

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain

Taps

January/February 2009

JAY ATKINSON – Died Thursday, November 20, 2008 in Tonawanda, New York at the age of 59. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 25, 1948. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**.

THOMAS W. L. BARNES – Died Saturday, August 16, 2008 in Whitwell, Tennessee at the age of 65. The cause of death was renal failure, cardiac disease and diabetes. He was born in Orme, Tennessee on July 1, 1943 to the late Thomas, Jr and Edna Barnes. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Sandra Henry, his brother, Jimmy Reams and his granddaughter, Allison Nicole Barnes and a nephew, Carl McAlister. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Linda A. Barnes, of the home; his son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Annie Barnes, of Whitwell; his daughter and son-in-law, Tonya and Kenny Atterton, of Whitwell; three grandchildren, Justin Barnes, of Whitwell, Brandie Barnes, of Sequatchie, Tennessee and Dylan Atterton, of Whitwell, and; three sisters, Betty Jo Griggs, of Fayetteville, Tennessee, Debra Mathews, of Sequatchie and Opal Underwood, of Port Ritchie, Florida. He served in the United States Marine Corps with two tours of duty in the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. Funeral services were conducted in the Reed Funeral Home Chapel in Whitwell with Pastor Roy Terry, officiating. Interment was in Red Hill Cemetery.

WILLIAM GEORGE BARNEY – Died Friday, October 17, 2008 in Carson City, Nevada at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 1, 1927. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – “The Rock Pile (Carson City) Chapter #719**.

JAMES ROBERT “Bob” BELL – Died Friday, November 7, 2008 in Baldwin, Mississippi at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 22, 1940 to the late Thomas and Frances Bell. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Dickey Bell. He is survived by his wife, Ruby Horton Bell, of the home; three daughters, Christina Harp, of Dallas, Texas, Elizabeth Solly, of Guys, Tennessee and Jamie Taylor, of Old Hickory, Tennessee; one stepdaughter, Barbara Bounds, of Southaven, Mississippi; two stepsons, Edward Downs, of Walls, Mississippi and Darrell Downs, of Southaven; three brothers, Thomas “Peanut” Bell, of Florida, Charles “Tiny” Bell and Robert Bell, both of Ohio, and; 13 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Saint James Roman Catholic Church. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tupelo Chapter #842**. Funeral services were conducted in the Waters Funeral Home with Father Thomas Lalor, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in Fairview Cemetery in Dyersburg, Tennessee.

ROBERT E. BOYER – Died Thursday, October 30, 2008 in Fort Smith, Arkansas at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 18, 1927. He served in the United States Air Force. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith Chapter #467**.

CARLOS ROCS BROWN – Died Saturday, November 15, 2008 in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 25 1945 in Chattanooga to the late L. B. and Mary Brown, of Daisy Mountain, Tennessee. He is survived by his wife, Debra, of the home; his daughter Colby Rae; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Eric and Anson and Meridith; two sisters, Sandra Wilson and Barbara Henry; two grandchildren, Bianca and Taylor; “Grandpa Bill” and Sylvia; brother-in-law, Mark Champion; sister-in-law, Lori Palmer, and; nieces and nephews, Courtney, Kirby, Kenny, Amber, Brandy and Ryan. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1966. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. Memorial services were conducted in the Chattanooga National Cemetery with full military honors and Chaplain Art Jones, officiating.

ROBERT M. BURNS – Died Sunday, September 7, 2008 in Van Buren, Arkansas at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 21, 1947. He served in the United States Air Force. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith Chapter #467**.

DENNIS W. CALLAHAN – Died Friday, October 10, 2008 in Manor Care in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania while listening to music by Native Americans. He was 66 years of age and a resident of Easton, Pennsylvania. The cause of death was cancer. He was born August 2, 1942 in Easton to the late Dr. Floyd and Marguerite Wise Callahan. He is survived by his daughter, Denise L. Callahan, of Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania; two sisters, Mary Schneider, of Phoenix, Arizona and Maureen Feist, of Bethlehem, and; one grandson, Daniel Musselman. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Veterans of the Vietnam War – Brown-Lynch Post #9 and Running Strong for American Indian Youth. He was a member of Saint Luke’s United Church of Christ in Belfast, Pennsylvania. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Easton Chapter #415**.

REVEREND CHARLES CONLEY “Cubby” CULBERTSON – Died Tuesday, October 28, 2008 in Hixson, Tennessee at the age of 63. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related Diabetes. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 9, 1945 to the late James V. and Carol Culbertson. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his stepmother, Barbara Culbertson. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Cathy, of the home; his son and daughter-in-law, Charles and Jeri Culbertson; his daughter and son-in-law, Becky and Eddie Lewis; four grandchildren, Melody, Chase and Logan Culbertson and Ashton Lewis; one brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Sharon Culbertson; three sisters and one brother-in-law, Ruey and Tom Angellotti, Karen Guevara and Carolyn Culbertson, and; several nieces and nephews. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a dentist for 28 years before getting ordained a Methodist Pastor and had served in many different Methodist Churches. He was a member of the Hixson United Methodist Church. He was also a private pilot and active in the Mason and Eastern Star and Toastmasters. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America –**

Chattanooga Chapter #203. Funeral services were conducted in the North Chapel with Dr. Al Bowles, officiating. Burial was private.

WINFORD S. DANIEL – Died Thursday, August 7, 2008 in Haleyville, Alabama at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 28, 1944. He is survived by his wife, Susan K. Daniel, of the home. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Winfield Chapter #786.*

WILLIAM F. “Bill” DAVIS – Died Tuesday, November 4, 2008 in Pooler, Georgia at the age of 63. The cause of death was excessive blood loss during surgery. He was born in Savannah, Georgia on April 26, 1945. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Davis, of the home; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Terri and Ernest Keldie, of Savannah, Pamela and Stephen Helmly, of Marietta, Georgia, Sherrie and Dave Collins, of Statesboro, Georgia and Janet Smith, of Bluffton, South Carolina; two brothers, Arthur F. Davis, of Savannah and John Davis, of Savannah; his sister and brother-in-law, Helen and David Ciucevich, of Savannah, and; twelve grandchildren. He served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1968 with service in Vietnam. He retired from the Savannah Police Department after 39 years. He was the Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart local post. He was a member of The American Legion Post #135 and the Disabled American Veterans and the Police Officers Association of Savannah. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Savannah Chapter #671.* Graveside services with full military honors was in the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Glennville, Georgia.

DELORES “Dee” EDMONDSON – Died Saturday, October 18, 2008 in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. She was born October 17, 1940 in Chattanooga to the late Aubrey and Clara Bowman. She was predeceased by her husband Robert “Buddy” Willard Edmondson. She is survived by two brothers and sisters-in-law, Taylor and Jackie Bowman, Subligna, Georgia and Aubrey Maurice and Linda Bowman, of Rossville, Tennessee’ a sister and brother-in-law, Dr. Stavey and Joey Carlton, of Crossville, Tennessee, and; two nieces, Melanie Cooksey, of Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee and Carrie Bowman, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203.** Memorial services were conducted in the East Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home with the Reverend Wayland Stewart, officiating.

JOHN M. ENGEL - age 66, died in November 2008, a United States Navy Veteran, of Concord Township, Ohio, for the past 13 years, formerly of Mayfield Heights, Ohio and Solon, Ohio. Loving husband of Patricia. Dear father of Jennifer Engel and Rebecca (Todd) Johnson. Grandfather of Todd II, Emily, Joseph, James, Jennifer Jane and Clayton Johnson. Brother of Alice Engel and Louis (Pat) Engel. Son of the late Theodore L. and Magdalena Engel. He is also survived by his cat Moose. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America - Ohio.* The family suggests contributions be made to Vietnam Veterans of America, 8605 Cameron St., Silver Spring, MD 20910 Arrangements entrusted to BRUNNER FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE, MENTOR.

JOHN WILLIAM ERBY, JR. – Died Sunday, November 9, 2008 in West Chester, Ohio at the age of 68. The cause of death was cardiac failure. He was born May 7, 1940 in Rosston, Arkansas to the late John and Mary T, Harvey Erby. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Delores Erby, of the home; two daughters, Kimberly G. Erby and Shannon N. Erby; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Wilma and Charles Charles Francis and Gwen and Michael Williams, and; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Terrell and Glenda Thomas, Bruce Thomas and Bill and Patricia Self. He was served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and retired at the rank of First Lieutenant. He was wounded in action while serving with the 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam losing part of his right leg to a mortar round during a battle at Fire Support Base Burt (Sui Kut). He was a *Life Member and President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cincinnati Chapter #10**. Funeral services were conducted in Hodapp Funeral Home in West Chester.

JAMES GRADY FLOWERS – Died Tuesday, May 6, 2008 in his home in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 30, 1938 in La Grange, Georgia to the late Silver, Jr. and Lady Russell Flowers. He married Tsuneko Kudaka on April 7, 1964 in Okinawa, Japan. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Elaine Copeland, of Dallas, Georgia and Denise Long, of Richmond, Texas; two sons and daughters-in-law, Dale and Helen Flowers, of Katy, Texas and Jerry and Ashley Flowers, of Edmond, Oklahoma; eleven grandchildren, Trevela Ertuck, Erica Jennings, Zachary Flowers, Quentin Flowers, Brandon Flowers, Tevin Long, Bryce Flowers, Matachi Walton, Skylar Flowers, Jacobie Flowers and Chloe Flowers; two great grandchildren, and; one sister, Helen Gilmore, of Dayton, Ohio. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by five brothers and one sister. He served in the United States Army for twenty years with three tours of duty in Vietnam retiring on August 28, 1975 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He was awarded the Purple Heart and was a Prisoner of War in Cambodia. He retired at the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans. He was also a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**. Funeral services were conducted in the Becker Funeral Home Chapel in Lawton with the Reverend Cliff Gravitt, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in the Fort Sill National Cemetery in Elgin, Oklahoma.

WILLIAM N. FURMAN – Died Friday, October 3, 2008 in Wellborn, Texas at the age of 61. The cause of death was colon cancer. He was born November 23, 1946 in Buffalo, New York. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Furman, of the home. He served in the United States Army from November 6, 1965 to December 29, 1967 with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bryan Chapter #937**.

JOE R. "Buster" GIBSON – Died Saturday, October 11, 2008 in Columbus, Mississippi at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 14, 1948. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Columbus Chapter #997**.

JESSE N. GREEN – Died Monday, September 22, 2008 at the Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, New Hampshire at the age of 61. He was a resident of Manchester. The cause of death was heart disease. He was born November 7, 1946 in Coushatta, Louisiana to the late

Albert and Everlina (Haughton) Green. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his wife, Diane Green and nine brothers and sisters. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Nicole and Ryan Hawkins, of San Antonio, Texas; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Arthur and Verdia Green, of Oakland, California, Lester and Alice Green, of Columbus, Ohio and Robert and Jin Green, of Oceanside, California; two sisters, Janet Green, of Hayward, California and Shirley Green, of Oceanside, California; three grandchildren, Cameron, Kevin and Kayla, and; several nieces, nephews and cousins. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hillsborough Chapter #992**. Funeral services were conducted in the McHugh Funeral Home in Manchester. Interment with full military honors was in the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, New Hampshire.

WILLIAM E. HAGGERTY - 52, formerly of Endicott, New York, died at the New York State Veterans Home, Oxford, New York, Monday, October 20, 2008. He was predeceased by his aunts and uncles. Survived by his mother, Edith L. Thornton, Vestal; father, Edward J. Haggerty, Binghamton; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Denise and Robert Broughton, Pahrump, Nev., Mary E. Haggerty, Maine, Marlene and Daniel Vymislicky, Endicott; three nephews, Daniel, Jr., Joseph and Thomas; cousins, aunts and uncles. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the United States Navy for over seven years. He was a Permanently Hospitalized Veteran member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Owego Chapter #480**. Funeral Services will be held Friday, 1 p.m. from the Allen Memorial Home, 511-513 E. Main Street, Endicott. Father Clarence Cerwonka, Pastor of Most Holy Rosary Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Endicott. The family will receive friends at the memorial home Thursday from 5 - 8 p.m. Expressions of sympathy in William's memory may be made to the New York State Veterans Home, Oxford, N.Y.; or the Vietnam Veterans Association.

PAT DARWIN HALCHUCK – Died Thursday, October 16, 2008 in his home in Dennison, Ohio at the age of 59. The cause of death was cancer. He was born December 21, 1948 in Dover, Ohio to the late John S. and Mary A. (Hibbs) Halchuck. He married Marcia Beiter on August 20, 1983. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Tammy and Bob Bowling and Paula and James Reynolds; grandchildren, Dominic Reynolds, Tricia Snyder and Paul Snyder currently serving in Afghanistan; two great-grandchildren, Kimberly and Hailey Snyder; four brothers and sisters-in-law, John A. and Carolyn Halchuck, of Warren, Ohio, Michael A. and Elizabeth Halchuck, of Canfield, Ohio, Steven L. and Judy Halchuck, of Indiana and Richard E. and Brenda Halchuck, of Bolivar; one sister and brother-in-law, Diane C. and Michael Weixler, of Louisville, Kentucky, and; numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his daughter, Patricia Snyder who died on January 16, 1990. He served in the United States Army and a total of 32 months in Vietnam. He was a member of the Bomb Squad. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Philadelphia Chapter #857**. Funeral services were conducted in the Linn-Hert-Geib Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Brian Flood, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in Evergreen Burial Park in New Philadelphia.

LEROY HAMPTON, JR. – Died Thursday, October 30, 2008 in Newark, New Jersey at the age of 59. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 7, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Union Chapter #779**.

AHMAD JAMAL HASAN (aka JAMES EDMUNDSON) – Died Sunday, November 2, 2008 at the VA Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina at the age of 63. He was a resident of South Boston, Virginia. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 6, 1945 in Halifax County, Virginia to the late James Albert Edmundson and Mrs. Ella Jane Wyatt Edmundson. He is survived by his wife, Betty Peeks Edmundsen, of the home; two daughters, Shardena Edmundson and Rasheeda Edmundson, both of Richmond, Virginia; a son, Albert M. Edmundson, of Maryland; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Nancy and William Coleman, of South Boston and Laverne Edmundson, of Washington, DC; two brothers, Howard “Peekaboo” Edmundson, of South Boston and Niam Hasan, of Maryland; four grandchildren, and; nieces, nephews and cousins. He was of the Muslim faith. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Halifax Chapter #840**. Funeral services were conducted in the Crawford House Chapel in Halifax. Interment was in the Halifax Memorial Gardens.

E. RAY HENDRIX – Died Saturday, November 8, 2008 in Perryville, Maryland at the age of 55. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Sparta, North Carolina on August 16, 1953 to Lena Faye Holbrook Parthree, of Aberdeen, Maryland and the late Herbert Clifford Hendrix. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his son, Jonathan R. Hendrix, of Rosedale, Maryland; two daughters, Jacklyn R. Hendrix, of Joppa, Maryland and Brandi Schneider, of Spring, Texas; two brothers and one stepbrother, Terry Hendrix, of Virginia, Tony Hendrix, of Aberdeen and Guy Parthree, of Darlington, Maryland; two sisters and two step-sisters, Linda Hendrix Klock, of Arizona, Sandra McAmis, of Longview, Texas, Brenda Roberts, of Delta, Pennsylvania and Wanda Garrison, of Havre de Grace, Maryland, and; one grandchild. In addition to his father, he was predeceased by a sister, Donna Hendrix, a brother, Cary Hendrix, and his stepfather, Ralph Parthree. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a member of The American Legion. He was a *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bel Air Chapter #588**. Interment was in Quantico National Cemetery in Virginia.

DALE EDWARD HORTON – Died Monday, October 27, 2008 in Cincinnati, Ohio at the age of 58. The cause of death was cancer and a heart attack. He was born December 5, 1949 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Sherie Horton, of the home; five daughters and one son-in-law, Cendi Dahl, Heather Horton, Christina Horton, Samantha Horton and Mindy and Tom Gross; four grandchildren, Alex, Gabbi, Jakob and Morgan; one brother and sister-in-law, Keith and Paula Horton, and; one niece and nephew, Angela and Doug Horton. He served in the United States Army from January 20, 1967 to August 14, 1970 with two tours of duty in Vietnam with the 85th Transportation Company and then HHC 25 S&T Battalion of the 25th Infantry Division. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cincinnati Chapter #10**. Funeral services were conducted in the Witt, Good and Kelsch Funeral Home in Dublin, Ohio.

RICHARD A. JOHNSON – Died Tuesday, October 28, 2008 in Oldsmar, Florida at the age of 59. He was formerly of Woodbridge, New Jersey. The cause of death was septic shock. He was born in Newark, New Jersey. Richard also lived in Irvington, Edison, and Woodbridge before moving to Oldsmar, Fla. He retired from a career as a mechanical engineer for General Dynamics Corporation, Avenel. He served in the U.S. Army as a combat engineer with the First Cavalry Division during the Vietnam War, where he carried the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, The Air Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal. Richard was predeceased by his son, Richard M., in 1996. Richard leaves his loving family, including his daughter, Jennifer and her husband Jeffrey Spalt of Allenwood; his three granddaughters, Jillian, Kylie, and Katelyn Spalt; and his sister, Margaret and her husband Alan Wasserman of Howell. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westfield Chapter #688**. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. Saturday until the service at 10 a.m. at the O'Brien Funeral Home, 2028 Highway 35, Wall, immediately followed by a burial with military honors at Monmouth Memorial Park, Tinton Falls. In lieu of flowers, kindly make a donation to the charity of your choice.

OTIS H. KILGORE – Died Thursday, October 2, 2008 in Pocola, Oklahoma at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 2, 1945. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith (Arkansas) Chapter #467**.

STEVE E. KILTAU – Died recently in 2008 in North Palm Beach, Florida at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 5, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida**.

FRANCIS J. KOZLOVSKY, SR. – Died Sunday, June 1, 2008 in Cherry Meadows Hospice in Appleton, Wisconsin after a long battle with heart disease. He was 63 years of age. He was a resident of Appleton. He was born November 22, 1944 to the late Alvin and Eleanor (Paschek) Kozlovsky. He is survived by his wife, Susan Reumler Kozlovsky, of the home; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Jim, Jeff and Jodi and Chris and Jenny; two grandchildren, Elise and Cameron, and; one brother and sister-in-law, Nick and Mary Kozlovsky. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by an infant son, Michael. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Saint Bernard Roman Catholic Church in Appleton. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Appleton Chapter #351**. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Saint Bernard's Church with Reverend Father Dennis Ryan as Main Celebrant.

STANLEY M. "Stan" KUCHLEWSKI – Died Tuesday, November 18, 2008 in Levittown, New York at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 14, 1947. He is survived by his wife, Kathy, of the home; a son, Russell, and; a daughter, Deborah. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a long time member of VFW Post #3211 in Hicksville, NY. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Nassau County Chapter #82**. He served as an elected officer of each organization and chairperson of many committees within both organizations.

ROBERT W. LEHRFELD, JR. – Died Sunday, October 19, 2008 in Alpharetta, Georgia at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 5, 1944. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Greenville (North Carolina) Chapter #272**.

EARL R. MASON – Died Wednesday, August 20, 2008 in North Las Vegas, Nevada at the age of 64. The cause of death is Agent Orange-related liver failure. He was born February 22, 1944 in Rome, New York. He is survived by his wife Camille, of the home. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Las Vegas Chapter #17**.

MALINDA A. McLAUGHLIN – Died Thursday, October 23, 2008 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. She was born July 11, 1942. She is survived by her husband, Kevin McLaughlin. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – White Hall Chapter #830**.

ALFRED BOYD “Jake” MELLOTT – Died Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at the Washington County Hospital in Elkton, Maryland at the age of 61. He was a resident of Elkton. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 1, 1947 in Rawlings, Maryland to the late Howard Mellott and Emma Jeanette (Hinton) Mellott. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by two brothers, Charles “Sonny” Mellott and Richard Mellott. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Mary J. (Wilson) Mellott, of the home; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Jake Mellot, Jr., of Elton and Brian and Kelly Mellott, of Williamsport, Maryland; his daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Robert Bishop; his brother and sister-in-law, Howard “Ducky” and Tina Mellott, of Romney, West Virginia; five sisters and brothers-in-law, Mabel and John Leslie and Shirley Lidner, all of Cumberland, Maryland, Linda and Pete Douglas, of Rawlings, Glenda Blanchard, of Baltimore, Maryland and Vicky Stanholtz, of Ridgeley, West Virginia, and; his grandchildren, Tevin, Bishop, Elkton, Kobe Mellott, Braden Mellott and Kaleah Mellot, all of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War with the 75th Rangers. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars – Elkton Memorial Post. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. Funeral services were conducted at the Adams Family Funeral Home in Cumberland with Pastor Larry Aikens, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in the Maryland State Veterans Cemetery in Rocky Gap, Maryland.

WILLIAM “Bill” LEWIS MICHELSON - Died unexpectedly in an accident in his home on Friday, March 7, 2008 in Temperance, Michigan at the age of 78. He was born October 25, 1929, in Russell, Pa., the son of the late Leonard A. Michelson and Marie E. King. He attended Russell Area Schools, graduated from high school, and just after his 17th birthday, joined the Army. He served on active duty from November 6, 1946 to April 1948 and again from August 1948 to May 3, 1952, serving both in Europe (most notably as a U.S. Army Military Police and Intelligence School graduate) and in Korea. Besides his service in the military, he attended Cerritos College in California and throughout his life received a toolmaker certificate and completed 47 technical

courses including such areas as metallurgy, jet engines, turbines, multi-stage compressors, 500 HP electric engines, F.A.A. aircraft inspection, Rockwell Hardness Inspection, level 2 industrial school radiography at Kodak in Rochester, N.Y. and level 2 ultrasonics at Krautchamer Branson in Connecticut. In his early career, he worked and lived in Buffalo, N.Y., and in the aircraft industry in California. He then worked and traveled throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and Haiti. In his later career working for Exxon Research and Engineering, he traveled throughout the U.S. And then took an assignment with Exxon and Esso Engineering (Europe) Ltd. where he lived and worked in England and traveled throughout Europe as chief inspector. Besides traveling, he loved history (esp. military), geography, current events, chess and boxing. He was a 45+ year member of the Free and Accepted Masons Carroll Lodge 1147 (Frewsburg, N.Y.) He was also a member of the American Legion Post 0556, VFW Post 53, Amvets Post 1996, Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter MI0000 & the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 313. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Eugene L. Michelson, step-father Ziba A. King, sister Grace B. Rodgers, and two grandchildren, Naomi and Joshua Michelson. He is survived by a son, Gunnard L. Michelson of Eugene, Ore.; a daughter, Veronica L. Smith of Edinboro, Pa.; two grandchildren Esther Bullock and husband Shane of Springfield, Ore.; and Eli Michelson and his wife Heather of Eugene, Ore.; a step-grandson Richard Harris and his wife Kelly of Portland, Ore., and several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was an *At-Large* member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Michigan**. Funeral arrangements and cremation in Michigan were handled by Pawlak Funeral Home, LLC of Temperance, Mich. Further arrangements in Pennsylvania are being handled by Glunt Funeral Home, of Edinboro, Pa. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery, on Rt 62 in Russell, Pa. on November 1, 2008, with full Military and Masonic rites observed. There will be a graveside service at 1:00 p.m. to which all family and friends are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be designated to the family c/o, Glunt Funeral Home, 210 Erie Street, Edinboro, PA 16412.

ROBERT L. MOORE – Died Tuesday, October 28, 2008 in a Lawton, Oklahoma hospital at the age of 73. He was a resident of Lawton. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 18, 1934 in Baird, Texas. He married Elizabeth Rascher on November 1, 1963 in Schwabach, Germany. She died on September 30, 2007. In addition to his wife, he was predeceased by two brothers. He is survived by his son, Ludwig Moore, of Lawton; his stepdaughter, Heidi Schmidt, of Germany; three grandchildren, Janice Young, of Alexander, Arkansas, Verena Schleicher, of Germany and Marcus Moore, of Lawton; three great-grandchildren, Jeffrey James Godwin, Jordan Lynn Godwin and Jon Schleicher, and; a sister, Alkie Jenkins, of Abilene, Texas. He served in the United States Army in the Vietnam War and retired after a long career on June 30, 1980 at the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5263, the Disabled American Veterans and also the German-American Club. He was a permanently hospitalized member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**. Funeral services were conducted in the Becker Funeral Home Chapel in Lawton. Interment with full military honors was in the Sunset Memorial Gardens in Lawton.

JERRY LYNN MORNINGSTAR - Died Sunday, November 23, 2008 in Bonaire, Georgia at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Elkhart, Indiana on July 22, 1948 to Alfred Glen and Billie Delores Vickers Morningstar, of Bonaire. A memorial service will be held at a later date. He was retired from the U. S. Army serving in Vietnam and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Warner Robins Chapter #902**. Mr. Morningstar was an Occupational Safety and Health Specialist at Robins Air Force Base and was Administrator of the Motorcycle Safety Program. Survivors include his wife, Tina L. Morningstar of Bonaire; his son, Shawn Morningstar of Bonaire; three daughters, Deborah Greer of Las Vegas, NV, Lynnette Morningstar of Yucca Valley, CA and Sherrie Degner of Keller, TX; his parents, Alfred Glen and Billie Delores Vickers Morningstar of Bonaire; his brother, Victor Morningstar of Vancouver, WA and seven grandchildren. Snow's Memorial Chapel Funeral and Cremation Services, Pio Nono Avenue has charge of arrangements.

JAMES L. PARKINSON – Died Saturday, October 25, 2008 in Zanesville, Ohio at the age of 95. The cause of death was natural causes. He was born July 7, 1913 in Zanesville to the late J. Roy and Clara B. Parkinson. He married Mary Evelyn Pyle Parkinson on July 6, 1968. In addition to his wife of 40 years, he is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Rick and Janet Parkinson, Of Bolivar, Ohio; a daughter and son-in-law, Lisabeth and David Williams, of Maine; three grandson, Brent, Gabriel and Seth; two granddaughters, Jennifer (Gregg) Ress and Naomi Ruth; three stepdaughters, Vicki (Thomas) Harper, Ashli (Robert) Goetzman and Erin Harper; a stepson, Dennis (Kristin) Amrine, and; many step-grandchildren. He served in the United States Army during World War II from 1942 and retiring in 1962. He served with the 82nd Airborne Division in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. He was a former Prisoner of War and managed to escape from the Germans while being held in Italy. He was listed as “Missing-in-Action” for six months. He was a member of Fair Oaks Baptist Church since 1925. He was a member of The American Legion Post #29. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Philadelphia Chapter #857**. Funeral services were conducted in the Bolin-Dierkes Funeral Home in Zanesville with Reverend Bob Buchanan, officiating. Burial with full military honors was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Zanesville.

JIMMY RALPH PERKINS – Died Saturday, November 15, 2008 in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 19, 1943 in Chattanooga to the late Ralph and Cathy Perkins and Shirley D. Perkins. He is survived by his wife, Shirley L. Perkins; his daughter and son-in-law, sherry and Jimmy Bethune, of Ringgold, Georgia; his son, Steve Perkins, of Ooltewah, Tennessee; his sister and brother-in-law, Sandie and Chuck Barham, of Tyler, Texas; his brother and sister-in-law, Wallace and Lenore Perkins, of Flintstone, Georgia; two grandchildren, Emeri and Walker Bethune, of Ringgold, and nieces and nephews, Michael Perkins, Michele Staples, Aundrea Perkins and Chandra Linqvist. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Airman’s Medal for heroism. He was a member of the Baptist faith. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. Funeral services were conducted in the Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Art Jones, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in the Chattanooga National Cemetery.

CHARLES WARREN PIGOTT, JR. – Died Friday, July 25, 2008 in his home in Merced, California at the age of 59. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 26, 1949 in Jamestown, Ohio. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Babette, of the home; his sister and brother-in-law, Monica and Dale Edmonds, of Van Buren, Arkansas; his brother and sister-in-law, Roger and Shireen Pigott, of Poway, California; 11 nieces and nephews, and; 5 great-nieces and great-nephews. He served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1971 when he was discharged after being wounded twice in Vietnam while assigned to the First Cavalry Division, awarding him two Purple Hearts. He was a member and Past Commander of the Disabled American Veterans – Atwater-Merced Chapter #31; a member of The American Legion Post #83; a member of the 1st of the 1st Cavalry Association, and; a member of The Military Order of the Purple Heart. He was a *Life Member and Past President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Merced Chapter #691**. In 1997, he received the Images of Bravery Award, a biennial recognition bestowed by the California VVA State Council to outstanding Vietnam Veterans who have helped improve the image of the Vietnam Veteran through their work in the community.

MICHAEL V. RAY – Died in April 2008 in Portland, Tennessee at the age 58. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 14, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gallatin Chapter #240**.

WAYNE JARED ROACH – Died Friday, September 26, 2008 in Lonaconing, Maryland at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 3, 1948 in Cumberland, Maryland to Genevieve Lee Via, of Daytona Beach, Florida and the late Robert Roach. In addition to his father, he was predeceased by his wife, Alma (Cross) McElvie Roach on November 17, 2007 and one brother, Robert Seifert. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his fiancée, Mary Ellen Nasser, of Barton, Maryland; one sister, Donna Wehunt, of Apple Valley, California; two aunts, Juanita Judy, of Cumberland and Deborah Hollenbach, of Ridgely, West Virginia, and; several nieces and nephews. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Barton United Methodist Church. He was the Commander of The American Legion – Barton Post #189. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. Memorial services were conducted with full military honors in the Barton United Methodist Church with the Reverend James L. McMahan, officiating. Inurnment was in the Maryland State Veterans Cemetery in Rocky Gap, Maryland.

RONALD E. SHIELDS – Died Wednesday, November 5, 2008 in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 74. The cause of death was cancer. He was born August 15, 1934 in Mount Union, Pennsylvania to the late Oscar Samuel and Myrtle Mary Parsons Shields. He married Giula Renninger on July 24, 1963 in Hagerstown, Maryland. In addition to his wife, of the home, he is survived by three daughters and sons-in-law, Brenda and Tony Hansen, of Bedford, Texas, Veronica and Greg Dawson, of Keller, Texas and Jody and Brent Stewart, of Lawton; a son, Stephen Shields, of Newark, Ohio; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren, and; three brothers, Ray Shields, of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, Ralph Shields, of McConnellstown, Pennsylvania and Rodney Shields, of Mount Union, Pennsylvania. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Robert Shields. He served in the United States Army with two

tours of duty in Vietnam. He retired after 20 years of service. He was a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5363, Disabled American Veterans Chapter #56 and the Elks Lodge. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751*. Funeral services were conducted in the Becker Funeral Home Memorial Chapel with the Reverend John Cramer, officiating. Interment with full military honors was in the Fort Sill National Cemetery in Elgin, Oklahoma.

PRESTON B. SKAGGS – Died Tuesday, October 10, 2006 in Rogers, Arkansas at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 27, 1927. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith Chapter #467*.

WILLIAM THOMAS SMITH – Died Tuesday, October 21, 2008 in Seaford, Virginia at the age of 69. The cause of death was cancer. He was born July 16, 1939 in Carbon Hill, Alabama to the late William Alfred Smith and Louise Walker Smith. He had been a resident of York County for the past 46 years. Mr. Smith was a member of Shiloh Baptist Church in Yorktown, where he sang with the Senior Choir, Men's Chorus and the Combined Choir. He was a Vietnam veteran and served the army as an Aviation Maintenance Instructor and Training Specialist at Fort Eustis for 42 years. He is survived by his loving wife of 26 years, Helaine Walker-Smith; two daughters, Stacy Yale, Willette Akua and her husband, Chike Akua; a son, William Thomas Smith II; six brothers and three sisters; three grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. He was a member of ***Vietnam Veterans of America – Hampton Chapter #433***. Viewing will be from 1 to 6 p.m. today, Oct. 24, 2008, at the funeral home, and one hour prior to the service at the church. Homegoing services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008, at Shiloh Baptist Church, Yorktown, followed by burial in the church cemetery, with military honors. The Smith family is receiving services of comfort at Nickelson-Cummings Funeral Home, 4304 Victoria Blvd, Hampton.

BOBBI JO STONE – Died Wednesday, October 1, 2008 in her home in Centralia, Illinois at the age of 33. The cause of death is unknown. She was born November 23, 1974 in Ironwood, Michigan to Mike Nizol, of Ironwood and Karen Reid, of Centralia. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her stepfather, David Reid, of Centralia; her grandfather, Norman Mieloszyk; her godmother, Carole Olson, and; several aunts, uncles and cousins. She was a *Life Member of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Centralia Chapter #176*. Memorial services were conducted at the Lakeside Chapel of Hillcrest Funeral Home in Centralia with the Reverend Quinton Runyon, officiating.

MARK JOSEPH STRATTON, SR. – Died Sunday, November 9, 2008 in Bennington, Vermont at the age of 54. The cause of death was cancer. He was born April 22, 1954 in Bennington to Margaret Lyons Stratton and the late Robert S. Stratton. In addition to his mother, Margaret (Stratton) Riley, of Hoosick Falls, Vermont, he is survived by two sons and one daughter-in-law, Mark Joseph, Jr. and Beverly Stratton and Michael J. Stratton, all of Hoosick Falls; two daughters, Celisa Ann Stratton, of Westmore, Vermont and Jessica Ann Stratton, of Hoosick

Falls; three brothers, Ronald Stratton, of Marietta, Georgia, Herbert Stratton, of Arlington, Vermont and Robert Stratton, of Bennington; three sisters, Marlene Sauer, of Corinth, New York, Virginia Berard and Helen Groesbeck, both of Bennington; his former wife, Sarina DeZinger of Pownal, Vermont; five grandchildren, and; many nieces and nephews. In addition to his father, he was predeceased by his first wife, Linda Moffitt Stratton, his brother, Donald Stratton and two sisters, Ellen Welch and Janet Stratton. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1972 to 1975 in Thailand with LS6 Delta Nam Pong, 3rd Division. He attained the rank of Lance Corporal. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1332, the American Legion Post #13 and the Moose Lodge. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Bennington Chapter #601*. Funeral services were in the Hanson-Walbridge Funeral Home. Burial with full military honors was in the White Chapel Cemetery in Bennington.

KEVIN T. SWEENEY – Died Tuesday, August 7, 2007 in North Royalton, Ohio at the age of 57. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 11, 1949. Loving husband of Patricia A. (nee Carras); loving father of Sandra Stefanko (Joseph) and Robert (Kim); dear grandfather of Ryan, Tayler, Molly, Joey, Sydney, Nicholas, Jordan and Connor; beloved son of Audrey (nee Moore) and the late Bernard; dear brother of Terrance (Marylou), Bridget and Brian; dear son-in-law of Marie and the late William Carras; dear brother-in-law of William Carras (Sue) and Robert Carras (Barb); dear uncle and great-uncle. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Cleveland Chapter #15*. Friends may call at VODRAZKA FUNERAL HOME OF INDEPENDENCE, 6505 BRECKSVILLE RD. (RT. 21 SOUTH OF ROCK-SIDE), THURSDAY 6-9 P.M. AND FRIDAY 4-8 P.M. Funeral services at the funeral home Saturday, Aug. 11 at 8:45 a.m. followed by Mass of Christian Burial at St. John Nepomucene Church, Fleet Ave. at 9:30 a.m. Private interment at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery.

SAMUEL J. TECCE, JR. – Died Wednesday, October 15, 2008 in Warminster, Pennsylvania at the age of 65. The causes of death were complications from his spinal cord injury of 25 years. He was born March 18, 1943 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Samuel J. Tecce, Sr. and the late Mary T. (née DiFernandino) Tecce. In addition to his father, he is survived by his wife, Mary B. (née Byrnes) Tecce; one daughter and son-in-law, Mary Jean and Daniel DeCarlo; two sons and daughters-in-law, Kevin S. and Erin Tecce and Daniel J. and Kristina Tecce; his brother and sister-in-law, Eugene and Linda Tecce, and; nine grandchildren. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of ***Vietnam Veterans of America – Liberty Bell (Philadelphia) Chapter #266***. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Nativity of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church in Warminster. Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

PHILIP A. “Phil” TRINCHERA – Died Sunday, October 26, 2008 at Orchard Manor in Medina, New York at the age of 66. He was a resident of Lockport, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Batavia, New York on September 5, 1942 to Jennie (Carlino) Trinchera, of Pottstown, Pennsylvania and the late Anthony “Nino” Trinchera. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Kathryn (Kathy) (Geracci) Mulley Trinchera, of the home; two sons, Thomas Trinchera, of Poughkeepsie, New York and Anthony Trinchera, of Canandaigua, New York; one sister and brother-in-law, Carmen and Ronald Kryman, of

Pottstown, PA; his mother-in-law, Angela Marie Geracci; one aunt, and; several nieces, nephews and cousins. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1968. He was a Permanently Hospitalized Veteran member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Lockport. Interment with full military honors was in Saint Joseph's Cemetery in Niagara Falls, New York.

JOHN GEORGE UNDERWOOD, JR. – Died Wednesday, November 12, 2008 in Franklin, North Carolina at the age of 67. The cause of death was cirrhosis of the liver. He was born in Windsor, Ontario, Canada on November 4, 1941 to the late John George Underwood, Sr. and Ann Smith Underwood. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother Albert Underwood. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Christine Moore Underwood, of the home; three sons and daughters-in-law, Peter and Melissa Underwood, of Atlanta, Georgia, Scott and Tammy Underwood, of North Port, Florida and Robert and Annette Underwood, of Arcadia, Florida; his daughter and son-in-law, Holly and Ron Lex, of Franklin; six grandchildren, Adam Underwood, Jessie Underwood, Jacob Underwood, John Lex, Melanie Lex and Dylon Underwood; one great-grandson, Dustin Spates, and; many nieces and nephews. He served in the United States Army in the Panama Canal Zone and was an expert in Jungle Warfare. He was a pitcher for the John F. Kennedy League Baseball Team and traveled throughout Central and South America and had the most strike-outs. He was recruited by the Saint Louis Cardinals to join them for Spring training camp in Sarasota, Florida but due to contracting malaria could not fulfill his contract. He then entered the Ministry of Correctional Service in Ontario. He completed his B.A. in Correctional Recreation and became the Recreational Director for the Millbrook Maximum Correction Facility. He was a member of the Ontario Provincial Police Auxiliary. He and his family moved to Sarasota, Florida and became a detective for the C.I.B. Division of the Sarasota Sheriff's Department. He served as the S.H.O.C.A.P. Director for the Sarasota Sheriff's Department. Then the family moved to Franklin in 2001. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Franklin Chapter #994**. He was a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

WALTER C. WOOLARD, SR. – Died Tuesday, October 28, 2008 in Sprio, Oklahoma at the age of 80. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 16, 1928. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith (Arkansas) Chapter #467**.

RICHARD F. YOUNT – Died recently in November 2008 in Oak Harbor, Washington at the age of 79. The cause of death was the result of Agent Orange. He was born May 14, 1939. He is survived by his wife, Martha, of the home. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Washington**.

JOSEPH J. ZORN – Died Monday, November 10, 2008 in Coram, New York at the age of 61. The cause of death was cardiac failure. He was born September 24, 1947 in Brooklyn, New York. He is survived by his wife, Marsha, of the home. He served in the United States Marine Corps in

Vietnam with C Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Division from 1967 to 1968. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Farmingville Chapter #82.**

**ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD! AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM!
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE! AMEN! MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE! AMEN!**

FATHER PHIL SALOIS, M.S.