

# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain

## Taps

May/June 2015

**LARRY ADLER** – Died Saturday, March 21, 2015 in Oakland Gardens, New York at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Whitestone Chapter #32**. He was interred in Calverton National Cemetery.



**ROBERT DEAN ALBRACHT** - Died unexpectedly Friday, February 6, 2015 at Unity Point Health-Trinity, Rock Island, Illinois at the age of 71. He was a resident of Rock Island. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 26, 1943, eldest son of the late Germaine and Leander Albracht of Rock Island. He graduated from Alleman High School in 1961, and, after serving an extended tour of duty in Vietnam

with the United States Army, graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1976. He married Nanette Sheley of Moline on August 14, 1971, and they had 4 children. He worked as a Civil Engineer for more than 20 years, primarily with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Arsenal Island. Bob continued to serve his country in the United States Army Reserve. He then made a career change and joined the St. Louis Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a Criminal Intelligence Officer. Bob retired from the DEA after being recalled to active military duty following the attacks on September 11. As a U.S. Army Criminal Investigative Division (CID) Special Agent, he was sent to the Pentagon crash site where he performed evidence recovery and forensics duty. Thereafter, he was assigned to a protection detail for the Secretary of Defense and the U.S. Army Joint Chiefs of Staff. He then led a Drug Suppression Team at Ft. Stewart, Georgia, where he was recognized for his outstanding performance. With over 35 years of civilian and military service to the United States, his career spanned oversight of the Mississippi River Lock and Dam systems, working fraud investigations, counterintelligence, and contract security work with his brother Bill. Bob still found time to serve his local community as a Reserve Police Sergeant with the Rock Island Auxiliary Police Force. Bob served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group in Vietnam and wore his green beret with pride. He was a combat-decorated veteran with 22 years of service to our country and was the recipient of two Bronze Stars (one for Combat Valor), two Army commendations (one for Combat Valor), the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and numerous other awards and decorations. In recent years, Bob had become active *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299**, and served as its Secretary. In his retirement, Bob spent his time travelling with Nanette, working out at the Arsenal, restoring his (still incomplete) 1973 Firebird, guiding his sons in home improvement projects, and tirelessly renovating his home - a still unfinished project 31 years in the works. Above all else in his life, he was a devoted family man and friend and spent most of his time with Nanette doting on

their adoring kids and 6 grandchildren. Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 43 years, Nanette; daughter and son-in-law Danielle Albracht and Edward Jack (UK); sons and daughters-in-law Brandon and Ashley Albracht (Davenport) and Jerad and Elizabeth Albracht (Madison, WI); grandchildren Molly, Natalie, Kellan, Shay, Erin and Trent; sister and brother-in-law Nancy and Paul Fischer (Rock Island); brother and sister-in-law William and Mary Albracht (Moline); brother and sister-in-law Donald and Beth Albracht (Overland Park, KS); brother-in-law Jeff Hicock (Rock Island); sisters-in-law Nancy Michalski (Moline) and Ann Sheley (Rock Island); numerous nieces and nephews; a large, loving, extended family and friends too numerous to count. He was preceded in death by his parents, his infant son Grant Michael, his sister Mary Beth Hicock and his brother-in-law John (Jack) Sheley. Visitation was held from 3:00-7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home in Rock Island. Funeral mass was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Rock Island. Burial was at the Rock Island National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, with Military Honors by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #299. Memorials may be made to the family for a memorial fund to be established at a later date.

**JON R. ALEXANDER** (USAF, LTC-Ret.) - Died Wednesday, December 31, 2014, surrounded by his wife, Trish, and twin sons, Jim and Steve Alexander. He was 70 years of age and a resident of The Villages, Florida. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Buffalo, New York on December 16, 1944 to the late Glenn and Bertina Alexander. After graduation from the University of Alabama in 1966, Jon followed his father's footsteps in to the United States Air Force and entered Navigator Training. After a deployment to Vietnam in the C-130 Hercules, where he earned a Distinguished Flying Cross and was awarded a Purple Heart, Jon attended Pilot Training and completed a second Vietnam tour flying the T-39. Also a veteran of the Cold War, Jon flew F-4 Phantoms for the remainder of his career, earning a second Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism in 1983. After retiring from the Air Force, Jon flew the B-727 for FedEx until his second, and last, retirement in 2004. Jon and Trish relocated to The Villages, FL, in 2005 where he spent the remainder of his days playing golf, enjoying evenings at the town square, neighborhood parties, and planning visits with his six grandchildren. Jon was a member of The Retired Officers Association, the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association, the Saber Society, and numerous other professional organizations. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. He was preceded in death by his father, Col Glenn R. Alexander, USAF, Ret., his mother, Bertina Alexander, and his beloved brother CPT James E. Alexander, USAF. He is survived by wife, Trish, sons Lt Col James R. Alexander, USAF and Lt Col Steven S. Alexander, USAF, brother Lt Col Steven R. Alexander, USA, Ret., and six Grandchildren. Viewing services were held at the Shrine of Remembrance, Colorado Springs, Colorado on Sunday, January 11, 2015, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Memorial services were held on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM at the Shrine of Remembrance. Interment was at the United States Air Force Academy. In lieu of flowers, the family requests a small donation be made to the River Rats MIA/KIA Scholarship Fund, c/o Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association, [www.River-Rats.org](http://www.River-Rats.org).

**ROBERT DONN “Bob” ALHOUSE** (USA, COL.-Ret.) – Died Saturday, February 7, 2015 in The Villages, Florida at the age of 79. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in Queens,

New York and after attending Georgia Tech enlisted in the United States Army in 1957. He served with distinction for 31 years before retiring with the rank of Colonel. His duty saw him stationed around the world, including two combat tours in Vietnam and accompanied by his family for tours in Germany, Ethiopia and Korea. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. He happily retired to Florida to pursue his passion for golf and enjoyed every minute of it. He is survived by Maureen, his wife of 57 years, sons Robert Jr. (Patricia), of Atlanta; Steven (Michele), of Colorado Springs, Co. and daughter Regina Yocum (Jeff), of Prince George, Virginia. He will be dearly missed by six grandchildren and one great granddaughter. The family received friends and guests on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Banks/Page-Theus Funeral Home in Wildwood, Florida. Services were at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at Community United Methodist Church in Fruitland Park, Florida with interment at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. In lieu of flowers the family wishes for donations to be made to The Wounded Warrior Project or the Community United Methodist Church in Fruitland Park.



**ANTHONY AUGUSTINE “Tony” ALVAREZ, SR.** - Died Monday, May 27, 2013 in Orosi, California at the age of 63. The cause of death was suicide, a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was born July 17, 1949. He was a Supervisor. Anthony Alvarez, the California man suspected of shooting two of his adult daughters, killing one, was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder after serving in Vietnam as a United States Marine, the man's son said on Tuesday. Alvarez, Sr. was diagnosed with the disorder several years ago at a Veterans Affairs hospital in Palo Alto, his son Anthony Alvarez, Jr. told the Fresno Bee. The son told the newspaper that his mother's death last year and the PTSD might have been too much for his father to bear. The elder Alvarez's wife, Christine Mary Alvarez, died in January 2012, according to an obituary in the Visalia Times-Delta. Authorities say Alvarez Sr. shot and killed 37-year-old Jennifer Kimble and wounded 33-year-old Valerie Alvarez before apparently taking his life on Monday at their home in Orosi, a Central Valley town of about 9,000 about 20 miles southeast of Fresno. Valerie Alvarez has spina bifida and uses a wheelchair, Alvarez, Jr. said. As of Wednesday, Valerie Alvarez remained in the Fresno hospital in critical condition, Community Regional Medical Center spokeswoman Mary Lisa Russell said. "The war had a lot to do with" his father's state of mind, Alvarez, Jr. said. "He just stressed out after my mother died... he's never been the same." He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**. When asked about PTSD, Tulare County sheriff's spokeswoman Sgt. Chris Douglass said she could not speculate on the motive of the shooting, because the shooter is dead. Kimble's three children, an 8-year-old girl and two boys ages 11 and 13 were in the home at the time of the shootings - though Douglass declined to say whether they witnessed it. It was the 8-year-old who called 911; authorities have not released the recording of that call. The children were reunited with their father, who was at work during the shootings, authorities said. Deputies located a .45-caliber revolver next to the shooter, Douglass said, and additional firearms in a locked safe in the home. A Rosary was recited on June 9, 2013 at 6:00 PM at Saint Catherine Catholic Church. A Graveside Mass was celebrated on June 10, 2013 at 10:00 AM at the Smith Mountain Cemetery, Dinuba, California. Arrangements were made by the Dopkins Funeral Chapel, Dinuba.



**PABLO V. ALVIRA, JR.** - Died Friday, February 13, 2015 in Glendale, Arizona at the age of 71. The cause of death was liver cancer. He served in the United States Army in the 84<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. He was a Vietnam Veteran and a member of the Disabled American Veterans and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sun City Chapter #1043**. He is survived by his wife, Juanita Alvira and his three children; Steven Alvira, James Alvira and Eva Robles. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



**JOHN THOMAS ANGLIN** - Died Saturday, January 10, 2015 in Stanton, Missouri at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Saint Louis, Missouri on July 15, 1945, the first of 6 boys to the late John and Teresa Anglin. They raised their family in the St. Louis area where they attended school. John entered the United States Marine Corps in 1965 where he served for 4 years and received several medals. Following his military service, he went to work for McCabe Powers. He met and married Carmela Carmie Castelli and they were wed in 1976. When McCabe closed their doors, he went to work for McDonnell Douglas where he retired after 20 years of service. John filled his life with continual service to others. He participated and served in many organizations including; Charles W. Foley Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter #125, The American Legion Post #400, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florissant Chapter #794**, Florissant Elks Lodge #2316. He was a member of Machinist Local #837. John enjoyed playing solitaire, doing origami and crocheting. He was passionate about helping others. Beloved husband of Carmela Carmie Anglin (nee Castelli) for 38 years; dear Godfather of Bridget Cooper and Zachary Anglin; dear son of the late John J. Anglin and the late Teresa M. Anglin (Pettit); dear brother of Mike (Jeanne), Tom (Mary) and Bill (Joan) Anglin and the late Pat and the late Joe Anglin; dear brother-in-law, uncle, great-uncle, nephew, cousin and dear friend to many. Visitation was at the Shepard Funeral Chapel, 9255 Natural Bridge at I-170, on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-8:00 PM. The Funeral Service was at 1:00 PM on Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup> with burial at Calvary Cemetery.



**RALPH L. ANSLEY, JR.** - Died Monday, September 8, 2014 at his home in Fort Ashby, West Virginia at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 26, 1940 in Adrian, Michigan to the late Ralph L. Ansley, Sr. and Florence E. (née Hamman) Ansley. He was also preceded in death by a sister, Margie Boyer. Ralph served in the United States Army during the Vietnam-era. He had been a truck driver and heavy equipment operator. Ralph was a member of Fort Ashby Post 6667, V.F.W. and William E. Shuck Memorial Post 136, American Legion. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. He enjoyed playing in local pool leagues, including The Woodpile. Survivors include his loving companion of 30 years, Judith Benevy; one brother, Rick Ansley, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; sisters, Shirley Lothamer and Sharon Cleverly, both of Fremont, Ind., Bonnie Combs, Aloha, Ore., and Connie Gill, Beaverton, Ore.; 18 nieces and nephews; and, numerous great-nieces and great-nephews. Friends were received at the Upchurch Funeral Home, Inc., Route 28, Fort Ashby, on Saturday, September 13, 2014, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. A celebration of his life was at 4:00 PM. Friends were welcome to share their special remembrances.

**BYRON RICHARD BAER** – Died Saturday, January 24, 2015 in San Antonio, Texas at the age of 69. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born New Windsor, Maryland on January 27, 1945. He served in the United States Air Force from 1964 to 1971 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from 1970-1971. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America-Texas**.

**HARRY GEORGE BALLARD, JR.** – Died Friday, January 9, 2015 at the Good Shepherd Home for the Aged in New Bern, North Carolina at the age of 72. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in New York City, New York on July 28, 1942. He served in the United States Air Force from June 1960 to March 1962 and then in the United States Army from March 1968 to December 1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Bern Chapter #886**.

**ERNST E. "Raven" BANFIELD** - Died Friday, January 3, 2014 in Brighton, Michigan at the age of 84. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 26, 1929 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Ernest and Lorraine (née Hazzard) Banfield. Ernst served proudly in the United States Marine Corps. On May 5, 1960, he married the love of his life, Phyllis Canale in Detroit, MI. He worked for the City of Detroit Public Lighting Commission as a lineman and was a member of IBEW local 17. Ernst was also a life member of the ALDHA (Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association), a VFW life member of post 4553 Detroit, and a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Detroit Chapter #9**. Personal accomplishments included hiking the Appalachian Trail over a 6 month period, he helped write the first Union contract for PLC, and obtained land for the City of Detroit Veteran's Park. His Family... He will be missed by his children, Christopher (Connie Jo) Banfield of Hamburg, MI and Deanne (David) Shaffer of Whitmore Lake, MI; brothers, Eric (Barbara) Banfield of St. Helen, MI and Edward (Helen) Hazzard of Taylor, MI; and sister-in-law Catherine Greene of Mt Clemens. Ernst is preceded in death by his wife Phyllis. His Farewell... Family and friends gathered from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at the Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. His Healing Farewell was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at the Borek Jennings Funeral Home with Father John Rocus serving as officiant. Memorial donations are suggested to the Appalachian Trail Museum.

**FREDERICK EUGENE "Fred" BEACH** – Died Wednesday, March 11, 2015 in Texarkana, Texas at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 2, 1941 in Mercer, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife Loretta. He served in the United States Air Forces from August 1960 to November 1980. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana Chapter #278**. Funeral Services were at 2:00 PM on Monday, March 16, 2015 at the Chapelwood Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Gary Courtney officiating. Burial was in the Chapelwood Memorial Gardens. The family received friends at the funeral home on Sunday afternoon March 15, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations were asked to be made to Disabled American Veterans Association, Chapter #222, 1610 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Texarkana, Texas 75501 or directly to the family to remit to the DAV.



**TERRY L. BERG** - Died Thursday, January 15, 2015 at Trinity Bettendorf at the age of 68. He was a resident of Bettendorf, Iowa. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born on December 13, 1946 in Boise, Idaho to the late Emil and Lovell "Chris" Berg. He passionately loved his country, volunteering for two tours of duty with the United States Air Force in Vietnam. Upon receiving his honorable discharge, he attended

UCLA, and later graduated with a degree in law enforcement. In 1983, Terry moved to the Quad-Cities, where he joined the Scott County Sheriff's Reserve and became an active *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #776**, where he was proud to have served on the Honor Guard. On July 31, 1988, he was united in marriage to Barb Lynch. He was a proud life member of the NRA, teaching concealed-carry classes for many years. His knowledge of guns was vast and well-respected. He also became an active member of the Scott County Republican Party. Those who knew Terry knew his fun-loving spirit and great sense of humor. A brilliant man, Terry loved to read and learn with a particular interest in world history. Terry's 24-year career with the Rock Island Arsenal included several different positions and assignments, primarily in supply and inventory management, as well as active roles in the employee union. He retired in 2003. Survivors include his wife, Barbara Lynch Berg, Bettendorf; a brother, James (Christine) Lyall, West Los Angeles, Calif.; nephew, Zachary Lyall, El Segundo, Calif.; niece, Kelly (Steve) Smith, and their daughter, Ava Christine Smith, Waukesha, Wis. He loved his cats, especially Cody, who was always by his side. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Craig Lyall. Services in celebration of his life were at 1:30 PM on Friday, January 23, 2015 at Weerts Funeral Home, Kimberly at Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport. The Reverend Karl Roberts officiated. Visitation was from 4:00-7:00 PM on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the funeral home. A committal service took place at 9:30 AM on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Rock Island National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, where military honors were presented by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #776. Those wishing to attend the committal service at Rock Island National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, are asked to meet at Weerts Funeral Home at 9:00 AM to travel in procession. Memorials may be made to Papa Helping Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #776 or the Wounded Warrior Project. Remembrances and condolences may be expressed to the Berg family by visiting Terry's obituary at [www.WeertsFH.com](http://www.WeertsFH.com).



**JERALD LEE BOBLENZ** - Died Saturday, December 13, 2014 at his home in New Brockton, Alabama at the age of 77. The cause of death was Agent-Orange related lung cancer. He was born September 21, 1937 in Marion, Ohio. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War, Peacetime and a tour in Vietnam from May 17, 1963 to December 5, 1963. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Daleville Chapter #373**. Survivors include his

wife, Linda C. Boblenz, New Brockton, AL; daughter, Cheryl L. Poarch (Fred), Orange Park, FL; son, Les A. Boblenz (Rowena), Jacksonville, FL; brothers, William Boblenz (Judy), James Boblenz (Rosemary), John Boblenz (Carol); granddaughter, Samantha Boblenz. Memorial services were held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at the Searcy Funeral Home and Crematory Chapel with Searcy Funeral Home and Crematory directing. The family received friends from 9:00 AM until the service time. In lieu of flowers, memorials were made to Gentiva



Hospice, PO Box 1708, Enterprise, AL 36331. Searcy Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

**THOMAS J. BOLES, JR.** - Died Wednesday, June 18, 2014 in Leonia, New Jersey at the age of 62. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born in Newark, New Jersey on October 23, 1951 and served his country proudly in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a Studio Mechanic for Local #52, NY and a member of the American Legion Post #1, Leonia. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rutherford Chapter #800**. He was the beloved husband of Diane (née Cirillo); devoted father of Lisa Zannetti and her husband Jeff, Michelle Markowski and her husband Mickey, Thomas (T.J.) Boles, III and Michael Boles, and; cherished grandfather of Naomi, Gabriela and Diana. The family received their friends on Friday from 4:00-8:00 PM at the Frank A. Patti and Kenneth Mikatarian Funeral Home 327 Main Street "opposite the Fort Lee Library." The funeral processed on Saturday at 10:00 AM for the celebration of his funeral mass in Saint John Roman Catholic Church at 10:30 AM.

**SUMNER MERRILL "Sam" BOWERS** - Died Monday, December 1, 2014 in Valparaiso, Indiana at the age of 73. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born April 13, 1941 in Swan, Iowa to the late Joseph and Eva (née Ofield) Bowers. He entered the United States Navy in 1958 and made the military his initial career rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer prior to his retirement in 1978. He then embarked on an entrepreneurial tour of duty that led him from the oil industry to food service and multiple other endeavors that intrigued him in between. There were many successes and some failures, but never a dull moment on Sam's highway of adventure. He was a member of Heritage Lutheran Church, the Chicago Petroleum Club, American Legion Post #94 and V.F.W. Post #988 in Valparaiso. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Portage Chapter #905**. On June 9, 1963 he married Donna Dommer who survives along with their children: Cheryl (Charlie) Wardell of Tucson, AZ, Karen Dexter of Crown Point, Dustin (Kasi) Bowers of South Bend; sister, Barbara Denzler of Texas; brothers: Kermit (Donna) Bowers and Charles (Sandy) Bowers both of Iowa; grandchildren: Cole and Tyler Wardell, Cody, Jessie and Rosie Dexter and Anneliese and Lorelei Bowers; and great grandchildren: Mira Dexter and JC Oliver. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers: Gene, Joseph and Russell Bowers. A funeral service was held Saturday at 10:00 AM at the Heritage Lutheran Church, 308 North Washington Street, Valparaiso with the Reverend Joseph Ostafinski officiating with burial at the Angelcrest Cemetery. Visitation was held on Friday from 3:00 - 7:00 PM at the Moeller Funeral Home, 104 Roosevelt Road, Valparaiso. Memorials may be made to Heritage Lutheran Church.

**ROBERT BRUCE "Bob" BRIDGE** - Died Sunday, April 14, 2013 in Dinuba, California at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Dinuba on July 27, 1947. As a United States Army veteran, he served in Vietnam, was commander in VFW Post #5866, and was a *Founding Member* and *Past President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**. He was Boy Scout Master with Troop #376, and served as secretary of the Memorial Building board of directors. He is survived by his wife, Stephanie Bridge of Dinuba; his son, Daniel R. Bridge of Dinuba; his daughter, Jessica Greer of Albuquerque, NM; his granddaughter, Mackenzie Greer; and his brother, Mike Bridge of Reedley. A memorial service was held later.

**NED CLEVELAND BRITT** – Died Wednesday, January 14, 2015 in Goldsboro, North Carolina at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on December 29, 1933. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kinston Chapter #892**. He is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, Nathaniel and Melody Cleveland, of Upper Marlboro Maryland; a stepson Antony (Betty) Brown, of Spring Hope, North Carolina; three grandsons, Nathaniel Cleveland, of Chapel Hill North Carolina, Kristopher Ferrell Jenkins, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and John Alexander Brown, of Spring Hope North Carolina, and; one granddaughter, Natalya Chemelle, of Belmont, North Carolina. Funeral services were held on January 27, 2015 at 11:00 AM at Ebenezer MB Church, 209 Carey Street, La Grange North Carolina.



**ROBERT DAVID "Bob" BROOKS** – Died Monday, June 27, 2011 in Saint Paul, Minnesota at the age of 58. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 25, 1952 to the late David W. and Bertina Brooks. He was proud in-country 1971-1972 Vietnam Veteran. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Eau Claire Chapter #5**. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased by his brothers, Wayne and Darrell. He is survived by his best friend and wife, Jean Ann; stepchildren, Jackie and Tony; sister, Jean (Greg) Johnson; 3 nephews and 6 great-nieces and nephews; father and mother-in-law; Art & Rose Mahnke. He was an award-winning artist, he served in the United States Army on a gun truck in Chu Lai. A Memorial service was held on Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 11:00 AM at the First Lutheran Church, 4000 Linden Street, WBL. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church.



**DONALD EUGENE BROWN** - Died Monday, January 5, 2015 at the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center at the age of 75. He was a resident of LaVale, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 10, 1939 in Cumberland, Maryland to the late Raymond Joseph Brown and Esther Angela (née Shaw) Brown. He was also preceded in death by a brother, James Allen Brown; and two sons-in-law, Eric Dowlan and Rich Calp. Don retired from the United States Marine Corps and the Army National Guard. He was a proud Marine who served his country honorably. Don also retired from the Maryland State Highway Administration. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. He was a former member of the Saint Mary's Catholic Church. Don's enjoyment was his family and grandchildren. Don is survived by his wife of 56 years, Claudette Irene (Collins) Brown; his children, Terry Brown Brelsford and husband, Keith, LaVale, Donald "Mark" Brown, Cyndi Brown Mealey and husband, Michael, and Melissa "Missy" Ann Brown, all of LaVale. He also leaves behind his brothers, Raymond Brown, Jr., and wife, Pauline, Richard Brown and wife, Carol, and his sisters-in-law, Mildred Brown and Eleanor Brown. Don is also survived by his grandchildren, Shannon Brown Sowards and husband, Eric, Cumberland, Aaron Brown and wife, Heather, Cody Calp, and special friend, Keri Pfitzenmayer, Kyle Calp, Kyler Mealey, all of LaVale; and his great-grandchildren, Colton Brown-Sowards, Gabby Kesecker, Kaden Brown Sowards, Sadie Kesecker, Erin Brown, Rian Calvaresi-Calp, and Kyleigh Brown; man's best friend, his dog, "Ed;" as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and many other family and friends. Friends were received at the Adams Family Funeral Home, P.A., 404 Decatur Street, Cumberland,



(www.AdamsFamilyFuneralHome.com) on Thursday, January 8, 2015 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM with a memorial service beginning at 7:30 PM. A committal service was conducted at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery at Rocky Gap on Friday, January 9, 2015 at Noon with the Reverend Frankie Revell officiating. Military honors were accorded at the cemetery by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #172 Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that memorial contributions be made in his name to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.



**LARRY F. BUELL** - Died Monday, February 23, 2015 at Lakeway Regional Hospital at the age of 69. He was a resident of Morristown, Tennessee. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born February 19, 1946 in Grainger County, Tennessee to the late John Dillard and Hassie Mae (née Seals) Buell. In addition to parents, he is also predeceased by his brothers, Jackie, Randall, Ed, Don, Frank and Dillon Buell and his sisters, Trula Byrd and Jewell Graham. He is survived by his children, Karen Lakins and John D. Buell; brothers, Steve and Buster Buell; sisters, Martha Southern and Bonnie Tomassoni; grandchildren, Haley Buell, Seth and Hope Coffey. He served in the United States Army from November 17, 1965 to October 9, 1967 with a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1966. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Morristown Chapter #1073**. The family received friends on Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the chapel of Stetzer Funeral Home. Family and friends met at the Riverview Baptist Church Cemetery in Bean Station on Friday, February 27, 2015 at 10:45 AM for an 11:00 AM military graveside service. Arrangements were made by the Stetzer Funeral Home, Morristown.



**FRANK A. BUHL** – Died Tuesday, January 20, 2015 in St. Cloud, Minnesota at the age of 84. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 29, 1930 in Waubun, Minnesota to the late John and Mary Ann (née Blair) Buhl. He was a 1949 graduate of Waubun High School. Frank was a decorated veteran of the United States Air Force during the Korean and Vietnam Wars retiring after 30 years of service as Chief Master Sergeant in 1981. He married Margaret G. Shipton on May 12, 1958 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Grand Forks, North Dakota. After his service to his country, Frank was a Civil Service employee for ten years with the majority of the time in England. He retired and moved to Saint Cloud in 1993. He was a member of the Retired Enlisted Association Chapter #115, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Cloud Chapter #290**, Waite Park American Legion Silver Star Post #428 and St. Augustine's parish. Frank had a great interest in English history, running, biking and watching sports, especially the Vikings and Gophers. Frank is survived by his children, Paul (Mary) of Olathe, Kansas, Susan Reher of Sun City Center, Florida, Catherine (Steve) DiGiulio of Pembroke Pines, Florida, Karen (Greg) Van Zuilen of Spicer, Elizabeth (Chad Viesselman) Buhl of Waite Park; seven granddaughters; one great granddaughter; and brother, Wilfred (Evelyn) of Stillwater. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Margaret in 2003; and sister, Myrtle Shanahan. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:30 AM on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Saint Augustine Catholic Church in Saint Cloud. Reverend Father Aaron Nett was the Main Celebrant. Entombment took place at the Assumption Cemetery Mausoleum in Saint Cloud. Family and friends called from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM on Friday and after 9:00 AM on Saturday at the Daniel Funeral Home in Saint

Cloud. Parish prayers were at 4:00 PM on Friday at the funeral home in Saint Cloud. The family would like to sincerely thank Quiet Oaks Hospice House for the care and compassion shown to Frank and the family. Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers.



**STEPHEN "Steve" BURGESS** - Died in the early morning of Thursday, February 12, 2015 in Elkhart, Texas at the age of 72. The cause of death was coronary thrombosis. He was born April 4, 1942, into a proud Texas family that reunited annually at the Old Burgess Home in Joaquin, Texas. He grew up in Pasadena, Texas, attending Gardens Elementary, Jackson Jr. High, where he met his future wife, and Pasadena High School. He joined the United States Air Force at 18, with his mother's permission, and proudly continued serving until his retirement 20 years later having been stationed at Randolph AFB (San Antonio), Hickham AFB (Hawaii), Nellis AFB (Nevada), Tinker AFB (Oklahoma), Eielson AFB (Alaska). While serving our country, Steve proudly completed a tour of duty in Vietnam. After retiring from the Air Force, Steve worked for the State of Alaska's Weights and Measures Department then returned to Eielson AFB as a Civil Servant at the Snow Barn maintaining the roads and runways for 16 years. In his usual character, he said he worked for the Department of Defense because that's who issued his paycheck. Wanting to return to Texas, Steve and Etta's full retirement found them settling in Elkhart on enough country property he could ride his dozer, clear brush, work in his shop, and create festive bonfires for visitors. Missing Alaska fishing for halibut and overnights on his 'Bammie Etta' boat harbored in quiet coves, he expanded his retirement ventures to boating and fishing the East Texas lakes. Hunting Alaskan moose and bear and running Eielson's first 200-mile trap line for lynx, wolves, and cross fox couldn't be substituted in Texas, so he raised cattle and chickens. Steve's most treasured and favorite times were spent in the Alaskan wilderness and Texas country whether hunting, fishing or just driving around. He was a member of the Silver Streak Club, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Palestine Chapter #991**, and Fairbanks Trappers Association. He was known as the Road Nazi to a North Pole subdivision; as Papaw to grandchildren and great nieces and nephews; The Walrus to a family member; and a covert, embedded Democrat to a closed group. Steve started things - political, conversational, or ideal. Loved by his family who tolerated his gruffness, he was at his best sitting at the controls of the heavy equipment at Eielson or of his dozer at the Burgess Ranch. We will miss him - but the squirrels won't. Steve is preceded by his parents Erris and Thomas Burgess and his sisters Bobbie Montgomery and Lucretia Hamlin. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Etta Ashby Burgess of Elkhart; son Chet Burgess of North Pole, Alaska; daughters Christa Burgess (Bob Daniel) of Elkhart and Shea Wollmann (Archie) of North Pole, Alaska; and grandchildren Lindsey Raine, McKenzie Burgess, Bryant Howski, Garrett Wollmann, Kelsea Wollmann, Emma Wollmann, Kara Wollmann; mother-in-law Wanda Ashby. Condolence calls were received from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at the Bailey & Foster Funeral Home. Graveside services were held at 1:15 PM Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at the Houston National Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Bailey & Foster in Palestine, Texas.



**WILLIAM HAROLD BURROWS** - Died Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at Vidant Medical Center at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. A native of New York, Mr. Burrows lived his early life in Syracuse and had made his home in Greenville,

North Carolina since 1977. He served in the United States Army for 20 years and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He also served two tours in Vietnam, Korea, had three tours in Germany, served at Fort Sill in Oklahoma and had several tours in Fort Bragg, NC, retiring as Staff Sergeant in 1977. Mr. Burrows was a member of Arlington Boulevard Baptist Church. He was also a member of Winterville Moose Lodge and the VFW, and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Greenville Chapter #272**. He worked for Cox Florist for several years and was employed with the Daily Reflector until 2004. Mr. Burrows was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Martha King Burrows, in 2005, a son, Perry King Burrows in 2008, and a son-in-law, Tommy Burney in 2013. He is survived by: sons, William H. “Billy” Burrows, II and wife, Sandy, of Woodford, VA, and Bart Burrows of Winterville; daughters, Montez Burney of Ayden and Katherine D. Wright and husband, Lee of Melford, VA; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Jona Woolard of Greenville; and a brother, Robert Burrows, of Houston, TX. The family received friends on Saturday from 10:30 until 11:30 AM at the Wilkerson Funeral Home and other times at the home of Montez Burney. A graveside service was conducted on Saturday at 12:00 PM in Homestead Memorial Gardens with the Reverend Steve Davis officiating. Memorials were asked to be made to the Arlington Boulevard Baptist Church, 1007 West Arlington Boulevard, Greenville, NC 27834.

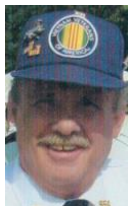
**BOBBY LYNN BURTON** – Died Sunday, December 12, 2010 in Kingsport, Tennessee at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Rogersville, Tennessee on November 26, 1942. He served in the United States Army with a tour in Vietnam and attained the rank of Specialist Four (E-4). He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kingsport Chapter #979**. He was preceded in death by his wife, Maude Ruth (née Lyons) Burton. He is interred in Mitchell Crest Cemetery in Hawkins County, Tennessee.

**THOMAS JOSEPH CARAMANNO** - Died Tuesday, February 24, 2015 in Fayetteville, North Carolina at the age of 66. The cause of death was Parkinson’s Disease (multi-system atrophy). He was born in New York City, New York on April 12, 1948. He served in the United States Army from April 1965 to April 1985 with service in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fayetteville Chapter #1033**. He is survived by his wife, Dell; his daughter, Angie Minchey, and; his two grandchildren. Services were private. Pinecrest Funeral & Cremation Services of Hope Mills were in charge of the arrangements.



**THEODORE L. “Ted” CARD** - Died Friday, September 26, 2014 in WCA Hospital at the age of 72. He was a lifelong resident of Jamestown, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 24, 1941 in Ashville, New York to the late Lawrence E. and Alice (née Albright) Card. Ted was a graduate of Falconer High School and served in the United States Navy Reserves. He was employed by Union Concrete for 20 years retiring in 2004. He was a member of the Henry Mosher Post #638, Sons of the American Legion having served as past commander and finance officer. Ted was also a member of: the Chautauqua County Sons of American Legion having served as vice commander, 8<sup>th</sup> District Sons of American Legion having served as vice commander; a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Jamestown Chapter #865**, Falconer Moose Club, Lakewood Rod & Gun Club. Surviving are his wife Maureen A. (née McLindon) Card whom

he married December 31, 1986; two sons: Ted P. (Cathy) Card of Jamestown, Timothy P. Card (Diane Franklin) of Ashville; four grandchildren: Ryan Katie, Chelsea and Chad Card, a sister Judy Sage of Mansfield, OH and several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents he was preceded in death by a brother Sidney Card and a sister Barbara Dill. Friends were received by the family from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on Sunday in the Falconer Funeral Home. The funeral was at 10:00 AM on Monday in the Falconer Funeral Home. Deacon Daniel Tyler of Sacred Heart Catholic Church officiated. Burial was in Maple Grove Cemetery, Ashville. The family invited friends to the Henry Mosher Post #638, American Legion, Falconer for a reception following the graveside service. Memorials may be donated to the Chautauqua County 4-H Endowment Fund, 3452 Turner Road, Jamestown, NY 14701.



**PAUL J. CHABOT, SR.** - Died Monday, November 21, 2011 at his home in Worcester, Massachusetts at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in 1948 in Worcester to the late Paul O. Chabot and Kathleen M (née Preston) Chabot. He leaves his son, Paul J. Chabot, Jr. of Citrus Heights, CA; his mother, Kathleen M. Chabot of Worcester; and his brother, Robert J. Chabot and his wife, Elizabeth of Shrewsbury. Paul graduated from North High School and was a United States Marine Corps veteran serving in Vietnam. He worked as a cook and waiter at various resorts.

Mr. Chabot was a member of Blessed Sacrament Church, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America Auburn Chapter #554** and the Disabled American Veterans. The funeral was held on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> from O'Connor Brothers Funeral Home, 592 Park Avenue with a Mass at Noon in Blessed Sacrament Church, 551 Pleasant Street, Worcester. Burial was in Saint John Cemetery. Calling hours were on Monday from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Blessed Sacrament Church, 551 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602.

**WILLIAM L. CHANDLER, JR.** – Died Monday, August 25, 2014 in the Veterans Home in Montrose, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 5, 1948 in New Rochelle, New York. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pleasantville Chapter #49**. The arrangements were under the direction of Edward F. Carter Funeral Home, Croton-on-Hudson, New York.



**CRAIG "Bud" CHURCH** - Died Monday, October 20, 2014 in Dearborn, Michigan at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on July 6, 1940. He is survived by his wife Dorothy. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dearborn Chapter #267**. Visitation was at the Hackett-Metcalf Funeral Home, 2640 Monroe Boulevard (near West Outer Drive), in Dearborn from 2:00 PM until the time of the Funeral service at 7:00 PM. Visitation continued after the service until 9:00 PM.

**DAVID ALLEN CROOKS** - Died Sunday, November 16, 2014 Athens, Alabama at the age of 87. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born July 2, 1927 in Huntsville, Alabama. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War retiring at the rank of Sergeant First

Class (E-7). He served from August 26, 1963 to April 30, 1969. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511**. The funeral was on Sunday at Noon in the Homer L. Moses Memorial Chapel of Peoples Funeral Home in Athens. Burial was in the Thatch-Mann Cemetery.



**JOHN J. CROUCH III** - Died Sunday, January 2, 2011 in the Staten Island University Hospital, Prince's Bay, Staten Island, New York at the age of 61. He was a lifelong resident of Tottenville, New York and retired MTA bus driver. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Tottenville on November 15, 1949. A graduate of Tottenville High School, he was a bus driver for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for over 20 years, and retired in 2008. Mr. Crouch served in the United States Army as a Sergeant during the Vietnam War, from 1966 to 1969. He was injured in combat and awarded three Bronze Stars. He was a member of the American Legion. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Staten Island Chapter #421**. He enjoyed fishing and crabbing and working on cars. Surviving are his wife of 10 years, the former June Schindler; a son, John J. IV; a daughter, Christine Valentino, and four grandchildren. The funeral was on Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the Bedell-Pizzo Funeral Home, Tottenville. Burial was in Saint Mary's Cemetery, Grasmere, New York.



**NICHOLAS "Nic" CZUBARA** — Died Thursday, April 2, 2015 at the Trinity Bettendorf after complications of a stroke and diabetes. He was 68 years of age and a resident of Bettendorf, Iowa. He was born August 4, 1946 in Velbert, Germany to the late Wasyl and Natalia Czubara. He came to Rochester, New York from Germany at the age of 5. He attended Franklin High School and the Rochester Institute of Technology. Nic obtained the rank of Sergeant in the United States Air Force at Vandenberg AFB in California and was a radar controller in Vietnam. He was discharged December 7, 1972. Nic was united in marriage to Nancy Dominacki-Heesch on May 4, 2012, in Bettendorf. He retired in 2010 from Rockwell Automation as an electrical engineer when he suffered his stroke. Before the stroke, he was an avid bowler and very proud of his 298 game. He and Nancy enjoyed traveling, especially the cruises to Alaska and around the Hawaiian Islands. After the stroke, he became an enthusiastic shuffleboard player with the Monday afternoon group at CASI. His memberships included Saint Peter Episcopal Church and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities (Rock Island, Illinois) Chapter #299**. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Saint Peter Episcopal Church or VVA #299. Survivors include his wife, Nancy; daughters, Cynthia (Herman) Worley, Gary, Ind., Christine Brewer-Czubara, Rochester, Colleen Czubara, Wyo.; and a son, Nick Czubara, Rochester; two granddaughters; two great-granddaughters; his siblings, Mary Koons and Steve (Betty Jo) Czubara, all of Rochester, Annie (Joe) Coffey, Spencerport, N.Y., and Michael (Linda) Czubara, Bettendorf. Nicholas was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral services to celebrate the life of Nicholas "Nic" Czubara were at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 6, 2015 at Saint Peter Episcopal Church, 2400 Middle Road, Bettendorf. The family greeted friends at the church from 5:00-7:00 PM on Monday. Burial was on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM at Rock Island National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, with military rites conducted by the Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter #299.





**ALLEN E. DEFFNER, JR.** - Died Sunday, February 3, 2013 in Slidell, Louisiana at the age of 71, after a brief illness. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 15, 1941 to the late Allen E. Deffner, Sr. and Gertrude (née Ostendorf) Miller. He is survived by his devoted wife of 49 years, Sandra (née Manieri) Deffner; daughters, Natalie Deffner Parish and Dawn Deffner Tupper; sons-in-law, Brady Parish, Jr. and Scott Tupper; grandchildren Evan Parish, Emma Parish, Patrick Tupper and Brooke Tupper; brothers Clarence Deffner and Joe Deffner; sister Nanette Carrigee, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Allen graduated in 1959 from East Jefferson High School and Southeastern Louisiana University in 1965. He was a United States Army Veteran who served at Fort Polk, Louisiana in 1967 and Vietnam in 1968. He was a lifetime member of VFW Post #6640 in Metairie, Louisiana. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisiana**. He was an executive for Tenneco Oil Company and Mobil Oil Company until 1975. He incorporated Armor Systems, Inc. in 1976 and sold it to Entergy in 1997 when he retired from employment. He served on the Board of Directors of Home Builders Association of Louisiana and Alarm Association of Louisiana. He was a past president of Jefferson Rod and Gun Club and the Rotary Club of Metairie. He served on the Board of Directors of the Krewe of Centurions as treasurer. He was a member for 34 years, and reigned as King in 1999. He also served on the Board of Directors of Coastal Conservation Association and Suburban Gun and Rod Club. He was a loyal man of Manresa for 29 years. He was a lifelong avid fisherman and hunter, and was the true epitome of the Louisiana Sportsman. He was beloved by his grandchildren, with whom he shared and imparted his love of the outdoors. Throughout his marriage, he and Sandra traveled the world with many close friends. He was an inspiration and mentor to many and always had time for others. He will be dearly missed by all. The family would like to thank St. Joseph Hospice for their loving care, and Father Frank Lipps of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Heartfelt thanks to all family and friends who provided support and love during this time. Family and friends were invited to attend the visitation at Garden of Memories Funeral Home, 4900 Airline Highway, Metairie, LA on Thursday, February 7, 2013 beginning at 10:00 AM with a Funeral Mass to follow at 1:00 PM in the chapel.



**MICHAEL J. DEIBLER** - Died Thursday, December 4, 2014 in the Hospice of Northwest Ohio, surrounded by family and friends. He was a resident of Toledo, Ohio and 70 years of age. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in Toledo on September 12, 1944. He was a graduate of Central Catholic High School (1962) and University of Toledo (1978). Mike was a United States Army Aviation veteran, serving in the Mekong Delta region of Vietnam (1966-1967). Mike worked in the Corporate Transportation Department of Owens Illinois and retired from the Andersons Transportation Department in 2008. He had an avid automotive interest and was an early on-member of the Glass City Corvette Club having bought his first Corvette in 1967. He has collected other Corvettes, but still has the original car. Mike was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Toledo Chapter #35**. Mike is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Karen; children, Jennifer (Rob) Martin, Mark (Carol) Deibler; grandchildren, Paul and Emma Martin and sister, Helen (Bill) Hubbell. Friends were invited to visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 South Reynolds Road, on Monday, December



8<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-8:00 PM. A Memorial Mass was held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at Saint Joseph Church, 104 West Broadway, Maumee, OH 43537 at 10:00 AM. Interment was private. Memorials may take the form of contributions to Saint Joseph Church, Maumee or to Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

**RONALD G. DERNBACH** – Died Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at his home in Amityville, New York at the age of 68. The cause of death was colon cancer. He was born April 16, 1946 in New York City, New York to Virginia and the late Robert Dernbach. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War from May 3, 1967 to March 2, 1971. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Hicksville Chapter #82*. He was the proprietor of All Phase Construction also in Amityville. In addition to his mother, he was also survived by his wife, Lorraine (née Bove); his children and their spouses, Gregory Dernbach (Alison), Elizabeth Rizzo (James), Stephen Dernbach (Bridget); two stepdaughters, Malina Boylan (Joseph) and Amanda Maidhoff; his grandchildren, G.K., Julianna, Luke, Jacqueline, Alessandra, Alice and Reagan, and; his two sisters, Doreen Cozzetto (Archie) and Karen Gannon. The family received friends on Sunday from 2:00-4:30 PM and 7:00-9:30 PM at the Powell Funeral Home, Inc., 67 Broadway (Rt. 110), Amityville. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday 9:30 A.M at Saint Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church, Amityville. Interment with military honors was in Calverton National Cemetery.

**NICK DESJARDIN** – Died recently in 2014 in Sacramento, California at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on September 21, 1942. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sacramento Chapter #500**.



**DENNIS JAY DRYBURG** – Died Friday, February 20, 2015 in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 72. The cause of death was chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He was born May 16, 1942 in Somerset, Pennsylvania to the late William and Elizabeth Dryburg. He enlisted in the United States Army in October of 1959. He retired March 1, 1980 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and worked civil service until his retirement in 2004. He married Rosemarie (née Ehmke) Dryburg in Erlangen, Germany on September 13, 1963 and they had three children, Patrick Dryburg, of Lawton, Oklahoma, Heidi Campeau and her husband, Clay of Hailey, Idaho, and Tammy King and her husband, Toby, of Irving, Texas. Dennis was stationed in Germany, Korea, and Vietnam. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, Army Commendation Medal w/oak leaf cluster, Good Conduct Medal, Expert Badge Tank Gunnery, Expert Badge Machine Gun, and Sharpshooter Rifle Badge. His hobbies were bowling, golf, working in his shop and being on Facebook. He was past master of Lawton Masonic Lodge #183, Associate Bethel Guardian of Job's Daughters and Chapter Dad for Demolay. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751*. Dennis volunteered at Southwestern Medical Center for numerous years. Dennis loved to lend a hand to anyone in need. He volunteered in Germany to drive the AYA bus for the children. He played Santa Claus every year for different community services and loved every minute. He never knew a stranger. If you were one he would always have a good joke for you to hear. He loved his wife for 51 wonderful years. He was the best "Pop" and "Dad" to all of his kids. He is survived by his wife, of the home and his three children;

He had four grandchildren, one great grandson; one great granddaughter; his brother, Barry Dryburg, of Somerset, PA; and one sister, Mary Jane Hay of Galveston, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents; and several brothers and sisters.



**CLARENCE RICHARD "Sonny" DYCHE, JR.** - Died Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at his home in Cumberland, Maryland in the presence of his family after an extended battle with lung cancer at the age of 75. He was born October 5, 1939 in Cumberland to the late Clarence Richard Dyche, Sr. and Mae Bella (née House) Dyche. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Richard C. Dyche and James R. Dyche and a niece, Shauna Osborne. Clarence was a graduate of Allegany High School, class of 1958. Shortly after graduation, he joined the United States Air Force. Clarence served three years in Germany as a topographer and was honorably discharged after his four-year tour. Sonny rejoined the Air Force later and at the end of his regular tour, he volunteered to be sent to Vietnam. He served there on an airstrip on the Mekong Delta from 1968 to 1969. He was again honorably discharged in July 1969 after serving a total of eight years in the military. Clarence started to work as a Draftsman for the City of Cumberland Engineering Department in August 1969 and worked at that job until 1985 when he was appointed as Airport, Sewer, and Flood Control Superintendent. Anyone who worked for him or knew him often said he was one of the best Superintendents they ever had. After working for the City for over 34 years, he retired in 2003. He was a member of the Fort Cumberland Post #13 American Legion, the Henry Hart Post #1411 VFW and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. Clarence is survived by his wife of 36 years, Roberta (née Soulsby) Dyche; his stepchildren, David W. Twigg and wife, Suzette, Sterling, Va., Susan (née Twigg) Malone and husband, Jeff, Short Gap, W.Va., and Michael R. Twigg and wife, Tori, Elizabethtown, Ky. He is also survived by his grandchildren who lovingly called him Pop, Jennifer Malone and fiancé, Gordon Snurr III, Ridgeley, W.Va., Kevin Malone, Short Gap, Michael R. Twigg II, Hagerstown, and Ashley (Twigg) Hawbaker, and husband, Kenneth, Waynesboro, Pa; his great granddaughter, Lillian Grace Hawbaker. Clarence is also survived by his sisters: Peggy Osborne, Cumberland and Ramona Diehl, Shrewsbury, Pa.; her daughter, Lisa Kapinos, as well as, other nieces, nephews and many friends. He was also very fond of his grand puppies, Sadie, Libby, Lucy, Maverick, and Llana. For anyone who knew Clarence "Sonny," they know how much he loved to fish especially fly fishing at the Casselman or Savage Rivers. When he was no longer able to go to those two places, he made a habit of being at Rocky Gap every morning that he could for a few hours of his favorite past time. Friends were received at the Adams Family Funeral Home, P.A., 404 Decatur Street, Cumberland on Monday, January 12, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM. A funeral service was conducted at the funeral home on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 11:00 AM with Pastor Sandy Cowan and Pastor Ken Rafferty co-officiating. Interment was at the Maryland State Veterans' Cemetery at Rocky Gap.



**MARK LEE EDDY** - Died Thursday, October 2, 2014 in Flower Mound, Texas, after a lengthy battle with cancer at the age of 66. He was born September 1, 1948. Mark worked for Vinson Process Controls in Lewisville for over 35 years. He is survived by his wife, Connie Eddy; brother Jan Eddy and sisters

Faith Walrath and Bonnie Brandt. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Denton Chapter #920**. A celebration of Mark's life was held at the American Legion Hall in Marshalltown, Texas at 1:00 PM on October 30, 2014. In lieu of flowers, any donations should be made to Vietnam Veterans of America.



**RUSSELL F. ELLISON** - Died Thursday, March 5, 2015 in Camp Creek, West Virginia at the age of 69. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related ischemic heart disease. He was born December 22, 1945 in Camp Creek to the late Gilmer Hoke Ellison and Florence (née Martin) Ellison. Russell was a 1963 graduate of Spanishburg High School. He was a United States Marine Corps veteran having served in Vietnam. Russell was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton Chapter #628*. He had worked numerous years in the coal mines for Eastern Associated. Russell had been an owner and operator for Cooper Truck Lines and Montgomery Tank Lines. He was also a former employee of Select Lumber. At the time of his death, Russell was Pastor of Camp Creek Community Church where he will be greatly missed by his loving church family. Russell was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He spent many hours studying the Bible and enjoyed golfing and mowing. He especially loved helping others. In addition to his parents, Russell was preceded in death by six brothers, Daniel, Gilmer, Donzie, Roscoe, Doug, and John Henry Ellison; and three sisters, Nellie Wright, Lessie Maxey, and Frances Herndon. Those left to cherish Russell's memory are his wife Betty Ellison, and would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 15th of this year; two daughters, Kim Shrewsbury of Pipestem, and Andrea Sarver and husband Rusty of Princeton; one son, Doug Ellison and wife Staci of Princeton; seven grandchildren, Hayley and Carter Shrewsbury of Pipestem, Grant Sarver of Princeton, McKenna and Maeghan Ellison of Athens, Gabrielle Farley and Jaydon Craft of Princeton; one brother, Abe Ellison and wife Betty of Delaware; five sisters, Betty Lou Meadows of Camp Creek, Linda Moore and husband John of Shady Spring, Sudie Lilly and husband Clark of Delaware, Phyllis Polk of Oak Hill, and Rose Lilly of Winston-Salem, NC; and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services to celebrate Russell's life were held at 2:00 PM on Monday, March 9, 2015 at the George W. Seaver Chapel of Seaver Funeral Home in Princeton with Pastor Paul Holstein officiating. The Princeton Local Chapter #628 Vietnam Veterans of America conducted a Salute Service just prior to the funeral service. Burial was at the Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton. Pallbearers were Billy Sweeney, Billy Fox, Bill Baldwin, Vincent Sweeney, Keith Hedrick, and Alvin Maxey. Honorary pallbearers were Jim Sweeney, Clay Osborne, Nelson Dew, Jessie Pack, Dexter Asbury, Paul Taylor, Carlos McPeak, Allen Bell, Kerry Ellison, Leroy Maxey and other nephews. Military graveside rites were conducted by the Mercer County Veterans Council. The family received friends from 12:00 Noon until the service hour on Monday at the funeral home.



**CUSH DEE "C.D." FARINA, JR.** - Died at his home in Texas City, Texas on Monday, April 21, 2014 at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 19, 1951 in Galveston, Texas to the Cush Dee Farina, Sr. and Florine Farina. He was also predeceased by his brother, Earl Farina, his sister-in-law, Angie Farina and his son-in-law, Eric Bedard. Cush is survived by his wife, Debra Farina, daughters, Dawndee Bedard of Texas City and Stephanie Burklow and son

in law, Brian Burklow of Kingwood, granddaughters, Paizley Bedard and Zoe Bedard of Texas City, Shelby Burklow, Lindsey Burklow and Katie Burklow of Kingwood, brother, SJ "Buddy" Farina of Santa Fe and sister in law, Jeanie Farina of Santa Fe and numerous nieces and nephews. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Dickinson Chapter #865**. Cush was a life-long resident of Galveston County, proud to be a "BOI." He had a long career as a welder. He enjoyed spending time with his granddaughters, riding his Harley, doing cook offs, playing poker with friends, fishing and hunting, helping others and just loving life. In lieu of normal remembrances, friends were requested to make memorial gifts to: Hospice Care Team, 1708 North Amburn Road, Suite C, Texas City, TX 77591 or His Touch Ministries, 106 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue N, Texas City, TX, 77590.

**ROBERT ALLEN FEICK** - Died Monday, March 23, 2015 following a courageous battle with cancer. He was 61 years of age and was a resident of Conway, Pennsylvania. He was born August 10, 1953 in McKeesport, Pennsylvania to the late Robert and Ruth (née Finnegan) Feick. He proudly served his country with the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Bob retired from the Army with 25 years of honorable service. He retired from the Centria Coatings Plant, Ambridge. Bob was a member of the Baden American Legion, the Conway VFW, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**, the Ambridge Sportsmen's Club, the 11<sup>th</sup> Ward Club of McKeesport and the Harley "Hog" Owners Group. Bob enjoyed the many friendships he made as an active member of these organizations. He was also a member of Our Lady of Peace Church, Conway. Bob is survived by his wife of 36 years: Joanne T. (Pikula) Feick; one daughter and son-in-law: Courtney and Bob Suckfiel, Baden; two grandchildren; Hanna and Brady; his uncle: Norm (Dianne) Feick, McKeesport; cousins: Jim (Shari) Feick, Elizabeth, PA; Bob (Jeannie) Feick, North Hills; and his faithful American Bull Dog: Bella. In honor of his wishes, cremation arrangements were by Saul-Gabauer Funeral Home, Inc. at Sylvania Hills Memorial Park. If desired, memorial contributions may be directed to Good Samaritan Hospice, 3500 Brooktree Road, Suite 320, Wexford, PA 15090. Online condolences may be offered at [www.saul-gabauer.com](http://www.saul-gabauer.com).

**ROBERT FLAHERTY** – Died recently in in 2014 Pawling, New York at the age of 72. The cause of death was cancer. He was born October 26, 1942. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pleasantville Chapter #49**.

**ADRIAN F. FORTUNA** – Died Monday, March 16, 2015 in Palmyra, New York at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Olean, New York on April 14, 1948 to the late Francis and Susan (née Nolan) Fortuna. He is survived by his wife, Linda; his daughter and son-in-law, Dawn and Lee Nichols; his son, Bill; his granddaughter, Camryn Fortuna, and; his grandson, William Nichols. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. Services were private.

**STEPHEN TALLEY FOSTER, SR.** - Died Friday, November 21, 2014 in Elkton, Maryland at the age of 66. The cause of death was coronary artery disease and peripheral vascular disease. He was born in Elkton on August 22, 1948 to the late H. Ernest Foster, Sr. and Virginia (née Purdie)

Marcus. Mr. Foster was a 23 veteran of the United States Air Force achieving the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. Following his military career, he worked at the Washington DC Metro and was currently the hardware manager at Lowe's, Middletown, DE where he had been employed since 2003. Mr. Foster was a life member of Slingerly Fire Company and was past Commander of American-Legion Cecil Post #15, Elkton. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Port Deposit Chapter #722**. He enjoyed spending time with his wife, Sharon and going to the beach and time with his trusted dog, Jersey. Survivors include his wife, Sharon Reed Foster; children, Tammy Cox, Elkton, MD, Stephen T. Foster, Jr., Glen Burnie, MD, Kelley Benson, Etters, PA and Michael R. Bledsoe, Hockessin, DE; siblings, Judy Tanner, Elkton, MD, Michael Foster, Chesapeake City, MD and Cynthia Foster, Chestertown, MD; six grandchildren and a great granddaughter. In addition to his parents, Mr. Foster was preceded in death by his brother, H. Ernest Foster, Jr. The funeral service was held at 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at Hicks Home for Funerals, 103 W. Stockton Street, Elkton, MD. Interment with military honors was in Cherry Hill Methodist Cemetery, Cherry Hill, MD. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675-8517.

**JAMES L. FREAR** – Died Saturday, September 7, 2013 in San Mateo, California at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 22, 1942. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Redwood City Chapter #464**.

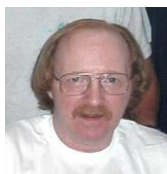


**KENNETH J. GARDELLIS** - Died Friday, October 31, 2014 in New Smyrna Beach at the age of 66. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related myocardial infarction and atherosclerosis. He was born December 14, 1947. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tucson (Arizona) Chapter #106**. He was a park ranger for the National Park Service. He is survived by his wife, Traci Gardellis. Sixty-six years seems like a good long time to exist on the earth, but in the words of songwriter Jackson Browne “they say in the end it’s the wink of an eye.” Such is the flash of time brought to an all too abrupt end when Kenneth “Kenny” James Gardellis left us by way of a sudden heart attack in the early hours of October 31st, 2014 at his home in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. Ken came into this life on December 14th, 1947, having arrived just in time for the Blizzard of ’47 in New York City. He was born in Manhattan where he lived until his graduation from Chelsea Vocational High School in 1965. While in school Ken studied auto mechanics and also ran with a tough crowd – perhaps a surprise to those who know Ken’s gentle nature. Early in 1967, as friends began being pulled into Southeast Asia by the draft, Ken began a journey that would ultimately chart the rest of his life: Vietnam. As a point man in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry of the 1st Infantry Division – also known as the “Big Red One” – Ken faced the interplay of life and death head-on from August of 1967 through August of 1968. While there he earned two Bronze Stars with Valor for combat heroism, two Purple Hearts, and the Army Commendation Medal with Valor among other awards. That one single year provided Ken with a new family of “brothers” and a new outlook on the ideas of culture, people, war, peace, and the environment. It also spawned many difficult mental, emotional, and physical

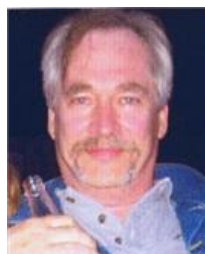
challenges in the form of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) that Ken would tackle for the remainder of his life – until the day his heart couldn't take it anymore. Ken's post-Vietnam journey was a nomadic one that took him to many states, but California had his love and most of his living years. His beloved "Aunt" Dotty, with whom he lived for a time, called him the Hippie; indeed, in California Ken tried to live free and easy and peacefully. It was there that he nurtured a love of gardening that both helped pay the bills and allowed him to revel in nature. Nature became his sanctuary and inspired his thoughts and ideas on spirituality, and his spiritual life continued to center on the study and practice of earth- and nature-based beliefs throughout the rest of his life. Love, peace, meditation, and looking for signs in nature were central to his days, though he also had intense interests in things like history, botany, the cosmos, and UFO theories among many other things. You should see his collection of UFO books (and books in general...the man loved to read)! He was intellectually intrigued with anything beyond our world and our understanding, but his heart always found a home here with Mother Nature. Ken's love of the earth also eventually helped him make the decision to attend college in 1987. It wasn't always easy to stay in school, but in 1999 he became a college graduate at age 51 with a bachelor's degree in Parks and Recreation from California State University in Chico, CA. Ken then worked variously for the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the US National Park Service, and the US Forest Service. It was during his work for the latter that he met the love of his life, Traci, in the mountains of eastern Pennsylvania. Even with the toll taken by PTSD, Ken was able to gather an assortment of friends both near and far, and he was very good about keeping in touch with extended family – sometimes acting as a counselor and friend when others felt abandoned by life's circumstances. He also reconnected with his army brothers in the years prior to his death, and this formed a crucial support system for Ken. It was with his partner in love and life, though, that he spent the majority of the last eleven years. They lived together in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Florida with the last three years in the wonderful oceanside community of New Smyrna Beach, which he loved. Thankfully, neither Ken nor Traci listened to the concerns from those who had something to say about their age difference; eventually even the naysayers would agree that theirs was truly a love to be admired. Traci always says that she was an old soul and that he never got to really grow up so they met in the middle somewhere...a place where love doesn't know what age and numbers mean. With his passing Traci has lost a soul mate, best friend, and constant companion. Her beloved left this world on their sixth wedding anniversary. Ken will not be alone wherever his spirit shines on, as he was preceded in death by his father, Gregory Gardellis; his mother, Florence (Tyll) Gardellis; a sister who died in infancy; several fallen comrades of Charlie Company, 1st of the 18th; and his beloved animal companions, Rainbow, Moose, Yewbee, and Minnie. Many aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, and ancestors who have gone before will also welcome his spirit. Ken leaves behind his partner of eleven years and wife of six years, Traci (Gregory) Gardellis; his brother, Gregory Gardellis and sister-in-law Jill; his niece, Stephanie, and nephew, Christopher; his loving in-laws, James and Janice Gregory and their family; many beloved cousins and other extended family; countless friends and acquaintances; the surviving brothers of Charlie Company, 1st of the 18th and their wives; and his best pal and furry daughter, Pumpkin. A celebration of Ken's life will be held at 4:00pm on Veterans Day – Tuesday November 11th, 2014 at Baldwin Brothers Cremation Society at 1 North Causeway in New Smyrna Beach, FL. Donations in his memory may be made to any charity that supports the



environment or helps disabled veterans, including Marine Discovery Center at 520 Barracuda Blvd, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169 and Disabled American Veterans at P.O. Box 14301 Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301.



**AUSTIN HUFFMAN "Junior" GARDNER** - Died Saturday, December 27, 2014 at the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center, Cumberland, Maryland at the age of 68. He was a resident of Keyser, West Virginia. The cause of death was pneumonia complications from cancer. He was born on December 11, 1946 in Keyser to the late Austin Huffman Gardner, Sr. and Anna Jane (née Rotruck) Gardner. Mr. Gardner was a 1965 graduate of Keyser High School. He was employed for many years as a construction worker with Construction and General Laborers Union, Local 379 in Morgantown, WV. He was a United States Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War and was a life member of both Queens Point Memorial Post #6775-VFW, McCoole, MD and a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Frederick Chapter #304*, Frederick, MD. He was Methodist by faith. Surviving are three daughters, Ginger Ann Gardner of Winchester, VA and Gretchen and Tara Shoemaker, both of Keyser; two sons, Austin H. Gardner, III and William E. Gardner, both of Maryland; a special stepson, Theodore Davis; three brothers, Adolph T. Gardner and wife Kaye of Walkersville, MD, Johnny R. Gardner of Keyser and Daniel B. Gardner and wife Charlotte of New Creek, WV and three grandchildren, Michael McGreevy, Alexis Rinard and Caden Shoemaker. Friends called at the Smith Funeral Home, Keyser Chapel on Tuesday, December 30, 2014 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Funeral services were conducted at the Smith Funeral Home, Keyser Chapel on Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at 1:00 PM. The family received friends one hour prior to the service. Interment was in the Thrush Cemetery, Antioch, West Virginia.



**JAMES A. "Jim" GASHO** - Died Wednesday, July 16, 2014 in Westlake, Ohio at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 10, 1947 in Cleveland, Ohio to Lucille (née Johnson) Gasho and the late Andrew Gasho. He was a proud Veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He was the devoted husband for almost 44 years of Rosemary (née Hund); loving father of Christine and James Jr. (Traci) Gasho; a proud grandfather of Kevin and Lucille; loving brother of Linda (Mike) Huesman, Thomas (Virginia) and Andrew (Lorraine) Gasho; a loving uncle of Daniel (Jen) Huesman and the late Jennifer Huesman, Katherine, Tucker and Merritt Gasho, and; great-uncle of Sebastian Huesman. Jim was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lakewood Chapter #249*. Family received friends on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 PM at the Catavolos-Berry Funeral Home, 23040 Center Ridge Road, Westlake. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:00 AM at Saint Brendan Church, 4242 Brendan Lane, North Olmsted. Burial was at the Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be made in James' name to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite # 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256 or [www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate). For online tributes and condolences please visit [www.catavolosberryfuneralhome.com](http://www.catavolosberryfuneralhome.com).



**ENRICO FRANCESCO "Rico" GASPARDI** - Died Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the Berkshire Medical Center, surrounded by his family at the age of 85. He was a

resident of North Adams, Massachusetts. He was born in North Adams on July 13, 1929 to the late Battista John and Josephina (née Segala) Gaspardi. He attended local schools. Rico began a career in the United States Army serving during the Korean War and Vietnam War until his honorable discharge with the rank of Sergeant Major with over 20 years of service. Following his military career, Rico worked at RI Baker and was last employed by WR Grace until his retirement. Rico was a member of the Clarksburg VFW and the American Legion. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – North Adams Chapter #54**. He was recognized by the City of North Adams for his efforts to add six flags representing all branches of service and veterans to the city's Veteran's Memorial, which was dedicated on November 11, 2011. He enjoyed gardening and working on cars. Survivors include his wife, the former Elaine Chilson, whom he married on January 7, 1950; one daughter- Dianne Poette of North Adams and three sons including Michael Gaspardi of North Adams; Charles Gaspardi of Dartmouth, MA; and Kevin Gaspardi of Freeport, ME. He also leaves seven grandchildren including Rian Gaspardi, Joseph Gaspardi, Anthony Gaspardi, Marlaina Trepanier, Gabriella Gaspardi, Candace O'Connell, and Carrie Croshier; and four great grandchildren including Temperance, Henry, Dylan, and Gracie; and nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by two sisters and three brothers including Catherine Gaspardi, Mary Barbeau and John, Frank, and Louis Gaspardi. Rico's family wanted to thank the staff at BMC and all the relatives and friends for their care and support during his final days. The funeral was on Saturday November 22, 2014 at 9:30 AM at the Flynn and Dagnoli-Montagna Home for Funerals West Chapels, 521 West Main Street, North Adams followed by a Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Church. Burial was in Southview cemetery. Calling hours at the funeral home were on Friday from 4:00-7:00 PM. Memorial donations may be made to any veteran's organization of the donor's choice in care of the funeral home.



**GARY ROBERT GEISTER** - Died Monday, February 16, 2015 in Chesterfield, Michigan at the age of 68. The cause of death was cancer. He was born October 28, 1946 in Mount Clemens, Michigan. He was the loving husband of Sandra; dear father of Kelly (Brad) and Aaron (Molly Bucci); cherished grandfather of Nicole, Jake, Natalie and Caleb; brother of Sandra (Frank) Doherty and Eric Geister, and; also survived by his nieces Jessica (Bogdan), Erika and Sheridan. He served in the United States Army from May 1, 1967 to April 2, 1969 during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**. A memorial gathering was on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 9:30 AM until the time of funeral service at 11:30 AM at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 47120 Romeo Plank (just north of 21 mile). In lieu of flowers please direct donations to Vietnam Veterans Chapter #154, 18025 East 15 Mile Road, Clinton Township, MI 48035, [VVA154.com](http://VVA154.com), or the American Cancer Society.



**EDWARD R. GILMORE** - Died Tuesday, March 03, 2015 at Genesis Medical Center – Silvis Campus, Silvis, Illinois at the age of 65. He was a resident of Silvis. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born on September 24, 1949 in Rock Island, Illinois to the late Robert and Martha (née Harland) Gilmore. He married Janice Fulscher on December 29, 1971 in San Pedro, California. He worked as a letter carrier for the Moline Post Office, retiring in 2004. Edward proudly served in the

United States Army First Cavalry from August 13, 1965 to August 17, 1977 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from 1970 to 1971. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bettendorf Chapter #776** in Bettendorf, Iowa and Local Letter Carriers Union #318. He loved working on cars and helping others. Edward was a collector of everything and enjoyed long conversations with friends, family, and grandchildren. Survivors include his loving wife, Janice; his children, Dana Strader, of Milan, IL, Russ Gilmore, of Moline, IL, Joe (Laura) Gilmore, of Coal Valley, IL and Mary Gilmore, of East Moline, IL; his grandchildren, KyLeigh, Vanessa, Samantha, Josef, Braydy, Shawneeka, Matt, Bobby, and Breeonna; his sisters, Lou (Mike) Campbell, Roberta Schatti, Robin Diaz, Margaret Mullett, Millie Foss and Buffy Mefford. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his sister, June Adams. Funeral services were held at 1:00 PM on Monday, March 9, 2015 at the Esterdahl Mortuary & Crematory, Ltd., 6601 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moline. Visitation was from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at the funeral home. Burial was at the National Cemetery at the Rock Island Arsenal. Military honors were conducted by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #776 and Chapter #299. Memorials may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #776 in Bettendorf, Iowa. Online condolences may be left for his family by visiting [esterdahl.com](http://esterdahl.com).

**GEORGE GORDON GRIBBEN** - Died Thursday, September 11, 2014 in Glendora, California at the age of 65. The cause of death was head and neck cancer. He was born in Monrovia, California on October 14, 1948. He is survived by his wife, Mary. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War from May 6, 1968 to November 19, 1971. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pasadena Chapter #446**.



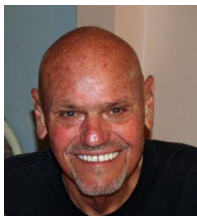
**THOMAS A. GRIVAS** – Died Friday, January 2, 2015 in Woodhaven, Michigan at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dearborn Chapter #267**. He was the loving father of Melissa (Steve Cooke) and Mark (Jamie); dear brother of Paul (Kathy), James, Donald and the late John, and; was also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Memorial Visitation was on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 1:30 PM until the time of the Memorial Service at 3:00 PM at the John Molnar Funeral Home, 23700 West Road, Brownstown, Michigan.



**RICHARD LeROY "Rick" HAHN** – Died at his home in Centennial, Colorado on Sunday, January 25, 2015 at the age of 68. The cause of death was idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. He was born in Des Moines, Iowa on September 25, 1946 to the late Helen (née Parsons) and LeRoy (Jack) Hahn. His family and friends will remember his sharp wit and sense of humor, his enjoyment of learning and passion for the outdoors. Rick's passion for learning and the outdoors permeated every aspect of his life. Rick's journey to Colorado was one of calculation to see something new. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Iowa State University in 1968 and served in Vietnam in the United States Army from 1969 to 1970. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Denver Chapter #1071**. He returned to school to study pharmacy at the University of Iowa where he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees (1976 and 1979). He earned his second Master's degree, an MBA, from the University of Phoenix in 1991. Rick met Susan

Gentry while working at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City. After agreeing to move to Colorado, they married on June 7, 1986. Throughout their 29 years of marriage, they shared a love of the outdoors, and spent much time together camping, scuba diving, skiing and hiking. Over the years they enjoyed traveling to visit extended family and even joined their daughter, Sarah, in Spain when she was studying abroad. Rick had a keen intellect with an incredible knowledge-base on multiple and seemingly unrelated topics. During any given conversation he could debate politics abroad, health-care financing, the best gear for rock climbing, the Broncos football team or the right tire pressure for your car. Rick enjoyed learning new skills and changed hobbies over the years. A common theme for Rick's passions was spending the time outdoors and with his family. Rick climbed all 54 of Colorado's "fourteeners", the mountains over 14,000 feet high. He achieved many of these climbs with Susan and his children. He mastered other peaks around the world such as Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), Meru (Tanzania), and Elbrus (Russia). In the winter, Rick enjoyed downhill skiing. To this end he joined a masters racing team to share more time on the mountain when Stephen and Sarah were racing. In fact, the family enjoyed skiing together at Telluride over the recent Christmas holidays. Rick spent his pharmacy career in hospitals in different capacities from staff to director. Rick retired from the Multum Information Services as a Research Associate. For a time, Rick's active lifestyle was slowed by idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. A double lung transplant in 2013 gave him a much appreciated gift of life. It is a testament to Rick's active mind and unending optimism that he was newly signed up for a welding class. Rick is survived by his wife, Susan (Gentry) Hahn of Centennial, children Sarah and Stephen; brother, Kenneth Hahn of Mesa, Arizona. A celebration of his life was held on Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 1:00 PM at the Wellshire Presbyterian Church. Interment of his ashes at the church's memorial garden occurred before the ceremony.

**JAMES RONALD HALL** - Died Thursday, March 19, 2015 in Trussville, Alabama at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Jefferson County, Alabama on August 22, 1948 to Edna Hall and the late James E. Hall. He was retired from BellSouth, a decorated Vietnam Veteran, a 1967 graduate of Phillips High School and a graduate of Jefferson State. He served in the United States Army with a tour of duty in Vietnam from August 1969 to October 1970. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardendale Chapter #416**. He was an active member of the Healing Place where he served over 40 years. He enjoyed bass fishing and Nascar racing. He was an automobile enthusiast and a dedicated Alabama football fan. The joys of his life were his children and his seven grandchildren. He is survived by his mother, Edna Hall; his wife, Jeanie W. Hall; his sons, Chad Hall (Tonya) and Ryan Hall (Sandi); his daughter, Tiffany Correll (Mark); his grandchildren, Jessie, Shelby, Wilder, Darcy, Harper, James Walton, and Mary Layne; his brother Ricky Hall; his sisters, Jan Duke and Loretta Hall; and many loving nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. The funeral service was held on Monday, March 23, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Healing Place, with Pastor Mark Correll and Pastor Randy Smith officiating. A visitation was held one hour prior to the service.



**WILLIAM IRVIN "Bill" HALL, JR.** – Died Saturday September 27, 2014 in Amelia, Ohio at the age of 71. The cause of death was from natural causes. He was born August 20, 1943. He was the former fire chief of Withamsville, Ohio, a

participant and fan of sprint car dirt track racing as well as an avid Harley Davidson Rider. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Batavia Chapter #649**. He was the loving husband of Dawn Hall; devoted father of Rodney Hall (Sara Palazzo) and Dave Hall (Jennifer); stepfather of Tom Wesley and Sarah Engel (Barry); proud grandfather of Gage, Mackenzie, and Gavin; brother of Mildred Kilgore, Roger Dabney and the late Harlan Dabney and James Dabney, and; also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, family and devoted friends. Visitation was at the E.C. Nurre Funeral Home 177 West Main Street (State Route 125) Amelia on Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM until time of funeral service at 11:00 AM. Interment was in Mount Moriah Cemetery of Union Township, Ohio. Immediately following, family and friends were invited to the American Legion Post, 137 East Main Street (State Route 125), Amelia to honor Bill with memories, laughter and song.

**CRAIG ALBERT HARMAN** - Died at 7:14 AM on Thursday, August 22, 2013 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa at the age of 63. He was a resident of Dallas City, Illinois. The cause of death was severe aortic stenosis. He was born November 4, 1949 in LaHarpe, Illinois to the late Dick and Ruby Dell (née Lyttaker) Harman. On November 17, 1990 Craig married Doris Jean Siegrist. Craig graduated in 1967 from Dallas City High School. He served in the United States Army as an E.O.D. specialist during the Vietnam War. Mr. Harman worked for BNSF, the I.A.A.P, and worked 31 years at J.I. Case. He was a member of UAW Local 807, where he served several years as the Recording Secretary. He was a member of the Dallas City American Legion and had served on the Dallas City Fire Department. Craig was an avid fan of NHRA drag racing and the Fighting Illini. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Madison Chapter #947**. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Nichole Harman of Burlington, one son, Colin (wife Roseanna) Harman of Wichita, Kan.; three grandchildren, Logan, Kayana and Brady; two brothers, Mike (wife Becky) Harman of Iowa City, and Wade Harman of West Burlington; 6 nieces and nephews and several cousins. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by one daughter, Tracy Lynn, and one sister-in-law. Services for Mr. Harman were held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City, Ill. with the Reverend Jim Luder officiating. Burial, with military rites, was in the Harris Cemetery near Dallas City. Friends called after 3:00 PM on Tuesday at the funeral home, where the family met with friends from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

**PHILIP HARRIS** – Died Wednesday, January 21, 2015 in Longmont, Colorado at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 25, 1942. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wyoming**.



**DONALD LYNWOOD “Don” HARRISON** - Died at home in Concord, North Carolina on Sunday, January 4, 2015 at the age of 69. The cause of death was Ischemic Heart Disease. Don was born on June 25, 1945 in Chesapeake, Virginia to the late Lynwood Earl and Louise (née Rapper) Harrison. He is also preceded in death by his wife, Mary Frances “Frankie” Isenhour Harrison; brother, Bobby Harrison. Don was a veteran of the United States Army, where he served in Vietnam as a Captain for the Green Berets. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Concord Chapter #909**. He had also



previously gone to school at VMI and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill. Don was a journalist for many years, writing many sports columns and also worked as an independent insurance agent. He is survived by his daughter, Summer H. Floyd; sisters, Sherry, Debbie and Brenda; and a number of nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at the Wilkinson Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Pastor Michael Waters. The family received friends from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM prior to the service. Burial was at the Gold Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4200 Morganton Road, Fayetteville, NC 28134.



**ROBERT W. "Bob" HASSERTT** - Died Thursday, October 18, 2007 in Burburnett, Texas at the age of 67. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on November 20, 1939. He retired in 1978 from the United States Air Force after 20 years of service and also retired from Civil Service at SAFB. He was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church of Burkburnett, the VFW, and American Legion. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texas**. He married Ruby Self on April 6, 1968. Survivors include his wife, Ruby Hassertt of Wichita Falls; daughters, Shirley Crane and husband John of Burkburnett, Cherry Costello and husband Tom of Spokane, Washington; sons, Junior Frye and wife Cyrena of Burkburnett, James Frye of Baytown, Douglas Frye and wife Clara of Wichita, Kansas, Kenny Frye of Wichita, Kansas; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at the Owens & Brumley Chapel in Burkburnett with the Reverend Johnny Dowell, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church officiating. Interment was in the Burkburnett Cemetery with Full Military Honors. Owens & Brumley Funeral Home of Burkburnett was in charge of arrangements. Family visitation was from 7:00 to 8:00 PM on Monday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association of North Central Texas Chapter, 901 Indiana Wichita Falls, Texas, 76301.



**CHARLES HERNANDEZ** - Died Wednesday, November 23, 2011 in Port Arthur, Texas at the age of 87. He was a resident of Beaumont, Texas. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Port Arthur on July 16, 1924 to the late Maria deJesus (née Espinosa) Hernandez and the late Bartolo Hernandez. He joined the United States Navy shortly after graduating high school. Highlights of his military career include serving on the USS Mississippi during the Pacific Campaign of World War II, observing the signing of the peace treaty ending WW II in Tokyo Bay, and serving on the USS Saufley as part of the force blockading Cuba during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crises. He also served two (2) consecutive tours in Vietnam. Charles retired from the Naval Hospital Philadelphia in 1974 after 32 years of service. He was very proud of his military career and service to the nation. He returned to the Southeast Texas area and completed a second career with Mobile Oil in Beaumont. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Beaumont Chapter #292**. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother Leo Hernandez. He is survived by his loving wife, Theresa Hernandez of Beaumont, Texas, daughter, Elizabeth Mary Broussard and husband Stephen of Orlando, Florida, grandson, Ryan Broussard and wife Tonya, sister-in-law, Martha Hernandez, his niece, Rachel Hernandez, two nephews, David and Ruben Hernandez.





**ROBERT J. "Pee Wee" HEROLT** - Died Thursday, March 26, 2015, in Shreveport, Louisiana at the age of 76. He was a resident of Marshall, Texas. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related non-Hodgkins lymphoma. He was born September 7, 1938, in Kenosha, Wisconsin to the late Otto Edward Herolt and Mary Ann (née Koblinski) Herolt. Mr. Herolt served his country in the United States Air Force for 22 years. He was also a mail carrier for U.S.P.S. Mr. Herolt married Thelma Jean Jameson. He was a life member of the American Legion Post #267 in Marshall and was Post Commander in 2001-2002. He was also a member of the American Legion Riders, DAV, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America Longview Chapter #987**, VFW Post #10373 in Jefferson, Veterans Honor Guard at the VFW Post #4002 in Longview and a member of the Patriot Guard. Mr. Herolt is survived by his wife, Jean Herolt of Marshall; son, Scott Andrew Herolt of Marshall; adopted daughter, Theresa C. Herolt of Marshall; siblings, Linda Duberstine and husband, Don, of Iowa, Wis., Pat Schultz and husband, Dennis, of Kenosha, Wis., and William Bill Herolt and wife, Ann, of North Carolina; and a number of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. . Herolt was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Phyllis Pauley. A memorial service was at 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 12, 2015 at the American Legion in Marshall. There was also a memorial service at 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at the VFW #10373 in Jefferson, Texas. Arrangements were under the direction of Downs Funeral Home.



**EARL A. HIGGINS** - Died Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa at the age of 68. He was a resident of Milan, Illinois. Earl received a lung transplant on August 20, 2014 and fought a courageous and brave battle to regain his health for his family. He later passed away from complications due to cancer. Earl was born on June 23, 1946 in Chicago, Illinois to the late Paul and Marjorie (née Carlyle) Higgins. He married Kathy "Stretch" Helling on April 7, 1984 in Rock Island. Earl worked for the Rock Island County Highway Department for over 30 years, retiring in 2006. He was a United States Army veteran, serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968. He was a member of Saint Ambrose Catholic Church in Milan, the NRA, John Birch Society, Milan American Legion Post #569, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299**, Eureka Masonic Lodge #69 AF & AM, Scottish Rite Bodies Valley of Moline, and Teamsters Local #371, Rock Island. Earl served as union steward for Rock Island County for many years. He won the Milan Beautification Award and was proud growing up a "West Ender". He was awarded Best Snow Plow Driver by the residents of Loud Thunder. Survivors include his wife, Kathy; daughters, Megan Higgins, Milan, Jennifer Higgins and her fiancé, Cory Bote, Milan, and Hannah Higgins, Milan; his first granddaughter, Vivienne Marie Bote; brothers, Paul Higgins, Milan, and Michael Higgins, Rock Island; a special friend, Charlie Foy, who helped Earl's family during his illness. Services for Earl were at 10:30 AM, Tuesday at Saint Ambrose Catholic Church in Milan. Visitation was on Monday from 4:00 to 8:00 PM at the Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home, Milan. Burial was in the Rock Island National Cemetery, where military honors were conducted by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #299. Memorials were asked to be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #299.

**NORMAN RAYMOND HIGGINS** – Died Thursday, February 12, 2015 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Quebec, Canada on July 9, 1944. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Liberty Bell (Philadelphia) Chapter #266**.



**DENNIS W. HODGES** (USA, 1SG-Ret.) - Died Wednesday, February 4, 2015 in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 71. The cause of death was cancer. He was born January 18, 1944 in Gary, Indiana to the late Preston Gibson and Sara Hodges. Dennis Hodges enjoyed a military career in the United States Army for 24 years. He served in Vietnam as a cannon crewmember obtaining the Vietnam Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Parachutist Badge, Gold Recruiter Badge, and Meritorious Service Medal. His courses included Station Commander's Course, NCO School and Academy, and Army Recruiter Career Counselor. He then spent 26 years as a contractor at Fort Sill, administering tests and issuing driver's licenses. Dennis was a member of the DAV, *Charter and Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**, the Buffalo Soldiers, and the Triple Nickel Organization. He met and married the love of his life, Roselyn Coleman, on January 6, 1984, in Wichita Falls, Texas, and they spent 31 years together. Mr. Hodges enjoyed playing basketball and being a boxer in the military. Dennis believed he was the best cook there was along with having the best BBQ around these parts. He is survived by his wife of the home, Roselyn; son, Shawn Burns, of Alabama; son, Aaron Stuart and wife Rochelle, of Hawaii; daughter, Shauna Franklin, Columbus, Ga.; son, Dennis Hodges Jr., of Dallas; daughter, Dremiane Granby, of McDonough, Ga.; mother, Sara Hodges; sister, Judith Broadus, Denver; two stepbrothers: Joe Hill and wife Toni, of Dadeville, Ala.; and Tracy Hill, of Oklahoma City; three stepsisters: Beverly Bradley, of San Antonio; and Victoria Slaughter and Patrice Hill-Williams, both of Oklahoma City; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his stepfather and stepmother: Tommy and Mary Hill; father, Preston Gibson; stepsisters: Donna Banks and Cheryl Hammons; and granddaughter, Brittany Hardy. The funeral service was at 8:00 AM on Friday, February 13, 2015 at the Lawton First Assembly of God with Pastor Gary Pratt officiating. Burial with full military honors was in the Fort Sill National Cemetery under the direction of Whinery-Huddleston Funeral Service.

**JOHN TOBY HOFFLER, SR.** - Died at his home in Folkston, Georgia on July 8, 2014 at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Brooklyn, New York to the late Johnson Hoffler and Beatrice (née Johnson) Hoffler. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge #34 in Portsmouth, Virginia. He proudly served his county in the United States Marine Corps and the United States Navy. He was a member of the American Legion, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Savannah Chapter #671** and the Khegan Association. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother: David Hoffler. He is survived by his son: John Toby Hoffler, Jr.; three siblings: Michael Hoffler, Zenola Hoffler and Patricia Hoffler-N'Gom. Memorialization was by cremation. Condolences may be expressed by signing the guest registry at [www.shepardfh.com](http://www.shepardfh.com). Arrangements were under the direction of Shepard Funeral Home.

**GARY ALAN HOLLOWELL** - Died Monday, February 16, 2015 at his home in Ashdown, Arkansas at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 13, 1950 in Ashdown. He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana Chapter #278** and Wades Chapel Methodist Church and a Vietnam War United States Army veteran. He was preceded in death by his wife, Cheryl Hollowell. Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Alexandria Strong of Bremington, Washington; one sister-in-law, Rebecca Hollowell of Ashdown; two grandchildren, Rachel Strong and Peter Strong; one nephew, Shane Hollowell of Ashdown; and a number of other relatives. No services were scheduled. Arrangements were under direction of Madden Funeral Home.



**DONALD ROYCE IRONS** - Died Friday, January 2, 2015 at the Golden Living Center at the age of 69. He was a resident of Oldtown, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 3, 1945 in Cumberland, Maryland to the late John and Eloise Shephard. He was also preceded in death by his adoptive parents: Earl and Stella Irons; a brother: John Shephard; his twin sister: Donna Rae Gotts; a son-in-law: Kenneth Bennett, Jr.; and was the last surviving member of his immediate family. Don was a United States Marine Corps Veteran having left Fort Hill High School early to serve. He retired from the Maryland Job Service as a Veterans' Representative. Don also drove school busses for the Allegany County Board of Education and was employed at McDonald's Ambulance Service as well as Valley Medical Transport. He was a member of the District #16 Volunteer Fire Department. Don was very instrumental in building their ambulance service. He was also a member of the Cumberland Lions Club; the Disabled American Veterans, the Mountainside Marine Corps League and the Oldtown Volunteer Fire Department. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. Don enjoyed watching NASCAR and building models. Don married his sweetheart and is survived by his wife: Ernestine "Tina" (née Mullenax) Irons on May 8, 1965; his daughters: Sharon Dolly, Potomac Park, MD; and Michele Irons-Voorhees and husband, Scott, Cresaptown, MD. He also leaves behind his grandchildren: Tonya Irons and fiancé, Michael Haislip, Jr.; and Ryan Voorhees; his great grandchildren: Hannah Jedlowski and Isabella Haislip; and a special sister-in-law: Darlene Nixon. Friends were received at the Adams Family Funeral Home, P.A., 404 Decatur Street, Cumberland, MD, ([www.AdamsFamilyFuneralHome.com](http://www.AdamsFamilyFuneralHome.com)) on Monday, January 5, 2015 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. A funeral service was conducted at the funeral home on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 11:00 AM with the Reverend Charles Riggelman officiating. Interment was in Mount Tabor Cemetery. Military honors were accorded at the cemetery the Post #13 Veterans Honor Guard. Pallbearers were: Michael Haislip, Jr., HB Martz, George Mullenax, Jason Wolfe, Junior Alt, and Darrell Huff. Honorary pallbearers were: Ryan Voorhees, Mike Perrin, Charlie Pennington, Tom Hamilton, Phil Sechriest, and Tom Shaw.

**ALBERT JOSEF ITEN** – Died Tuesday, December 16, 2014 in Ocean View, Delaware at the age of 87. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Imperial County, California on January 7, 1927. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Millsboro Chapter #1105**. He is survived by his daughter, Shirley Tess Iten, Ocean View, Delaware.

**ANDREW F. JENSEN, JR.** - Died Wednesday, January 28, 2015 in Marlton, New Jersey at the age



of 86. He passed away at home after a lengthy illness. The cause of death was multiple melanoma. He was born January 12, 1929 and raised in California. After he graduated from Redlands University, he attended Eastern Baptist (Palmer) Theological Seminary. During seminary, he met and married Kathleen (née Van Caneghen). Subsequently, he earned a Master's Degree from Princeton University and Doctorates from Rutgers University and Pacific Western University. In 1955, Dr. Jensen became a United States Navy Chaplain. During his twenty-six year Navy career, Dr. Jensen served on numerous ships, at Navy bases, and with the US Marine Corps. He also served two tours in Vietnam, 1964-65 and 1968-69. He retired from the Navy in 1981 after serving as the Fourth Naval District Chaplain. Dr. Jensen then established Family and Psychological Services, Inc. where he served as Director and focused on treating veterans with combat related issues. In 1984, Dr. Jensen and a group of Vietnam Veterans founded the South Jersey Vietnam Veterans Association. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Somerdale Chapter #1068**. Dr. Jensen's unselfish ministry and service encouraged countless individuals to be successful in life. Dr. Jensen was the beloved husband of Kathleen; loving father of Andrew F. Jensen III (Carolyn) and David W. Jensen Sr. (Andrea); proud grandfather of Rachel McAllister (Caleb), Carolyn, Emily, David Jr., Deborah and Matthew Jensen, and; survived by his sister, Mildred Ward (Handley). Relatives and friends were invited to the Funeral Service at 11:00 AM on Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Fellowship Community Church, 1520 Hainesport Road, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. A reception followed the service. Dr. Jensen was interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington Virginia. Donations may be made to Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #1068 (10 Kennedy Boulevard, Somerdale, NJ 08083).



**DANNIE LEE JOHNSON** - Died Friday, March 6, 2015 at Crossroads Hospital in Mount Vernon, Illinois at the age of 67. He was a resident of Centralia, Illinois. The cause of death was heart disease and diabetes. He was born November 13, 1947 in Centralia to the Melvin Leroy Johnson and Kathleen Joyce (née Dickinson) Johnson. He married Myra Lynn (née Holzer) Johnson in 1968 and she survives in Centralia. In addition to his wife of 46 years, he is also survived by a son, Scott Johnson and wife Tonia of Florence, Alabama; three grandsons: Logan Alexander Thomas Johnson of Centralia, Gaven Xavier Johnson of Irvington and Asher Orion Johnson of Florence, Alabama; a brother, Donald "Don" M. Johnson and wife Sandy of Irvington; three sisters: Ruth Ann Booth of Centralia, Angie Thompson, and Susan St. Peters and husband Stan of Centralia; several nieces, nephews, great-nephews and great-nieces; several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, a mother-in-law: Minnie Holzer and a brother-in-law: Philip Holzer. Dannie served in the United States Army during Vietnam. He worked at NAL in Salem for 14 years. He was the *President* and *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Centralia Chapter #176**, member of the Illinois State Council Vietnam Veterans of America POW/ MIA Committee, Past Treasurer of the American Legion Post #446 and was a Veterans 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Committeeman for the Veterans Committee in Centralia. He enjoyed fishing and working at BINGO at the Centralia American Legion. Most of all he loved spending time with his family, grandsons and friends. Per his wishes, he was cremated and a Celebration of Life Service for Dannie Johnson was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 11:00 AM at the

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia. Burial was in the Peaceful Valley Cemetery in Odin. Military Honors were accorded at the gravesite by the American Legion Post #446 and the VFW Post #2055. Visitation was held from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Wednesday morning at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, which was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com).



**ROBERT F. "Bob" JOHNSON** - Died Tuesday morning January 27, 2015 at 10:42 AM at his home in Munising, Michigan under the loving care of his family and North Woods Hospice, following a long and courageous battle with metastatic melanoma. He was 62 years of age. He was born in Marquette, Michigan on June 14, 1952 to the late Frank and Mary (née Denman) Johnson, Jr. He grew up in Beaver Grove, Michigan and then the family moved to Gogarten Heights on Connors Road. He attended Sacred Heart School and then graduated from William G. Mather High School in 1969. Bob served in the United States Marine Corps from July 7, 1969 until July 6, 1972 where he served in the Mediterranean during the Vietnam War. He would tell people he worked with four branches of the armed forces: serving in the Marine Corps, traveled with the Navy, joined the Army Reserve, and worked with the Air Force at K.I. Sawyer. Robert married Debra Jean Kroupa on July 9, 1971 and together they raised their five children. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Munising Chapter #237** and the American Legion. He was a hardworking man and retired from K.I. Sawyer in 1995, the State of Michigan in 2008, and graduated from NMU with a Bachelor's Degree in Science 1994. Robert enjoyed trips to the casino with his father-in-law Darwin, and whoever he could talk into driving him there. He loved God, family, country, classic cars, sixties music, and teasing his grandchildren. These grandchildren can tell you all about grandpa's pet dinosaur he keeps in the basement. He is survived by his wife of over forty-three years Debra ; their five children Michael (Heather) Johnson of Munising, Daniel (Holly) Johnson of Negaunee, Barry (Jamie) Johnson of Munising, Rebecca Johnson of Munising, and Amy (Robert) Richardson of Munising; grandchildren who were the primary loves of his life Brandon, Carissa (Tyler Pomeroy), Remington, Winter, Nasheena, Echo, Matthew, Alex, Trevor, Valerie, Nicholas, Michael, Andrew, and Robert; siblings Dennis (Jeanne) Johnson, Barbara (Rick) Warner, William (Phyllis) Johnson, Catherine (Paul) Goings, Sandy (David) Aaron, Karen (Steve) Kling, James Johnson, Debbie Oein, Gary (Sherry) Johnson, Stephen "Sam" (Trina) Johnson, Carol (Soren) Spickerman, and Perry "Bummer"(Bev) Johnson; numerous nieces and nephews; mother-in-law- Marjorie Kroupa; and brothers and sisters-in-law Becky (Mike) Kolbus, Mark Kroupa, Laurie Kroupa, Darla (Brian Sharon) Kroupa, John (Jill) Kroupa, Dr. Michelle (Todd) Kulik, and Jim (Pam) Lockwood. Bob was preceded in death by his parents Frank and Mary; siblings - Bruce Johnson, Matthew Johnson, and Pam Hamzeh; father-in-law - Darwin Kroupa; and sister-in-law - Brenda Hyde-Quarfoot. Visitation was on Friday, January 30, 2015 at the Bowerman Funeral Home from 5:00 until 8:00 PM with a Rosary Prayer Service and time for sharing stories and remembrances at 7:00 PM. Father Chris Gardiner celebrated Robert's Funeral Mass on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, at the Sacred Heart Church in Munising at 10:00 AM. Interment was at the Munising Township Cemetery in Wetmore in the



spring, where the American Legion and the Vietnam Veterans Honor Guard conducted military honors. Robert's obituary and tribute wall may be viewed and signed at [bowermanfuneralhome.net](http://bowermanfuneralhome.net).

**FURNIE G. JONES** - Died Thursday, January 15, 2015 at Lenoir Memorial Hospital at the age of 65. He was a resident of Kinston, North Carolina. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 31, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam Wars. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kinston Chapter #892**. Survivors include his wife, Linda T. Jones of the home; sons, Jaiah Jones of South Carolina, Ricardo Brunton of Kinston, Malik Thomas of La Grange and Xavier Thomas of Greensboro; daughters, Genesis Jones of Kinston and Jerrie Thomas of La Grange; brothers, Cornelous Jones of Greensboro, John Jones Jr. of Nevada and Reggie Jones of Denver; and sisters, Martha Strayhorn of Kinston, Carol Jones of La Grange, Jackie Jones of Kinston and Johnnie B. Jones of Alabama. Visitation hours were from 4:00-7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Robert Swinson, Jr Memorial Chapel. Burial was Noon on Tuesday at the Coastal Carolina Veterans Cemetery in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Swinson Funeral Services were entrusted with the arrangements.

**ROBERT J. JONES** – Died in 2014 in North Bergen, New Jersey at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 22, 1940 in Jersey City, New Jersey to the late Frank and Bertha Jones. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War from 1960 to 1963. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rutherford Chapter #800**.

**MICHAEL P. KELLEY** – Died on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 in Kirkwood, Missouri at the age of 68. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on December 1, 1946. He is survived by his wife Kathy. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Louis Chapter #611**. Visitation was on Sunday from 4:00-8:00 PM. Funeral Mass was at 11:00 AM on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Saint Peter Catholic Church, 243 West Argonne Avenue. Interment was in the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations were requested to be made to the American Cancer Society or Vietnam Veterans of America.



**WAYNE ROGER KEY** - Died Saturday, December 6, 2014 in Chico, California at the age of 69. The cause of death was pancreatic carcinoma. He was surrounded by his wife, daughter and grandson. He was born on January 4, 1945 in Chico to Edna and the late Wilbur Jennings Key. After graduating from Chico High School, he was drafted into the United States Army to serve in the Vietnam War. He was a Specialist 4 in the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Paradise Chapter #582**. After he came home, he suffered from the atrocities of war. He tried valiantly to return to a normal life. Wayne worked as a theatre manager for United Artist Theatre, his last being the Senator Theatre. War memories took their toll on this sensitive, caring man making it impossible for him to work. His wife and daughter were his steadfast caregivers. He will be remembered by his many friends and relatives as a generous, kind man who was willing to help others in need. His 2-year-old grandson was the joy of his life. Wayne enjoyed making riding



toys for him and was overjoyed that he had a love for tools and wheels like his grandpa. Wayne is survived by wife Rebecca; daughter Abby of Chico; grandson Joey of Chico; his mother Edna of Chico; his brother Ken (Kally) of Arizona; a sister Donna Henson (Ron) of Chico; aunt Jessie Thomas (Mike) of Chico; aunt Lois Sizemore of Kentucky; aunt Ruth Louthan of Kentucky; a nephew and niece and numerous cousins and friends. A viewing was held from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at Brusie Funeral Home. A celebration of his life was held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 11:00 AM in the chapel of Brusie Funeral Home. Arrangements were under the direction of Brusie Funeral Home and online condolences can be sent to the family at [www.brusiefh.com](http://www.brusiefh.com).



**BILL ANDERSON "Spook" KIRBY** – Died Saturday, September 27, 2014, surrounded by his family at his home in Rotan. He was 68 years of age. The cause of death was myocardial infarction, diabetes and dementia. He was born July 28, 1946 at his grandparents' home in Kerrs Creek, Virginia. Bill was the son of Claude Anderson "Sarge" and Eleanore L. Kirby. In 1964, he enlisted in the United States Navy, where he served our country for 20 years, including two tours in Vietnam as a linguist/interrogator. In November 1968, he met the love of his life, Janice Sue Hardin, on a blind date while he was stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas. He asked Sue to marry him in March 1969, and the couple was married on July 12, 1969, at the United Methodist Church in Rotan, Texas. In 1984, he retired from the Navy as a chief petty officer and went to work as a civilian contractor for the Department of Defense. His naval career and his work with the Department of Defense took Bill and Sue all over the world with stops in Virginia, Maryland, Colorado, Texas, Spain, Greece and Korea. Bill had an ear for languages and was fluent in Vietnamese and Arabic and was proficient in German and Spanish. In 1991, Bill graduated from Angelo State University with his bachelor's degree. He followed that in 1995 with a master's degree in business finance. After his retirement, Bill remained involved with veterans organizations including the Patriot Guard and the VFW. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mesquite Chapter #137**. An avid motorcyclist, he rode with the Patriot Guard on several rides. Bill also enjoyed shooting pool and won fourth place in the National 9-Ball Championships in Las Vegas. He had great musical talent and could play any instrument soon after picking it up for the first time. Bill played the fiddle, accordion, piano, mandolin and guitar, as well as the Bosun's whistle. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Claude "Sarge" and Eleanore Kirby; his mother-in-law and his father-in-law, Jesse and Delia Hardin; and his sister-in-law, June Hardin. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Sue Kirby, of Rotan; two daughters, Jessica Kirby of Rotan and Jara Kirby of San Angelo; two brothers, Gary Kirby of Staunton, Virginia, and Pete Kirby of Faulks Run, Virginia; one sister, Donnalee Teague (Tom) of Harrisonburg, Virginia; one sister-in-law, Jackie Freeman of Rotan; four grandsons, Josey Galloway of Rotan, George Galloway (Samantha) of Cisco, Clay Galloway (Maria) of Rotan and Brenden Lowe of San Angelo; four granddaughters, Joanna Resen of Brooklyn, New York, Katherine Windels of Reno, Nevada, MacKenzie Kirby of San Angelo and Allie Morse of San Angelo; and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral service was held at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 in Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home chapel with burial in the Cottonwood Flats Cemetery. Visitation was held from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 at Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home.



**MICHAEL JON "Mike" KITTO, SR.** – Died Friday, August 22, 2014 in Saginaw, Michigan at 70 years of age, after a long battle with pain due to several injuries. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 13, 1943, and raised in Ishpeming Michigan, leaving to volunteer to serve his country as a Green Beret in the United States Army in Vietnam in the early sixties. As part of his Special Forces training, Mike trained as a medic and studied several languages. Following his honorable discharge after two tours, Mike attended Northern Michigan University, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. Thereafter, Mike enjoyed a long career in Lansing and Saginaw in claims management, eventually rising to underwriting and risk management director of St. Luke's hospital in Saginaw, MI, a job he enjoyed until he retired. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Negaunee Chapter #380**. Mike Kitto was 100% Finnish, and proud of it. He was born to Elsie (née Erkkila) Kitto and Matt Kitto in 1943, and grew up with numerous aunts, uncles and first cousins as part of his upbringing in Ishpeming, Michigan. Mike was a voracious reader and student of many topics, especially history, politics and medicine, and he enjoyed conversing with others. Mike was an expert golfer, and golf was a fundamental part of his social and professional life until his disabilities. Mike is survived by his wife, Janet K. Smith of Traverse City, Michigan, his brother, Matt Kitto of Ishpeming, MI, his daughter, Joanna (Mike Ambroziak) Kitto, of Arvada, Colorado, his son, Michael J. Kitto, Jr., of Shelby Township, MI, his step-daughter, Lisa (Kyle) Salo of Suwanee, Georgia, and his step-daughter Robin (Scott) Hugen, of Rochester Hills, MI, as well as by numerous grandchildren who loved him: Gabrielle, Alexander and Dominic Kitto, Emma, Nicholas and Christopher Ambroziak, Cooper and Isabella Salo, and Greta and Murphy Hugen. A service was held at Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming at 4:00 PM on August 29, 2014 with family visitation prior to that time between 3:00-4:00 PM. There was a reception for family and friends after the service at the nearby Veterans of Foreign Wars. In lieu of flowers, the family requested contributions be made to Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #380, 173 U.S. 41 East, Negaunee, Michigan 49866.

**CECIL E. KNIGHT, JR.** - Died Thursday, July, 17, 2014 at VA Medical Center, Oakland at the age of 69. He was a resident of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 28, 1945. He is survived by his son, Chad Knight; his daughters, Rebecca (Kenneth) Morder and Audrey Knight; his grandchildren Autumn Rose Knight, Madison & Matthew Morder, Kaylie, Allison, Cassidy Bambery and Deanna Kinslow; and a dear friend, Kylene. Cecil was a United States Marine Corps Veteran and served as a Sergeant during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**. He was a retired mechanic from the City of Pittsburgh. There was no visitation. Private burial was at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville.



**CHARLES J. KOLODJESKI** – Died Saturday, March 28, 2015 in Dover, Delaware at the age of 83. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey to the late Charles J. Wheeler and Gertrude (née Cross) Wheeler Madsen. He was a graduate of William L. Dickinson High School, Jersey City and Ocean County College, Toms River in 1977 with an Associate degree in Applied Science Business Accounting. He joined the United States Army in 1949, serving 2 tours of duty in Korea with the 60<sup>th</sup> Signal Service Company from 1951-1953 and

served with the 52<sup>nd</sup> Signal Battalion in Can Tho in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam from 1968-1969. MSG Kolodjeski received numerous awards and served our Country proudly for 21 years, retiring in 1971. Upon retiring he went to work for AccuRay Industrial Nucleonics Corp, Columbus, Ohio, retiring in 1986, then started his own business Sensor Services, Inc., until he sold out to his business partner in 1994. He was a member of the American Legion Walter L. Fox, Post #2, Dover, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dover Chapter #850**, BPOE Elks Lodge #1903, Dover and a life member of VFW Post #3238, Camden. Charles enjoyed early in his life, fishing, boating, bowling and camping with his family. After his retirement he enjoyed going to the casinos and playing Black Jack, vacationing in the Outer Banks and most of all his 5 trips to Poland. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his sister, Elaine Hennessy, 1987 and brother, Robert Wheeler, 1990. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Kay Kolodjeski of Dover; daughters, Diane Emmets of SeaGirt, NJ, and Nancy Kolodjeski of Blackwood, NJ; son, Wayne Kolodjeski and his wife Deborah of Dover; sister, Frances Harvey and her husband Henry of Hartly; grandsons, Andrew and Corey Emmets, Keith and Steven Kolodjeski; niece and Goddaughter, Kimberly Gillen and her husband Michael; nephew, Brian Harvey and his fiancé Kristin Cosden. Funeral services were held at 9:00 AM on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at Torbert Funeral Chapel South, 1145 East Lebanon Road (Route 10), Dover. Friends came calling from 6:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday evening with a BPOE Service at 7:00 PM. Interment was in the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Bear, Delaware. In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions be made to VVA Chapter 850, War Dog Memorial, PO Box 1718, Dover, DE 19901 or Delaware Hospice, 911 South Dupont Highway, Dover, DE 19901.



**PAUL G. KOZIK, SR.** - Died Sunday, March 29, 2015 in a Lawton hospital, Lawton, Hospital at the age of 79. He was a resident of Lawton. The cause of death was cancer. He was born August 21, 1935 to the late August Paul and Cecilia (née Moniak) Kozik in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from Holy Rosary Irish Catholic School. Upon graduation from Chicago Vocational School he entered the United States Army on June 4, 1954, and went to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He retired after 20 years of honorable service at Fort Riley, Kansas, on June 4, 1974 at the rank of Staff Sergeant. He returned to Lawton and was a delivery man for Wolverton Furniture. From there he worked in civil service at Fort Sill for 10 years. He then went to work for Kmart as a door greeter. During his time there, he played Santa Claus during the Christmas Holidays for any and all children's gatherings. He met Joanne Girsch while on leave from Japan in the summer of 1955. They married on April 27, 1957 at Saint Agnes Catholic Church in Chicago Heights, Ill. To this union four children were born. He belonged to the Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, and he was a lifetime member of the DAV and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751** as well as the American Legion. He is survived by wife, Joanne Kozik, of the home; four children: Thomas Kozik, of New Braunfels, Texas; Kathleen Kozik Walker and husband Kent, of Lawton; Paul G. Kozik, of Greeley, Colo.; and Mary Kozik Gildon and husband Kenneth, of Lawton; a brother, Ray Kozik, of Henderson, Nev.; and a sister, Delores Segerich, of Chicago; nine grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, a goddaughter, Cheri Tennis Chandler; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, two brothers, one brother-in-law, and two sisters-in-law. Funeral Mass for retired Staff Sgt. was at Noon on Thursday, April 2, 2015 in Holy Family Catholic Church, Lawton with

the Reverend Father Philip Seeton, pastor, and Deacon Jim Coe officiating. Burial with full military honors was in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Lawton, under direction of Becker-Rabon Funeral Home. A Rosary service was at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, April 1, 2015, in the funeral home chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Family Catholic Church Building Fund, 1010 NW 82nd Street, or the Ronald McDonald House, 1301 NE 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73117. An online guest book and sympathy cards are available at [www.beckerfuneral.com](http://www.beckerfuneral.com).

**ANTHONY J. LAFATA** – Died Friday, January 30, 2015 in Warren, Michigan at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on June 17, 1943. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**.

**HENRY RICHARD “Hank” LAPIDUS** - Died Thursday, September 26, 2013 at Hope Hospice in Cape Coral, Florida at the age of 66. He was a resident of Cape Coral. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 28, 1947 in Bayonne, New Jersey to the late Henry R. Lapidus and Marie (née Nevins) Lapidus. Henry was employed in the transportation industry as a truck driver. He was a veteran of the United States Army and served his country faithfully during the Vietnam War with the rank Sergeant. During his tour in Vietnam he was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force. He was a squad leader who was wounded and yet continued to get ammunition to his own men and give aid to his wounded comrades while being under heavy fire. His valorous actions contributed immeasurably to the success of the mission and the defeat of the enemy force. He was also awarded the Purple Heart, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lodi (New Jersey) Chapter #800**. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 20 years, Maria Lapidus of Cape Coral, Florida; his children, Christopher (Kelly) Lapidus of Cape Coral, Florida and Mark Lapidus of North Carolina; his step children, Paola GJ Jeli of Hasbrough Heights, NJ, Viviana Dominguez of Miami, Florida and Mario A. Loor of Brooklyn, New York; his step grandchildren, Ervin, Elizabeth, Emily, Elina, Eric, Valery and Gabriela; his uncle, Carman Fico; a niece, Cindy Kobylarz and two cousins, Patty Lapidus and Gloria Lapidus. Services with full military honors were held at Arlington National Cemetery. The family was assisted by Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home, 1589 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, Florida 33907.

**MONROE LASLEY** - Died Monday, March 9, 2015 in Kansas City, Kansas at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 3, 1941 in Hanna, Missouri to the late Gilbert Lasley and Senora (née Simmons) Lasley. Monroe was a veteran serving in the United States Air Force. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas City Chapter #317**. He was a member of the Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church in Hanna, was employed by Filtronetics as a welder retiring in 2004. He was also a past Vice-President of the Haskell Alumni and was the Haskell Alumni Fundraiser Coordinator. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother Youman Lasley, his sister, Mattie Lasley Thomas, his brother, Jimmy Lasley, his sister, Rose Lasley Kelly, his niece, Elizabeth Thomas, and by his nephew, John Al Thomas. Monroe is survived by his wife Louina Lasley of the home, son, Milton Lee Lasley, and son,

Rodman Jimmie Lasley and wife Andrea, son, Jeremiah Lasley and wife Amy, grandson, Gabriel Lasley, granddaughter, Zoey Lasley, stepson, Nathan Toney, 4 step grandchildren, and 5 step great grandchildren. A wake service was held at Integrity Chapel in Henryetta on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Funeral services were on Friday, March 13, 2015 at 1:00 PM at the Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church in Hanna with Reverend Jimmy Anderson and Reverend Ernest Best, co-officiating. Interment was at the Weogufkee Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service in Henryetta.



**DANNIE E. "Dan" LAUGHEAD** - Died unexpectedly on Monday, February 2, 2015 at Trinity Hospital in Muscatine, Iowa at the age of 69. He was a resident of Muscatine. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on June 22, 1945 in Denver, Colorado to the late Robert Edward and Harriet Frances (née Hargrave) Laughead-Bealer, of East Moline, Iowa. He was a 1963 graduate of Moline High School. On January 26, 1968 Dan was united in marriage to Cynthia Kay Long in Killeen, Texas. Dan served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Dan was currently working for Ellison Plumbing as a consultant. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Muscatine VF W Post #1565, American Legion Post #27 of Muscatine and the NRA. Dan was very active in his church and enjoyed fishing, shooting guns, western movies and books (especially John Wayne), and spending time with his grandchildren. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299**. Dan will be deeply missed by his wife, Cynthia of Muscatine; four children, Kathleen Garrido and husband, Hector of Muscatine, Michael Laughead and wife, Candace of Columbus, Ohio, Lisa Ellsworth and husband, Dave of Muscatine and Lee Laughead of Salt Lake City, Utah; daughter-in-law, Michelle Laughead of Muscatine; fifteen grandchildren; mother, Harriet Bealer of East Moline and one sister, Jane VanHyfte of Alexis, Illinois. Dan was preceded in death by his father, son, Joseph and brother, Richard. The service was at 10:00 AM on Saturday, February 7, 2015, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Muscatine. Visitation hours were from 4:00-7:00 PM on Friday, February 6, 2015 at the George M. Wittich-Lewis Home for Funeral and Cremation Services. Interment was in the Alexis Cemetery in Alexis, Illinois, with military rites by the combined units of the VFW Post #1565 and the American Legion Post #27 at 3:30 P.M. Pallbearers were Hector Garrido, Dave Ellsworth, Michael Laughead, Lee Laughead, Bob Laughead, Logan Ellsworth and Zane Laughead. Immediately following funeral services, a time of food and fellowship was held at the church. A memorial fund has been established to benefit the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Perpetual Education Fund.



**JAMES EDWARD "Jim" LAVELL** - Died Monday, March 23, 2015 at Genesis Medical Center East, Davenport, Iowa at the age of 71. He was a resident of Rock Island, Illinois. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born November 6, 1943, in Rock Island to the late Edward and Dolores "Orzie" (née Maxwell) Lavell. He married Judith A. Spiegel on April 20, 1974 in Rock Island. Jim graduated from Alleman High School in 1961. He then graduated from Wentworth Military Academy, Lexington, Missouri, and later attended Western Illinois University, Macomb. He served as a police officer for the city of Rock Island from 1968 to 1988. Jim later did private security, as well as security for the President Riverboat Casino in Davenport. He was a United



States Army Vietnam-era veteran. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299**. Jim was an avid golfer. He loved being with family and friends and enjoyed all the times they were together. Survivors include his wife, Judy; sons and daughter-in-law, Doug and Pamela Lavell, Chicago, Trent Lavell, Apopka, Fla., and Luke Lavell, Rock Island; grandchildren, Sydney Lavell, Fishers, Ind., and Colton Lavell, Chicago; brother, Edward "Ned" Lavell, Rock Island; sister-in-law, Karen Lavell, Rock Island; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Tim Lavell. A memorial service was held at 1:00 PM on Friday at the Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home, Rock Island. Burial was at the Rock Island National Cemetery, where military honors were presented by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #299. Visitation was from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #299.

**ROBERT EUGENE LAWS** - Died Thursday evening, April 17, 2014 at the Salisbury VA Medical Center. He was a resident of Elkin, North Carolina and 66 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 16, 1947 to the late Robert Bob Laws and to Mattie Virginia (née Hall) Laws. In addition to his father he was preceded in death by one daughter Bridget Renea Laws Tickel; one brother Ralph Boyd Laws. He was a Veteran of the United States Army having served in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mount Airy Chapter #1021**. He was a self-employed Carpenter. Surviving is one son Jason Laws of Low Gap, NC; one grandchild Christopher Neil Tickle, and one granddaughter on the way Gena Annalee Laws; his mother Virginia Hall Laws of Elkin; sisters and brother-in-law Sue Childress, of Elkin, Linda and Michael Soderburg of Taylorsville, NC; brothers and sister-in-law Edward Glenn Laws of Dobson, Paul Allen and Hilda Laws of Dobson, Bruce C. Laws of Elkin, Jerry M. Laws of Duncan Ok; special friends June Sweaney of Marlow, Ok, Danny Brooks of Dobson. A graveside service was held at 2:00 P.M. in the VA National Cemetery in Salisbury, NC on Tuesday April 22, 2014 with Military Honors by the Fort Bragg Honor Guard. The family received friends at the Moody-Davis Funeral Home in Dobson, North Carolina on Monday evening from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM.



**ROBERT JOSEPH LAYMAN, DDS** - Died Sunday, February 22, 2015 at Arden Courts of Towson at the age of 69. He was a resident of Towson, Maryland and formerly of Frostburg, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 29, 1945 in Cumberland, Maryland to the late Odell Layman and Kathleen (née Baer) Layman. He is the last of his immediate family. Dr. Layman was a graduate of the 1964 class of Beall High School. He was a Vietnam United States Army veteran serving as a dentist at Fort Bragg and a member of Military Reserve until 1983. He was an Orthodontist practicing in Frostburg and Morgantown. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. He was a member of Saint Mary Church in Pocahontas and attended Saint Mary of Morgantown, West Virginia. He was a member of American Dental Association, MD State Dental Society, Allegany and Garrett County Society and American Association of Orthodontists. He was an avid West Virginia University football fan. Surviving are numerous cousins. A Funeral Mass and Committal Service was held at Saint Michael Catholic Church in Frostburg, on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 10:00 AM with Father Ed Hendricks as celebrant. Inurnment was at the Finzel Cemetery. Memorials in honor of Dr.

Layman can be directed to Wounded Warriors Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite #300, Jacksonville, Florida, 32256.



**DANNY HAROLD LEE** – Died Saturday, January 3, 2015 in Newton Grove, Johnston County, North Carolina at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 14, 1948 to the late James Albert and Alene Benson Lee. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Four Oaks Chapter #990**. He is survived by his wife, Barbara H. Lee; his daughters, Brenda Heath of Four Oaks, Renée Turnage of Four Oaks and Amy Futch, of Four Oaks; his son, Kevin Allen of Benson; his sisters, Alice Parrish, of Coats and Bernice Driver, of Greensboro; his brother, Wilson Lee, of New Bern, and; his nine grandchildren. The funeral service was on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 11:00 AM at the Pauline Baptist Church, Four Oaks, North Carolina. Interment was in the Hills of the Neuse Memory Gardens, Smithfield, North Carolina. The family received friends at the funeral home on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.



**NELSON B. LINCOLN** - Died Monday, March 2, 2015 at Kenwood Health and Rehabilitation Center at the age of 90. He was a resident of Berea, Kentucky. The cause of death was heart failure. He was a Mount Holly, New Jersey native born November 20, 1924, to the late William and Ethel Lincoln. He was a retired United States Army and Air Force veteran with 21 years of service. He was the owner of Lincoln Refrigeration, former Berea Volunteer Fireman, and member of Westside Baptist Church. Nelson moved to Berea in 1964 from Texas where he was stationed in the military. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Big Hill Chapter #1066**. Survivors include 2 sons, Bill (Myra) Lincoln and Dennis (Peggy) Lincoln; 4 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his loving wife, Jessie Harris Lincoln and 1 son, Robert Scott Lincoln. Funeral Service was at 12:00 Noon on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at Reppert Funeral Home with Pastor Allen Livingood, officiating. Burial with Military Honors was in the Berea Cemetery. Visitation was at 11:00 AM on Saturday. Memorial Contributions suggested to Berea Volunteer Fire Department, Westside Baptist Church Building Fund or The National Air Force Museum at Air Force Museum Foundation, Inc., P. O. Box 1903, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-1903.

**HAROLD J. "Hal" LINDEN, JR.** - Died Monday, September 15, 2014 in Buffalo, Texas at 68 years of age. He courageously fought his battle with cancer for nine years. He was born November 17, 1945 in South Haven, Michigan. He served his country honorably in the United States Marine Corps and was a Vietnam combat veteran. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Palestine Chapter #991**. He lived his life loving his family and friends. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing the open seas. Mr. Linden was preceded in death by his father, Harold J. Linden Sr., and his stepfather, Emil J. Ignelzi. He is survived by his loving wife, Karen, of 33 years, his mother Neomi Ignelzi, stepsons Anthony and Jeffrey Jackman, three sisters, Darice Linden, Mary Lou Ebert, and Pamela Cornelinssen, two step brothers Paul and

Tim Ignelzi, a step sister Theresa Ignelzi, three grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial service and celebration of life for Harold was held at 3:00 PM on Sunday, September 21, 2014 at Bailey & Foster Chapel in Palestine with Rod Skelton officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Bailey & Foster



**ROBERT SMITH MABLE** – Died peacefully Monday afternoon, February 2, 2015 in the Edith Nourse Rogers VA Medical Center, Bedford, Massachusetts at the age of 80. He was a resident of Winchendon, Massachusetts. He was born in Colchester, Vermont on August 16, 1934 to the late Ralph Smith and Mildred May (née Bolio) Mable and had lived in Winchendon for many years. Bob was a retired serviceman, who proudly served his country during both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. A proud veteran, Bob was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post #193 American Legion, and a life member of Lt. Frederick Wilder White Post #2158 VFW. Bob also was a member of Retired Armed Forces Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association and Disabled American Veterans. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardner Chapter #907**. Bob was very active in community and veterans activities. His hobbies were farming and fishing. His wife, Anne E. (Gormley) Mable, died in 2000. He leaves two children, Robert C. Mable and his wife Debra of Winchendon and Betty-Ann Mable of Winchendon; one brother, Roland A. Mable of Rutland, VT; a foster son Robert LeBlanc and his wife Cindy of Baldwinville and their two children Heather and Alan, six grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. Military funeral services were held on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallen Street, Winchendon. There were no calling hours. Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon was in charge of the arrangements.



**ALAN MACIEL** – Died Saturday, December 22, 2007 in Hanford, California at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 23, 1931. He was predeceased by his wife Ruby in 2003. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**. He is interred in the Smith Mountain Cemetery in Dinuba, California.

**RONNIE C. MADDOX** - Died Saturday, May 10, 2014 at his residence in Cullman, Alabama at the age of 67 surrounded by his loving family. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related ischemic heart disease. He was born November 7, 1946 in Cullman County to the late Ernest and Lucille (née Swann) Maddox. He was a member of the United States Marine Corps and served during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardendale Chapter #416**. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Maddox; mother, Shirley Jacobson; children, Bobby Hare and Connie (Jerry) Duke; brothers, Bob (Judy) Maddox, Joe Maddox and Tim (Jai) Maddox; sister, Tammy Maddox; grandchildren, Sam Bearden, Daniel Bearden, Denise Bearden, Joseph (Whitny) Nabors, Megan Hinkle, Mike (Brittany) Duke and Pat Duke; great grandchildren, Madison Bearden, McKenly Barrett, Braden Duke, Cohen Duke and Kamri Bearden; a host of extended family and friends and his beloved dogs, Gigi and Brooke. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 11:00 AM at Mount Zion Baptist

Church in Welti, Alabama with interment in the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama. He will lie-in-state one hour prior to the service. The family received friends on Tuesday from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the funeral home. Hanceville Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Mount Zion Baptist Church at 5041 County Road 703, Cullman, AL 35055.

**HENRY J. MARCUS** – Died Thursday, February 19, 2015 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida at the age of 94. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 16, 1920. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Lauderdale Chapter #23**.

**ALFRED MARQUEZ** – Died Thursday, July 4, 2013 in Dinuba, California at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on March 11, 1947. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**.



**RICKY CHARLES MAULTBAY** - Died Thursday December 25, 2014 at Wellmont Holston Valley Medical Center at the age of 66. He was a resident of Kingsport, Tennessee. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 18, 1948 to Wilma Maultbay and the late Robert “Curly” Maultbay. In addition to his father, he was also predeceased by his two daughters, Misty and Shawna Maultbay. In addition to his mother, he is also survived by his loving wife and the one who has made his life whole, Annette (née Sweeney) Maultbay; son, Shane Maultbay and daughter, Addyson; sisters, Beth Cole and husband Mike, Hilton Head, SC and Diane Jennings and husband David, Weber City; brother, Tim Maultbay and wife Christy, Kingsport; several nieces and nephews; father in law, Temmens Sweeney; very special sister in law, Darlene Reed. Ricky had a love of life and people and was known for always having a smile on his face. He enjoyed spending time with his loving wife, and family and working in the yard or riding his motorcycle. His loving granddaughter, Addyson Maultbay, has always been the light of his life. He always called her “poppy’s little angel”. Rick proudly served his country in the United States Navy. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kingsport Chapter #979** and a faithful member of the Kingsport Masonic Lodge #688. Rick retired from Eastman Chemical Company after 31 years of service. He has since worked for BAE since 2008, in the lab. Rick has always thought of others before thinking of himself. His mom says she will always remember him saying each day, I love you mom and dad. The family received friends from 4:00 till 7:00 PM on Sunday, December 28, 2014 at Scott County Funeral Home or anytime at the home of his mother. A service followed at 7:00 PM with Pastor David Salley officiating. A graveside service was conducted at 2:00 PM on Monday at Holston View Cemetery. Military graveside rites were presented by the American Legion Post #3/265. Pallbearers were Gary Quillen, Anthony Salas Maultbay, Tim Maultbay, Riley Gordon, Josh Wininger, Grady Vaughn, David Jennings and Andy Powers. Honorary pallbearers were Larry Mahan and Mike Cole. Carter-Trent/ Scott County Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



**SHEILA A. McCANN** (LTC, USA-Ret. Army Nurse Corps) - Died peacefully at home in San Antonio, Texas on Friday, March 6, 2015 at the age of 83. The cause of

death was heart failure dying in her sleep. She was born on March 1, 1932 in Chicago to the late Neal J. McCann, MD & Anne (née Golden) McCann who preceded her in death along with her sisters, Margaret McCann and Claire McCann Lucas, MD, as well as her nephew, James Lucas. She grew up in Ishpeming and Marquette, MI and graduated in 1953 from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing and with a B.S. from Tulane University (LA) in 1965, after which she taught for 1 year at Touro Infirmary School of Nursing (LA). She was commissioned a Captain in the United States Army Nurse Corps in August 1966. Her overseas assignments included tours in Vietnam, Japan, Germany and Panama where she focused on teaching Nursing Education & Training and Administration and as a Medical-Surgical Nurse and Chief Nurse for 20 years and 6 months until her retirement in March 1987 in San Antonio. Her numerous awards are: Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster; Meritorious Unit Commendation; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with Device (1960) and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation. She was a member of the Retired Officers Association, Retired Army Nurse Corps Association, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – San Antonio Chapter #366**. She is an avid Spurs fan and is a proud member of Spurs Family. She is survived by a niece, Anne Lucas Sammartano of Cypress, CA, her nephews Michael Lucas of Encinitas, CA, Peter Lucas of Indian Wells, CA and five grandnephews: Bryant, Alex, Pierce, Finn and Charlie. The visitation was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at Sunset Funeral Home, 1701 Austin Highway. A Memorial service was held at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at the funeral home, followed by graveside services at 1:30 PM at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with full military honors. Memorials may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #366, c/o Ruben Villafranca, Treasurer, 1315 Belclair, San Antonio, TX 78258. To sign the online guestbook, please log on to [www.sunsetfuneralhomesa.com](http://www.sunsetfuneralhomesa.com).

**JOHN W. McQUAID** - Died Saturday, March 7, 2015 at Pottstown Memorial Medical Center at the age of 66 after losing his battle with cancer. He was a resident of Lower Pottsgrove Township, Pennsylvania. He was born on May 29, 1948 in Norristown, Pennsylvania to the late James J. and Catherine M. (née Cook) McQuaid. He was a Bishop Kenrick High School graduate, attended Drexel University, and served as a corporal in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. McQuaid owned Ray's Hillside Used Auto Parts. Mr. McQuaid was a member of George Pron/Paul Seton Marine Corps League Det. #450, Thomas O'Connor Post #602, American Legion and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pottstown Chapter #565**. He was a former member of Rolling Thunder. In addition to his wife of 42 years, Sandra L. (née Griffin) McQuaid, he is survived by his sons, Michael, husband of Marsha McQuaid, and Christopher, husband of Ginelle McQuaid; three brothers, James, Thomas and Robert, husband of Laura McQuaid, and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by three infant children. The funeral service was at 2:00 PM on Friday, at the Holcombe Funeral Home, Inc., 21 Main Street, Trappe. Burial was in the Highland Memorial Park, Pottstown. Friends came calling from 12:30 to 1:45 PM on Friday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Susan Cohan Colon Cancer Foundation, Suite 2404, 201 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201, <http://www.coloncancerfoundation.org/donate/makeADonation>.





**ELWYN HENRY MEYERS** - Died Monday, March 30, 2015 in a local hospital in Texarkana, Texas at the age of 77. He was a resident of Texarkana. The cause of death was various cancers. He was born May 3, 1937 in Galen, New York. He was a retired Master Sergeant with the United States Air Force, a veteran of the Vietnam War and a newly received Catholic. He was a member of the National Rifle Association and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana Chapter #278**. He was preceded in death by his son, David Wayne Meyers. He is survived by his wife, Berniece Meyers of Texarkana, Texas; two sons and daughters-in-law: Michael Alan Meyers and wife Janet of Santa Maria, California; Steven and JoAnne Meyers of Williston, Vermont; six grandchildren; four great grandchildren and a number of other relatives. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at Chapelwood Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Deacon Hal Williams officiating. The family received friends at the funeral home Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1301 South Broadway, Tyler, Texas 75701 or to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Texarkana Area Chapter 278, P. O. Box 6608, Texarkana, Texas 75505-6608.

**MICHAEL BILL “Mike” MILLER** - Died Thursday, January 15, 2015 at Good Samaritan Society Idaho Falls Village at the age of 64. He was a resident of Irwin, Idaho. The cause of death is unknown. He was under the care of Hospice of Eastern Idaho. He was born July 13, 1950 in Afton, Wyoming, to Bill Miller, Jr. and Yvonne Miller. He grew up and attended schools in Star Valley, Wyoming, and graduated from Bonneville High School. He also attended East Idaho Vo-Tech, and earned his Associates Degree in welding and mechanics. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was stationed on the USS Ticonderoga, which performed the recovery of Apollo 11. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gladstone (Oregon) Chapter #392**. Michael worked as a welder for Bucyrus Errie, Holders Machine, American Fabrication, and Diversified Metal, where he retired on July 13, 2013. He loved the outdoors, camping, fishing, snow machining, and he enjoyed building hot rods. Michael is survived by his daughter, Morgan Miller of Idaho Falls; father, Bill Miller of Littlefield, AZ; mother, Yvonne Miller of Swan Valley, ID; brother, Ryan (Stacy) Livingston of Idaho Falls, ID; brother, Fred (Kim) Miller of Swan Valley, ID; sister, Mary Houghton of Idaho Falls, ID; sister, Mindy (Denny) Olson of Rigby, ID, and; sister, Linda (Rick) Jackson of Swan Valley, ID. He was preceded in death by his grandparents on both sides; and two uncles, Gene and Jessy Miller. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at the Wood Funeral Home (273 North Ridge Avenue). The family visited with friends one hour prior to services. Burial was in the Fielding Memorial Park Cemetery where Military Rites were performed by the Bonneville County Veterans Memorial Team.



**ROGER DALE MIZELL, SR.** – Died Wednesday, April 18, 2007 in Cutler, California at the age of 57. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 16, 1950. He is survived by his wife, Gracie. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**. He is interred in the Smith Mountain Cemetery in

Dinuba, California.



**GEORGE ELMER MORGAN** - Died Monday, February 23, 2015 at the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center at the age of 63. He was a resident of Cumberland, Maryland. The cause of death was Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. He was born on July 1, 1951 in Frostburg, Maryland to the late Joseph and Margaret (née Wilson) Morgan. He was preceded in death by his wife, Diane Jean Morgan, in 2014 and his brother, Joe Morgan. George was a United States Army veteran and served during the Vietnam-era. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172** and the Local #34 Roofers Union. George was an avid hunter and fisherman and loved watching the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens games. Above all, George loved his family very much, especially his children and grandchildren. Surviving are his children, Stephanie Wiseman and husband Mark, Ryan Morgan, and Rhonda Morgan; two grandchildren, Landen Sweitzer, and Abram Wiseman; two sisters, Linda Jenkins and husband Dick, and Peggy Foote and husband Bob; his brothers, Charles Morgan and wife Lamzie, Rodney Morgan and wife Theresa, Terry Morgan and wife Eileen, and Tony Morgan and wife Trish; and his dog, Bailey. Friends were received at the Scarpelli Funeral Home, P.A., 15205 McMullen Highway SW, Cresaptown on Friday, February 27, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. A Funeral Service was conducted at the funeral home on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 1:00 PM with the Reverend Harold R. McClay officiating. Interment will be in Sunset Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Terry Morgan, Jr., Will Morgan, Bruce Foote, Robert Foote, Charlie Morgan, and Daniel Morgan. Military Honors were accorded by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #172.



**RICHARD G. "Dick" MURPHY** - Died at his home in Springfield, Pennsylvania on February 19, 2015 at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. Dick was the devoted husband of Patricia A. Murphy (née Piechoski). Dick was a Master Plumber and owner of Murphy's Plumbing & Heating, Inc. in Holmes. He was a proud veteran who served in the United States Army, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during two tours of duty in the Vietnam War and was the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Media Chapter #67**. Dick loved going to Wildwood with his family, spending time with his grandchildren, reading his Kindle, and was a Licensed Captain and an avid fisherman. He was a talented mechanic and was passionate about his company which he started on his own in 1976. Throughout his career, he mentored many mechanics. Dick loved animals, especially his Schnauzers, Printze, Prantzer, PJ, and Klaus. Along with his wife Patsy, Richard is survived by his children, Brian (Holly), Rick (Christine), and Kelly (Jeff); loving grandfather of Brian, Brandon, Sadie, Hunter, Crista, Kelsie, Amber and Cole; dear brother of Dr. William (Denise) Murphy. Relatives and friends were invited to Dick's Life Celebration on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, at 10:30 AM–12:00 Noon at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 2130 Franklin Avenue in Morton, PA 19070. The Funeral Mass was at 12:00 PM. Interment was in Saint Peter and Paul Cemetery, Springfield. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Finding Shelter Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 723, Southeastern, PA 19399 [www.findingshelter.org](http://www.findingshelter.org). Life Celebration service was provided by James F. Knoetgen of Morton 610-544-0600. To share your fondest memories of Dick, please visit [www.lifecelebration.com](http://www.lifecelebration.com).



**EDWARD W. "Ed" NOVAK, SR.** - Died unexpectedly on Friday, February 20, 2015 at Orange Regional Medical Center at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. The third of four children born to the late William and Elna (née Petersen) Novak, he was born on January 20, 1947 in Middletown. Ed was brought up in a family that believed in helping others through community service, he kept that tradition. He was a member of the first graduating class of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and remained in contact with many of his former classmates. He graduated from John S. Burke Catholic High School in 1965 and was involved in the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion committee. Ed was active for many years with the Cub and Boy Scouts, Midway Ambulance Corps, coached the Elks Junior bowling league and was a certified Red Cross CPR instructor. He proudly served in the United States Air Force as an E2 during the Vietnam War. He was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Hampton Chapter #140**, DAV, Past Commander of the American Legion Post #151 and Knights of Columbus. He was a retired security Hospital Treatment Assistant. He and his wife Sally Austin were married in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on March 7, 1970 and would have celebrated 45 years together next month. They were a couple dedicated to each other, at times both working at Middletown Psychiatric Center and Mid-Hudson Psychiatric Center in New Hampton. Sally and Ed were life partners, and when Ed suffered a traumatic stroke in 2002, Sally made sure he was able to keep involved in the community. We are grateful for their dedication to each other and to their favored causes. Even though his stroke created some handicaps for him, it never diminished his great sense of humor, love of adventure and joy for life. Ed is survived by his loving and dedicated wife and partner, Sally; his sons: Ed Novak, Jr. and Christopher Novak; sister, Theresa Grabowski and her husband, Ray of Middletown; brother-in-law, Ralph Austin and his wife, Suzanne of Maine; sister-in-law, Carol Austin; 11 nieces and nephews; foster brother, Michael and foster sister, Michelle. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, William Novak, Jr.; his sister, Mary Anne, and; his nephew, Edward Storms. Visitation was held from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Applebee-McPhillips Funeral Home, Inc., 130 Highland Avenue, Middletown, NY 10940. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at his church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 90 Euclid Avenue, Middletown with Father John Horan, O. Carm., officiating. Burial was in the family plot in Hillside Cemetery in Middletown. Arrangements were under the direction of the Applebee-McPhillips Funeral Home, Inc., [www.applebee-mcphillips.com](http://www.applebee-mcphillips.com)



**JEROME XAVIER "Jay" O'DONOVAN** – Died Thursday, December 11, 2014 in Staten Island, New York at the age of 70. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related Diabetes Mellitus Type II, liver and renal failure. He was born in Staten Island on August 31, 1944. He is survived by his wife, Vita, of the home. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War in 1972 as an advisor to the South Vietnamese. He was awarded two Bronze Stars and attained the rank of Captain. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Staten Island Chapter #421**. Former Democratic North Shore City Councilman Jerome X. O'Donovan, 70, a decorated hero of the Vietnam War who was a gentlemanly and affable voice in the sometimes sharp-elbowed world of Staten Island politics, died Thursday at his Dongan Hills Colony home. "Jay O'Donovan, a true gentleman, was a warrior for Staten

Island and for America," said U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) "He served in Vietnam and never stopped serving the public as he pursued a long and accomplished career as a councilman and more." Mr. O'Donovan, known to one and all as "Jay," was elected to the Council in 1982. A lifelong Staten Islander, Mr. O'Donovan was born in Concord and grew up in Dongan Hills Colony. He lived in Arrochar after his marriage, and later moved back to Dongan Hills Colony. The first Vietnam veteran to be elected to the City Council, Mr. O'Donovan was a graduate of New Dorp High School, where he played football. He is a member of the high school's Hall of Fame and of the football team's Hall of Fame. He received a bachelor's degree in political science from Marshall University, and attended the University of Oklahoma Law School before attending the U.S. Marine Corps Officers' Candidate School in Quantico, Va. During his college years, he also worked as a lifeguard at Midland Beach. Mr. O'Donovan's career in public service began in 1974, when became assistant to then-Borough President Robert T. Connor. Mr. O'Donovan had also worked with the Island's Borough Board and community groups. He was also an assistant to Democratic Borough President Anthony Gaeta. In 1978, he became a staff analyst with the Department of Personnel, and a year later became an administrative staff analyst for Department of Transportation Commissioner Anthony Ameruso. At DOT, Mr. O'Donovan was an assistant to Highway Commissioner Henry Fulton and a liaison to labor unions and the borough superintendents.

**COUNCIL CAREER** - But Mr. O'Donovan wanted to serve in elective office, and in 1982, he beat out three other candidates in a Democratic primary, and went on to win the general election for the North Shore seat. During his tenure, the Council was reconfigured under Speaker Peter Vallone, gaining new powers after the city Board of Estimate was eliminated in 1989. "You can't talk about Jay without having a smile on your face," Vallone said. "He always lit up a room." Vallone recalled how Mr. O'Donovan and then-GOP Councilwoman Susan Molinari provided the votes that helped make Vallone the Speaker in 1986. "Jay brought people together," Vallone said. "He had a way of making things work without acrimony." Vallone appointed Mr. O'Donovan chairman of the powerful Economic Development Committee, and made Mr. O'Donovan a member of his inner-circle steering committee. Retired GOP Judge John Fusco and Republican Alfred Cerullo III served with Mr. O'Donovan in the Council, where they were known as the "Tres Amigos" for working together. "Jay had a great sense of humor," said Fusco, now the Borough Hall counsel. "In tense situations, he'd come up with the typical Jay O'Donovan smile, and it would ease whatever tense moment there was." "Jay was more than a colleague," said Cerullo, who heads the Grand Central Partnership. "He was a partner and a friend. I can't think of a time where we didn't find common ground for the best interest of the entire borough." Mr. O'Donovan's legislation made the free fare on the Staten Island Ferry into law, and he worked to cut express bus fares, close the Fresh Kills landfill and bring millions in funding for new classrooms, school computers, arts and reading projects. He prodded the city Economic Development Corporation to find a tenant for the dormant Stapleton home port.

**FIGHTING OVER DEVELOPMENT** - Mr. O'Donovan called himself the "undisputed champion" in the fight to control overdevelopment, stopping dozens of projects where zoning rules

were violated, and saving city-owned parcels from sale. His office provided funding to buy environmentally sensitive parcels, including Jones Woods and Chapin Woods, and he put in legislation to strengthen protections for sensitive areas such as the Special Hillside Preservation District and Staten Island's Natural Area District. Mr. O'Donovan also called for an overhaul of the Buildings Department here and creation of a "master" development plan for the borough. Thomas LaManna was a longtime friend and Mr. O'Donovan's chief of staff beginning in 1995. "I came to understand why he was beloved by so many," LaManna said. "His loyalty to individual constituents gave him a well-deserved reputation as somebody who would absolutely fight for you." In addition to constituent service, Mr. O'Donovan focused on providing funds for non-profits, cultural and educational institutions, and programs for seniors and the disabled. "There are few people in the world like Jay," said former Staten Island Zoo leader Vincent Gatullo. "He was very generous, and very dedicated to the Island. He had no ego. We'll never know how much we'll miss him. He tried very hard to help people in need, and through all of it, he was always a gentleman." Mr. O'Donovan lavished funding on the Zoo and the African savannah wing of the Zoo is named after him. Mr. O'Donovan was in the Council under three mayors: The late Edward Koch, David Dinkins and Rudolph Giuliani. The O'Donovans were particularly close to Koch, who frequently invited the family to Gracie Mansion. "We were fond of him, and he was fond of us," said Mr. O'Donovan's wife of 38 years, the former Vita Cannavo. In the late 1980s, Mr. O'Donovan traveled to Vietnam on the POW/MIA issue and to the Soviet Union to help free dissident Refuseniks. In the 1990s, as chairman of the Economic Development Committee, he went to Romania, Slovakia and Austria to seek businesses for the Big Apple. Mr. O'Donovan left the Council due to term limits in 2001. He twice sought higher office, but lost a congressional race to GOP Rep. Guy Molinari in 1988, and a battle for borough president in 2001, when Conservative James Molinaro won. Mr. O'Donovan remained active on the political scene during his retirement. Last year, he appeared at events with mayoral candidate Bill Thompson and congressional candidate Domenic M. Recchia. He also wrote a commentary for the Advance about how candidates could capture votes of the "cool," younger generation. And he continued to appear at the pre-St. Patrick's Parade breakfast at Jody's Club Forest, West Brighton, an event that's the unofficial beginning of the borough's political season. "He represented all of Staten Island in a way that he earned the respect of many people in City Hall," said former Democratic Borough President Ralph Lamberti. "He also had the ability to reach out to all Staten Islanders and bring people together." Former Democratic Rep. Michael McMahon knew Mr. O'Donovan since childhood, and considered him an older brother. He succeeded Mr. O'Donovan in the Council. "He made public life look easy," McMahon said. "He left an incredible legacy, for the North Shore in particular, but for all of Staten Island. He was the life of every party, but had a serious, determined calling for public service." McMahon said Mr. O'Donovan brought a sense of "decency and kindness to the world of politics. He was never cut-throat." Longtime friend and supporter Charles Greinsky was manager of Mr. O'Donovan's 2001 campaign for borough president. "Jay treated everybody the same, whether it was the guy who cut his hair or Donald Trump," Greinsky said. "He was everybody's friend." "He was a dapper man, always nattily dressed, and had a lifelong commitment to making Staten Island a better place to live," said Councilwoman Debi Rose (D-North Shore).



**VIETNAM WAR HERO** - Mr. O'Donovan was a decorated Marine Corps veteran who earned two Bronze Stars and a field promotion to the rank of captain during a one-year stint in Vietnam in 1972. Looking back on his military service, Mr. O'Donovan often told tales of seeing action with a unit of the South Vietnamese military near the DMZ and at the Mychan River, where he earned his decorations. He was an advisor to the South Vietnamese Marines. Though a devout Democrat of the North Shore school, Mr. O'Donovan enjoyed good relationships with borough Republicans. Years ago, Mr. O'Donovan gave a young James Oddo, now the GOP borough president, a pep talk about his legal studies, and a recommendation for law school. Mr. O'Donovan later crossed party lines to endorse Oddo for Council and Borough Hall. "For those of us who were privileged to know him, he will live on in what we will call 'Jay stories,'" said Oddo, who also served in the Council with Mr. O'Donovan. "And all of them leave you laughing. He was one of my favorite people that I've come across in 22 years in politics." In 2010, Mr. O'Donovan backed GOP District Attorney Daniel Donovan for attorney general. "Perhaps his experience in combat helped him realize that not everything is a battle or a war, which informed his ability to work with Democrats and Republicans for the common good," said former GOP Rep. Vito Fossella, whose family has known the O'Donovans for decades and who served with him in the Council. Mr. O'Donovan often clashed with Molinari, a former borough president, and Molinari famously challenged his fellow Marine alum to a boxing match. They didn't fight, but Mr. O'Donovan later presented Molinari with a pair of boxing gloves. "We had a friendly spat from time to time," said Molinari. "It was never anything personal. I always liked him. He's one of the nicest guys in the world of politics that I ever met." Mr. O'Donovan was also a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Marine Corps League and other veterans groups. He served as the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day and St. Patrick's parades on Staten Island. Golf was a passion of Mr. O'Donovan's, and he played extensively. His son-in-law, Michael Aversa, was his constant golfing companion. He also enjoyed traveling the world with his wife, Vita, including trips to Iwo Jima and to every island in the Caribbean. The couple also traveled frequently to Europe. Mr. O'Donovan cherished spending time with his granddaughters, Michaela and Erin Aversa, and his daughter, Keri Aversa, who survive him. "A hero in war and a dedicated public servant at home, Jay O'Donovan offered every ounce of his being to protect and better the lives of the people he served," said U.S. Eastern District Judge Eric N. Vitaliano, a former Democratic Mid-Island Assemblyman. The funeral was from the Casey Funeral Home, Castleton Corners. A wake was held Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 7:00 to 9:00 PM on both days. A Mass was held at Saint Ann Church, Dongan Hills, on Monday at 10:00 AM. Arrangements included private cremation.



**DONALD P. "Don" PEMBERTON** – Died Thursday, September 11, 2014 in Browning, Montana at the age of 84. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 2, 1930 in Dilworth, Oklahoma to the late Lonnie W. "Buck" Pemberton and Frances Katherine "Kate" (née McDonald) Pemberton. He grew up in Oklahoma and Kansas and attended Rock School in rural Oklahoma, Lincoln School in Blackwell, Oklahoma, Palco Elementary School in Palco, Kansas, a rural school near the family's lease in Kansas, Zurich School in Kansas, and graduated from Palco High School in Palco, Kansas in 1948. In December of 1948, he enlisted in the United States Air Force

and served for over 20 years as an aircraft maintenance technician, inspector and superintendent. He was stationed in Texas, Illinois, Guam, Okinawa, Montana, California, Alaska and Vietnam, retiring in March 1969 as a Chief Master Sergeant. He earned the NCO Academy Graduate ribbon, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and Bronze Star. On July 15, 1952 he married Alma Lorraine Augare at the Holy Family Mission in Two Medicine, Montana, and they were married for 51 years before her death in 2003. They raised twelve children, Peggy, Toni, Frances, Jim, Dana, Loyce, Jeana, Tillie, Jodie, Mike, Chuck and Richard. After he retired from the Air Force, Don and Alma moved to Browning and Don worked as a mechanic at a sawmill, owned and operated a gas station, worked at Hoyt Chevrolet, worked at Napa Auto Parts, and drove bus for School District 9. He was a member of the Browning Volunteer Fire Department for many years, serving as Chief and Fire Marshal. He also served for six years on the Browning Public Schools Board of Trustees. Don was a life member of Franklin Juneau Post #127 of the American Legion, and served as post commander and post adjutant. Don was a very active member of the post and assisted with the White Cross program, Adopt-a-Highway Program, post fundraising, and served as a member of the honor guard for many years and at many veterans' funerals. He was also active on a state and national level, serving as Department Commander for the Montana American Legion in 1993-1994, assisting with Boys State and Oratorical Contest, and attending several national conventions. In addition to the American Legion, Don was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bozeman Chapter #788**, 40 & 8, Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada (US Unit), Kentucky Colonels and The Retired Enlisted Association. Don is survived by his daughters Peggy Harwood, Toni (Cliff) Gray, Dana Pemberton and Loyce (Steve) Barcus of Browning, Frances (Jack) Kittson of Babb, Jeana Dubray Rowe of Spokane, WA, Twila (Ted) DuBray Lee of Cut Bank; sons Jim (June) Pemberton of Two Medicine, Michael Last Star of Denver, CO, and Richard Pemberton of Havre; sisters Peg Lawson of Newkirk, OK and Nelda Ruth Starr of Breckenridge, TX; brother-in-law Wishie Augare of Heart Butte; 32 grandchildren and 56 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren. In addition to his wife Alma, Don was preceded in death by his parents, sons Melvin "Jodie" Last Star, Jr., Donald C. "Chuck" Pemberton, brother Jack W. Pemberton and sisters Billie Trenary and Loyce McDaris. A wake for Don was on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Veterans Memorial Arbor in Browning. The Rosary was at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, also at the Veterans Memorial Arbor. A Mass of Christian Burial was at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Holy Family Mission, followed by military graveside committal at the Mission Cemetery on Joe Show East Road. In accordance with Don's wishes, donations to the Alma Pemberton Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Dana Pemberton, are suggested in lieu of flowers.



**RICHARD MICHAEL "Mike" PENCIL** - Died Friday, December 26, 2014 in Clearville Pennsylvania at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 12, 1947 to the late R. Carl, and Clare (née Clapper) Pencil. He is survived by a son, Robert Michael Pencil, and wife, Bryn, of Macungie; two sisters, Susan

Waugerman, wife of Gary, and Carla Koontz, and companion Delbert Davis, both of Bedford; six nephews and one niece: Scott, Steve, Marcy, Brad, Jeff, Josh, and Kasey; and eight great-nieces & great-nephews. Mr. Pencil was a graduate of Penn State University, and a retired Pennsylvania State Trooper, an avid outdoorsman, and a member of numerous fraternal organizations. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #175**. Mike enjoyed spending time with friends in Calabash, NC, and attending the Church of the Lost and Found. A Private Service was held at the convenience of the family. Arrangements were made by the Timothy A. Berkebile Funeral Home, in Bedford, Pennsylvania. In lieu of flowers those wishing may make memorial contributions in Mike's name to: Bedford Volunteer Fire Department No. 1, P.O. Box 655, Bedford, PA 15522; or Bedford County Vietnam Veteran's Association, 253 North Juliana St., Bedford, PA 15522. Our online guestbook is available at [www.berkebilefuneralhome.com](http://www.berkebilefuneralhome.com).



**RICHARD J. PINTER** - Died Friday, February 6, 2015, after a three year battle with leukemia at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia at the age of 74. He was a resident of Trenton, New Jersey. He was born to the late Joseph Pinter and Elizabeth (née Kamrath) Pinter on September 6, 1940 and lived in the Trenton area most of his life. He founded, owned and operated AZ Music Center in Morrisville, PA, and also retired after 38 years as a First Sergeant and Bandmaster of the Adjutant General's Own 276<sup>th</sup> Army Band of Pennsylvania. Richard lobbied the US Congress to honor our fallen military heroes through use of Qualified Military Buglers to provide a live playing of "Taps" at their services. As "The Lone Bugler", over the past nine years he sounded "Taps" in honor of hundreds of his fallen comrades and their families. He would share Patriotic talks with schools, Veterans Homes, Hospitals and Senior Centers, was honored to be selected to perform for the Washington Word War II Memorial Dedication Ceremony on the USS New Jersey and was instrumental in helping establish a section of the Bordentown Cemetery for fellow veterans. Richard's numerous awards included: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon with bronze #4, Man-of-the-Year – AHCA. Organizations which honored him and his dedication including: Mercer County Veterans, The American Legion, Bordentown Township and City, Association of the National Guard, American Hungarian Civic Association and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bordentown Chapter #899** to name a few. Richard was a member of the First Baptist Church of Bordentown, Mt Moriah Lodge #28 F&AM of Bordentown, Musicians Local 62, PAESGR, PNGEA, EANGUS, and continued to serve as the Official Bugler for numerous organizations until his passing. He had a gift that enabled him to relate with people, was a pleasure to be around along with the conviction to provide and implement his belief that his fallen comrades deserved the final honor from our nation. He will be deeply missed. He is survived by his beloved wife, Irene Pinter (née Nyul) together 53 years; three daughters: Diana Ross (John), Judi Dudley (Robert Trombley) and Kathy Carson (Michael); his sister and brother-in-law, Betty Ann and David Scheetz; five grandchildren, William Carson, Robert Morton, Benjamin Halifko, Andrea Carson and Norman Dudley; three great grandchildren: Connor, Chase and Sophia Dudley; a niece, Jennifer Leader; a nephew, Christopher Scheetz and many other nieces, nephews and cousins. On Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, at The First Baptist Church of Bordentown (127 Prince Street,

Bordentown, NJ) friends called, from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Prior to the service, American Legion and Masonic memorial ceremonies took place. A Caisson-led procession from the church paid tribute to the Veterans of Bordentown Cemetery and final interment was at 11:30 AM on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 350 Province Line Road, Wrightstown, NJ. Arrangements were under the direction of Pepler Funeral Home, Bordentown. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Mission of Honor, PO Box 149, Lodi, NJ 07644 or First Baptist Church of Bordentown, 127 Prince St., Bordentown, NJ 08505.



**EMERY E. PITMAN** - Died Friday, February 20, 2015 Sheffield, Alabama at the age of 77. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 6, 1937 to the late Richard Pitman and Marjorie (née Platt) Pitman. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his beloved wife, Patricia (née Logan) Pitman. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511**. Survivors are son; Chet Young (Sue), daughters; Angelia Pitman (Curt Ladnier), Tracie Cardwell (Clay), Teana Swisher (Rick), brothers; Richard Pitman, Jr., and Wayne Ross, sisters; Gloria Wilcox and Patty Hudson, grandchildren; Tamren Cardwell, Kira Cardwell, Trisha Dean, Pamela Swisher, Elizabeth Swisher and Jonathan Mitchell, great grandchildren; Xandra Cardwell. The family received friends on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 from 2:00-3:00 PM at the Colbert Memorial Chapel with a memorial service following at 3:00 PM. Colbert Memorial Chapel assisted the family.



**GINO H. POLIDORI** — a Dearborn politician and former Michigan State Representative, known for supporting military veterans and for introducing a bill that helped foster kids be placed with relatives or those with a similar religion — died Sunday, January 26, 2014 of complications from prostate cancer. He was 72 years of age and a resident of Dearborn, Michigan. He was born July 23, 1941 in Dearborn. In 1973, at age 32, Polidori was appointed fire chief in Dearborn, the youngest person to serve in that role in the city, according to officials. He served until 1996, becoming the city's longest-serving fire chief, and then became city councilman from 1997 to 2004. Polidori, a Democrat, was Dearborn's state representative from 2004-10. "He was a consummate public servant his whole life," Dearborn Mayor Jack O'Reilly Jr. said Tuesday in a statement. In 2005, Polidori worked with the Amer family in Dearborn to introduce a bill that said the state should give preference to placing children in foster care with other family members or, if that's not possible, with people who share the same religion as the parents. It was signed into law by Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2010. Ahmed and Rehab Amer, who are Arab-American Muslims, had three children removed from their family and placed with an evangelical Christian family in Clarkston whom the Amers said didn't like Islam. The children's names were changed, and they were brought up as Christians. The parents had initially been accused of killing an infant son, who fell in a bathtub in 1985, but they were later acquitted by a jury. An autopsy confirmed the baby had a brittle bone disease that led to his death. Arab-Americans and Muslims rallied to the Amers' cause, saying their children were unfairly taken away by people hostile to their faith. Polidori, an Italian-American Catholic, was sympathetic to the Amer family. "What happened to them wasn't right," Polidori told the Dearborn Press and Guide in 2011. "I know that if something like that happened to me, you know I'm Italian, we

would have the kids placed with a family member to keep the traditions and the religions.” Polidori also co-sponsored a 2010 bill that allowed funeral homes to bury the cremated ashes of veterans who died without friends or family, O’Reilly said. Polidori served in the United States Army from 1964-66 and was once chairman of the state House Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committee. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dearborn Chapter #267**. Polidori is survived by his wife, Betty, son Gino Jr., daughters Laura and Rita, mother, Nellie, five grandchildren and two brothers. Visitation was from 2:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday and from 1:00-8:00PM on Thursday at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Road, Garden City. The visitation Thursday included a veteran final salute at 6:00 PM followed by a rosary. The funeral mass was at 11:00 AM on Friday at Saint Barbara Catholic Church, 13534 Colson Street, Dearborn. Burial was at Saint Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. The Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council performed a 21-gun salute.

**JAMES FRANCIS POWDERLEY** - Died Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the Jersey Shore University Medical Hospital at the age of 73. He was a resident of Demarest, New Jersey and most recently of Tranquility, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 21, 1940 in Englewood, New Jersey. He was the loving husband for 51 years of Wilma (née Damm) Powderley; beloved father of Diane Mareello, Kelly Parseghian, James F. Powderley III and Michael Powderley. James was especially proud of and had a tremendous influence over his 13 grandchildren. James was a United States Army veteran who served as an MP in the Vietnam War. James began his career as a police officer on the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police Force where he served for 10 years. James spent most of his life residing in Demarest. As second generation Demarest Police Chief, James was a devoted community servant. He was a member of the Demarest Volunteer Fire Department. James was a member of the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association. He served as OEM Director for Greene Township and was an active member of the Allemuchy Fire Department serving as Fire Police. He is also a life member of the NAM Knights. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rutherford Chapter #800**. In his spare time, James enjoyed fishing, boating and spending time with his grandchildren. James was a gentle loving husband, father, grandfather and person, a true inspiration and hero to his family and loved ones. Words cannot convey how he will be missed. Visitation was on Thursday from 1:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-9:00 PM at the Barrett Funeral Home 148 Dean Drive, Tenafly, New Jersey. Funeral Mass was on Friday at 10:00 AM at Saint Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Demarest, New Jersey. Interment was in the Westwood Cemetery, Westwood, New Jersey. Memorial donations may be made in James name to the Family of Bergen County Police Officer Daniel Breslin at YouCaring.com.

**JOHN RALPH PRICE, JR.** - Died Wednesday, February 25, 2015 in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the age of 68. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in Chattanooga on October 24, 1946 to the late John Ralph Price, Sr. and Lorene (née McKee) Price. He retired from the United States Navy and also retired from Transportation Brokerage business after 23 years. He was a graduate of City High School class of 1965. He also served and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America Chattanooga Chapter #203, Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America**, Temple Baptist Church for 37 years where he served as a teacher, youth leader, deacon and pulpit committee member. Surviving are his wife of 37 years, Susan Jones Price; daughters,



Kevan Harris and fiancé, Todd Smith; granddaughters, Skylar (Dyllin) Hamilton of Chattanooga and America Harris; great-grandson, Lucas Hamilton; sisters, Margaret (John) Kendall of Lakeview and Jo Ann (Billy) Longshore of Huntsville; and several nieces and nephews. Visitation was from 2:00-8:00 PM on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the funeral home. Funeral services were at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at Temple Baptist Church, 3204 Clio Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37407, with Pastor Terry Trivette officiating. Burial was at Chattanooga National Cemetery with full military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Temple Baptist Church or VVA Chapter #203, P.O. Box 23405, Chattanooga, TN. 37422-3405. Arrangements were by the East Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home, Crematory, and Florist, 404 South Moore Road. Please share your condolences at [www.chattanoogaeastchapel.com](http://www.chattanoogaeastchapel.com).



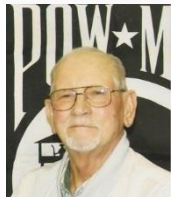
**SAMUEL V. "Sam" RAMIREZ** – Died Tuesday, March 12, 2013 in Dinuba, California at the age of 83. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 15, 1929. He was predeceased by his wife Guadalupe Villanueva Ramirez in 2010. He served in the United States Army with the Fourth Infantry Division in the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dinuba Chapter #643**. He is interred in the Smith Mountain Cemetery in Dinuba, California.

**CHARLES E. REESE, JR.** – Died Thursday, June 26, 2014 in New Bern, North Carolina at the age of 72. The cause of death was kidney failure. He was born November 23, 1941. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton (West Virginia) Chapter #628**.



**ROBERT REYNOLDS** - Died Friday, January 9, 2015 in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 83. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 30, 1931 to the late Edna and Eugene Reynolds Sr. in Memphis, Tennessee. Robert moved to Fitzhugh, Arkansas at age five. He was a high school track star and basketball player in Augusta, and Fitzhugh, Arkansas, and excelled in softball. He along with his brother, Eugene was drafted to the Dodgers but both declined and elected to remain home to help their mother raise their younger siblings. He joined the military in 1952. While on active duty in 1967, he sparred with Cassius Clay when he was detained at Fort Sill, fighting the draft. As Robert continued his military career upon meeting service requirements set forth by Congress, he received his certificate of nomination for the U.S. American Legion. Robert served 20 years in the United States Army and retired with the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). He was a veteran of the Vietnam and Korean wars. He received many achievements and medals including the Meritorious Service Medal and the Korean Presidential Citation. After retirement from the military he worked two years for the City of Lawton. He then returned to federal employment and retired in 1991. He was co-owner of Reynolds Day Care Center for 20 years, proudly serving members of the Lawton community. He was known by many children in the community as "Papa." Over 10 years, he attended and was a strong financial supporter of Cameron Campus Ministry. He sponsored golf tournaments and paid required fees for the four member teams for many years. He did the same when financing programs and activities for the

Lawton/Fort Sill City-wide Brotherhood. For years he prepared breakfast for the city-wide and Bethlehem Brotherhood, where he served as president for many years. He was an active and longtime member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, and served as a deacon. He also drove the Sunday school bus for the children of Bethlehem for many years. He was an Oklahoma Mason and actively involved with the Kiwanis and ran the concession stand during their sponsored baseball games. He was also a lifetime member of the NAACP. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751*. He enjoyed teaching his children and grandchildren about life on the farm and fishing, two of his most loved hobbies. Robert never ceased to use these moments to teach life lessons to the future generations of the Reynolds family. He was a true patriarch and led his family. He believed in standing up for what he believed, and contributed greatly to President Obama's campaign and was personally invited to the 2013 presidential Inauguration. In recognition for his contribution to the on-going fight against hatred and intolerance his name was added to the Wall of Tolerance in Montgomery, Alabama. Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Eliza Reynolds, of the home; six children: Jimmy (Nova) Gillespie, Miranda (Edward Charles) Shepherd, Freda (Reggie) Huddleston, Robert Jr., and Sharon; 10 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; his siblings: Ethel Conner, Eugene Reynolds Jr., Maude Hernton, Dorothy Williams and Jerry Reynolds; his godchildren: Suzette Perkins and Marilyn Chambers; and many nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents: Eugene and Edna Reynolds; and two daughters: Edna and Elsa. The viewing and visitation was from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the funeral home. The funeral was at 11:00 AM on Friday, January 16, 2015 at the Bethlehem Baptist Church, 602 NW Arlington, Lawton with the Reverend Dr. Willie B. Smith, Jr., pastor, officiating. The burial with military honors was in the Post Cemetery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma under the direction of Howard-Harris Funeral Services, Lawton, Oklahoma.



**JUNIOR DON "J.D." RHODES** - Died Friday, February 6, 2015 at his residence in Bluefield, West Virginia at the age of 84. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 14, 1930 in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina to the late Flay Eugene Rhodes and Myrl (née Walker) Rhodes White. J.D. was a retired tool and die-maker with Fisher Body Division of General Motors in Grand Blanc, Michigan with over thirty years of service. He was a United States Army veteran serving in the Korean War where he was a Prisoner of War for six months before escaping, and was a decorated hero with seven Purple Hearts. J. D. was also a member of the United Auto Workers Union serving as Chairman of the Shop Committee for nine years (3 terms), a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. He was a *Life Member of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton Chapter #628*. He attended the Greenview United Methodist Church in Green Valley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Frances Ann (née Blackburn) Rhodes; two sisters, Maxie McClary and Virginia Pearson; and one brother, Bobby Rhodes. Survivors include one daughter, Victoria Rhodes of Bluefield; one son, Rodney Rhodes of Princeton; seven grandchildren, Shawn Ann Bidleman, John Dereck Rhodes, Amy Adell Olwine, Victor Antonio Cosico, Ronnie Clemente Caburian, Travis Steven Rhodes, Nicole Rene Rhodes; eleven great grandchildren, Michael Lee Baker, Timmy Olwine, Joshua Lee McComb, Darrien Olwine, Aaron Lotd'e Cosico, Lucius Cosico, Cadence Cosico, Nicole Rhodes, Graceland Vincent, Kinley Rhodes, and Addilyn Vincent; and one brother, Paul Rhodes of Clio, MI. Funeral

services were conducted at 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at the George W. Seaver Chapel of Seaver Funeral Home in Princeton with Pastor Rick Chester officiating. The West Virginia National Guard Honor Guard conducted military rites. Friends called at the funeral home from 12:00 Noon until the service hour on Thursday. In keeping with J.D.'s wishes his body was cremated following the service. Memorial contributions may be made to a favorite charity of choice.



**WILLIAM C. "Bill" RICHARDS** - Died Friday, March 6, 2015 in Roanoke, Virginia at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 13, 1946 to the late Rupert and Mary Richards. Bill is retired from O'Neal Steel. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his daughter, Mary Ann Richards. Surviving are his wife of 42 years, Barbara Richards; brother and sister-in-law, Jack and Dorothy Richards of Salem; nephew, Rev. Jack Richards, Jr. and wife Angela; great nephew, Jack Richards, III. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roanoke Chapter #81**. Funeral services were at 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at Oakey's Vinton Chapel with the Reverend Jack Richards, Jr. officiating. Burial was in the Sherwood Memorial Park. Visitation was on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 5:30-8:00 PM at Oakey's Vinton Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Mountain Pass Baptist Church, 2975 Catawba Valley Drive, Salem, VA 24153. Arrangements were made by Oakey's Vinton Chapel. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.oakeys.com](http://www.oakeys.com).



**JAMES A. RIES** - Died Saturday, August 20, 2011 from injuries sustained in an auto accident at Mile 84 Seward Highway, near Girdwood, Alaska. He was a resident of Kasilof, Alaska formerly of Augusta, Wisconsin and 66 years of age. He was born December 9, 1944 in Aurora, Illinois to the late Arthur and Thelma (née Hall) Ries who survives in Osseo, Wisconsin. He was baptized and confirmed Catholic, and graduated from Augusta High. He joined the United States Army during the Vietnam War from July, 1965 thru July 1967. Mr. Ries served with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry and 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group. Mr. Ries worked mostly in carpentry, but also logged, drove truck, farmed and worked in the oil fields of North Dakota. He was a member of the Augusta American Legion Post #291, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Eau Clair Chapter #5**, Disabled Veterans of America, the 40/8, and lifetime member of the AMVETS Post #4 of Alaska where he served as past Commander. He enjoyed the great outdoors, gardening, hunting, fishing, and sharing all his adventures with family and friends. He married Supaporn "Sue" Wangnoi on Sept. 27, 2008 in Thailand. "Jim was also proud of his son, Eric's 21 year career in the U.S. Army. He would humbly say, "He was a jack-of-all trades and master of none." He was always willing to help anyone at any time with whatever they needed. He especially enjoyed taking Jan Krueger to watch his daughters play basketball and softball. Jim will be sadly missed by his many friends and family." His family said. Mr. Ries was preceded in death by his father, Arthur, son, Timothy, brother, William, sister-in-law, Shirley, and great-nephew, Nathaniel Ries. He is survived by his wife, Supaporn "Sue" of Kasilof, Alaska; son and daughter-in-law, CW3 Retired Eric and Miranda Ries of Lacey, Wash.; daughters and sons-in-law, Carrie and Kyle Hammer of Mahtomedi, Minnesota, Stacey and

Scott Randall of Augusta, Wis., Rebecca Romans and Mike Bechtel of Blaine, Minn., Lindsey Ries of Altoona, Wis., and Rattanapom "Ning" Wangnoi of Kasilof; grandchildren, Ericka, Macenzie and Cameron Ries, Ayden, Elsie and Emelia Hammer, Abby and Michael Randall, Zachary Romans and Tristan Shymanski; mother, Thelma Ries of Osseo, Wis.; brothers and sisters-in-law, Ted and Judy Ries, Dan and Ernestina Ries all of Augusta, Wis., Glen and Marsha Ries of Walworth, Wis.; sisters and brothers-in-law, Connie and Bill Frie of Augusta, Wis., Paula and Wayne Ross of Osseo, Wis., and many nieces and nephews. Memorial services were at 2:00 PM on Saturday at Star of the North Lutheran Church at 216 North Forest Drive in Kenai, Alaska. A celebration of his life was in the church basement. Additional memorial services were at 3:00 PM on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Grace Lutheran Church in Augusta, Wisconsin with Pastor Jonathan Wessel officiating. Burial with military honors was held in the Hay Creek Cemetery, rural Fairchild, Wisconsin. Friends came calling one hour prior to services on Sunday at the church in Wisconsin. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to the family. Arrangements were with Peninsula Memorial Chapel.



**DR. DAVID ALLEN RILEY** - Died Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at Monongalia General Hospital at the age of 75. He was a resident of Morgantown, West Virginia. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born May 4, 1938 in Bridgeport, West Virginia to the late Byron Brooke and Dorothy B. Riley. He was a member of Avery United Methodist Church. David served in the United States Air Force from 1962-65 as a member of the Medical Service Administration Corp. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Morgantown Chapter #306**. He retired with Emeritus rank from WV School of Pharmacy in 1996 having served as Director of Continuing Education for twenty years. His previous position was Assistant Director of Pharmaceutical Services, University of Georgia, School of Pharmacy, Athens, Georgia. Dr. Riley was presented the "Outstanding Alumnus" award in 1979. The award is one of the highest honors given by the Alumni Association of WVU School of Pharmacy. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Janet Westfall Riley; his son Lawrence Brooke Riley of Gardnerville, Nevada; two grand-children, Alyssa Kristine and Trenton Brooke both at home. Cremation services were provided by Hastings Funeral Home. A Memorial Service was held at the Avery United Methodist Church on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM with the Reverend Richard Work officiating. The family greeted friends from 9:00-11:00 AM. Inurnment was at the Beverly Hills Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in David Riley's memory to the Avery United Methodist Church, 1152 Cheat Road, Morgantown, WV 26508.



**SCOTT PATRICK RODKE** – Died on the morning of Wednesday, December 3, 2014 peacefully of natural causes at his home in Temple, Texas at the age of 80. The cause of death is unknown. Scott realized his dream of reaching 80 years of age on November 4. He was blessed by over 70 family and friends at a birthday party celebrating the event. He was born in the town of Paoli, Oklahoma on November 4, 1934. He was the fourth of five sons born to the late Anna Frances (née Scott) Rodke and David Lawrence Rodke. He was a proud infantryman and retired from the United States Army as Command Sergeant Major in 1977 after almost 24 years of service, including four tours in Vietnam. Several of his

commanders noted that he was the finest soldier they had ever known. His proudest moment was his promotion to Command Sergeant Major and appointment to Commandant of the NCO Academy at Fort Hood. He requested that his headstone be inscribed with, "INFANTRYMAN - HE GAVE A DAMN." He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texas**. Scott was an adored father, proud businessman, skilled orator, compassionate teacher, respected counsellor, generous friend, and loyal patriot. His greatest joy was his family. He wrote that his greatest emotional pain was leaving his children to return to combat in Vietnam. A man of unparalleled integrity and character, his motto was, "Practice what you preach and NEVER GIVE UP!" Scott earned two college degrees with honors after his military retirement. He loved to play Monopoly and always wanted to learn to fly a helicopter. He wished to have a view of Mount Rushmore from his front porch. Fond of travel, he especially loved to cruise with family. Scott was proud of his broad shoulders and posture, but wished his waist was ten inches smaller. He loved the smell of vanilla and the taste of cinnamon. He was quite the tennis player when young, and loved to watch all forms of auto racing later in life. Scott was preceded in death by: his parents; brothers, David Sterling, Larry Russell, Perry Colbert, and twin Phillip Michael; and one grandson. Scott is survived by his beloved wife of 41 years, Thanh Le' Rodke, whom he married on March 3, 1972; children, Lee Ann Everson, David Vernon Rodke, Joseph Patrick Rodke, Sharon Lynn Bolling, Duy Quy Le', Thanh Le' Rodke, and Lori Hanh Rodke; 16 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. Graveside funeral services were at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, Texas. The funeral procession left from Heritage Funeral Home in Harker Heights, Texas, at 2:30 PM. A visitation was held at the funeral home Monday, December 8, 2014, from 5:00-8:00 PM. Condolences may be left at [heritage-funeralhome.com](http://heritage-funeralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to the Friends of Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanage at [friendsofvso.org](http://friendsofvso.org) and the Paralyzed Veterans of America at [pva.org](http://pva.org).

**FRANK RODRIGUEZ** – Died Tuesday, June 4, 2013 in Detroit, Michigan at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on February 3, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dearborn Chapter #267**.



**ROBERT DAVID "Bob" ROLLER, SR.** - Died Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at Frostburg Village Nursing Home at the age of 70. He was a resident of Cumberland, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 29, 1944, in Cumberland, to the late Richard David Roller and Margaret Louise (née House) Roller. A graduate of Fort Hill High School, class of 1962, Bob was a veteran of the United States Naval Seabee's during the Vietnam-era. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172**. He was formerly an employee of the Kelly-Springfield Tire and Rubber Company, Chessie Federal Credit Union, Marine Express and was a retired truck driver for Ryder Trucking. Most recently, he was an employee with Scotty's Security. Bob attended the Wiley Ford Church of the Brethren and also the Second Baptist Church. Bob is survived by his wife of 21 years, Ramona D. (née Daddysman) Roller; and his sons, Richard Bryon Roller, Friendsville, Texas, and Robert David Roller Jr. and wife, Terri, Harpers Ferry, W.Va. He is also survived by his sisters, Peggy Louise Roller, Cumberland, Alice K. Issacs and husband, Edward, of Kentucky, and



Darlene Shenk and husband, Allen, LaVale; his grandchildren, Brittany Roller, Lindsay Roller, both of Friendsville, Bobbi Lynn Roller and David Roller, both of Harpers Ferry; and his great-granddaughter, Alaina Nichole. Bob is also survived by his stepsons, Jon P. Daddysman Jr. and wife, Nora, Westernport, and Jason Daddysman and girlfriend, Elisha Stanley, Rawlings; and his step-grandchildren, Taylor, Jessica, and Jenna Daddysman. Friends were received at the Adams Family Funeral Home, P.A., 404 Decatur Street, Cumberland on Sunday, March 8, 2015, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. A funeral service was conducted at the funeral home on Monday, March 9, 2015, at 12:00 Noon with the Reverend Benny Brakeall officiating. Interment was in the Maryland State Veterans Cemetery at Rocky Gap, Maryland. Military honors were accorded at the cemetery by the Post #13 Veterans Honor Guard.



**ALBERT LAMONT ROLLS** - Died Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at the Research Medical Center in Kansas City at the age of 72. He was a resident of Kansas City, Kansas. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 24, 1942 in Youngstown, Ohio to the late Theodore Rolls and Genevieve (née Marks) Rolls. He served two tours as a Sergeant in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Albert played professional baseball for the Chicago Cubs and after moving to Kansas City, was a coach for a multitude of youth athletics. He was joined in marriage to Janice Chism in 1972 and enjoyed 43 years of marriage. Albert worked for the State of Kansas for over 33 years in management. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ottawa Chapter #912**. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Harriett Rolls and his brother, Joseph Rolls. Albert is survived by his wife, Janice Rolls; sister, Annie Rolls-Bates; son, Damian Rolls and his wife Chaunte; daughter, Dana King and her husband James; daughter, Lisa Rolls; sons Kenny and Tony Rolls; daughter, Rebecca Waliallah; as well as ten grandchildren, one great-grandchild and numerous nieces, nephews and other family and friends. Funeral services were at 2:00 PM on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Chapel Hill – Butler Funeral Home, 701 North 94<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, Kansas. Visitation was from 1:00-2:00 PM preceding the service at the funeral home. Inurnment was in the Leavenworth National Cemetery.

**JOHN A. ROON** - Died Wednesday, December 12, 2012 in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey at the age of 59. The cause of death was Parkinson's Disease. He was born in Paterson, New Jersey on June 6, 1953. Mr. Roon lived in Pompton Lakes for 29 years coming from Bloomingdale, New Jersey. He was the husband of Roben (née Weatherwalks) Roon. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and had been employed as a Quality Assurance Specialist for a variety of jobs for the US Government. Mr. Roon was a Deacon, Sexton and church sound system operator for the Pompton Reformed Church. He was a Service Officer in the American Legion, an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Jersey**, a scout master for the Boy Scouts of America Troop #78, member of American Legion Post #246, Past Passaic County Commander & Service Office of the American Legion, Bergen County Bowling Association and liked trains. Surviving in addition to his wife is one sister, Virginia Blackney (and husband, Jack) of Wallace, NC, and his two dogs Emma and Abby. A Funeral Service was held on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Pompton Reformed Church with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation hours were on Thursday from 2:00-4:00 PM and from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Richards Funeral Home, 4 Newark Pompton Turnpike, Riverdale, NJ. In lieu of flowers,

donations to the NJ Chapter American Parkinson Disease Association, P.O. Box 214, Elizabeth, NJ 07207 or Pompton Reformed Church, 59 Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442 would be appreciated. [www.richardsfuneralhome.com](http://www.richardsfuneralhome.com).



**JOHN PARKER ROSS** - Died on Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at his home in Point Pleasant, West Virginia with his loving family at his side. He was 69 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on June 17, 1941 in Springfield, Ohio to the late Beulah (née Oliver) and Elmer Ross. He was a retired United States Army Veteran, having served two tours during the Vietnam War retiring at the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Bel Air Chapter #588*. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Patrick Lewis Ross. He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Mary (née Oliver) Ross; his loving children, John and Raymond Ross; and his 10 grandchildren. Funeral services were at the Deal Funeral Home with Pastor Dean Warner officiating. Burial was in the Apple Grove Memorial Gardens with full military graveside rites being conducted by the American Legion Post #23 and the Army Honor Guard of Charleston.



**C. STEPHEN "Steve" RUNDE** - Died Friday, January 16, 2015 at UPH-Trinity, Rock Island, Illinois at the age of 64. He was a resident of East Moline, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 10, 1950 in Rock Island, Illinois to the late Lloyd and Erma (née Clark) Runde. He married Deborah Glendon on August 4, 1978, in Rock Island. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. Steve was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299*. He worked at Moline Plow and Planter, and before retirement he worked at the Illinois Department of Corrections as a correctional officer. He enjoyed animals, reading, and watching the Chicago Blackhawks. Steve will be remembered for his strong will to battle and overcome many medical challenges he has faced during his lifetime. Steve's life-saving liver transplant was January 3, 1992 and his living donor kidney transplant was September 11, 2003. Even with his determination, courage and strength this challenge was not to be met. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Deborah Runde; step-mother, Carol Runde; two brothers, Kirk and Brad Runde; niece, Ashley Rivera; step-sisters, Dawn (Jerry) Downs and Kim (Joe) Pollack; many nieces and nephews; Tonette Tubbs (Kidney-donor angel); and his best buddy, Austin Tubbs. He was preceded in death by his parents. A Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM on Friday, January 30, 2015 at the Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home, 3030 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rock Island. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service. Burial was at the National Cemetery, Rock Island, with military honors accorded by the Vietnam Veterans Honor Guard #299. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Alleman High School or Quad City PAWS. Online condolences may be left to Steve's family at [www.wheelanpressly.com](http://www.wheelanpressly.com).

**EDWARD T. SCHIMMEL** – Died recently in 2014 in Bronx, New York at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 16, 1950. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New York City Chapter #126**.



**BRIAN L. SCHMIDT** - Died Monday, February 9, 2015 at his home in Perry, Georgia at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Mankato, Minnesota on June 24, 1950 to Donald Schmidt, of Spokane, Washington and the late Jackie G. Schmidt Olstad. Brian was a graduate of Garden City High School and later Middle Georgia Technical College. He was retired from the United States Air Force after tours of duty during both the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm. After his military career, Brian became an educator and in January 2015 he retired from Central Georgia Technical College where he had been an instructor of Electronics. In addition to his mother, Brian was also preceded in death by his wife, Anita L. (Bailey) Schmidt. Brian was active in many organizations including the Christian Motorcycle Association, Military Vets Motorcycle Club, Central Georgia Corvette Club, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Warner Robins Chapter #902**, Gold Wings, and he was a proud Patriot Guard Rider. Additionally, he was a participant in the Heart of Georgia Walk for Emmaus and was a member of Andrews United Methodist Church. His memory will forever be treasured by his children, Robin M. Kissock (John), Bloomington, Minnesota; 1ST LT John Schmidt, Fort Riley, Kansas; Brady Schmidt, Manhattan, Kansas; William "Bill" Schmidt, Omaha, Nebraska; Madalynne "Maddy" Blackwell (Aaron), Warner Robins; father, Donald Schmidt, Spokane, Washington; siblings, Bruce Schmidt and Brad Schmidt, both of Mankato, and Beth Paumen (Mike), Lake Christal, Minnesota; parents-in-law, Rick and Rosemary Potenziani, Warner Robins; four grandchildren and a beloved significant other, Ms. Judy Cotton, of Thomaston, Georgia. A memorial service honoring Brian's life was held at 3:00 PM on Friday, February 13, 2015 at the Andrews United Methodist Church in Kathleen.

**VICTOR A. SCHUMSKY** - Died peacefully in his home in Ellington, Connecticut on Sunday May 12, 2013 at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 17, 1945. Victor was a proud member of the United States Marine Corps and a retired member of the US Postal Service. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hartford Chapter #120**. Victor was a loved son of Helen Schumsky of West Hartford, the beloved husband of Patricia Schumsky of Ellington and his three surviving daughters Elizabeth Lewis of Hartford, Jennifer Schumsky of Windsor and Victoria Schumsky, of Manchester. He also leaves behind seven grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. This beloved man will be missed forever, never to be forgotten. Funeral services were on Thursday from 5:00-7:00 PM from the Giuliano-Sagarino Funeral Home at Brooklawn, 511 Brook Street, Rocky Hill followed by a Prayer Service at 7:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, please make a generous donation to the handicapped Veterans Association in your area. For online words of sympathy directions or floral tributes, please visit [www.Brooklawnfuneralhome.com](http://www.Brooklawnfuneralhome.com).



**GEORGE E. SMITH, JR.** - Died Monday, November 3, 2014 at Memorial Hospital in Abilene, Kansas at the age of 72. He was a resident of Chapman, Kansas. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 26, 1942 in Biloxi, Mississippi to

the late George E. (Sr.) & Edith (née Langlinais) Smith. He graduated from Biloxi High School, Biloxi, MS in the class of 1959 and immediately entered the United States Navy. When he completed his 4 years in the Navy, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he spent the next 23 years. He retired in 1986 from the Army as a Command Sergeant Major (E-9). After his discharge from the military he was the owner/operator of Smith Air Conditioning & Refrigeration. George was member of the B.P.O.E. Lodge # 1037 and the William LeRoy Talbot, Post #8773 of the V.F.W., both of Junction City; the MOPH, a fraternity of those that were awarded the Purple Heart. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Junction City Chapter #344**. During his tour in Vietnam, he was awarded the Soldier's Medal, for saving a fellow soldier's life. George married Patricia I. Hylton on Mar. 25, 1962 in Alameda, California. She died June 12, 2012. Survivors include: a son, George E. "Skip" Smith, III, Chapman; a daughter, Dennette Weigle, Abilene; and 2 grandchildren, Sarah Pfannenstiel and Jerad Busing. George was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers, and 2 sisters. Funeral services were at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery at Fort Riley with Pastor Jack Gilstrap officiating. Full military honors were provided by the U.S. Army Honor Guard from Fort Riley. Memorial contributions may be made to the A.S.P.C.A., sent in care of Penwell-Gabel Johnson Chapel, 203 North Washington, Junction City, KS 66441.



**NEWMAN R. "Chip" SMITH, JR.** - Died Tuesday, July 22, 2014 in Lodi, New Jersey after a long courageous battle with brain cancer at the age of 67. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on December 10, 1946 to Mica Pepe and the late Newman R. Smith, Sr. He was the loving father of Michael Smith and Jennifer Smith and her fiancé Lou Gabrielli; dear brother of Mary Sorace and her husband Ed and of the late Robert Gethings and William Gethings. Chip, as his friends like to call him, was a proud United States Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War. He served from 1966-1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rutherford Chapter #800**. He was a retired security guard for the Bergen County Police Department. A memorial gathering was held on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Kugler Community Home, 311 Fifth Street, Saddle Brook, NJ from 2:30-5:30 PM. In lieu of flowers the family would like to ask that donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or the Cancer Research Institute.

**THOMAS SORBER** - Died Wednesday, December 3, 2014 in the Medical University of South Carolina at the age of 69. He was a resident of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Pennsylvania on October 19, 1945 to the late Kathleen and John Joseph Sorber, Sr. He was a United States Army veteran of Vietnam, a 25-year volunteer fireman in Roselle, New Jersey and worked for Coin Depot/AT Systems/Garda. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westfield Chapter #688**. Tom loved to travel and play golf and loved the beach. He was known for his sweet tooth and will be missed by all. Tom was preceded in death by a sister, Kathleen Sorber Carolen, and father-in-law, William J. Conroy. Survivors include his wife, Kathleen Conroy Sorber; sons, Douglas Ryan and Shawn David Sorber; a daughter, Jennifer Sorber Smith (Jerome); grandchildren, Caitlyn Noelle Sorber, Jaden Isaiah and Joshua Gabriel Smith; a brother, John J. Sorber Jr. (Beverly); brother-in-law, David (Patricia) Conroy; a nephew, Justin Conroy; a niece, Bethany Lubrano-Lavadera, and his mother-in-law, Joan A. Conroy. A memorial service was held at 2:00 PM on Sunday, December

7, 2014 at the Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel, 11528 Highway 17 Bypass, Murrells Inlet, S.C. An online guestbook is available at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com/obituaries). Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior, 1120 G Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20005.



**MICHAEL J. "Mike" SOWLE** - Died Wednesday, March 25, 2015 while vacationing in Texas. He was 66 years of age and a resident of Racine, Wisconsin. The cause of death was cardiac arrest. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on September 16, 1948 to the late Don and Gloria (née Kelnhofer) Sowle. Following his graduation from Custer High School in 1966, Mike proudly served in the United States Navy from January 7, 1967 - January 29, 1971. Mike was deployed in the contiguous waters of North and South Vietnam aboard the USS Bonhomme Richard, where he served as an Aviation Boatswains Mate 2nd Class (ABH2) in the V-2 Division operating the catapults. During his service Mike was awarded the Presidential Unit Commendation, Naval Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Award, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Mike was a Racine area resident for most of his life working as a carpenter for many local construction companies. He was an enthusiast of Harley-Davidson motorcycles. He spent many of his recent years with his HOG buddies and riding all over on his 'scooters'. Mike was a Paid Up for Life Member of the American Legion, and *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Wisconsin**, Life Member of the NRA, and a member of SE Wisconsin HOG Racine Chapter. Mike is survived by his children: Jennifer (Bryan) Robinson of Terrell, Texas, Bill (Stephanie) Folk of Racine, Angel Folk of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Gary (Joan) Folk of Cincinnati, Ohio; his grandchildren: Eli and Emme Folk; Abby and Mike Simpson, Will and JJ Tucker; Logan, Ava, and Emmett Folk. He is also survived by his mother, Gloria Kelnhofer of Waukesha; brother, John (Dawne) Sowle of San Antonio, Texas; and sister, Jan (Doug) Dewsnap also of Waukesha. He was preceded in death by his father, Don Sowle. Family and friends were invited to meet at the Draeger-Langendorf Funeral Home and Crematory, 4600 County Line Road on Thursday, April 16, 2015 from 3:00-6:00 PM for a visitation, immediately followed by a memorial service with the Reverend Mark R. Jones officiating. Private interment with full military honors took place at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Please consider donations in his memory to either Fisher House Wisconsin or National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc. Draeger-Langendorf Funeral Home and Crematory 4600 County Line Road, Racine, WI 53403 262-552-9000 [www.draeger-langendorf.com](http://www.draeger-langendorf.com).



**DAVID AUGUSTA SPRULL, JR.** (USA, 1SG, Ret.) - Died Saturday, January 31, 2015 at his home in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 73. The cause of death was metastatic gastric carcinoma, hypoxia and respiratory distress. David was born in Portsmouth, Virginia on July 21, 1941 to the late David A. Sprull, Sr. and Elnora (née Hodges) Sprull. He was a native of Portsmouth and a United States Army Veteran with 25 years of honorable service which included a tour in Vietnam. He was a faithful



member and valued friend of Frontier Chapel for 19 years. He was a member of Conquerors of Christ, an usher, and affiliated with the Buffalo Soldiers. David always had an amazing sense of humor. He gave freely of his time, his kindness, his money, and above all his love. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**. He is survived by his devoted wife of 41 years, Christel Sprull; his beloved children: Steven Sprull, Regina Goodwin, Renee Wicks, Claudia Spriggs and Sharon Spruill-Ware; a brood of dear grandchildren; a brother, Louis Sprull; sisters: Mary J. Porter, Deloris George, Louise Bowser and Dorothy Sprull; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. Visitation was from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on Thursday, February 4, 2015, held at the funeral home. Funeral to commemorate his life was at 1:00 PM on Friday, February 6, 2015, at Frontier Chapel, Fort Sill, with Chaplain Fowler officiating. Burial with full military honors was at the Fort Sill Post Cemetery under direction of Whinery-Huddleston Funeral Service.



**MALCOLM JOSEPH STANDISH** – Died Monday, December 1, 2014 in El Paso, Texas at the age of 69. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Atherton, England on June 25, 1945 to the late John Sinclair Standish and Margaret Ann (née Yates) Standish. He joined the United States Army in 1967 and served in Vietnam as an MP. He left the army with a rank of E-6 Staff Sergeant. He went on to the Long Beach, California Police Department as a dispatcher before returning to El Paso where he joined the El Paso Sheriff's Department and retired after 20 years of service as a peace officer. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – El Paso Chapter #844**. Malcolm was married 28 years to his loving wife, Nell. He is survived by Nell; his daughter Theresa; his son Timothy; his sisters Janis, Jacqueline and Christina, and; his brother Wayne. He has 8 grandchildren, 8 nieces, and 4 nephews. Services were held at the Hillcrest Baptist Church on December 8, 2014. Visitation hours were from 10:30-11:30 AM and the celebration of his life was from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM. Graveside services were at 1:00 PM at Fort Bliss National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to 5748 Port Lavaca, El Paso, TX 79924.



**BOBBIE EUGENE STEWART** – Died Sunday, March 8, 2015 at his home in Lawton, Oklahoma with his wife, family, and friends by his side. He was 74 years old. The cause of death was chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He was born April 4, 1940 in Fort Scott, Kansas to the late Victor and Marie (née Branch) Stewart. Bob was raised in Fort Scott where he attended the local schools. This is where he also met the love of his life, Patty O'Brien. He was 14 and she 12 when he started asking for her hand in marriage. They finally married June 5, 1960 in Fort Scott. Bob joined the National Guard April 13, 1957. He later enlisted in the United States Army on September 8, 1961, where he served in Field Artillery and First Cavalry until he retired in Lawton after 22 ½ years of service. During his military career he received many decorations, awards, and honors. Some of his awards included: National Defense Service medal; Vietnam Service medal with six service stars; Air Medal Second Award; Bronze Star Medal with second oak leaf cluster; Meritorious Unit Commendation with first oak leaf cluster; Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm third award; Republic of Vietnam campaign medal with 60 device; four overseas service bars; Valorous Unit Award; Army Commendation medal

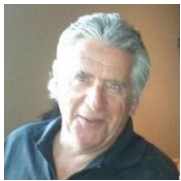
with first oak leaf cluster; Good Conduct Medal Seventh Award; Army Service Ribbon; Meritorious Service Medal with First Oak Leaf Cluster; Meritorious Service Medal Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon; three overseas Service Ribbon Fourth Award; Expert Rifle M-16, extension of service was at the request and for the convenience of the government. He served two tours of combat in Vietnam; one in Korea; six years in Germany; three years in Alaska; Gary, Ind., and Lawton, Okla. After retirement he went to work for the U.S. Post Office in Lawton. He worked there for 16 ½ years before being forced to medically retire. He loved fishing with all of his grandchildren. He was always teaching kids how to fix stuff. He loved math and history and if one of those kids needed help they knew Mr. Bob would be there to help with their problems. He was a member of the American Legion, the VFW Post #5263, and a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751*. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased by his brother, Billie Mack Stewart. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Pat Stewart; his children: Kelly Lynn Blasengame and husband Cliff, Patrice Michele Dunster and husband Larry, and Cathy Clements and husband Ronnie, all of Lawton; grandchildren: Kara Maree, Christopher Daniels, Austin Hudson, Chance Blasengame, Joey Daniels, Amber Knoll, Heather Daniels, Kasie Knoll, Christian Blasengame, and MaKayla Blasengame; great-grand babies, Dixie Maree, Dominic Daniels, and Payton Cole; sister, Betty Pritchett and husband Phil; brother-in-law, Frank O'Brien and wife Laura; sister-in-law, Mary Kulchinsky. He also has many nieces and nephews in Kansas City, Kan., Michigan, and California. A visitation was held from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at the funeral home. Funeral services were held at Noon on Thursday, March 12, 2015 in the Whinery-Huddleston Chapel with Charles Kriss officiating. Burial with full military honors and Patriot Riders honors was held at the Fort Sill National Cemetery.



**LOREN LOUIS STORJOHANN** - Died peacefully Monday, March 10, 2014 after a four-and-a-half-month-long battle with a glioblastoma brain tumor. He was 83 years of age and a resident of Mankato, Minnesota. He was born March 21, 1930 in Janesville Township, Minnesota on the family farm to the late F. John and Ida (née Berndt) Storjohann. Loren attended school at Smiths Mill Country School, Trinity Lutheran School in Janesville and Janesville High School. He was united in marriage to

Gertrude "Trudy" Lange on Oct. 26, 1952, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Nicollet. In addition to his wife of 61 years, Trudy, he is survived by his children, Sherry (Michael) Sack of Mankato, Melodie (Robert) Rastedt of Stevens Point, Wis., Jeffrey of Boise, Idaho and Bianca (Dr. David) DeLone of Rochester; grandchildren, Brittany (Brian) Crock of Mankato, Brandon (Kristin) Sack of Ham Lake, Garrett Sack of Mankato, Ryan Rastedt (Kelly Sullican) of Chicago, Ill., Logan Rastedt of Eau Claire, Wis., Rachel Storjohann of Missoula, Mo., Kari Storjohann of Boise, Idaho and Jonathan, Sarah and Peter DeLone of Rochester; great-grandsons, Aiden and Bennett Sack of Ham Lake and Caleb Crock of Mankato; brother, Ray (Sharlot) Storjohann of Janesville; five sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; one granddaughter, Adriana DeLone; two brothers, Glenn and Henry "Hank" Storjohann. In 1950, Loren enlisted in the United States Army and retired from the Army in 1973 as a Command Sergeant Major. During most of his service, he served as a paratrooper and was rated a Master Parachutist. During his service, he was stationed six years

in France and Germany with his family. He also served 13 months in Vietnam with the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade. He was a Company First Sergeant in 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry and was promoted to Sergeant Major and assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry as the Sergeant Major. Loren was a life member of the VFW, American Legion and the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Association. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mankato Chapter #999**. After his military service, he worked for Cenex Cooperatives. He worked sales in Mankato for six years. He was general manager for 13 years in Sauk City, Wis. In 1991, he retired from Cenex. After retirement, Loren and Trudy enjoyed traveling and spending winters in Alabama on the Gulf of Mexico. In 2005, Loren and Trudy moved back to Mankato to be near the area they grew up. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, March 14, 2014 at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. Pastors Michael Omtvedt and Dennis Heiden were co-officiants. Visitation was held on Thursday evening, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at the church from 4:00 to 7:00 PM and continue one hour prior to the service. Burial was in the Glenwood Cemetery. Full military honors were provided by the Mankato American Legion.



**STANLEY DAVID SZYMKOWICZ** - Died Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at Rhode Island Hospital following a long battle with ocular melanoma. He was 68 years of age a resident of Fall River, Massachusetts. Stanley was born in Fall River to the late Kazmier and Amelia (née Oliveira) Szymkowicz, and was a lifelong resident of the city. He graduated from Diman Vocational Technical High School in 1964 and entered the United States Marines Corps, serving in the Vietnam War where he was injured in battle and received the Purple Heart. Stanley was also a recipient of the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnamese Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was discharged into the Marine Corp Reserves in October of 1967. He was a proud *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westport Chapter #207**, the VFW, Post Tabor-Franchi #2396, and the DAV - William S. Greene Chapter #9. Stanley worked as a Foreman for Eastern Cinemas for over 30 years before retiring in 2001. He was an avid softball player and spent many days and nights with good friends playing the game. He was well known to many in the Southcoast area as he loved to dine out and could be found at many of the local coffee shops and restaurants. He was the first to offer his help to anyone he cared about and will be remembered for his generous, warm and kind spirit. He is survived by his son, Jared Szymkowicz and his companion Jill DeMello of Seekonk, MA; two beloved ladies who were like daughters, Liliana Megna, her husband Michael and their daughter Olivia, and Tania Duarte and her daughter Ava, all of Fall River; a sister, Therese O'Hara of Tiverton; aunt, Helen Medeiros of Dartmouth; niece, Carlene Pine, nephew, Peter O'Hara and many cousins. He was also the brother of the late Charles Szymkowicz. His family received relatives and friends on Thursday, February 19, 2015 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM in the Waring-Sullivan Home of Memorial Tribute at Cherry Place, 178 Winter Street, Fall River with a Service of Remembrance at 7:30 PM. Private burial was at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to support cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 or via [www.dana-farber.org/gift](http://www.dana-farber.org/gift) in memory of Stanley Szymkowicz. Please direct your gift to support the Melanoma Fund.

**DONALD G. "Don" TADYCH** - Died unexpectedly Wednesday, August 13, 2014 in Sheboygan, Wisconsin at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 10, 1954 in the Town of Kossuth, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin to the late Alois and Rose (née Decker) Tadych. He was a graduate of Mishicot High School, Class of 1972. Donald enlisted in the United States Navy and proudly served his country from 1972 to 1976. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sheboygan Chapter #618**. For a number of years he was employed at Kohler Co. He was a member of Praise Fellowship in Sheboygan. Donald was a life member of the VFW Post #1230. He enjoyed woodworking, playing cribbage, miniature bowling, and socializing with his friends. He was also an avid Green Bay Packer fan. In addition to his mother, Rose of Manitowoc, Don is survived by his daughter, Emily Tadych; two brothers, Edward (LouAnn) Tadych of Harshaw, WI and Ken Tadych of Manitowoc; three sisters, Ann (Richard) Voight of Brooksville, FL, Karen Stibs of Pine Island, FL, and Mary Weina of Manitowoc; his special friend, Denise Vanderkin of Cascade; and his dear friend, Carita Merget; and many relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Alois. A memorial service was held at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at Ballhorn Funeral Chapels. Reverend Chuck Apple, Pastor at Praise Fellowship officiated. A time of visitation and support was held from 10:00 AM until the time of service. Full military honors will be accorded him after the service. A memorial fund has been established in his name.



**EUGENE L. "Gene" TASSLER** - Died Monday, February 23, 2015 at a hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the age of 66. He was a resident of Watertown, South Dakota. The cause of death was ALS – Lou Gehrig's disease. He was born on December 9, 1948, in Watertown to the late Forrest and Valesta (née Purinton) Tassler. He graduated from Watertown High School in 1967, and entered the U.S. Air Force shortly after. On October 14, 1969, Gene married Joyce Bristow in Red Bluff, CA. The couple moved to Duluth, MN. He was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force in 1971, as a Sergeant from the Vietnam War. They moved to Watertown and he worked as a driver for A-OX Welding, moving into the district sales manager position, where he had worked for over 20 years. He was a member of the Elks Lodge #838 of Watertown, and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Watertown Chapter #1054**. He was also a member of the trap shooting club and enjoyed hunting, fishing and golf. Gene is survived by his loving wife, Joyce, of Watertown; one son, Michael Tassler, of Watertown; one daughter, Traci (Darin) Stein, of Watertown; six grandchildren: Jessica Stewart, Christopher Tassler, Austin Krause, Madeline Stein, Joshua Stein and Kayla Stein; two brothers: William (Janet) Tassler of Tacoma, WA, and Kenneth Tassler of Britton, SD; and two sisters: Virginia (Jim) Burdick of St. Charles, MO, and Sandra (Jack) Ward of Reno, NV. In addition to parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, Randy and his infant sister, Aileen. A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 11:00 AM on Friday, February 27, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Watertown. The celebrant was Father Paul Rutten. Visitation was at the Crawford Funeral Chapel on Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM and prior to services at the church on Friday. Burial was at Mount Hope Cemetery in Watertown. Military graveside honors were conducted by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1054 and the Patriot Guard Riders. Honorary pallbearers were the VVA members. Active pallbearers were Dave Jerpseth, Howard Shepherd, Don Reconnu and Randy Holiday.



**STEVEN M. "Steve" TATGENHORST** - Died Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the East Liverpool City Hospital after suddenly taking ill. He was 63 and a resident of East Liverpool, Ohio. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Salem, Ohio on May 30, 1951 to the late Robert S. and Sarah (née Williams) Tatgenhorst. A member of the East Liverpool High School Class of 1969, he worked as a truck driver at one time.

A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, he served in Vietnam where he was awarded the Purple Heart. He was the Commander at the VFW Post #66, past Commander of the American Legion Post #736, a member of the DAV John W. Covert #47 Chapter, Orioles Lodge, Moose Lodge #122, Elks Lodge #258, and the East Liverpool Masonic Lodge. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**. He is survived by his wife, Donna (née Duffy) Tatgenhorst, whom he married May 22, 1987. There are two daughters, Dawn Buckley, and her husband Clifford, of Austintown, and Heather Fisher, and her fiancé Scott Francis, of East Liverpool, as well as six grandchildren: Kayla Fisher, Steve Fisher, Desiray Fisher, Miranda Fisher, Noelle Buckley and Elijah Buckley. He also leaves three sisters, Lynn Long, Meredith "Putsy" Adkins, and her husband Lonnie, and Sally Bowers, and her husband Larry, and two brothers, Bruce Tatgenhorst, and his wife Penney, and Tony Tatgenhorst, and Carol, all of East Liverpool, along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson, Joseph Dean Buckley, a sister, Rebecca Martin, and two brothers, Raymond Pyle and Robert H. Tatgenhorst, Sr. Friends called on Sunday afternoon and evening at the Dawson Funeral Home where the family was present from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Bob Tatgenhorst, Steve's nephew, conducted a funeral service at 11:00 AM on Monday at the funeral home where the Tri-State Veterans Burial Group conducted military honors. Following the service, family and friends gathered at the Dawson Family Center for fellowship.

**HELEN THERESA TAYLOR** - Died Friday, February 20, 2015 in New Albany, Indiana at the age of 72. The cause of death was cancer. She was born on October 20, 1942 in Irvington, New Jersey to the late Harry Eric Hjelm and Helen Marie (née McGinley) Hjelm. She was a proud veteran of United States Marine Corps and after being honorably discharged, served as a recruiter for the Virginia National Guard. Helen and her twin brother, Eric, were the first set of fraternal twins to enlist with the Marines. She was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisville Chapter #454**. In addition to her parents, she was also predeceased by her brother and sister. She is survived by her husband, Richard Taylor Sr.; children, William Waterhouse (Dorothy), Theresa Piazza (Patrick), Cathy Wishart (Terry), Robert Taylor (Kristie), Richard Taylor Jr., Guy Taylor (Robin); twin brother, Eric Hjelm; and several grandchildren & great-grandchildren. Her Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at Saint Mary Catholic Church (415 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street, New Albany, IN). Cremation was chosen following Helen's wishes. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society (701 West Muhammad Ali Boulevard, Louisville, KY 40203).



**WILLIAM H. TAYLOR, JR.** - Died Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury, Maryland at the age of 83. He was a resident of Snow Hill, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 28, 1931 in Crisfield, Maryland to the late Samuel and Ethel (née Morris) Taylor. Mr. Taylor



was a Korean War United States Navy Veteran. Mr. Taylor had retired from Peninsula Regional Medical Center where he had worked as a Security Guard. He was also a Farmer. Mr. Taylor was a member of Olivet Christian Church near Snow Hill. He was a member of the American Legion Post #94 in Princess Anne, the VFW, and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Eden Chapter #624**. He is survived by his children William H. Taylor III, of Snow Hill, Suzanne Miller of Snow Hill and Jeannie Ciszewski and her husband Ron of Snow Hill; two grandchildren, Rebecca Holloway and her husband and Chris and Ron Ciszewski, Jr., and; two great-grandchildren, Cayden and Casey Ann. He is also survived by a brother George Taylor and a sister Julia Hard, both of Crisfield, along with several nieces and nephews. Preceding him in death besides his parents were his wife, Susie (née Carmean) Taylor; his daughter, Brenda Sue Taylor; a son-in law, Roger Miller, and; a sister, Annabelle Dize. A Funeral Service was on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Hinman Funeral Home in Princess Anne. Minister Houston Hill officiated. Friends called on Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and from 1:00 to 2:00 PM at the Funeral Home on Wednesday. Interment was in the Olivet Cemetery near Snow Hill.



**DAVID RALPH “Dave” TEMPLETON** - Died Tuesday, December 23, 2014 at his home in Yuma, Arizona at the age of 70. The cause of death was acute myocardial infarction, atherosclerosis and hypertension. He was born on April 12, 1944 to the late Clark Ellis and Grace Edna (née Gilleland) Templeton in Red Oak, Montgomery County, Iowa. Dave served in the United States Army from February 1, 1967 to January 31, 1969. Dave served in Long Gao, Vietnam as a machine gunner in the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment during the largest troop build-up from July 1967 to 1968. Upon return to Fort Carson, Colorado he served as a track commander with the 5<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Infantry, Dave received the Army Commendation Service Medal for meritorious service. After military service, Dave worked toward a teaching career graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Industrial Education from Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska in 1970. In 1975, Dave received his Masters of Science majoring in Vocational Technical Education at Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Missouri. Dave taught Industrial Education at Red Oak Senior High School at Red Oak, Iowa, Villisca Community High School at Villisca, Iowa, Iowa Lakes Community College at Emmetsburg, Iowa and Lake Michigan College at Benton Harbor, Michigan. Dave worked as a Vocational Training Analyst for the Arabian American Oil Company where he helped design curriculum, hire teachers, and determine training needs for the Saudis. Following his work in education, Dave worked in manufacturing from 1983 through 1997 for D&L at Red Oak, Iowa and Phenix City, Alabama as Plant Manager. Dave worked as the Vice President for the Virsan Division of Virco manufacturing and providing furniture products to Staples, Wal-Mart, universities, schools, and restaurants. After manufacturing, Dave worked in career guidance and computer literacy training at Yuma Private Industry Council, Inc., Yuma, Arizona from 1997 to 2004. He accepted the promotional responsibilities of Information Technology Manager at YPIC in 2004 where he worked until retirement in 2009. Dave was a long time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion and an avid supporter of veteran relief causes. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Arizona**. Dave was preceded in death by his father Clark E. Templeton, his mother, Grace Edna Templeton and brothers Robert Templeton, Darwin Templeton, Lyle Templeton, Richard

Templeton and his sister Maureen Templeton. Dave is survived by his wife Vicki Lynn Templeton and his three children: son, Darin A. Templeton of Phoenix, Arizona, his daughter, LeAnn, husband Brian Schneider and four daughters: Alex, Aryka, Madison, and Jade of Council Bluffs, Iowa and son Dr. Jesse E. Templeton and wife, Jennifer, of Parma, Ohio; his step son, Nathan Brinda and wife, Allyson and their daughters, Lena and Alysa of Cheyenne, Wyoming. He also leaves brother, Kenneth Templeton of Renton, Washington, brother, Darrell Templeton and wife Janette of Auburn, Washington, brother, Ivan Templeton and wife, Judy of Bellevue, Nebraska, and sister, Carole Rhodes and husband, Daryl of Indio, California. In addition to the five grandchildren, Dave leaves many nieces, nephews, and cousins. In accordance with his wishes, his body was cremated with interment in Red Oak Iowa. Family and friends were invited to gather at the family home on Saturday, December 27, 2014 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM for a celebration of life.



**ROBERT R. THOMAS** (USAF, LTC-Ret.) – Died at Kent General Hospital in Dover, Delaware on January 27, 2015 at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 1, 1935 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to the late George and Lillian (née Green) Thomas. In 1954 Robert graduated from Cass Technical School in Detroit, Michigan. From there he enlisted in the United States Air Force and attended aviation cadet training at Ellington Air Force Base in Houston, Texas. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, and served in Iceland, Japan, and Vietnam, where he received two Air Medals and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He retired in 1974 while serving as Commander of the 436th OMS at Dover Air Force Base. After leaving the Air Force, he worked 11 years at Met Life Insurance with his best friend, Gene Sterling. Then he worked as Project Manager for several construction products including Nanticoke Hospital and Lifecare at Loftland Nursing Home in Seaford, Delaware and Milford Hospital, building the Rehab Center in Milford. For 41 years, he served on the Board of Directors for Kent Sussex Industries and as President for five years. He was active in Special Olympics for many years, coaching several sports including bowling, until he retired in 2001. For many years, Bob also worked for Dawson Bus Service, driving the school bus for children with special needs. He said it was the best job he ever had, stating “where else could you take a drive every day in the country and get paid for it?” He was also a member of the American Legion Post #2, in Dover, and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kent County (Dover) Chapter #850**. He was preceded in death by his son, Richard W. Thomas in 1973; his first wife of 36 ½ years, Beatrice Blair Thomas in 1993; his brother, George W. Thomas of Texas, in 2002; and Sister, Pat Bolton in 2013. Robert is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth Thomas, whom he married in 1996; a son, Robert (Bobby) Thomas of Dover; 2 daughters, Donna Lococo and her husband Donald of Newtown, Ct., and Denise Buckingham and her husband, Rodney; 2 grandsons, Rodney and David Buckingham, all of Gambrills, Md.; 2 stepsons, Michael Conley of Dover, DE. and David Conley of Salisbury, Md.; and many nieces and nephews. A funeral service took place on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 4:00 PM at the Pippin Funeral Home, 119 West Camden Wyoming Avenue, Wyoming, Delaware. Friends called two hours prior. Committal service with full military honors took place on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Millsboro. The family would like to express deep gratitude and appreciation to the ICU staff at Kent General Hospital, for their care, service, and support

during this difficult time. In lieu of flowers the family would like to suggest charitable donations to Kent Sussex Industries, Inc. 301 N. Rehoboth Blvd., Milford, De 19963-1305; or Whatcoat United Methodist Church, 16 North Main Street Camden, De 19934.



**SAMUEL WAYNE TIBBS** - Died Saturday, April 4, 2015 in McCalla, Alabama at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 7, 1946 to the late Samuel Augustus and Ruby Pearl Tibbs. Mr. Tibbs was retired from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department with 39 years of service. After his retirement, he had most recently worked for Kid One Transport. Mr. Tibbs served his country in the United States Navy on the USS Enterprise during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardendale Chapter #416**. Mr. Tibbs is survived by his wife, Lou Ann Tibbs of 42 years; his daughters, Kari Tibbs and Lynsey Tibbs; his sister, Frieda Finley (Scott); his in-laws, Donald and Betty Blackburn; sister-in-laws, Cynthia Elmore (Mitch), Karen Emerich (David) and Cheryl Joynt (Mitch); nieces and nephews, Christopher Finley (Melissa), Patrick Finley, Alisa Anderson (Luke), Christopher Emerich, Katie Martin (Caleb), Tyler Joynt (Jody) and Jonathan Elmore (Katie). The family received friends on Thursday, April 9, 2015 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at Hunter Street Baptist Chapel. The funeral service was on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 11:00 AM with burial in the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, AL. In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation to Grace's Kitchen ([graceskitchen.org](http://graceskitchen.org)) or Kid One Transport ([kidone.org](http://kidone.org)).

**SULLIVAN J. "Sal" TONTI** - Died Thursday, February 5, 2015 at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the age of 65. He was a resident of Center Township, Pennsylvania. The cause of death was a massive stroke. He was born August 23, 1949 in Rochester, Pennsylvania to the late Sullivan N. and Lucy (née DiMarzio) Tonti, and had been a resident of Center Township the past 20 years. He retired in 1995 as a steelworker from Allegheny Technologies (ATI) Midland, having previously worked for Crucible Steel, Colt Industries, Midland. A veteran of the United States Army, he served his country during the Vietnam War as a combat infantry, where he received the Bronze Star. A member of Saint Francis Cabrini Parish, Center Township, he was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**, Southwest PA. He is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Cheryl A. Best Tonti; a sister, Phyllis (Michael) Gray; his wife's family, Marilyn (Ed) Bobinchock, Bill (Theresa Dueno) Best, Patty (Frank) Pisano, Ric (Louis Navarrete) Best, numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, many friends, and two beloved dogs, Zeppelin and Jopplin. Friends were received on Saturday from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and on Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the Noll Funeral Home, Inc., 333 Third Street, Beaver, Pennsylvania. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday at 10:00 AM at Saint Francis Cabrini Parish, Center Township. Family and friends were asked to meet Monday at the church. Interment was at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies with full military honors by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #862. Online condolences may be shared at [nollfuneral.com](http://nollfuneral.com).

**GARY JAY TOOMEY** - Died Friday, January 16, 2015 at Madison Hospital at the age of 68. He was a resident of Athens, Alabama. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 30,

1946 in Virginia. He was a member of Riddles Chapel United Methodist Church. He retired from TVA Police, was a United States Navy veteran and a former Tennessee state trooper. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511*. Survivors include his wife, Sandra Marks Toomey of Athens; son, Gary Jay Toomey II and wife Stephanie of Dayton, Tennessee; daughters, Renee Toomey of Spring City, Tennessee, Becky Toomey and Jennifer Toomey, both of Tennessee; stepdaughters, Jessica Glover and husband Scott of Gurley, Leslie Sides and husband Jeff of Athens; nine grandchildren; mother, Violet Toomey of Spring City; brother, Jerry Toomey of Ohio; sisters, Elizabeth LeForce of Virginia, Patricia Toomey of Spring City, Brenda Troxel of California. There was a 2:00 PM graveside service on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Ripley Cemetery with James Turner officiating. Visitation was from 12:30-1:30 PM on Monday at Spry Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Gerald Marks, Brad Zirbel, David Cockrell, Jeff Sides, Bill Cherry and J.R. White. Honorary pallbearers are Scott Glover, Jackie Parcus and Ray Latham.



**KENNETH A. TOWER, JR.** - Died Sunday morning, July 29, 2012 in Bedford, Massachusetts at the age of 69. He was a resident of Gardner, Massachusetts. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Brockton, Massachusetts on November 29, 1942 to the late Kenneth A. and Elizabeth (née Cedar) Tower and lived in Gardner and Key West, Florida. Ken had worked as an industrial sales engineer for Diversified Pump, D.L. Thurrott Co, Dines and Nuenkamp and American Lewa and covered territories in the USA, Canada and Germany. He was a graduate of Worcester Jr. College and University of Massachusetts. Ken proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy, aboard the USS Fletcher 445 during the Vietnam War. He later served in the United States Army Reserve for 20 years as an Infantry Drill Instructor. Very involved in civic organizations, Ken was a member of Dorchester Lodge F & AM #1 for 25 years, a member and past master of Hope Lodge of Masons in Gardner, Jerusalem Commandery #19 of Fitchburg, King Philip York Rite College #160, Leominster Royal Arch Chapter, Anchor Lodge #182, Aleppo and Key West Shrine and High Twelavian #758 Florida Keys. He was also a member of Loyal Order of Moose in Big Pine, FL, American Legion #28, FL, Gardner Lodge #1426 Order of Elks, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #747 and was an RV Military Retiree Traveler. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardner Chapter #907*. He leaves his wife, Venus-val Hammack-Tower; children Venus-Victoria Silva, Cassandra Yaffa, Logan Tower, Gabrielle Gibbs, Tove Tower and Tara Pike, many grandchildren and one brother, Larry Tower. A Memorial Service was held on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM in the Masonic Hall, 42 Central Street, Gardner. Members of Hope Lodge of Masons conducted the service. Fellowship followed the service. Memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, 51 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114. Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon directed the arrangements.



**ANGELO G. TREGLIA, JR.** - Died Thursday morning, April 3, 2014 at the Philip Hultar Hospice Center in Providence, Rhode Island at the age of 64. He was a resident of Riverside, Rhode Island. The cause of death was cancer. He was born March 28, 1950 in Providence to Vera (née Annicone) Treglia and the late Angelo G. Treglia, Sr. He was the husband of Barbara (née Thomas) Treglia. He was a

United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield) Chapter #818**. In addition to his wife and mother, he leaves his children, Matthew Treglia of Riverside, Amy Treglia of East Providence and Neil Treglia also of East Providence; his granddaughters, McKenzie and Isabella; and his brother, David Treglia of Warwick. His funeral was on Monday at 8:45 AM from the Rebello Funeral Home and Crematory, 901 Broadway, East Providence with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 AM in Our Lady of Loreto Church, Waterman Avenue, East Providence. Military honors and burial was at the Rhode Island State Veterans Cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island. Calling hours were on Sunday from 4:00-8:00 PM.

**MICHAEL J. TULLY** - Died Monday, February 2, 2015 in Riverdale, New York at the age of 77. The cause of death was Alzheimer's Disease. He was a resident of the Veterans Home in Montrose, New York at the time of his death. He was born July 1, 1937 in New York City, New York to the late Patrick and Ellen (née Rose) Tully. Michael worked for many years for Chase Manhattan Bank in NYC and later for the Skandia Insurance Company. He served in the United States Army from 1961-62 and was an American Legion member. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pleasantville Chapter #49**. He was the dear brother of Patrick, Thomas, Martin, Ellen Stack, John and was predeceased by Mary Fox. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Friday at Saint Margaret Roman Catholic Church, Pearl River, New York. Burial was at the Calvary Cemetery in Woodside, New York. Visiting hours were on Thursday, 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-9:00 PM at the Wyman-Fisher Funeral Home Inc., Pearl River, New York. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Michael's memory to the Alzheimer's Association.

**FRANK I. URBAN** – Died Monday, October 13, 2014 in Glendale, Arizona. The cause of death is unknown. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sun City Chapter #1043**.



**JACK LEE USHER, SR.** - Died Wednesday, November 26, 2014 in Bethpage, Tennessee at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 13, 1936 to the late Henry Usher and Virginia Helen Usher. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother Robert Usher. Mr. Usher is survived by wife, Hazel Ann Usher, of Bethpage, TN; son, Jack Usher, Jr. (Ronald), Bethpage, TN; daughter, Virginia Calhoon (Daniel), Youngstown, OH; and grandchildren, Stacey Miller, Traci Usher, and Jack Lee Usher, III. He retired from the United States Navy and G. F. Furniture Manufacturing. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in both the United States Army and the Navy. He was a great man who served his country with honors for 21 years. He was also a member of the VFW and American Legion in Gallatin, TN. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gallatin Chapter #240**. In lieu of flowers, the family requests you make donations to The Wounded Warrior Project. Funeral services for Mr. Usher were held Tuesday, December 02, 2014 at 2:00 PM from the Woodard Funeral Home with Brother David Spears officiating.



**DONALD C. VanWEY, JR.** - Died Saturday, June 28, 2014 in Tonawanda, New York at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 18,



1948 to the late Donald C. VanWey, Sr. and Barbara VanWey. He was the beloved husband of Barbara J. (née Ruhl) VanWey; devoted father of Tamara (Beth), Jeremy (Jennifer), Amanda (Jamie), Bill (Kathy) Lannen, cherished grandfather of eight grandchildren; also survived by one brother and five sisters. He was a Vietnam veteran of the United States Army. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77*. Online condolences may be made at [www.lombardfuneralhome.com](http://www.lombardfuneralhome.com). There was no prior visitation. Interment was in Pinelawn Cemetery, 2951 Harlem Road on Thursday at 10:00 AM. Donations may be made in Donald's memory to the Wounded Warriors Project.

**ROGER P. VELASCO, SR.** (USAF, MSG-Ret.) - Died Friday, June 27, 2014 in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 4, 1941. He served in the United States Air Force and retired at the rank of Master Sergeant. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Apple Valley Chapter #363*. He was also a retired Minneapolis Park Policeman. Both his parents are deceased as well as his sister, Darlene and his daughter Karen. He is survived by his wife, Carol; sons, Roger, Robert (Denise), Shawn (Colleen); daughters, Tonya (Larry), Natasha, Kasandra, Michelle; 15 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; sisters, Neda ("Z") & Kathy (Frank); many other relatives and friends. Private services were held at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

**DONALD J. VOSS** - Died Wednesday, January 14, 2015 in Florissant, Missouri at the age of 73. The cause of death was diabetes mellitus type II. He was born January 21, 1941 in Clinton County, Illinois. He served in the United States Army from November 4, 1963 to November 3, 1965 during the Vietnam-era. He was a member of ***Vietnam Veterans of America – Florissant Chapter #794***. He was the beloved husband of Barbara Voss (née Snow); loving father of Cathy (Jim Kidd) McCullough, Tracy Voss, Kent (Danielle) Voss; proud grandfather of Zachary, Justin, and Nathan; dear brother of Jim (Betty) Voss, Marilyn (Bob) Sudholt, Marge (late Leon) Parent; dear uncle, brother-in-law, cousin and friend to many. Donald was a member of American Legion Post #444. Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association. Memorial Visitation was from 2:00-6:00 PM with American Legion Post #444 Honor Guard at 5:00 PM on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at Hutchens Mortuary, Florissant, MO. Burial was at the J. B. National Cemetery at 10:30 AM on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.



**DENNIS M. WALKER** - Died Tuesday, December 16, 2014 in Northville, Michigan at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 21, 1950 in Wyandotte, Michigan to Josephine and the late James Walker. He was a United States Marine Corps Veteran of Vietnam and a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Dearborn Chapter #267*. He is survived by his children Kristy Walker, Elizabeth Tackett, and Amy Walker. He was the grandfather to Angela, Rylee, Antonio, Amir, Brody and Lylah. He was the son of Josephine and the Late James Walker. He was the brother of James (Susan), Anona (Steve) Pflanz, John (Sandy), Richard (Glenna), Mary (Donnie) Bonner, Raymond (Laura), Kevin, Brian (Kim), and Curt (Carey) and he was predeceased by his brother David Walker and his sister Denise Lively. A memorial gathering took place on Sunday from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia, Michigan.



**ROBERT WARREN, JR.** - Died Monday, 22 December 2014 in Memphis, Tennessee after a lengthy illness at the age of 85. He was a long time resident of Memphis. The cause of death was sepsis, ischemic colitis, atrial fibrillation and acute renal failure. He was born in Trimble, Tennessee on 21 December, 1929 to the late Robert and Audrey Warren and lived there until the age of twenty one, when he was drafted into the United States Army as a result of the Korean Conflict. He would go on to serve 20 years of distinguished service as a Combat Engineer, to include a combat tour in Vietnam where he earned the Bronze Star, which is the fourth highest individual military award. On his first overseas tour of service in Germany he met the love of his life and would marry his beloved wife Gertrude and enjoyed 59 years together. This marriage provided him with two step children that he raised as if they were his own flesh and blood. While on his third tour to Germany, he became affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and became a Scottish Rite Mason and remains a member of the Moslah Shriners from Fort Worth, Texas. After he retired from the U.S. Army, he returned to Memphis, TN, and found a job that he loved as an R.O.T.C. instructor, first at Mitchell and then at Booker T. Washington High School. This labor of love lasted twenty years and he touched the lives of hundreds of students. After he finally retired, he remained active as a volunteer for hospitalized veterans, many of whom had no family or friends to visit them. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Memphis Chapter #875**. He is reunited with his parents, Robert and Audrey Warren, his brother Frank Warren, his sister in-law Betty Warren and his brother in-law Roy Robinson. He is survived by his wife Gertrude, his two step-children, Herbert Bruse and Hildegard Rachford and a daughter Evelyn Sonnenstrahl who lives in Germany, brothers L. C. Warren and Ed Warren, sisters Mary Evelyn Robinson and Linda Faye Butler, numerous cousins, nephews, nieces and hundreds of close friends.

**ROBERT WAYNE WEIMER** - Died at his home on Tuesday, December 23, 2014 in Lancaster, Ohio at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 21, 1946 in Columbus, Ohio to the late Homer and Esther Weimer. Robert was a Vietnam Veteran served in the United States Army. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lancaster Chapter #1045**. Anyone with information about Robert's family or relatives is asked to please call the Frank E. Smith Funeral Home at 740-653-0652 or the Fairfield County Coroner at 740-652-2865.



**GEORGE EUGENE WILLIAMS, JR.** - Died Saturday, March 7, 2015 in Lascassas, Tennessee at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Lebanon, Tennessee on November 11, 1947 to the late George Eugene Williams, Sr. and Nina Williams. Veteran's Day proved to be a fitting birthday. After graduating from Castle Heights Military Academy in 1965, he served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1969 touring in Vietnam. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lebanon Chapter #1004**. Upon his return, he married Gail Sanders Williams. Although the marriage ended it produced his proudest work, his only child, Aaron Matthew Williams. He co-founded Mid-State Sign Company in Murfreesboro, operating and managing it with his wife of 35 years, Pam Ledbetter Williams, from 1973 to 1993. Proving to be true partners in business and in life, he and Pam founded The Visual Edge/Pinstriping by George

thus allowing them to travel across the country, showcase his talent, meet people, and do what they loved. George was an avid and eclectic collector of antique treasures, stories, and friends. He was known for his artistic ability and quick wit. His humor was inherited by his son, appreciated by his wife, and tolerated by many. He loved bad television, good food, and to be surrounded by those he loved. He is survived by wife: Pam Ledbetter Williams; son: Aaron (Shawn Baughman) Williams; siblings: Phil (Deborah) Williams and Rejeanna (Gary) Buchannan; grandchildren: George Turner Williams; and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his grandparents Hilton and Edith Williams. The Funeral Service was conducted by Randy Ward at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home with visitation from 11:00 AM until the service. Interment was in the Jones Hill Cemetery following the service. Family and friends served as Pallbearers.



**EDWARD S. WILLMARTH** - Died on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at the Toledo Hospital at the age of 67. He was a resident of Toledo. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in Toledo to the late William and Mina (née Roos) Willmarth and served our country in the United States Army during Vietnam being awarded the Bronze Star. For over 30 years he worked for General Motors retiring in 1998 and was a member of the UAW Local 12. Ed was a member of the VFW Maumee Valley Post #2510, Christ Dunberger Post #537 and the Dusters Quad and Search Lights D Battery 5/2. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Toledo Chapter #35**. In his spare time, Ed enjoyed fishing, hunting and target shooting. He is survived by his loving wife, Janice (Wiese) Willmarth; children, Commodore Jones, Patricia Jones, Mary Willmarth, William Willmarth, Heidi (Ken) Dunbar and Elizabeth (Terry) Mattox; 18 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sister, Gloria Kellar; special niece, Laura (Matt) Watt and dear friend, Theo Heath from the Veterans Center. Ed was preceded in death by his parents; son, Joseph Willmarth and grandson, JR Hedrick. Family and friends visited from 2:00-8:00 PM on Sunday, January 26, 2014 in the Freck Funeral Chapel, 1155 South Wynn Road in Oregon, Ohio. Visitation continued after 10:00 AM on Monday at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church where the Funeral Service began at 11:00 AM. Burial was at Ottawa Hills Memorial Park. Memorial contributions can be made to Prince of Peace Building Fund. The family wishes to thank Dr. Ruiz and all the ICU staff at The Toledo Hospital.

**ALAN L. WINTERS** – Died Monday, July 23, 2012 in Springfield, Pennsylvania at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 17, 1950. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Media Chapter #67**. Burial arrangements were under the direction of Valley Forge Memorial Gardens.

**GEORGE E. WOOD** - Died at 4:20 PM on Friday, August 15, 2014 at Saint Margaret Hospital in Spring Valley, Illinois at the age of 66. He was a resident of Seatonville, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 24, 1947 in Spring Valley to the late Edward and Alva (née Hansen) Wood who survives him. He married Mary Jere Briddick on August 8, 1970 in Seatonville. George attended Ottville and Ladd Grade Schools, graduated from Hall High School in 1965 and then in 1966 got a diploma from the Northwestern School of Taxidermy and has received state, national and world recognition with his taxidermy. He was an avid hunter and

has several record-book animals including a world record elk. He was a member of Illinois & National Taxidermist Associations, the Pope, Young, Boone, Crockett Record-book Hunting Club, member of the Seatonville Congregational Church (Independent), and the DePue VFW. He was a Vietnam War United States Army Veteran serving in the Medical Corps as an operating room tech. George was retired from UPS where he worked for 25 years. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities Chapter #299**. George is survived by his wife Mary Jere of Seatonville; 2 sons, Jeremy Wood of Dwight and Zachary Wood of Seatonville; his mother, Alva Wood of Ottville; 2 brothers, James (Dianne) Wood of Hastings, Texas and Ray (Karen) Wood of rural LaMoille; a grandchild, Kayden of Dwight; several nieces and nephews. Memorial services were at 11:00 AM on Wednesday at the Seatonville Congregational Church, (Independent) with the Reverend Bill Jacobsen officiating. Visitation was held on Tuesday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Barto Funeral Home, Spring Valley.

**WILLIAM JAMES WOOD** - Died in Seattle on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Fukuoka, Japan on September 22, 1947. He is survived by his wife Debra, his brother Bob Wood and his wife Margaret, two nieces and three grandchildren. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Seattle Chapter #102**. A visitation was held on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> between 1:00-6:00 PM at the Bleitz Funeral Home, 316 Florentia Street, Seattle, WA. A funeral service was held the following day at 11:00 AM at the Bleitz Funeral Home with a committal service at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington at 2:00 PM.

**MERLE R. YOUNG** - Died Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at his home in North Towanda Township, Pennsylvania at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 8, 1948 in Towanda, Pennsylvania to Catherine (née Messersmith) Young and the late Sterling M. Young. Merle was a graduate of Towanda High School Class of 1968. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War having served in the United States Army. Merle was formerly employed by F.B.C. Auto Body, M.L.I., and GTE Sylvania in Towanda. He was a member and former deacon of the First Presbyterian Church in Towanda, Past Commander and member of Towanda American Legion Post #42, former State officer of La Société des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux Voiture Locale #549, Past Commander of Bierne-Webster VFW Post #1568, Towanda, VFW County Counsel Commander, Past District Commander of the 14<sup>th</sup> District VFW, and V.F.W. Adjutant. Merle was the Organizer of Veterans Appreciation Day and State Chairman of the VFW National Home for Children. He was also a member of the Americal Association, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elmira (New York) Chapter #803** and the Towanda Fire Department. He is survived by his mother, Catherine Young of the Colonial Towers, Towanda, PA; two sons, Jason Robert Young and wife Tricia Ann Young of Kingsley, PA, Christopher Barton Young and Rosemary Lynn Young of Wyalusing, PA; grandchildren, Alexandria Katarina Young, Brianna Lynn Smith, Sierra Noelle Young, Trenton Christopher Young; a brother, S. Gerald "Jerry" Young and wife Cynthia Young of Towanda, PA; several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by an infant son, Wayne Allen Young, Dec. 24, 1976; and by his father, Sterling M. Young on Oct. 15, 1989. A memorial service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home, 217 York Avenue, Towanda, PA, with the Reverend James Martin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Towanda, officiating. Towanda

American Legion Post #42 accorded military honors at the funeral home. Interment was private in Woodlawn National Cemetery, Elmira, NY. The family received friends on Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at the funeral home. The family suggested that memorial contributions be directed to the Beirne-Webster VFW Post #1568 Scholarship Program, Bridge Street Hill, Towanda, PA 18848 or to the First Presbyterian Church, 5 Court Street, Towanda, PA 18848 in Merle R. Young's memory.

**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 PHILIP G. SALOIS, M.S.

National Chaplain