

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain



RONNIE D. BAGGS - Died Friday, November 12, 2010 at Charlie Norwood Veterans Hospital in Augusta, Georgia following a lengthy battle with Diabetes and Heart disease. He was 60 years of age and a resident of Savannah, Georgia. He was born on October 4, 1950, to the late George and Minnie Hall Baggs in Ludowici, Georgia. Ronnie was a graduate of Long County High School, attended Savannah State University and was a United States Army veteran. He

was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Savannah Chapter #671**. At an early age he became a member of St. Phillips MBC in Ludowici and after returning from his tour of duty he established residency in Savannah where he became a member of St. John Baptist Church under the leadership of the Rev. Matthew Southhall Brown Sr. Ronnie was employed by International Paper (Union Camp) in Savannah until his health began to fail. Survivors include his devoted wife, Rachael Grier Baggs of Savannah; two brothers, James (Martina) Baggs of Columbus, Ga., and David Williams of Florida; two sisters, Larcenia Bryant of Ludowici and Willie Catherine Norton of Jacksonville; nieces, Kelly, Joni and Selina Bryant; nephews, James Baggs, Leo Bryant, Landris and Marshay Baggs; sister-in-law, Verna (Leo) Curtis of Jonesboro; two brother-in-laws, the Rev. Luther (Mary) Grier, Anniston, Ala., and Jeffrey Grier of Riverdale; eight great-nephews, four great-nieces, three great-great-nephews; four great-great-nieces and a host of other relative and friends. Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19, at St. John Baptist Church, 422-28 Hartridge St. in Savannah. His funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, at St. Phillips MBC, 11 Boundary St. in Ludowici. Interment will be in Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Glennville on Monday Nov. 22. Royal Funeral Home of Jesup has charge of arrangements.

RICHARD J. “Dick” BAYER – Died Tuesday, June 1, 2011 in Racine Wisconsin at the age of 64. The cause of death was cancer. A lifelong resident of Racine, Richard was born June 3, 1946 to the late Raymond and Virginia (née Jude) Bayer. He was the beloved husband and best friend of Karen (née Kortendick) Bayer, whom he married on July 23, 1966. Dick graduated from St. Catherine’s High School in 1966 and Dominican College in 1970. He proudly served his nation in the United States Army in Germany from 1966-1968. He was employed for 20 years at Kortendick Hardware, owned James M. Jude Associates for an additional 20 years and served on the Board of Directors of the North American Die Cast Association. Dick considered his final position as the Racine County Veterans Service Officer as both an honor and a ministry. His devotion to the active duty military and veterans was unwavering. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Racine Chapter #767**. Dick was a man of tremendous faith in God and was an active member at St. Edward parish and then Racine Assembly of God. For 26 years, Dick and Karen participated in a couples faith based discussion group. Throughout his battle with cancer, Dick was uplifted by his faith, and support from family and friends. His

gentle, caring, fun-loving devotion to being the best husband, father and grandfather were the cornerstones of his life. Dick showered his family with his love of stories, parades, ice-cream and cookies. His survivors include his loving wife of nearly 45 years Karen; cherished daughters Mary Kay (Bob) Tajnai and Patricia Bayer Cox; adored granddaughters Stephanie, Kaitlin and Anna Tajnai, Jessica and Julie Cox; treasured extended Nguyen family; father-in-law Russell L. Kortendick; brother Ronald (Carol) Bayer; sister and brothers-in-law Diane (William) Fanelli, Russell (Kathy) Kortendick and Glenn (Barbara) Kramer; nieces and nephews and many dear friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Patricia Murphy; brother Raymond Bayer; Ngu Nguyen and Hoa Nguyen Lam. The celebration of his life will begin with a visitation on Sunday, June 5, 2011 from 3 - 7 p.m. at Racine Assembly of God, 1325 N. Airline Road. There will be a service on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 10 a.m. at Racine Assembly of God with interment immediately following at Calvary Cemetery.

BOYD L. BLAIR – Died recently in 2010 in Claremore, Oklahoma at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 6, 1932. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tulsa Chapter #524**.

JOHN BODINE BENJAMIN - Died Wednesday, April 27, 2011 in Warren, New Jersey at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 13, 1949 in the Borough of Peapack-Gladstone, New Jersey to the late Whitfield J. Benjamin and Ella A. Benjamin. He attended the local elementary school and graduated from Bernards High School on Bernardsville. Following his high school graduation, John enlisted in the United States Army and achieved the Rank of SP4 Transportation Specialist. His military assignments included service in Thailand and Cambodia during the Vietnam War in fulfilling his responsibilities of transporting supplies to our U.S. combat troops. He was honorably discharged after three years of enlisted service, followed by membership in the American Legion Post #12 in Somerville, and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westfield Chapter #688**. For several years John was employed by Apgar Bros. Trucking Co. and then for nearly 30 years was employed as a machine operator and assembler for various manufacturing companies including Johns-Manville, Affiliated Manufacturers Inc. and the Egan Davis-Standard division of Crompton Corporation. Survivors include a sister, Bernice A. Coop, of Peapack; a niece, Sarah E. Ambler, and grand nephew, Benjamin C. Ambler, both of Bethlehem Township, Pennsylvania. A memorial service celebrating the life of John Benjamin will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at 11:00am at the Peapack Reformed Church, 224 Main St., Gladstone, NJ. Memorial gifts may be made to the Willard Arntz Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Peapack Reformed Church, 224 Main Street, Box 253, Gladstone, NJ, 07934. Arrangements are by the Bailey Funeral Home of Peapack, www.baileyfuneralhomes.com.

DIANE KAY BURKHALTER - Died Thursday, February 17, 2011 in Bath, New York at the Bath VA Hospital at the age of 64. She was a resident of Elmira Heights, New York. The cause of death was cancer. She was born August 11, 1946 in Red Wing, Minnesota to the late George and Mable Williams. In addition to her parents, she was also predeceased by her son, Roger Wayne Raughton; two step children, Teresa Burkhalter and Cecil Burkhalter, Jr.; and husband Cecil M. Burkhalter, Sr. -She served in the United States Marine Corps for over six years from 1967 to

1971 during the Vietnam-era. She was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elmira Chapter #803**. She lived in Georgia for many years and was employed by Sears, Burlington Coat Factory and Middle Georgia Tech. She is survived by two daughters, Staci Leigh O’Dell and Terri Lynn Trakul; step children, Tommy Burkhalter (Brenda), Cindy Burkhalter, and Scott Burkhalter (Rita); sisters, Evonne, Mary, and Tammy; brother, Geoff; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Memorial services were held 11:00 A.M. Saturday, February 26, 2011 in the Mausoleum Chapel of Macon Memorial Park Cemetery with military honors.

DONALD CALIENDO – Died March 1999 in Westchester, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Illinois Chapter #209**.



HARRISON T. “Joe” CARR - Died Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in Lakeport, New York at the age of 83. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in 1927. He retired in 1968 from the United States Air Force serving 21 years and was a veteran of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Liverpool Chapter #103**. After retirement he worked for the Town of Sullivan Highway Department and Newton's Mobile Home Park. Surviving are his wife of 61 years, Grace E. (Denett); and his 7 children, Thomas (Marion) Carr, Linda Reid (Michael), Ricky (Linda) Carr, Janet Jones (Brian), Wayne (Kimberly) Carr, Susan Casler (Robert) and Mary Bersnai (Rick), 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Calling hours were 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the G.F. Zimmer Funeral Home, 702 Legion Drive, Chittenango. Services and burial with military honors in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Jamesville will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Durhamville Baptist Church, Durhamville, N.Y. or the National Kidney Foundation. G.F. ZIMMER Funeral Home in Chittenango was in charge of the arrangements.

DR. STUART COOPER – Died in December 2010 in Hillsdale, New York. He was a generous donor to Vietnam Veterans of America and was not affiliated with any particular chapter. He is survived by his son, Scott Cooper.



THOMAS F. “Mr. Tom” DEROUIN - age 63 of Menasha, Died Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at his home in Menasha, Wisconsin at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 15, 1947 to the late Francis and Mary Ann (née Allcox) Derouin in Green Bay, Wisconsin. On May 30, 1970 he married Erlinda Ybarra. Tom was a proud Vietnam Veteran, having served in the United States Air Force and being stationed in Germany. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Appleton Chapter #351** and could be seen in many Memorial Day parades proudly letting his American colors fly. He was also very involved in his community, having served on the Police and Fire Commission for 10 years, as well as the Personnel Committee in the City of Menasha. He was also an Alderman for the city in past years. Most recently, Tom was known by many children in the area as “Mr. Tom,” the beloved custodian at Clovis Grove Elementary. Tom is survived by his wife, Linda; three children: Julie (Jason) Dionne; Aimee (Al) John; and Tommy Derouin; grandchildren: Samuel and Sophia

Dionne; and Taja, Lailah; and Xavier John. He is further survived by his siblings: Jean (Clay) Quick; Jim (Liz) Derouin; Patti (John) Calder; Marge (Jim) Sell; Helen (Tony) Springer; many nieces, nephews, and friends. A funeral service will be held for Tom on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 3:00 P.M. at Menasha's Westgor Funeral Home, Mary Krueger officiating. Visitation will be from 10:00 A.M. until the hour of service. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established in Tom's name.



Col. CHARLES EMIL DeSHIELDS, SR.

On Tuesday, April 19, 2011, Colonel **CHARLES EMIL DeSHIELDS, SR.** United States Army (Retired) died at his home in Columbia, Maryland. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 9, 1930 in Spartanburg, South Carolina to the late Roosevelt and Evelyn DeShields. His family later moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He joined the Army ROTC program and in 1954 he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Building Construction. Although drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, his military obligation took precedence. He began his military career as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. He went on to become a dual-rated Master Aviator as well as a Senior Flight Instructor. Rising to the rank of Colonel, he also served as a Battery Commander and Combat Commander. His career included two tours of duty in Vietnam. He is one of the most decorated pilots in the Vietnam War. He was awarded three Distinguished Flying Crosses, one of the highest honors a military pilot can earn. He was a graduate of the Army War College and the Air Force War College. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Baltimore Chapter #451**. He is survived by his wife Peggie G. DeShields whom he married on August 15, 1954; his children Daphne DeShields, Janet DeShields and Charles E. DeShields, II and brother Willie DeShields. The family will receive friends on Friday, April 29, 2011 from 3 to 8 p.m. at Howell Funeral Home, 10220 Guilford Road, Jessup Maryland - 301-604-0101. At 7 p.m., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. will conduct their Omega ceremony. Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at Argonne Hills Chapel Center, 7100 Rockenbach Road, Fort Meade Maryland, (301) 677-6035/3787. Viewing before service is scheduled for 10 a.m. at the Chapel. Interment at Arlington National Cemetery will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the following: American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and Howard County Center of African American Culture (www.hccaac.org), 5424 Vantage Point Road, Columbia Maryland.

KEN DUNISON - Died Sunday, April 3, 2011 in his home in Barling, Arkansas at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 17, 1946 in Dos Palos, California. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Barling, a United States Marine Corps Veteran of the

Vietnam War, a retired retail salesman, former deputy coroner for Sebastian County and a member of the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fort Smith Chapter #467**. He was preceded in death by his beloved mother Reba M. Austin and a sister Mary Louise. Graveside services with Military Honors will be 2:00 PM Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at the Fort Smith National Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Fentress Mortuary of Fort Smith. He is survived by his wife Susie of the home; daughter Mandy Howe and her husband Cody of Rogers, son John and his wife Kathryn of St. George, Utah; three sisters Nedra Jones and her husband Virgil of Lone, AR, Katherine E. Terry of Booneville, and Sandra M. Jones of Booneville, his father Thomas Austin, Jr. of Booneville, and his grandchildren Cole and Hayden Howe of Rogers and Tim and Joey of St. George, Utah. The family wishes to express a very special thank you to everyone at Peachtree Hospice and special friends Gordon, Nedra, and Chad Coonrod. The family will receive guests 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at the funeral home. Memorials may be sent to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter # 467 P.O. Box 10431 Ft. Smith, AR 72917.



WILLIAM ROY "Bill" FISCHER - Died Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at home in the Bronx, New York after a brave battle with bladder cancer. He died at home in peace and with grace. He was 68 years of age. Bill was a great writer insisting that writing had to be moving, interesting, and true. He lived his life that way. He was born June 26, 1942 in Two Rivers Wisconsin and grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. Bill served in Vietnam in the United States Army as a captain. After his service, he lived on a kibbutz in Israel, traveled widely, worked at Abel Bainnson Butz as a construction supervisor building city parks and playgrounds, ran marathons and ultra-marathons all over the country, and held leadership positions in **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manhattan**

Chapter #126 and his running club, Millrose. Bill was a wonderful friend and father. Friends counted on him for his sage advice, quick wit, ready laugh, insight, and honesty. He was kind and generous and made everyone feel valued and special. Bill and son Mateo shared many road trips in national parks in the southwest and the east coast, annual baseball road trips to major league stadiums, numerous Yankee games, batting and pitching practice in Van Cortland Park, camping trips, ice skating, and beach excursions. "And did you get what you wanted from this life, even so? I did. And what did you want? To call myself beloved, to feel myself beloved on the earth." He certainly was. He is survived by son Mateo Fischer, Mateo's mother Andrea Eschen, brother Richard Fischer and Francis Clare Fischer, sister Carolinda Fischer and Michael Shay, cousins, nephews, and scores of kind and loving friends. We are very grateful for the excellent and compassionate at Memorial Sloan Kettering and Calvary Hospital Hospice. There will be a celebration of Bill's life on May 21 at 11:30 a.m. at Meridiana Restaurant at 2756 Broadway, Manhattan. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's name would be much appreciated to Fordham Preparatory School at East Fordham Road, Bronx, NY 10458 or Friends of Van Cortland Park at 124 Gale Place Apt. GrA, Bronx, NY 10463.

HOWARD DAVID GETTLEMAN - Died Sunday March 27, 2011 at his home in New Rochelle, New York from complications related to advanced Parkinson's Disease. He was 69 years of age. Howard was born on February 28, 1942 in Bronx, New York, the first child of the late Herbert and Ruth Gettleman. Following graduation from Dewitt Clinton High School, he apprenticed as an electrician. In January, 1968, Howard was drafted to serve in the United States Army and served a tour in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, during which he was wounded and received the Purple Heart and the Silver Star. Following the completion of his tour of duty, Howard returned to the Bronx. In 1970, he married Beth Golovchenko (d. 1994) and raised three children. He continued his career as an electrical worker and became a member of Local Union 3, the I.B.E.W. While his children were still young, he pursued and achieved a degree at Mercy College in White Plains. His favorite courses there were on astronomy, which he enjoyed sharing with his children. Howard was a man of many interests and an avid collector of sports, historical and music memorabilia. Baseball was a lifelong pastime; in addition to being a devoted fan (especially of his Bronx Bombers), Howard played in local leagues well into his 30s and coached his son's Little League team. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pleasantville Chapter #49**. A beloved and loving husband, brother, father and grandfather, Howard is survived by his wife, Wendy; his brother Fred; two daughters, Alyssa Gilmore, of Quincy, MA, and Renee Franklin of Mohegan Lake, NY; one son, Brian of New York, NY; and four grandchildren. Chapel services will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at Garlick Funeral Home, 14 Lecount Place in New Rochelle, NY, followed by graveside services at Mount Hope Cemetery in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York.

RONALD EARL GRADY – Died Monday, January 4, 2010 in Pacific Grove, California at the age of 62. The cause of death was Creutzfeldt Jakob (*Mad Cow*) Disease. He also had a history of diabetes, high blood pressure and his cholesterol. He was born June 7, 1947 in Anderson, Indiana. He is survived by his wife, Leonie (née Fuller) Graddy. After high school, he joined the United States Army and retired in 1991 as a Sergeant First Class (E-7) with 22 years of service. His assignments included a tour in Vietnam, Germany and the Presidio in Monterey, California where he was the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Public Affairs Office. He then worked for 16 years as a civilian on the Presidio where he was the Chief of Child and Youth Services. He had completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in History and his Master of Arts in Education prior to his retirement. He was also a member of the Fort Ord Retiree Council. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – California**. A memorial service was celebrated in Niceville, Florida.



ROSS "Pop" GREGO - age 95, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Died Friday, May 6, 2011, at the home of his son Larry and Rose Grego. He was a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa and 95 years of age. Ross was born in Council Bluffs, on July 25, 1915, to the late Frank, Sr. and Jenny (née Roberto) Grego. Ross served his country in the United States Army, during WW II and the Korean Conflict. He worked for Storz Brewery as a driver and later at the Omaha World Herald and also drove a school bus for 27 years. After losing his son, Phillip in the Vietnam War,

Ross worked relentlessly to fund and to build the Vietnam Memorial currently displayed in Bayliss Park. Ross loved polka music and dancing. He was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Glenwood Chapter #798**. He was preceded in death by his son, Phillip; wife, Thelma A. "Sammy" in 2007; grandson, Doug Betts; sisters, Bess and Louise; and brothers, Frank, Jim and Bill Grego. Survivors include son, Larry and wife, Rose, of Council Bluffs; daughters, Karen McMorris and husband, Don, of Tularosa, New Mexico, Glenda Sue Grego Jeans, of Omaha, Neb.; 7 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. Visitation with family was on Thursday, May 12th, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 13th, 11 a.m., all at the Cutler-O'Neill-Meyer-Woodring Bayliss Park Chapel. Interment was in the Ridgewood Cemetery with military rites by American Legion Post #2. The cortege will circle Bayliss Park and stop for a moment of reflection at Ross's Vietnam Memorial. A luncheon will follow at VFW Club. Family has asked memorials to Phillip and Ross Grego's Veterans Memorial Chapter #798.

STEPHEN E. "Steve" GUINEN - Died on Monday, May 2, 2011 after a long illness. He was 64 years of age and a resident of Fall River, Massachusetts. He was a member of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Parish. He was born February 4, 1947 in Fall River. Orphaned at a young age by the death of his mother, Ruth Guinen, he was adopted by his late grandparents William and Elena (Ouellette) Guinen. A Vietnam Era Veteran, he served in the United States Navy as an Electrician's Mate 2nd Class, aboard the USS Cromwell 1014 from 1966-1968. He was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, a former member and *President* of the **Vietnam Veterans of America - Westport Chapter #209**, and **New Bedford Chapter #499**, he was also *Vice-President* of the **Vietnam Veterans of America (Massachusetts State Council)** and served on the local Selective Service Board. He retired after a long career as a truck driver, was an avid reader and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. Besides his wife of 41 years, Margaret "Peggy" (née Sullivan), he leaves his three children, Karen and Christopher Guinen of Fall River and Theresa "Terrie" St. Pierre and husband Keith of Somerset; two grandchildren, Brody and Lily St. Pierre; two brothers, Glen Guinen of East Harwich, MA and John Guinen of Belleview, FL and several nieces and nephews. His Funeral will be held Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 8:30AM from the Waring-Sullivan Home of Memorial Tribute at Cherry Place, 178 Winter Street, Fall River, followed by his Funeral Mass at 10AM in Immaculate Conception Church 15 Thomas Street, Fall River. Visitation was one hour prior to his funeral mass from 8:30 - 9:30AM. Relatives and friends invited. Burial in Saint Patrick's Cemetery.

RALPH A. HANDLEY - Died suddenly, Saturday April 2, 2011 in Spencerport, New York at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 9, 1939 to the late Elizabeth and Howard Handley. He was also predeceased by his brother, Richard and his sister, Dianna. Survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Nancy; sons, Mark (Kim) Handley, James (Nancy) Handley; grandchildren, Travis, Sarah, and Janelle Handley; brothers, Howard (Marie), Carl (Kary), Charles (Nora) of Las Vegas, John (Mary Jane), Dennis (Cindy) Morley, Frederick Morley; sisters, Shirley Beam, Denise (Lenny) Gentile of Naples, FL, Debra Morley, Charlene Handley, Sharon, Patricia (Dan) Panek of NC, and many nieces and nephews. Ralph was a retiree of the United States Navy after 24 years of service; also a retiree of the Xerox Corp. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. He was active in Cure

Childhood Cancer Assoc., a board member of Our Lady of Victory in Lackawanna (Father Baker's); past Grand Knight, former District Deputy and a former Master 4th Degree in the Knights of Columbus. The family will receive friends Wednesday, April 6th from 3-8 PM at the New Comer Funeral Home, 2636 Ridgeway Ave. Ralph's Funeral Mass will be held Thursday, April 7th, 10 AM, at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 4100 Lyell Rd., Gates. Interment was at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Our Lady of Victory, Baker Victory Services in Lackawanna, NY, 767 Ridge Rd., Lackawanna, NY 14218 or to Cure Childhood Cancer Assoc., 200 Westfall Road, Rochester, New York.

RICHARD "Preacher" HENDERSON - Died Thursday, April 14, 2011 in Jasper, Tennessee at the age of 63. The cause of death was a motorcycle accident, death resulting. He was born September 16, 1947 in Sequatchie, Tennessee. Richard was a veteran of the United States Army who served in the Vietnam War. He retired from Bell South and had worked as a driver with Costal Transportation and Sunbelt following his retirement. He was once an avid golfer and enjoyed motorcycling. He was a *Life Member* and also active in **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203** as well as the local VFW. He was preceded in death by his father, Milton W. Henderson; brother, Gene Henderson and sister, Mary Ruth Henderson. Survivors include his daughter, Laura Hayworth and husband Shaun; mother, Myrtle Henderson Tate; sister, Sheila Lawson; brothers, Charles B. Henderson and David L. Henderson; and granddaughter, Madeline Leigh Hayworth. Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 PM CDT on Monday, April 18, 2010 in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Charles Oaks and Rev. Lynn Casseday officiating. Interment will follow in Sequatchie Valley Memorial Gardens with full military honors. The family will gather with friends on Saturday, April 16, 2010 from 4-8 PM and on Sunday, April 17 from 1-8 PM CDT at the funeral home. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family by visiting www.tatefh.com. Arrangements are by Tate Funeral Home, Jasper, Tennessee.

ROBERT W. HILD – Died Saturday, April 23, 2011 in Omaha, Nebraska at the age of 69. He was a resident of Millard, Nebraska. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 3, 1941. He is survived by four brothers and sisters-in-law, LeRoy and Pat, Surprise, Arizona, Dale and Rachel, Kearney, Nebraska, Rolland and Dixie, Millard, Richard, Santa Fe, New Mexico; numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Omaha Chapter #279**. Services were Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 10:30 AM, Christ Lutheran Church, rural Louisville, Nebraska. Interment at Oak Hill Cemetery, Plattsmouth. Memorials to Millard VFW Post #8334. Visitation was Monday, April 25, 2011 from 1:00 PM to 9 PM, with family present 6-8 PM at the Mortuary. Arrangements were by Roby Funeral Home 402-296-3123 Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

JOSEPH H. "Joe" HODGES - age 67, of Columbus, MS, Died Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at his residence in Columbus, Mississippi at the age of 67. The cause of death was glioblastoma and respiratory failure. Mr. Hodges was born November 28, 1942, in Tupelo, Mississippi, to the late Tyson and Evie Riley Hodges. He was a graduate of Tupelo High School in 1960 and was a graduate of Mississippi State University where he was a member of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity

and Pi Sigma Epsilon marketing fraternity. Mr. Hodges served in the United States Army as a fixed - wing pilot serving one tour in Vietnam where he was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and he was a member of the VFW. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Columbus Chapter #997**. He worked for Woodman of the World for 2 years then began his 36 year career with State Farm Insurance in Kosciusko and Columbus. He served as local, mid-state, and state president of NAIFA - National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, and also served on the Advisory Board of the Peter K. Lutken Chair of Insurance at Mississippi State University for over 15 years. Mr. Hodges was honored with the Joe Hodges - State Farm Endowed Scholarship from the Mississippi State University Foundation. He was a longtime member of the Magnolia Kiwanis Club and served as member and former chairman of the Columbus Civil Service Commission. Mr. Hodges was a member of the First United Methodist Church where he served as chairman of the Staff Parrish Relations Committee, chairman of the Finance Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministries, and was a member of the Usher Committee. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Barbara Hodges of Columbus; daughter, Allison Hodges Horner (Jack) of Mobile, AL; son, Paul Hodges (Cyndi) of Birmingham, AL; sister, Linda Hodges Jamieson (David) of Fairhope, AL; grandchildren, Barbara, Mary, and Sarah Horner, and Miriam Hodges; and a large, loving extended family. Funeral services will be Friday, December 18, 2009, at 11:00 AM at First United Methodist Church with Dr. Sam Morris, Rev. B. F. Lee, Dr. Roy McAlilly, and Rev. Glyn Wiygul officiating. The interment will follow on Friday at 2:30 PM at Lee Memorial Park in Verona, MS with military honors. Visitation will be today from 6:00-8:00 PM at Memorial Funeral Home and Friday one hour prior to the service at the church. Pallbearers will be Gary Eldridge, Dwain Acker, Danny Dilworth, Al Hatcher, and Dan Sisson. Honorary pallbearers will be all former agents of the Joe Hodges district / AFO, all Agency Managers AFE Mid-South Region and Southern Zone members of the Holiday Inn Coffee Club (Think Tank), members of the Larry Brooks Super Bulldog Club, and members of the Spring and Fall Seminar Methodist Ministers Group and the "catkiller" Flying Unit. Memorials may be made to the National Brain Tumor Society East Coast Office 124 Watertown Street - Suite 2D Watertown, Massachusetts 02472 or at 1-800-770-8287 or Mississippi State University Foundation Joe Hodges - State Farm Endowed Scholarship Mississippi State, MS 39762.

ROBERT B. "Skip" HOLMES – Died Tuesday, May 3, 2011 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 3, 1944 to the late Albert and Ruth Holmes. He was the devoted father of Gina (Matthew) Blackburn and Joy (Chris) Holmes; loving grandfather of Angelica, Riley and Ryan. He was preceded in death by his brother, Edward Holmes. He is also survived by nieces, nephews and good friends. He served in the United States Army in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Milwaukee Chapter #324**. Visitation was at the Heritage Funeral Home on Wednesday, May 11, 2-4 PM with a memorial service at 4PM. Interment ceremony with full Military Honors was Friday, May 13, at 12 noon, at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, Illinois.



DENNIS JON "Denny" HOPIA – Died Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in Chanhassen, Minnesota at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 24, 1944 to the late Brandol & Isla Hopia. He is survived

by his wife, Judy (Beug); daughter, Kristin (Brian) Couser; & son, Jay D. (Robin) Hopia; grandchildren, Broc & Hope Couser, Jayce, RyLee & Rayna Hopia; sister, Karen (Jim) Selvog; and niece Kari Rector. Denny's many interests included his love for Boating, Hockey, Harley's, Hot Rods & Hunting, but his greatest pride was the love of his family. For over 40 years, Denny's passion for sales was in the Millwork, Door and Window industry. He made many great friends along the way. He proudly served his country in the United States Army with the 82nd Airborne Division and was also proud of his 32nd Degree Mason where he was a member of the Wayzata Masonic Lodge & the Zuhrah Shrine. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Minnesota**. A celebration of Denny's life will be held on Saturday, March 26th at 11 AM, Christ Lutheran Church in Maple Plain with visitation Friday 5-8 PM Huber Funeral Home Excelsior. A private interment will be held at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred.

HAROLD ERWIN HUEY (USMC-1ST SGT-Ret.) – Died Friday, May 27, 2011 in Pooler, Georgia at the age of 82. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 15, 1929 to the late Woodson John Williamson and Carney Mae Huey. He graduated from Dalton High School in Dalton, Georgia. He attended Moody Bible Institute and Emmaus Bible School. Mr. Huey joined the United States Marine Corps in 1946. He served with the 2nd Battalion 2nd Marine Division in Lebanon in 1958. He served in Lima Battery, 4th Battalion 3rd Marine Division in 1965 to 1966 in Vietnam. He retired in 1966 as a 1st Sergeant. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Savannah Chapter #671**. He was a Baptist who served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and Brotherhood Director. He was a volunteer director of the International Seaman's Center in Port Royal, S.C. In 1988 he became a Mission Service Corps Volunteer assigned by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and the South Carolina Baptist Convention. He also served as Regional Consultant for the Savannah River Baptist Association. He made several mission trips overseas and in the United States. He moved to Pooler, GA in 2001. He was a member of the West Chatham Detachment of the Marine Corps League in Pooler and the Vietnam Veterans of Savannah. He was married to Julia J. Huey for 59 years. They have 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Julia, Clay and Sue Huey of Douglasville, GA, Phil and Sue Ward of Pooler, GA, Tim Huey of Douglasville, GA and Becky and Cory Sochovka of Canon City, CO. Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1st at the Thomas C. Strickland & Sons Funeral Home in Pooler, followed by the funeral at 11 a.m. in the chapel of the funeral home with burial to follow at Westside Memorial Gardens on Adams Road in Bloomingdale. Mr. Huey was tenderly cared for by Hospice Savannah. In lieu of flowers, the family request that memorials be made to the Home Mission offering of Rothwell Baptist Church, 216 East Rothwell Street, Pooler, GA 31322 which Mr. Huey served and loved or your local Southern Baptist Church. Friends may sign the online register book at www.stricklandandsonsfuneralhome.com Thomas C. Strickland & Sons Funeral Homes-West Chatham Chapel-901 W. Hwy 80-Pooler, Georgia.

RAYMOND G. KAPING, SR. - Died Mount Vernon Veterans Home in Shell Knob, Missouri on Friday, April 8, 2011 at the age of 84. The cause of death was multiple myeloma. Raymond, son of Rudolph and Florence (Essentrot) Kaping, was born on April 24, 1927 in Waukegan, Illinois. Raymond served in the United States Army in Japan from 1946-49, Korea in 1951 and

Vietnam from 1969-70. On May 25, 1952 he married Mildred Bazzell in Huntsville, Arkansas. Raymond also was a science teacher in Duncan, Oklahoma. He was a member of the VFW in Shell Knob, a lifetime member of the NRA, and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Eagle Rock Chapter #1023**. Survivors include, his wife, Mildred of Shell Knob, Missouri; one son, Raymond Kaping Jr., of Duncan Oklahoma; one granddaughter, Charlotte Webb, of Duncan, Oklahoma; two great-grand children, Alicia and Addison Webb. Memorial Services will be held at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, May 1, 2011 at White Funeral Home, Cassville, Missouri. Memorials may be made to a favorite Veteran's organization, such as the Wounded Warriors, or Disabled America Vets. Cremation was under the direction of White Funeral Home.

MARK A. KINGDON – Died recently in 2010 in Maplewood, Missouri at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 9, 1951. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Missouri**.



EARL ROBERT “Bob” KINNEY, JR. - Died suddenly Saturday, March 19, 2011 at his home in Merrimack, New Hampshire at the age of 66. The cause of death was coronary artery disease, diabetes mellitus and hypertension. He was born in Bar Harbor, Maine on February 16, 1945 to the late Earl Robert, Sr. & Mary (née Reid) Kinney of Minnesota. He was raised in Bar Harbor and graduated from Hebron Academy and Bates College. Mr. Kinney served in the United States Marine Corps from January, 1965 to December, 1967 serving 13 months in Vietnam. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Hampshire**. He was a former assistant coach with the Merrimack High School Lacrosse program from its inception until 2008. Mr. Kinney enjoyed bicycling, hiking, and watching sports. He was an avid historian, he especially focused on WWII and the Vietnam era. With his wife Sally, Bob spent his last 33 years involved in World Wide Marriage Encounter. He attended Riverside Christian Church in Merrimack. Bob was employed at Nashua Corp from 1979 until he retired in 1998. Members of his family include his wife of 42 years, Sally Ann (Greenlaw) Kinney, of Merrimack, a son Earl Robert Kinney III, two daughters, Mari Kinney, Samantha and her husband, Anthony Leone, four grandchildren, Amber-Jean and Joe Kinney, and Andrew and Kaeleigh Leone, two sisters, Jeanie Small and Isabella Keating. There are no calling hours. A memorial service will be held in the John O’Leary Adult Community Center, 4 Church St., Merrimack Sat. at 11 AM. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, 2600 Virginia Ave N.W., Suite 104, Washington, DC, 20037 or to the American Diabetes Association, 249 Canal Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03101. For more info or to sign an online guest book, go to rivetfuneralhome.com. The Rivet Funeral Home & Crematorium, 425 Daniel Webster Hwy, Merrimack is in charge of arrangements.

JOHN LOUIS KLINGENHAGEN – Died recently in 2011 in O’Fallon, Illinois at the age of 89. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 2, 1922. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Virginia Beach Chapter #48**.

DARYL DEAN KNAPP - Died Monday, January 24, 2011 at Texas Health Presbyterian-WNJ in Sherman, Texas at the age of 59. He was a resident of Sherman. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 20, 1951. He served in the United States Army during the

Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sherman Chapter #973**. Memorial graveside services were held at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. Military honors were conducted by the United States Army Honor Guard. Mr. Knapp is survived by his sons, Mikel Knapp and Travis Knapp, both of Denison, Texas; daughters, Samara Cooper of Newton, Iowa and Lindsey Knapp; brothers, Doug Knapp of Agency, Iowa and Dennis Knapp of Webster City, Iowa; and two grandchildren. Johnson-Moore Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.



DENNIS PAUL KOEHLER - The long-time veterans' advocate and former Palm Beach County commissioner, died Sunday, April 24, 2011, of end-stage melanoma at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center in Florida, with his wife Gay at his side, his son Josh Koehler said. He also had diabetes and thyroid cancer. He was 69 years of age. He was born August 6, 1941 in Phoenix, Arizona to the late Herbert and Margaret Elizabeth (née Burquist) Koehler. Mr. Koehler had been at the hospital for more than a month after having surgery to remove tumors along his spine, where the cancer had metastasized. Mr. Koehler chose to publicize his battle with melanoma in a series of stories in *The Palm Beach Post* in order to warn others to get regular skin cancer checks. In March, he was on another round of experimental drugs to stop the cancer that began with an odd black speck between his toes. In September 1963, he began six years of active duty in the United States Army as an Intelligence Officer. He first served in Vietnam from January 1965 to January 1966 as an intelligence advisor with the Army's Special Military Intelligence Activities Team. His second Vietnam tour was from May 1968 to May 1969 as Division Counterintelligence Officer for the Army's 25th Infantry "*Tropic Lightning*" Division. His military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Air Medal; the Army Commendation Medal with OLC, and; the Parachutist's Badge. He received an honorable discharge from the Army in September 1969 at the rank of Captain. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – West Palm Beach Chapter #25**.



GENE LESLIE KOUBA - Died Sunday, May 15, 2011, at a local Bismarck hospital at the age of 63. He was a resident of Bismarck, North Dakota. The cause of death is unknown. Gene was born October 14, 1947, in Pine River, Minnesota, the oldest son of Ervin and Lorraine Kouba. He left a large family and many friends who will miss his cheerfulness, positive attitude and good spirits. Services will be held at noon Thursday, May 19, at Church of St. Mary, Bismarck, with the Rev. Gene Lindemann officiating. Burial will be at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. today at Bismarck Funeral Home, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Following high school, he enlisted in the United States Air Force. While stationed at Wadena, Minn., he met his wife, Barbara Arnoldy.

They married on Aug. 22, 1970, at Wadena. He worked at FMC Corporation in Minneapolis and Steiger Tractor in Fargo, before joining the North Dakota Veterans Affairs Administration in Bismarck. While with the VA, he met many wonderful veterans and their families who, when in need of assistance, it was his honor and privilege to help however he could. Many were so thankful that in return they brought him food, homemade gifts and appreciation from their hearts. Gene was an avid fisherman and reader. He enjoyed the outdoors and was especially good at starting campfires. For several years, he had been going deer hunting with his friends. He enjoyed these times, whether there was deer meat involved or not. He taught archery and rifle safety classes and umpired softball games in Bismarck. He was a past commander of the North Dakota State American Legion and an active advocate with the Disabled American Veterans. He also volunteered each year with the Open Your Heart program at Christmas. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bismarck Chapter #150**. Gene wished to continue giving even in death, choosing to be an organ donor. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Nathan, Farmington, Minn.; daughter, Sara, Minneapolis; father, Ervin, St. Cloud, Minn.; brother, Gary, Pine River, Minn.; sister, Connie, Plano, Texas; four brothers-in-law; three sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins, all of whom knew him as a gentle man with a great willingness to help and a heart that was kind and true. He was preceded in death by his mother, Lorraine. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, memorials are sent to veterans' organizations.

DAVID E. LENZ – Died Monday, April 9, 2007 in La Salle, Michigan at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Toledo, Ohio on February 25, 1943. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142**.



DAVID J. LINT - Died peacefully Thursday, October 21, 2010, in Aultman Hospital at Canton following a courageous battle with kidney disease. He was a resident of Bolivar, Ohio. He was 57 years of age. David will be sadly missed by family and many friends. David was born in Sugarcreek, Ohio on September 30, 1953. He is survived by his sisters, Mrs. William "Joe" (Doris) Reese, with whom David had resided in Bolivar, Mrs. John (Lisa) Dague of Sugarcreek; brother, Gene Contini of Dover; and stepfather, Peter M. Contini of Dover; 12 nieces and nephews; and nine great-nieces and great-nephews. David enjoyed his time with his youngest great-nephew (14 months old), Maximus Aurelius Bryan "Max" Rhoads; each day he would look forward to seeing and playing with him. David graduated from Garaway High School in 1972 and Lincoln Technical Institute in Indiana as a Licensed Diesel Mechanic. David served his time in the United States Navy aboard ship during the Vietnam-era as a Boiler Man. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Philadelphia Chapter #857**. Services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010, at 2 p.m. at Smith-Varns Funeral Home at Sugarcreek, Ohio. Friends may call at the funeral home from 1 p.m. to 2 on Saturday prior to the services. Following services in keeping with David's wishes, cremation will take place, and he will have a Burial at Sea. For those unable to attend please visit the funeral home's website to share a memory and sign the guest register.

STEVEN JOSEPH MALOSH – Died Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, Michigan at the age of 60. He was a resident of Monroe, Michigan. He had been in poor health since January. The cause of death was exsanguinating duodenal hemorrhage and duodenal perforation/laceration and cirrhosis with bleeding varices. He was born June 15, 1950 in Monroe Michigan, to Kenneth and Dolores (née Hiszak) Malosh. Sadly, they preceded him in death. He was a 1969 graduate of Mason High School, and proudly served his country in the United States Army, receiving 2 bronze stars, and a Purple Heart while on tour in Vietnam. He also earned an Associate Degree from Davis College, Toledo, Ohio. On August 24, 1974 he married Darlene Campbell, and she survives. Steven was a 30 year employee of Ford Motor Company, Maumee, Ohio, retiring in 2005. He enjoyed snow skiing and boating. He was a member of the VFW, Post # 3925, Erie, Michigan. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142**. Survivors include his children; John M. Malosh of Alexandria, Louisiana, and Stephanie (Jose Rivera) Malosh of Chicago, Illinois; a brother, Kenneth C. Malosh of Monclova, Ohio; a sister, Dolora Malosh of Temperance, Michigan; and Darlene Malosh of Hartford, Kentucky. Friends may call from 4-8 PM Sunday at Bennett Funeral Service, 14567 S. Dixie Hwy., Monroe, where services will be held at 11 AM Monday, with burial following at St. Joseph Cemetery, Erie. Rev. Ronald Schultz, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, will officiate. Memorial gifts in his name may be given to the charity of the donor's choice.

CARL BENJAMIN MAZZOLA, JR. – Died Wednesday, June 9, 2010 in Carthage, Texas at the age of 66. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related multiple myeloma and congestive heart failure. He was born on April 19, 1944, in New Haven, Connecticut. He is survived by his wife, Corliss Mazzola; brothers, Robert Mazzola and Norman Mazzola; sister, Cynthia Petty; and stepmother, Hetty Martha Mazzola. He served his country in the United States Army, in the Vietnam War where he was awarded the bronze star. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisiana**. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated 10:30 AM, Tuesday, June 15, 2010, at Saint William of Vercelli Catholic Church with Father Michael Adams officiating. A graveside service with military honors will follow at 3 p.m., Tuesday, June 15, 2010, in Sunset Memorial Park in Gilmer. Arrangements are by Jimerson-Lipsey Funeral Home. A rosary service will be 6 p.m. Monday, June 14, 2010, at Saint William of Vercelli Catholic Church.

WILLIE McCARTHY – Died in 2010 in New Britain, Connecticut. The cause of death is unknown. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hartford Chapter #120**.

EDWARD C. "Ed" McKNITT - Died Saturday, October 23, 2010, at Christiana Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware at the age of 66. He was a resident of New Castle, Delaware and of Magnolia, Delaware. He was born in Wilmington on October 1, 1944, to the late Wallace L. McKnitt, Sr. and Mildred Elizabeth (née Green) McKnitt. He attended William Penn High School and would go on to serve his country proudly in the United States Air Force. He was employed with the DuPont Company at the Chambers Works site, retiring after a bone marrow transplant

in 1997. Active in his community, Ed was a member of Joseph B. Stahl Post #30 American Legion, General W.W. Atterbury Post VFW, the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wilmington Chapter #83**, St. Anthony's Club in New Castle, and the Summit North Yacht Club. He was a Lifetime Member of both ABATE and Harley Davidson Owners and was also a longtime supporter of The Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation. Ed greatly enjoyed spending time on his boat and being with his many friends, especially those at Summit North Marina, where he was known as "Mayor." In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Wallace L. McKnitt, Jr. He is survived by his sister and caregiver, Carol M. Heinold of Magnolia, DE; his son, Heath Underwood of Arizona; 7 grandchildren; and 4 nieces. Visitation will be held from 5-7 pm, on Wednesday, October 27, at the Spicer-Mullikin Funeral Home, 1000 N. DuPont Parkway, New Castle. A funeral service will be held at 11 am, on Thursday, October 28, at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Glebe Cemetery in New Castle. Flowers will be appreciated or contributions may be made to The Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation, Inc., 10 Rockefeller Plaza, Ste. 1007, New York, NY 10020. To sign guest book, visit spicermullikin.com Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Homes and Crematory.

DENNIS CHARLES “Chuck” MENTA – Died Saturday, November 27, 2010 at his residence in New Orleans, Louisiana at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 22, 1949 in Binghamton, New York, and a resident of New Orleans since 1978. Dennis served our country in the United States Air Force as a dog handler during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harvey Chapter #553**. Chuck is survived by his wife, Marilyn Menta, New Orleans; mother, Mrs. Aleen Menta; sister, Ms. Pam Demarco; and brother, Mr. Robert Menta, (wife, Debbie); all of New York and brother-in-law and sister-in-law: Mr. and Mrs. John Ford of New Jersey. In addition, Chuck loved and was loved by his two nieces, one great-niece, five nephews and 11 great-nephews and a future niece or nephew expected his summer. Prior to his death, Chuck was a Realtor for Mardi Gras Realty in New Orleans. Chuck's unwavering commitment and exceptional dedication established him as a leader to many. Chuck was known for his quirky personality and quick jokes and loved Mardi Gras, jazz music and the Saints. Chuck also enjoyed and was known for his wonderful cooking. He will be dearly missed by family and friends and especially his little canine companion, Mitzi Gaynor. Family and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Aurora Methodist Church, 3300 Eton Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70131. Family and friends are invited after the service for a light lunch at the Church. Funeral arrangements have been made by Boyd-Brooks Funeral Services, L.L.C.

RONALD L. MINTMIER - Died Monday, April 25, 2011 at Conemaugh Medical Center, in Johnstown, Pennsylvania from complications due to chemical exposure in his past military service. He was a resident of Richland, Pennsylvania and 64 years of age. He was born December 23, 1946, in Johnstown to the late Earl and Margaret (Smith) Mintmier. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased in death by his sister Marilyn; niece Melissa; brother-in-law Robert Berndt, and sister-in-law Anna Berndt. He is survived by his wife of 39 ½ years, Jane M. (Berndt) Mintmier; son Mark Mintmier of Richland and daughter Kristen (Mintmier) Hoover, married to Andy Hoover of Roaring Spring; granddaughter Lilly Hoover; sister-in-law Helen Berndt; sister-in-law Rhoda Berndt; nieces Robin and Rebecca, and five great nieces and

nephews. He was a 1965 graduate of Greater Johnstown High School and electronics vocational school in Ohio. He enlisted in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969, where he was trained in electronic communication and served in the 1st Infantry Division known as the Big Red 1. Ron reached the rank of sergeant and served 17 months in Vietnam, earning several Distinguished Service medals. In the military, he worked on avionics electronics and enjoyed riding on the rudders of the helicopters and taking photographs over Vietnam, amassing a collection of over 500 slides. Ron worked for Verizon (formerly GTE) for 35 years as a service technician/installer until his retirement in 2003, following a medical leave. He was actively involved in the former Belmont Volunteer Fire Department where he was First Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Police, a trainer and lifetime member. He was also involved in the formation of Cub Scout Pack 100 at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. He was a former member of Belmont United Methodist Church, where he was married; and later attended several other area churches where he served in a variety of capacities. He was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Johnstown Chapter #364** in Richland, American Legion Post 0849, Disabled American Veterans and the National Rifle Association. He especially enjoyed camping, hunting, eating out and growing his garden. Friends received 2-4 and 6-8 pm Thursday and 9-10 am Friday, time of service at the Harris Funeral home, 500 Cherry Lane, Richland. Rev. Joel Nogle officiated. Interment with military rites by Menoher Post #155, VFW, Ritual Team was at Forest Lawn Memorial Park. (Online condolences may be posted at www.wharrisfuneralhome.com)

HAROLD R. MOORE – Died recently in 2011 in Johnson City, Tennessee at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 3, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elizabethton Chapter #824**.

ROBERT C. MOREHOUSE, JR. – Died recently in 2011 in Silver City, New Mexico at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 8, 1945. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bayard Chapter #358**.

MICHAEL CHAD MORGAN - Died Wednesday, March 30, 2011, at Delaware Hospice Center, Milford, Delaware at the age of 65. He was a resident of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. The cause of death is unknown. He was born Oct. 19, 1945, in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania to the late Vincent F. Morgan and Mary C. "Curry" Morgan. Mr. Morgan was a Vietnam Veteran and served as a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Delaware**. He also served as Chief of Staff for D.C. Councilman Harold Brazil. While in D.C., he also worked as a hotel manager. Mr. Morgan resided in the D.C. area in his earlier years. After retiring, he relocated to Rehoboth Beach, seven years ago. He traveled extensively and loved to garden. He is survived by Life Partner Joseph Bowers, of Rehoboth Beach; a brother, William J. Morgan and wife Elli, of Mechanicsville, Md.; two sisters, Shaleen DeSanzo, of Ellwood City, Pa., and Molly Ward of LaPlata, Md.; and several nieces and nephews. Memorial Services will be held Saturday, April 2, 2011, at 11 a.m., at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, where friends may call at the funeral home beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers contributions

may be made to: Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963. Please sign the online guestbook at www.parsellfuneralhomes.com.

DANIEL JAMES MURTHA - Died Wednesday, May 18, 2011 in Gainesville, New York at the age of 65. He was a resident of Warsaw, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Warsaw, February 13, 1946, the son of the late Kenneth S. and Mary E. Sauer Murtha. A lifetime resident of Wyoming County, Daniel was self-employed as a construction supervisor and was known as a jack of all trades. He served our country honorably with the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam from 1963 to 1968. Daniel served as a Platoon Sergeant and was severely wounded by sniper fire during his tour in Vietnam. He fought on the infamous Hamburger Hill. Danny enjoyed life and outdoors and loved helping his fellow veterans in any way he could, including advocating for their rights. He was a lifetime member of the V.F.W of Warsaw Post #4823, the Marine Corps. League of Holley, the Am Vets of Jackson, NJ Post #2, and the NRA. Daniel was a National Representative for the D.A.V and was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – LeRoy Chapter #193**, the D.A.V. of Livingston and Genesee Counties, the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #560, and the Walter Klein American Legion Post #532 and the Wyoming County Vets Club. He was predeceased by his brother, David Murtha. Daniel is survived by his loving companion, Pamela Slocum of Warsaw. Other survivors include 2 sons, Jason D. and Jesse L. Murtha; a daughter, Jenna Murtha; 7 sisters, Mary (Jacob) Weber of Pavilion, Margaret (Wilson) Parmerter of Gainesville, Monica Sikes of Florida, Madeline Beach of Warsaw, Jean (Walter) Vincent of West Bloomfield, Maureen Waterrose of Colorado and Kathleen Murtha of Silver Springs; 4 brothers, Kenneth (Dorothy Howard) Murtha of Warsaw, Robert Murtha of Georgia, Gerald (Pamela) Murtha of Ohio, John Murtha of Warsaw; and numerous nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held 11am, Monday, May 23rd at the Wyoming County Vets Club in Warsaw. Memorial contributions may be made in Daniel's name to the P.T.S.D Clinic C/O the Batavia V.A. Medical Center at 222 Richmond Ave. Batavia, NY 14020 or the military organization of choice. Semper Fi!!!

ADAM NICHOLAS - Died Wednesday, March 9, 2011 in West Nyack, New York as the age of 82. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 26, 1928, to the late George and Bertha Nicholas. He was the beloved husband of Elizabeth and devoted father of Laura, Peter, George and Anthony. He was a Korean War Veteran. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – New City Chapter #333**. Visiting hours were Friday, March 11, 2011 - 2-4 PM and 7-9 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at 11:30 AM at Saint Anthony's Shrine Church, Nanuet, New York.



WILLIAM A. "Bill" NIEMER - Died Thursday afternoon, May 26, 2011, at Aurora Baycare Medical Center of Green Bay, Wisconsin at the age of 65. He was a resident of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The cause of death is unknown. Bill was born on May 16, 1946, in Manitowoc, son of the late Ambrose and Helen (Fierst)

Niemer. He was a 1964 graduate of Manitowoc Lincoln High School. Bill received an associate degree in Materials Management from Lakeshore Technical College. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the United States Navy from 1964 to 1968. Bill was a paint line inspector for the Kelvinator Company in Manitowoc. Bill was a member of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Disabled American Veterans, and a *Founding Member and Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manitowoc Chapter #731**. Survivors include his twin brother: Robert Niemer, Manitowoc; one son and daughter-in-law: Ken (Lisa) Niemer, Clintonville; three granddaughters: Hannah, Savannah, and Serena Niemer; two nieces and their husbands: Deb (Jim) Hunt, Whitelaw; Teri (John) Horstketter, Manitowoc. Other relatives and friends survive. He was preceded death by his parents: Ambrose and Helen Niemer, one son: Jim Niemer; one brother and sister-in-law: Jon (Eve) Niemer; one niece: Alicia Niemer. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2011, at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3209 Meadow Lane, Manitowoc. Rev. Robert Kujawski and Rev. Stephen Melso will officiate with cremation to follow and entombment of his cremated remains in the Knollwood Mausoleum. Vietnam Veterans Chapter #731 of Manitowoc will accord military graveside rites. Relatives and friends may call at the Jens Family Funeral Home, 1122 South 8th Street, Manitowoc, on Tuesday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and on Wednesday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:00 a.m. Memorial donations in Bill's name would be appreciated for Bethany Evangelical Lutheran church. Online condolences may be sent to www.jensreinboldandpfeffer.com

CARLIS W. PATRICK, SR. – Died Monday, May 9, 2011 in Sanderson, Florida at the age of 74. The cause of death was a massive stroke. He was born July 6, 1937. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 to 1957. He was a past *Associate Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida Chapter #655** before transferring into **Vietnam Veterans of America – Zephyrhills Chapter #195**.

RAYMOND “Ray” PAVELEC - Died Monday, May 9, 2011, in Lady Lake, Florida at the age of 65. He was formerly of Middletown and Lakewood, New Jersey, and Staten Island, New York. Prior to his recent retirement, Ray was a Vietnam veteran, Senior Real Estate Representative for Shop Rite Supermarkets and subsequently worked as a freelance commercial real estate broker in the NY/NJ metropolitan area, specializing in shopping center development. Ray served in Vietnam with the United States Navy Seabees. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford Chapter #1036**. He is survived by his son, John of Lakewood; and his sisters, Margaret Munro of Houston, Texas, and Hancine Bowe and her husband William of Staten Island and their children. Services and burial arrangements will be held through Beyers Funeral Home in Lady Lake, Florida.

HERMAN JOE PERRY – Died Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at his home in Nettleton, Mississippi at the age of 70. The cause of death was cancer. He was born July 16, 1940 in Pontotoc County, Mississippi to the late Herman and Inez (née Graham) Perry. He lived several years in New York and Kansas before moving back to Nettleton in 1999. He served 15 years in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tupelo Chapter #842**. He was a member of Palmetto United Methodist Church. He

is survived by his wife, Dorothy (née Johnson) Perry, of Nettleton; two daughters and sons-in-law, Shirley and Wayne Sehar, of Memphis, Tennessee and Anita and Kevin Copeland, of Tupelo, Mississippi; his son and daughter-in-law, William and Sandy Perry, of Memphis; several stepchildren; a special grandchild, Alexis Perry; number grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Thomas Carnathan, of Okoloma, Mississippi; his brother and sister-in-law, Willis Dean and Brenda Perry, of Wren, Mississippi, and; many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by Anita Copeland's mother, Nancy Comfer Perry in 1997.



Elmer 'Geronimo' Pratt, flanked by his lawyer Johnnie Cochran Jr., left,- by Tom Odula

ELMER "Geronimo" PRATT – Died Friday, June 3, 2011 just after midnight at his home in Imbaseni village, 15 miles (24 kilometers) from Arusha, Tanzania, where he had lived for at least half a decade, a friend of Pratt's in Arusha, former Black Panther Pete O'Neal, said. O'Neal said he suspects Pratt died of a heart attack or stroke. Pratt was taken to the hospital on Tuesday and Wednesday with high blood pressure. He was 63 years of age. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Geronimo was a co-founder of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter #460** in San Quentin State Penitentiary. He was instrumental in organizing a disparate group of Vietnam Veteran inmates with different social and political backgrounds into a cohesive community service focused chapter that presented scholarships to the children and grandchildren of Vietnam Veterans. The chapter disbanded after several years of work after the California Department of Corrections began moving inmates from prison to prison, breaking up the core group of Vietnam Veterans responsible for bringing the chapter together. Pratt was a former Black Panther Party leader whose murder conviction was overturned after he spent 27 years in prison for a crime he maintained he did not commit, died early Friday, June 3, 2011 from a medical ailment, an associate said. Pratt was convicted in 1972 of being one of two men who robbed and fatally shot schoolteacher Caroline Olsen on a Santa Monica tennis court in December 1968. No one else was arrested. Pratt claimed he was in Oakland for Black Panther Party meetings the day of the murder, and that FBI agents and police hid and possibly destroyed wiretap evidence that would prove it. The Black Panther Party was an African-American revolutionary leftist organization, active in the United States from 1966 until 1982. It achieved notoriety through its involvement in the Black Power movement and in U.S. politics of the 1960s and 70s. Lawyer Stuart Hanlon, who helped Pratt win his freedom, said Pratt refused to carry any resentment about his treatment by the legal system. "He had no anger, he had no bitterness, he had no desire for revenge. He wanted to resume his life and have children," Hanlon told The Associated Press from San Francisco on Thursday. "He would never look back." Pratt lived a peaceful life in Tanzania that he loved, O'Neal said. Pratt returned from a visit to

the U.S. about 10 days ago and remarked that he appreciated the pace of his life in Africa. "He's my hero. He was and will continue to be," O'Neal said. "Geronimo was a symbol of steadfast resistance against all that is considered wrong and improper. His whole life was dedicated to standing in opposition to oppression and exploitation. ... He gave all that he had and his life, I believe, struggling, trying to help people lift themselves up." Pratt worked with the United African Alliance Community Center in Arusha for the last nine years that he lived in the Tanzanian community, which sits near the base of Mount Kilimanjaro. The organization, which O'Neal founded 20 years ago, works to empower youth. Pratt's lawyers, who included high-profile defense attorney Johnnie Cochran, blamed his arrest on a politically charged campaign by J. Edgar Hoover's FBI against the Black Panthers and other perceived enemies of the U.S. government. Pratt's belated reversal of fortune came with the disclosure that a key prosecution witness hid the fact he was an ex-felon and a police informant. Superior Court Judge Everett Dickey granted him a new trial in June 1997, saying the credibility of prosecution witness Julius Butler — who testified that Pratt had confessed to him — could have been undermined if the jury had known of his relationship with law enforcement. He was freed later that month. Cochran, best known representing such clients as O.J. Simpson and Michael Jackson, called the day Pratt's freedom was secured "the happiest day of my life practicing law." Prosecutors announced two years after the conviction was overturned that they would abandon efforts to retry him. "I feel relieved that the L.A. DA's office has finally come to their senses in this respect," Pratt said at the time. "But, I am not relieved in that they did not come clean all the way in exposing their complicity with this frame-up, this 27-year trauma." He settled a false imprisonment and civil rights lawsuit against the FBI and city of Los Angeles for \$4.5 million in 2000.

RONALD P. "Ron" PRIVETT - 68, of Ponca City, and Died early Saturday morning, May 21, 2011 in Via Christi St. Francis Hospital in Wichita, Kansas, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a resident of Ponca City, Oklahoma and 68 years of age. Ron was born December 15, 1942, in Enid, Oklahoma to the late Franklin P. and Mary Jane Jett Privett. He graduated from Medford High School in 1960 and Northwestern State College (now Northwestern Oklahoma State University) in Alva. Ron was a wheat farmer in the Medford and Wakita areas. He had taught school and had been employed for Conoco and Mertz in the past. On October 24, 1998, he and Margy Ault Neiderman were united in marriage in Ponca City. He served in the United States Air Force from February 1964 until January 1968. He had lifetime memberships in American Legion Huff-Miner Post 14, serving as commander and other offices, and was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Ponca City Chapter #750*, serving as president for two years. He was commander of the Color Guard of Vietnam Veterans for several years. He was first chairman of building POW MIA Monument in Ponca City. Ron was a member of Faith Tabernacle Church. He was preceded in death by his father and stepmother, Frank and Vivian Northcutt Privett; and his mother, Mary Jane Tebow. Ron is survived by his wife, Margy of the home; son, Scott Privett and wife Wendy of Montgomery, Ala.; daughter, Melissa Privett of Bangor, Maine; two stepsons, Charles Neiderman and wife Anna and Aaron Neiderman and wife Shannon, all of Albuquerque, N.M.; stepdaughter, Ruth Smith of Perry; sister, Marilyn Aldrich and husband Charles of Hunter; stepbrother, Warren Beggs and wife Carol of Medford; stepsister, Roxy Johns and husband Marvin of Newkirk; sister-in-law, Marcia Johnson and

husband Clayton; four granddaughters, Madison, McKenna, Ashley and Rebecca; and other relatives and many friends. A memorial service for Ron was 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 25, in Faith Tabernacle Church, Ponca City. Pastor Don Stanton and Clayton Johnson will officiate. Graveside inurnment rites will be at 2 p.m. in Rosemound Cemetery, Medford. Military honors will be conducted by Vance Air Force Base, Enid and Vietnam Veterans Ponca City Chapter 750. The arrangements are under the direction of Hills-Ely Funeral Home of Medford. Memorials may be made to Vietnam Veterans Chapter 750 or the charity of your choice with Hills-Ely Funeral Home serving as custodian of the funds, P.O. Box 280, Medford, Oklahoma.

JAMES R. "Jim" SAWYER - Died Monday, June 14, 2010, at Decatur General Hospital in Decatur, Alabama at the age of 66. The cause of death was a lower abdominal aortic aneurysm. He was born October 29, 1943, in Pawtucket, Rhode Island to James J. Sawyer and Gertrude Quintin Gagnon. Jim retired as a first sergeant in the United States Army and served in the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511**. He was a Roman Catholic. He enjoyed boating, grilling and was a Harley enthusiast. His father, James J. Sawyer; and brother, Jeffrey W. Gagnon, preceded him in death. Survivors include his wife of 19 years, Elizabeth Sawyer; two sons, Brian and Crystal Sawyer and Barry and Kim Sawyer; three daughters, Marion and Ike Mann, Myra Sawyer and Sharon and Michael Sloup; mother, Gertrude Quintin Gagnon; stepson, Billy Kirby; sister, Sharon Gagnon Tardif and her husband, Ron; sister-in-law, Cathy Choquet Gagnon; 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The funeral was Thursday, June 17, 2010, at 10 a.m. at Roselawn Funeral Home Chapel with Joe Mann officiating. Visitation will be Tuesday and Wednesday from 6 to 9 at the family's residence, 158 Hamaker Street SW, Decatur.

ALAN L. SCHORTEMAYER - Died Monday, May 31, 2010 in Oakdale, Long Island, New York at the age of 65. The cause of death was cancer. He was born July 12, 1944. He was the beloved husband of Diane; loving father of Dawn (Edwin) Ramirez, Tracy (Nick) Apicella, Patti(Jamie) Grenier and Kimberly Schortemeyer; proud grandfather of Abby, Natalie, Nicholas and Ella, and; dear brother of Patricia Pimm and Joan Danowski. Viewing hours were Wednesday, June 2, 2010 from 7-9:30 PM and Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 2-4:30 & 7-9:30 PM at Raynor & D'Andrea Funeral Home 245 Montauk Highway, West Sayville, New York. Funeral services were Friday, June 4, 2011 at 11:30 AM. Interment with full military honors was in the Long Island National Cemetery, Pinelawn, New York. In lieu of flowers, contributions to Good Shepherd Hospice or the Wounded Warriors Project are appreciated.

THOMAS R. SCHRODER, JR. – Died Wednesday, April 6, 2011 in Bemus Point, New York at the age of 63. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in Westfield, New York on May 24, 1947 to the late Thomas R. Schroder, Sr. and the late Amy Schroder. He was a graduate of Jamestown Community College. He continued serving others by enrolling in the United States Army when he was 17. He served in Germany in 1967 and pursued an active involvement with the American Red Cross, going to the World Trade Center twice and weather disasters in Florida, Oklahoma and Hurricane Katrina relief. He also volunteered on numerous occasions for the Salvation Army, particularly in their "red kettle campaign." He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jamestown Chapter #865**. Employed with the Department of Social Services as a case manager for over 20 years, he also worked at MRC Bearings,

Blackwell, Winter Garden and The Resource Center. He attended Fluvanna Community Church and enjoyed his friendship with Pastor Dayle Keefer and fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. He was skilled at wood crafting and had a soft spot for animals. He cherished the time he spent with the Brothers-By-Choice motorcycle club. Thomas was so happy to finally get his Harley as he participated in numerous dice runs and veteran benefit events. He is survived by his wife, Colleen Schroder of Bemus Point, whom he married April 3, 1976, at the home of Mary Ella and the late Norman Faust. He is also survived by three daughters: April Schroder of Bemus Point, Casey Schroder of Erie, Pa., and Jill (Jim) Vincent of Cherry Creek; three grandsons: Micah and Malahki Schroder and Hunter Vincent; five sisters: Alice Warner, Ruth Duncan, Dorothy and Miriam Wright and Florence Seekings; a sister-in-law, Fran Schroder who is married to his brother, Louis Schroder; and many other beloved brother and sisters-in-law, as well as nieces and nephews. Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Amy and Thomas Schroder Sr.; two infant grandchildren; three brothers: Michael, Reubin and Raymond Schroder; and two sisters: May and Marjorie. A military Christian service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday April 10, 2011 at the Fluvanna Community Church on Route 430. There will be a dinner in the church following the service. Friends and family will be received from 1 to 3 and 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 9, in the Lind Funeral Home and for one hour prior to the service in the church Sunday. Memorials may be made to the Fluvanna Community Church Building Fund, 3363 Fluvanna Ave. Ext., Jamestown, New York 14701. You may light a candle in remembrance of Tom at www.lindfuneralhome.com.

RUSSELL N. SELVIG – Died recently in Northwood, Iowa at the age of 85. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in 1926. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lake Mills Chapter #790**.

RUTH KAY SIDISIN – USAF (LTC-Ret.) – Died in Sumter, South Carolina on Sunday, October 3, 2010 at the age of 80. The cause of death is unknown. She was born in 1930. She served a full career in the United States Air Force retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. She was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – South Carolina**. Funeral Mass was at 2 p.m. Friday, October 8, 2010 at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church. Interment was in the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Bullock Funeral Home was in charge.

FRED SIEVERS - Died on Memorial Day, Monday May 30, 2011 in Jacksonville, Florida at the age of 63. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born in New York City, New York on June 29, 1947. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. Arrangements were conducted by Eternity Funeral Home, 4856 Oakdale Ave. Jacksonville, Florida.

CARL DOUGLAS "Doug" SMITH – Died Thursday, May 19, 2011 in Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee at the age of 68. The cause of death was esophageal cancer and a stroke. He was born in Columbia, Tennessee on January 24, 1943 to the late Villard and Reba Smith. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. He was a member of the Hixson United Methodist Church and a member of the Masons. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Charlotte Smith; his son and daughter-in-law, Shane and Bobbi J. Smith; three grandchildren, Jordan, Seth and

Kendall; his brother and sister-in-law, Tom and Margene Smith; two brothers-in-law, Bill (and Betty) Springer and Kevin Springer, and; several nieces and nephews. Memorial services were conducted with full military honors in the Chattanooga National Cemetery with the Reverend Jeff Jacobs, of the Craft Methodist Church in Columbia, Tennessee, officiating.

KEVIN G. SMITH, SR. - Former owner of West Main Liquor in Batavia, New York, died at his residence in Batavia after a brief illness on Easter Sunday April 24, 2011 at the age of 73. He was born in Batavia on January 19, 1938, a son of the late Lester J. and Mary Maher Smith. Mr. Smith was a United States Army veteran, having served from 1957 to 1980 including a tour in Vietnam. He received a Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Overseas Service Medal with 2 Bars, National Defense Service Medal, African Middle Eastern Medal and Good Conduct Medal. For over 68 years he was a member of St. Mary's Church where he was an usher and Eucharistic Minister. In 1956 he graduated from Notre Dame High School. Other memberships include the Veness-Strollo Post 1602 V.F.W. of Batavia, American Legion Post 332 of Batavia and the **Vietnam Veterans of America –Le Roy Chapter #193**. Kevin enjoyed being with his children and four grandchildren and visiting Sunny Hill Resort with his wife. He was loyal to his country and fellow man. Enjoying the pleasures of a good cigar commingled with his interest in politics. He thought of himself as a "self proclaimed political junky". Philanthropy to local organizations reflected his generosity toward others. Kevin is survived by his loving wife of over 47 years, Namsik Yim whom he married on May 22, 1964; two daughters and a son in law, Sunia Marie Smith of Rochester and Patricia Marie and Charles Leach of Coeur D' Alene, Idaho; a son and daughter-in-law, Kevin G. Jr. and Faith Smith of Greenville, New York; six grandchildren, Casey, Cody, Hannah, Sydney, Kevin Illinois (Trey) and Emily Smith; a sister, Gretchen Miconi of Phoenix, Arizona, and; a sister-in-law, Claire Smith of Mesa, Arizona. Visitation was on Tuesday from 5 - 8PM at the J. Leonard McAndrew Funeral Home LLC, 2 Bogue Ave., Batavia. A Mass of Christian Burial was on Wednesday at 12 Noon at Resurrection Parish (St. Mary's Church). Memorials may be made to: Genesee Orleans Ministry of Concern, 5073 Clinton St. Rd., Batavia, NY 14020 or Notre Dame High School, 73 Union St., Batavia, NY 14020 or St. Joseph School, 2 Summit St., Batavia, NY 14020. Services will conclude with full military honors at the church. Arrangements were entrusted to the J. Leonard McAndrew Funeral Home, LLC, 2 Bogue Ave., Batavia, NY. Ronald P. Konieczny, director & veteran.

BARBARA A. STEWART – Died recently in 2010 in Sapulpa, Oklahoma at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. She was a veteran of the Vietnam War. She was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tulsa Chapter #524**.

LEWIS JACKSON "Jack" SUMMERFIELD, JR. – Died Friday, January 28, 2011 in Indiana, Pennsylvania at the age of 58. The cause of death was myocardial infarction and ischemic heart disease. He was born in Brooklyn, New York on May 6, 1952 to the late Lewis Jackson, Sr. and Dorothy Summerfield. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Donna (née Sosock) Summerfield whom he wed on June 20, 1975; his daughter, Victoria; his son and daughter-in-law, Lewis "Luke" and Jonelle Summerfield; his sister and brother-in-law, Dorinda and Galen Mack, of Vintondale, Pennsylvania and; his brother, Scott, of York, Pennsylvania. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War from November 19, 1971 to November 11, 1972

attaining the rank of Lance Corporal (E-3). He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pennsylvania**. Funeral services were conducted at the Lefdahl Chapel with Pastor Calvin Duval, officiating.

SANUEL RALPH THARP – Died Monday, May 2, 2011 in Leavenworth, Kansas at the age of 72. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in Mississippi on July 2, 1938. He is survived by his wife, Janet, of the home. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Leavenworth Chapter #75**.

SIERRA L. TOLLE – Died Saturday, April 30, 2011 in Saint George, Utah at the age of 29. The cause of death is unknown. She was born November 28, 1981. She was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint George Chapter #961**.

WILLIAM C. “Wild Bill” WALLACE - Died Sunday, May 8, 2011 at home in Warsaw, New York at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Warsaw, November 27, 1945, the son of the late George Wallace and Marjorie Pratt Wallace of Deming, New Mexico. A lifetime resident of Wyoming County and graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology, William worked as a Tool and Die Maker for Markin Tubing in Wyoming. William served his country honorably with the United States Navy from 1963- 1968 during the Vietnam Era on the U.S.S. Simon Lake which was the 1st ship to navigate the Panama Canal. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – LeRoy Chapter #193**, Walter Klein Post #532 of the American Legion, D.A.V. chapter #135, the Harley Owners Group (H.O.G) Brothers of the Third Wheel and a longtime friend of and guest member of the Road Agents Motorcycle Club. William was an avid hunter, trapper and fisherman who loved to ride his motorcycles and was a longtime member of the NRA. In 2000, William made the trip to Sturgis which was one of the highlights of his life. The final years of William’s life were devoted to his grandchildren. William was predeceased by his Father, George and his brother, Edward. Survivors include his loving wife of 36 years, Anne Onorati Wallace whom he married August 24th, 1974. Also surviving are his 3 sons, David (Angela) Holland of Ipswich Suffolk, UK, Eric W. Wallace of Buffalo and William Edward Wallace of Miami, FL; a daughter, Tanya (Craig) Caldwell of Sherrill, NY; 3 sisters, Pamela (Kent) Sugden of Ft. Collins, CO, Jeannette Wallace of Wyoming and Judy Caldwell of Weatherford, TX; 2 brothers, John (Louise) Wallace of Rochester and Jim (Karen) Wallace of Warsaw; 7 grandchildren, Angel, Alex, Katie, William, Ryan, Grace and Lilly; and several nieces and nephews. Friends of William may call Thursday, May 12th from 7pm to 9pm and Friday, May 13th from 2pm to 4pm and 7pm to 9pm at the Weeks Funeral Home 123 N. Main Street, Warsaw. A funeral service will be held at the funeral home, Saturday, May 14th at 9am with Pastor Lauren Turner of the United Methodist Church of Warsaw. Burial will follow in Olivet Cemetery Covington. Memorial contributions may be made in William’s name to the Warsaw Rescue Squad at PO Box 22 Warsaw, NY 14569.

TERRY LEE WATSON - Died Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at Defiance Regional Medical Center in Defiance, Ohio at the age of 61. He was a resident of Defiance. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born November 18, 1949, in Defiance, to the late Glenn and Phoebe (Steele)

Watson. On November 20, 1971, he married Bonnie Lantow, who survives. He served in the Vietnam War as a U.S. Army SP5, serving with the 9th Infantry Division. He was a laborer at GM Powertrain, retiring in 2004. He was a life member of VFW Post 3360 in Defiance and VFW Post 8218 in Napoleon. He was a member of AMVETS, Eagles, Moose and American Legion of Defiance and the Combat Vets Motorcycle Association. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Defiance Chapter #954**. Also surviving are a son, Jody Lee (Melissa) Watson, Cincinnati, Ohio; a granddaughter, Bexley Watson; and a sister, Beverly (James) Oberlin, West Unity, Ohio. Preceding him in death were his parents; two sisters, Rita and Judy Watson; two brothers, Glenn Watson Jr. and Larry Watson; and two half sisters, Rosemary Rau and Betty Jean Watson. Services were conducted at 2:00 PM Friday, April 15, 2011, at Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home with Father Tim Kummerer officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance, with military services by Defiance VFW Post 3360. Visitation is from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Preferred memorials are to the Kidney Foundation or a charity of the donor's choice.

JOHN F. WELSH III – Died Friday, April 29, 2011 in Angeles City, The Philippines at the age of 76. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland on March 11, 1935. He served his entire military career in the United States Air Force and retired at the rank of Master Sergeant (E-8). He was a *Life Member* and *Past President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Angeles City (Philippines) Chapter #887**. He also was the Chaplain of American Legion Post #123, Past Commander of DAV Chapter #3, Past Commander of VFW Post #8180 (Korea) and an All American Commander of District #3 (VFW) and Military order of the Cooties Grand Commander. He was a member of VFW Post #2485. His body lies in state at the American Legion Post #123, Angeles City, The Philippines.



RICHARD A. WIATER – Died Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2011 in Chicago Heights, Illinois at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 24, 1942. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Illinois Chapter #209**. He was the beloved husband of Josephine, née Piecuch; devoted father of Adam, Kimberly, Laura (Ken) Warwick and Lisa; proud papa of Joey, Caitie and Abbey; loving brother of Ronald Wiater and Patricia (Mitchell) Micek. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Funeral Friday, family and friends will meet at 10:45 a.m. at St. Agnes Church, 1501 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL., Mass of Christian Burial 11 a.m. Interment St. Casimir Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 3 to 9:00 p.m. at **Blake-Lamb Funeral Home**, 4727 W. 103rd Street, Oak Lawn. He was also a member of the Marine Corps League, Portage Park American Legion Post #183 and Midwest Soaring.

LOU WIECZOREK – Died recently in 2011 in Lincoln Park, Michigan at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 5, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Southgate Chapter #259**.

RICHARD C. WILL – Died recently in 2011 in Roswell, New Mexico at the age of 59. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 8, 1951. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roswell Chapter #968**.

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

FATHER PHIL SALOIS, M.S.