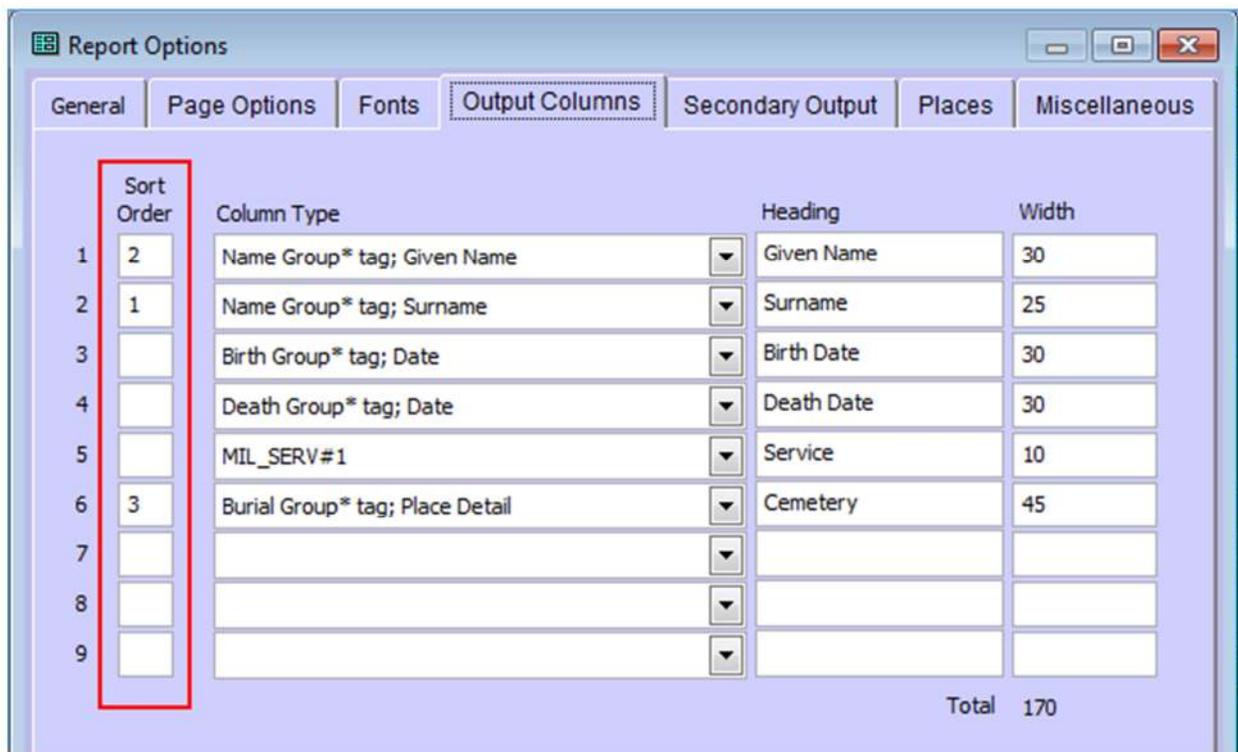
Filter | Query by Example

(	* Field	Subfield	Operator	Value	) Connect
	MIL_SERV#1		<> Does	?	AND
	MIL_SERV#1		<> Does	N	AND
<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial...	County	Contains	[?]	AND
<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial...	State	= Equals	[?]	END

This filter selects for all burials in a county and state specified when the report is run. In my database, soldiers are identified by a flag value determined by their service (see below). [Comment: I am looking forward to HRE's multi-value flags. For example, I would love to have the value "S1" representing soldiers who served in both the Spanish-American War and World War I.] This filter removes any person whose Mil\_Serv flag value is ? (the default) or N (no record of service has been found). How do you identify soldiers and their service in your database?



## The Output Columns



The output columns are sorted in this order: (1) Surname, (2) Given name, (3) Cemetery. My usual name sort uses a Last, Given column, rather than splitting the two name parts into separate columns. Which method you choose depends on the desired table appearance. Other sort orders that will be considered in the second class of reports might be:

- (1) Cemetery, (2) Surname, (3) Given name
- (1) Served, (2) Surname, (3) Given name
- (1) Cemetery, (2) Served, (3) Surname, (4) Given name

The default width for date columns is 23. That's fine for most date formats, but it is too short for "from ... to ..." dates.

## Formatting the Report

---

TMG outputs dates as text, but recognizes them as dates for sorting purposes. Once in Excel, that recognition disappears for any dates predating 1 January 1900. Because this report is not sorted by any date field, this problem is irrelevant – at this time. Dates are also exported with lots of extraneous spaces before the information. One can fake the illustrated column output by right-aligning the column and then setting the column width to something aesthetically pleasing. The Excel method for eliminating extraneous spaces and non-printing characters is `TRIM(CLEAN(cell))` (see below).

The number values in the Service column are output as text by TMG. In this table, they can be left as text or converted to numbers.

Regardless of the headings typed in the TMG output columns screen, those headings will appear in lower case. They will need to be edited. Centering columns, right-aligning, left-aligning, borders, etc., can be formatted as desired.

## Excel Tricks

---

- Google ***Excel Trim Clean*** for information on usage and syntax. You will need to insert columns for the formula and then paste the formula values into the original date columns. Then, the formula columns can be deleted.

- Paste Values (and other options). Become familiar with all the paste command options. Google *Excel (paste values)*.

