

# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain

## Taps

July/August 2014



**EDWARD EARLE "Ed" ADCOCK** - Died Tuesday, November 26, 2013 in Corinth, Texas at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 31, 1935 in Sanger, Texas. Ed was an Air Traffic Controller until his retirement and he served his country in the United States Army for a little over 22 years. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Denton Chapter #920**. On April 5, 2003, he married Linda Ashmore in Denton, Texas. They were members of the Ridin' For The Brand Church where he served as an elder. Left to cherish his memory are his wife Linda of Sanger; three daughters, Karol Butterworth and husband, Eddie Kamieniak, Sylvia Zachmeyer and husband, John all of Denton, and Rita Ingram of California; one stepson, Bill Townsend and wife, Desy of Sanger; two sisters, Mary Hynum and Margaret Montgomery of Mississippi; six grandchildren, Wayne Ingram, Garrett Ingram and wife, Valorie, Brenda Gallardo, Desy Gallardo, Brianna Townsend, and Sophia Townsend. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Evelyn King; and grandson, Kevin Butterworth. A memorial service was celebrated on Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 1:30 PM at the Ridin' For The Brand Church. Brother Jack Blease officiated over the service. The family has requested that memorials be made to: Ridin' For The Brand Church, P. O. Box 1362, Sanger, Texas, 76266.



**GEORGE WILLIAM AHLSEN, JR.** - Died Monday, March 31, 2014 in Newport, North Carolina at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Kinston, North Carolina to the late George W. Ahlsen, Sr. and Doris T. Ahlsen. After graduation from East Carolina University he served in the United States Navy; after an honorable discharge, he began his career teaching in Kinston at Lenoir Community College. This led to his varied career as a Computer Programmer/Analyst which continued until his retirement in 2012. For most of his adult life he was devoted to the activities of the American Legion. He served tirelessly on many committees and held numerous offices at Post 43. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kinston Chapter #892**. George is survived by his sister, Georgene A. Stanley and husband Larry Hamilton; and two nieces, Jessica and Jennifer Stanley. He leaves behind many lifelong friends and he will be greatly missed. Funeral services were held at the Howard-Carter Funeral Home at 11:00 AM on Saturday, April 5, 2014. The family received friends one hour prior to the service. Burial was at 2:00 PM on Saturday, April 5, 2014, at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Newport. Online condolences may be sent to [howardandcarter.com](http://howardandcarter.com). Howard-Carter Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.



**JAMES EDWARD "Jim" ARNETT III** - Died Monday, May 26, 2014 in Knoxville, Tennessee at the age of 67. The cause of death was drowning in a lake when he tried

to retrieve his fishing boat that was drifting away from him. He was born March 4, 1947 in Knoxville to the late Ed and Lib Arnett. Jim was a long-time member of Meridian Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon, Trustee, Sunday School Director, choir member and a member of Adult III Couple's Sunday School Class. He served in the United States Army from June 11, 1970 to January 20, 1972 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from August 3, 1971 to January 17, 1972. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sevierville Chapter #1078** and the 278th ACR Retiree's Association. Before his retirement, he taught at Doyle and South Doyle Middle Schools for 38 years. Jim will be remembered as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and soldier. Jim is survived by: his loving wife of 42 years Debra Lewis Arnett; children William and his wife Sarah, and Emily and her husband Allan; and grandchildren: Audrey, Ada Scott, Dante, Alicyn, Paul, Mark, and Merritt; sister, Suzie and husband Scott Frei; brother, Allen and wife Rita Arnett. The family received friends on Thursday, May 29, 2014 from 4:00-7:00 PM at Meridian Baptist Church, with a celebration of life service to follow at 7:00 PM with the Reverend Dana Fachman officiating. Family and friends met on Friday, May 30, 2014 at the East Tennessee Veteran's Cemetery, 2200 East Governor John Sevier Highway for an 11:30 AM interment service. Full military honors were provided by the Tennessee Army National Guard. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Music and Pavilion Funds at Meridian Baptist Church, 6513 Chapman Highway Knoxville, TN 37920.



**JAMES RUSSELL BAKER** – Died Saturday, November 23, 2013 at his home in Battle Creek, Iowa at the age of 65. The cause of death was cancer. He was born August 30, 1948, the son of the late Russell and Anita (née Wulf) Baker in Ida Grove, Iowa. He was baptized in Christ in the Methodist Church on May 15, 1949. He received his education at the Bakersfield Community Schools in Bakersfield, California, graduating with the class of 1966. In October 1966 he enlisted in the United States Army where he served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Calvary Division in Vietnam. After receiving his honorable discharge on October 17, 1969, he worked as a telephone splicer, installer, and lineman for Frontier Communications for 30 years, retiring in 2006. On July 13, 1968, Jim was united in marriage to Christine Aguilar at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Bakersfield, California, and the couple was blessed with the birth of three daughters. Jim was a Christian man and a very loving father and grandfather who enjoyed spending time and making lifelong memories with his family and friends. He was a kind, helpful, loveable man with a magic smile and beautiful blue eyes. Jim had a good heart and offered his help whenever he could. He always spoke kind words about everyone. Jim enjoyed model trains and he also built a telephone switchboard. In his leisure time, Jim enjoyed watching FOX News and NASCAR on television or listening to 50s and 60s music. He also liked to read western books, military stories, and books by Glen Beck. Jim was a life-time member of the VFW and a Beginning Experience Counselor. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America-Aurelia Chapter #888**. Jim was preceded in death by his father, Russell in 1964. Survivors include three daughters: Trina Montoya and her husband, Marty of Bakersfield, California; Toni Timmins and her husband, Joe of Battle Creek; and Tania Baker of Kansas City, Missouri; three grandchildren: Kendra Fender, and Lorenzo and Robert Montoya; his mother, Anita Baker of Odebolt; and one sister, Annette Orness and her husband, Terry of North Carolina; other relatives and friends.

**JERRY WAYNE BATES, SR.** – Died Sunday, March 16, 2014 in Rutledge, Tennessee at the age of 64. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born in Jacksonville, Florida on May 4, 1949 to the late John and Lucille Bates. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased by his brother, Dixon Bates; his brother-in-law, Lamar Stedham; and his sister, Lois Ann Stedham. He served in the United States Army with a tour in Vietnam from October 11, 1970 to August 1, 1971. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam with the Combat Tractor Team and was awarded the Purple Heart. He loved his country and our Lord. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Russellville Chapter #1073**. Jerry was one of our deacons and our song leader at Promise Land Church in Rutledge. He was loved by many. He is survived by his wife, Deborah Bates; children, Tammy (John) Halterman, Anthony (Jennifer) Bates, Misty Dawn (Colin) Celaya, Lucia Hughes, and Jerry W. (Aubrey) Bates II; brothers, Thomas (Marsha) Bates, Henry (Barbara) Bates, and John (JoAnne) Bates; sisters, Mary Sue Barber, and Kathy (Al) Dorminy; many grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. A memorial service was held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 20, 2014 in the chapel of Smith-Reagan Funeral Home in Rutledge. In lieu of flowers please make donations to your church. The family received friends from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM prior to services Thursday evening at the funeral home. Smith-Reagan Funeral Home of Rutledge was in charge of arrangements.



**HAROLD GEORGE BEDDOW** (USA, LTC-Ret.) - Died Friday, May 9, 2014 in Savannah, Georgia at the age of 89 after a short illness. The cause of death was Alzheimer's disease. He was born April 27, 1925 in Detroit, Michigan. Harold served 32 years in the United States Army, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He began his military career as a paratrooper with the 517th PRCT participating in the invasion of Southern France in 1944. He served two tours in Vietnam as part of MAAG-V (1963-64) and MAC-V (1967-68). He also worked for Gulfstream from 1978 - 1991 and was instrumental in the development of the Quality Circles program. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Savannah Chapter #671**. Surviving are his wife of 45 years, Helen (Partridge, KS); sons Paul (Jennifer) and Brad (Julie) (Savannah); daughters Susan Kirk (Woodstock, GA); Maria Goetz (Victoria, KS); sisters Gene Spindler (Dearborn) Shirley Rose (Dearborn, MI), grandson Brett Beddow (Jefferson, GA); granddaughters Amy Keating (Alpharetta, GA); Tiffany Rose (Kennesaw, GA), Ashley Ivester (Woodstock, GA); Lindsay Gimblet (Woodstock, GA); Brittany Goetz (Victoria, KS); Kaley Goetz (Victoria, KS); Emma and Haley Beddow (Savannah); Amber and Alana Beddow (Savannah); great-grandsons Brooks Beddow (Jefferson, GA); William Keating (Alpharetta, GA); great-granddaughters Macy Beddow (Jefferson, GA); Sydney and Parker Rose (Kennesaw, GA); Ainsley Keating (Alpharetta, GA); Willow Ivester (Woodstock, GA); Declan Gimblet (Woodstock, GA). He is preceded in death by his son, Gregg Beddow and daughter, Jan Beddow-Carlisle. The family received friends from 5:00-6:30 PM with a rosary service that followed on Monday, May 12 at Saint James Catholic Church. Funeral services were at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, May 13 at Saint James Catholic Church with the interment at the Beaufort National Cemetery. The family requests donations to the Alzheimer's Association (201 Television Circle, Savannah, GA 31406) in lieu of flowers.



**DONALD M. BENACK, JR.** - Died Thursday, March 20, 2014 at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse, New York at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born

October 5, 1952 in East Syracuse, New York to the late Elizabeth (née Ball) and Donald M. Benack, Sr. He was a graduate of East Syracuse Minoa High School, class of 1970. He enlisted in the United States Army following high school and served in combat during the Vietnam War where he was awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement in 1972. He retired in 2005 after 26 years as a Deputy Sheriff with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Dept. Don was frequently on patrol in the Mattydale area where he earned the honorary title of the "Mayor of Mattydale" by the Mattydale Volunteer Fire Dept. Since 2007, he has been the Village Justice for East Syracuse. Don was the CEO and co-founder of the Vietnam Veterans CNY Foundation, the *Past President and Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Liverpool Chapter #103**. He founded and chaired the Vietnam Veterans Annual Golf Tournament at Pompey Club for the past 16 years. Don was also a member of the VFW Post #9596 on East Taft Road, the Syracuse Chapter of the D.A.V., the NYS Magistrates Association, and a former member of Saint Matthew Church in East Syracuse. Don was the recipient of the State Legislature Resolution Pro Bono Award in 2011. He was an avid hunter and had taken many deer in the Southern Tier to prove it. Donald is survived by his wife of 23 years, the former Kelly (née Grems); three children, Donald M. (Marilyn) Benack III of Gainesville, VA, Alisha Benack, living at home, and Jolene (Patrick) Fish of Syracuse; his three granddaughters, Emily, Katie, and Elizabeth; two sisters, Marie (Dan) Wuethrich of North Syracuse, and Sharlene (Martin) Wallis of Cicero; several nieces and nephews; and his lifelong friends: Carl Reschke of FL, James Glassford of East Syracuse, and Bernie Reschke of Mexico. No closer friends a man could ask for. Contributions in Don's memory may be made to the Mattydale Volunteer Fire Dept., 173 East Molloy Rd., Mattydale, NY 13211. Friends called on Monday from 3:00 to 7:00 PM at the Krueger Funeral Home, 2619 Brewerton Road, Mattydale. Funeral services were Tuesday, 10:00 AM at the funeral home.



**RAUL PEREZ "Roy" BENAVIDEZ** - Died on November 29, 1998, at the age of 63 at Brooke Army Medical Center, having suffered respiratory failure and complications of diabetes. He was born in Lindenau near Cuero, Texas in DeWitt County. He was the son of a Mexican-American father, Salvador Benavidez and a Yaqui Native American mother, Teresa Perez. When he was two years old, his father died of tuberculosis and his mother remarried. Five years later, his mother died from tuberculosis too. Benavidez and his younger brother, Roger moved to El Campo, where their grandfather, uncle and aunt raised them along with eight cousins. Benavidez shined shoes at the local bus station, labored on farms in Texas and Colorado, and worked at a tire shop in El Campo. He attended school sporadically, and at the age 15 he dropped out to work full-time to help support the family. Benavidez enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard in 1952 during the Korean War. In June 1955, he enlisted in the regular United States Army. In 1959, he married Hilaria Coy Benavidez, completed airborne training, and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1965 he was sent to South Vietnam as an advisor to an ARVN infantry regiment. He stepped on a land mine during a patrol and was evacuated to the United States, where doctors at Fort Sam Houston concluded he would never walk again and began preparing his medical discharge papers. As Benavidez noted in his 1981 MOH acceptance speech, stung by the diagnosis, as well as flag burnings and media criticism of the US military presence in Vietnam he saw on TV, he began an unsanctioned nightly training ritual in an attempt to redevelop his ability to walk. Getting out of bed at night (against doctors' orders), Benavidez

would crawl using his elbows and chin to a wall near his bedside and (with the encouragement of his fellow patients, many of whom were permanently paralyzed and/or missing limbs), he would prop himself against the wall and attempt to lift himself unaided, starting by wiggling his toes, then his feet, and then eventually (after several months of excruciating practice that by his own admission often left him in tears) pushing himself up the wall with his ankles and legs. After over a year of hospitalization, Benavidez walked out of the hospital in July 1966, with his wife at his side, determined to return to combat in Vietnam. Benavidez returned to Fort Bragg and began training for the elite Army Special Forces. Once qualified and accepted, he became a member of the 5th Special Forces Group; and the Studies and Observations Group (SOG). Despite continuing pain from his wounds, he returned to South Vietnam in January 1968. On May 2, 1968, a 12-man Special Forces patrol which included nine Montagnard tribesmen was surrounded by a NVA battalion. Benavidez heard the radio appeal for help and boarded a helicopter to respond. Armed only with a knife, he jumped from the helicopter carrying his medical bag and rushed to help the trapped patrol. Benavidez "distinguished himself by a series of daring and extremely glorious actions... and because of his gallant choice to join voluntarily his comrades who were in critical straits, to expose himself constantly to withering enemy fire, and his refusal to be stopped despite numerous severe wounds, saved the lives of at least eight men." He was evacuated to the base camp, examined, and thought to be dead. As he was placed in a body bag among the other dead in body bags, he was suddenly recognized by a friend who called for help. A doctor came and examined him and he too believed Benavidez was dead. The doctor was about to zipper up the bag when Benavidez managed to spit in his face, alerting the doctor that he was still alive. Benavidez had a total of 37 separate bullet, bayonet, and shrapnel wounds from the six hour fight with the enemy battalion. Benavidez was evacuated once again to Brooke Army Medical Center, where he eventually recovered. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism and four Purple Hearts. In 1969, he was assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas. In 1972, he was assigned to Fort Sam Houston, Texas where he remained until retirement. In 1973, after more detailed accounts became available, Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel Ralph R. Drake insisted that Benavidez receive the Medal of Honor. By then, however, the time limit on the medal had expired. An appeal to Congress resulted in an exemption for Benavidez, but the Army Decorations Board denied him an upgrade of his Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor. The Army board required an eyewitness account from someone present during the action, and Benavidez believed that there were no living witnesses of the "Six Hours in Hell." In August 1976, Benavidez retired from the United States Army as a master sergeant. In 1980, Brian O'Connor, a former member (radioman) of Benavidez's Special Forces team in Vietnam, provided a ten-page report of the engagement with the NVA on May 2, 1968. O'Connor had been severely wounded (Benavidez had believed him dead), and was evacuated to the United States before his superiors could fully debrief him. O'Connor learned that Benavidez was alive by chance. He had been living in the Fiji Islands and was on holiday in Australia when he read a newspaper account of Benavidez from an El Campo newspaper. It had been picked up by the international press and reprinted in Australia. O'Connor soon contacted his old friend Roy and submitted his report, confirming the accounts already provided by others, and providing himself as the necessary eyewitness to Benavidez's actions on May 2, 1968. Benavidez's Distinguished Service Cross was upgraded to the Medal of Honor by the Army. On February 24, 1981, President Ronald Reagan presented



Roy P. Benavidez the Medal of Honor. Reagan reportedly turned to the press and said: "If the story of his heroism were a movie script, you would not believe it". He then read the official award citation.

**BENAVIDEZ, ROY P.**

*Rank and organization:* Master Sergeant. Organization: Detachment B-56, 5th Special Forces Group, Republic of Vietnam

*Place and date:* West of Loc Ninh on May 2, 1968

*Entered service at:* Houston, Texas June 1955

*Born:* August 5, 1935, DeWitt County, Cuero, Texas.



Army Master Sgt. Roy P. Benavidez (center) is flanked by United States Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger (left) and President Ronald Reagan at his Medal of Honor presentation ceremony in 1981.

Master Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) Roy P. BENAVIDEZ, United States Army, distinguished himself by a series of daring and extremely valorous actions on 2 May 1968 while assigned to Detachment B56, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, Republic of Vietnam. On the morning of 2 May 1968, a 12-man Special Forces Reconnaissance Team was inserted by helicopters in a dense jungle area west of Loc Ninh, Vietnam to gather intelligence information about confirmed large-scale enemy activity. This area was controlled and routinely patrolled by the North Vietnamese Army. After a short period of time on the ground, the team met heavy enemy resistance, and requested emergency extraction. Three helicopters attempted extraction, but were unable to land due to intense enemy small arms and anti-aircraft fire.

Sergeant BENAVIDEZ was at the Forward Operating Base in Loc Ninh monitoring the operation by radio when these helicopters returned to off-load wounded crew members and to assess aircraft damage. Sergeant *Benavidez* voluntarily boarded a returning aircraft to assist in another extraction attempt. Realizing that all the team members were either dead or wounded and unable to move to the pickup zone, he directed the aircraft to a nearby clearing where he jumped from the hovering helicopter, and ran approximately 75 meters under withering small arms fire to the crippled team. Prior to reaching the team's position he was wounded in his right leg, face, and head. Despite these painful injuries, he took charge, repositioning the team members and directing their fire to facilitate the landing of an extraction aircraft, and the loading of wounded and dead team members. He then threw smoke canisters to direct the aircraft to the team's position. Despite his severe wounds and under intense enemy fire, he carried and dragged half of the wounded team members to the awaiting aircraft. He then provided protective fire by running alongside the aircraft as it moved to pick up the remaining team members. As the enemy's fire intensified, he hurried to recover the body and classified documents on the dead team leader. When he reached the leader's body, Sergeant BENAVIDEZ was severely wounded by small arms fire in the abdomen and grenade fragments in his back. At nearly the same moment, the aircraft pilot was mortally wounded, and his helicopter crashed. Although in extremely critical condition due to his multiple wounds, Sergeant *Benavidez* secured the classified documents and made his way back to the wreckage, where he aided the wounded out of the overturned aircraft, and gathered the stunned survivors into a defensive perimeter. Under increasing enemy automatic weapons and grenade fire, he moved around the perimeter distributing water and ammunition to his weary men, re-instilling in them a will to live and fight. Facing a buildup of enemy opposition with a beleaguered team, Sergeant BENAVIDEZ mustered his strength, began calling in tactical air strikes and directed the fire from supporting gunships to suppress the enemy's fire and so permit another extraction attempt. He was wounded again in his thigh by small arms fire while administering first aid to a wounded team member just before another extraction helicopter was able to land. His indomitable spirit kept him going as he began to ferry his comrades to the craft. On his second trip with the wounded, he was clubbed from behind by an enemy soldier. In the ensuing hand-to-hand combat, he sustained additional wounds to his head and arms before killing his adversary. He then continued under devastating fire to carry the wounded to the helicopter. Upon reaching the aircraft, he spotted and killed two enemy soldiers who were rushing the craft from an angle that prevented the aircraft door gunner from firing upon them. With little strength remaining, he made one last trip to the perimeter to ensure that all classified material had been collected or destroyed, and to bring in the remaining wounded. Only then, in extremely serious condition from numerous wounds and loss of blood, did he allow himself to be pulled into the extraction aircraft. Sergeant BENAVIDEZ's gallant choice to join voluntarily his comrades who were in critical straits, to expose himself constantly to withering enemy fire, and his refusal to be stopped despite numerous severe wounds, saved the lives of at least eight men. His fearless personal leadership, tenacious devotion to duty, and extremely valorous actions in the face of overwhelming odds were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service, and reflect the utmost credit on him and the United States Army. In 1976, Benavidez, his wife, and their three children returned home to El Campo, Texas, after he was honorably discharged from the army. Benavidez devoted his remaining years to the youth of America, speaking to them

about the importance of staying in school and getting an education. His message was simple: "An education is the key to success. Bad habits and bad company will ruin you." In 1983, Benavidez told the press that the Social Security Administration planned to cut off disability payments he had been receiving since retirement, as well as the disability payments for thousands of other veterans. He went to Capitol Hill on their behalf and pleaded with the House Select Committee on Aging to abandon their plans, which they finally did. Benavidez was in demand as a speaker by United States armed forces, schools, military and civic groups, and private businesses. He also spoke in Greece, Panama, Korea, and Japan, where he visited American military personnel and even joined them on field exercises. He received complimentary letters from students, service members, and private citizens throughout the world. He wrote three autobiographical books about his life and military experience. In 1986, he published *The Three Wars of Roy Benavidez*, which described his struggles growing up as a poor Mexican-American orphan, his military training and combat in Vietnam, and the efforts by others to get recognition for his actions in Vietnam. Benavidez later wrote "The Last Medal of Honor" (Texas: Swan Publishers, 1991) with Pete Billac and *Medal of Honor: A Vietnam Warrior's Story* in 1995. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Liverpool (New York) Chapter #103**. His body was escorted to Saint Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, where he had married, where his three children were married, where he attended Mass every Sunday. He was then returned to Fort Sam Houston's Main Chapel for a public viewing. Family friend Archbishop Patrick Flores of the San Antonio Dioceses presided over a Catholic funeral mass at San Fernando Cathedral located in San Antonio. Benavidez was buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

**DONALD RAY BENJAMIN** – Died Tuesday, October 23, 2012 in the VA Medical Center in Marion, Illinois at the age of 63. He was a resident of Carterville, Illinois. The cause of death was respiratory failure with bilateral pneumonia, congestive heart failure and a cardiovascular accident. He was born June 21, 1949 in Centralia, Illinois to the late Kenneth Clarence Benjamin and Josephine Emalie Hatfield. He was married to Brenda (née Robertson) Benjamin. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his stepdaughters and their husbands, Lynn and Brian Marks and Kathy and Josh Sherwood; his brothers and sister-in-law, Kenneth and Dixie Benjamin and Gary Benjamin; his half-brother, Troy Lewis; his half-sister, Debbie Lewis; grandchildren, Misty Lanier, Jeremiah Godby, Thomas Josiah Godby and Ashley Caravello, and; his great-grandchildren, Chloe and Avery. He served in the United States Army from 22 July 1968 to 3 April 1970 with a tour of duty in Vietnam with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 35<sup>th</sup> Artillery. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Illinois**.



**WALTER P. BEST** - Died at the Rapid City Regional Hospital on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at the age of 79. He was a resident of Rapid City, South Dakota. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 28, 1934, in Beaver Township, Pennsylvania, to the late Harry and Margaret (née Weaver) Best. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1954 and served through the Korean and Vietnam Wars as a radio operator aboard EC-135 and KC-135's. He retired in 1974 as a Tech Sergeant after serving all over the world with SAC, including, New York, Mississippi, Montana, Morocco, Georgia, England, Florida, Vietnam, Minot and Ellsworth.



After his retirement, Walt worked on the planes at the Air & Space Museum for years. After traveling up the ladder of Rushmore Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1273, he served as commander from 1994-95, earning a prestigious White Hat. He sat all the chairs in District 10 and was an outstanding commander 2001-02. Walt served many chairmanships in the VFW, including but not limited to VFW Booster for several years, bringing in many new members each year; he also served as blood drive chairman, youth chairman and voice of democracy chairman. Walt was active in the Military Order of the Cootie, the Honored Degree of the VFW, serving in all positions in Pup Tent #20 in Rapid City including seam squirrel. He was active in the Cootie Grand of South Dakota and in District 9 nationally. Walt never missed a VFW or Cootie meeting if he could avoid it, traveling many miles to help veterans, including delivering day old donuts to the Veterans at Ft. Meade for years. He was also active in the DAV. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rapid City Chapter #463**. He enjoyed camping and fishing when the family was growing up and they survived the 1972 flood while camping below Pactola Dam near McGee siding. Survivors include three sons, Chris (Susan) Best, Omaha, Neb., Mitchel Best, Rapid City and David Best, Rapid City; and two granddaughters, Pamela (Matthew) Rauen, Northfield, Minn., and Stephanie (Joseph) Bristol, Omaha. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Grace in 2005, a son, Ronald, in 1974, and several siblings. A Memorial service was at 10:00 AM on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at Osheim & Schmidt Funeral Home, with Chaplain H. B. Cleveland officiating. Inurnment, with military honors rendered by Ellsworth Air Force Base Honor Guard and Rushmore VFW Post #1273, will be at noon at Black Hills National Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the Rushmore VFW Post #1273, 402 Main Street, Rapid City. Memorials may be directed to Rushmore VFW Post #1273, 402 Main St., Rapid City, SD 57701.

**DOUGLAS JAMES BLAIR** – Died on Friday, February 22, 2013 Sheridan, Wyoming at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 30, 1946. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseburg (Oregon) Chapter #805**.

**ROBERT PAUL “Bob” BOESE** - Died at the VA hospital in Reno, Nevada on Sunday, April 6, 2014 at the age of 91. He was a resident of Carson City, Nevada. He was born July 31, 1922 in East Grand Forks, Minnesota to the late Frank and Frances (née Kraft) Boese. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his ten brothers and sisters. He moved to Pioche, Nevada after high school graduation as the mines were hiring during the depression. Bob loved Nevada and lived in Pioche, Reno, Las Vegas, Elko and Carson City. Bob served in the United States Army Air Corps during WWII and then graduated with an education degree from the University of Nevada in Reno. He enjoyed a long and distinguished career teaching. He was athletic and followed sports generally and the Nevada Wolf Pack specifically. He also coached sports and enjoyed considerable success with many youth teams. Most can remember a teacher or two that impacted their lives for the better. Bob was such a teacher to many. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Carson City Chapter #388**. Bob's hobby was magic and he entertained classes, civic groups, hospital patients and at family and other gatherings. In retirement he served as a Greeter at Carl's Jr in Carson where his personality and his tricks worked their magic. As a consequence this teacher, coach, entertainer and member of

the Greatest Generation will be remembered and missed by many in Carson City and beyond as the charismatic “Magic Bob.” Non-denominational Memorial Services were held at Noon on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Latter-Day Saints Church at 1331 McKay Drive in Carson City. Like Bob, the service was informal and friends were invited.

**JOHN W. BOLAN** - Died at the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Gallitzin, Pennsylvania on January 25, 1927. He was a retired Veteran of the United States Navy serving 24 years and three wars; WW II, Korean War and Vietnam War. He was a fourth degree Knight of Columbus Council #4885, he was a member of the American Legion Father & Son Post in Edison, the Italian American Club in Edison and the VFW in Woodbridge. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – New Brunswick Chapter #233*. John was predeceased by his wife, Rena in 2002 and his son, Thomas in 1987. He is survived by his son, John P. Bolan of Edison; his brother, Eugene Bolan of Iselin; his sister, Phyllis Long of Summerhill, PA; and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and great nephews. Funeral Services took place at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at the Boylan Funeral Home, 10 Wooding Avenue, Edison; followed by a 10:30 AM Mass of Christian Burial at Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church in Edison under Transfiguration of the Lord Parish. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery in Piscataway, New Jersey. Family and friends visited on Tuesday from 2:00-4:00 PM and 7:00-9:00 PM at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Knights of Columbus Council #4885 for the Mentally Challenged Drive (Tootsie Roll Drive).



**ALLYS JEAN BOYER** - Died at her residence surrounded by her family on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:45 PM. She was a resident of Franklin Township, Pennsylvania and 89 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. She was born in Harmony, Pennsylvania on June 18, 1924 to the late Charles and Blanche (née Scheidmantle) Brandt. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry E. Boyer on December 30, 1990. They were married on November 30, 1943. She worked as a clerk at Fishers Big Wheel in Ellwood City and during World War II worked at Ingrich in Beaver Falls. Allys was a member of North Sewickley Presbyterian Church, the GAR and a former member of the Ellwood AARP. Allys was a Gold Star Mother as her son, Larry E. Boyer was killed in Vietnam on May 25, 1969. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Beaver Chapter #862**. Surviving are 2 daughters, Sandra Boyer of Ellwood City and Beverly Boyer of San Tan Valley, AZ, 4 grandchildren, David (Linda) Haswell, Michelle (Bo) Hardy, Shannon Justus and Jared Thompson, a sister, Norma Miloser and 2 brothers, Robert and Leroy Brandt. Besides her parents, husband and son, Allys was preceded in death by 2 sisters, Louise Plassmeyer and Eleanor Osborne and a brother, Charles Brandt. A Memorial Service was held at the North Sewickley Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 11:00 AM with Pastor Eugene McConnell of Union Goodwill Church. Interment was in the Clinton Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made in Mrs. Boyers name to Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 862, 260 Brooks Drive, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Arrangements were entrusted to the Joseph A. Tomon, Jr. Funeral Home and Crematory.



**JAMES ALLYN "Jim" BREKKE** – Died after a long courageous battle with lung cancer due to Agent Orange on Sunday, April 13, 2014 in Moorhead, Minnesota at the 72 years of age. Jim was born September 27, 1941 to the late Julius and Alma (née Beauchamp) Brekke in Crookston, Minnesota. Jim attended school in Hibbing, Minnesota, before moving to Buffalo, South Dakota, where he graduated from high school. While in Buffalo Jim worked on a ranch and became very active with the rodeos where he rode bucking broncos and bulls. He later worked in Minneapolis before he went into the United States Army where he was stationed in Hawaii, Japan and Vietnam. When he returned to the States he went to work on the Iron Range before moving to Minneapolis, where he graduated from Brown Institute. He started working for Northwestern Bell. Jim worked his way into management and became a lead auditor for 14 states. He continued that until he retired after 26 years. Jim was a life member of Dilworth VFW Post 1223 where he was also the Head of the House Committee for quite some time. One of his favorite jobs was calling bingo at the VFW with his "girls." He was also a member of the American Legion, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fargo Chapter #941**, International Jaycees Senator, International Clown Club, a past President of Moorhead Youth Hockey (1982 – 1984), VP of Promotion and Publicity for Minnesota Amateur Hockey Association and a Jr. Vice Commander for District 9 before stepping down due to illness. He was a Boy Scout Leader, attended the Dale Carnegie classes, a member of Pioneers of America and although he couldn't skate he was instrumental in getting artificial ice into Moorhead. Jim also participated in the Wounded Warriors Project and was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Moorhead. Jim enjoyed camping with Kenny and Dick, watching NASCAR with his buddy Jerry (who he loved giving grief to). He enjoyed road trips with his buddy John from the VFW. He liked working with anything to do with wood. He enjoyed the mountains and going to "Uncle Fred and Aunt Gloria's" ranch parties in Wyoming. He loved building boats, watching NASCAR races, the Twins, Vikings and especially singing Karaoke at the VFW with Brian, John, Rockin' and Roger before doing it on his own. He loved telling jokes to everybody especially his great-nephew Chase when he was little. From his first marriage Jim had four sons, Scott, Tim, Troy and Joey. On July 13, 1994, after 31 years he reunited with Gail and they were married in Ten Sleep, Wyoming. With that he also gained two daughters, Janelle and Heidi that he treated as his own. Towards the end Jim spoke often of the time his granddaughter McKenzie took him to school for show and tell on Veterans Day and he could still wear his uniform. He found comfort in blanket that his granddaughter, Devan had knitted him. One of Jim's wishes was to have all four of his boys together with him one last time. Thanks to his boys, his wish was granted. Jim wanted people to know how truly blessed he was for Heidi, Curt, Crystal, Jerry and Kenny for the many countless hours they spent with him. He couldn't speak a lot in the end but just knowing they were there made him feel very special and loved. He also mentioned the many fun times doing the summer circus in the "Brekke Backyard" with his brother Joe, who was a magician, his sister who was the Ballerina and himself who was the acrobat. That was in 1955 where they did their many tricks and charges 10 cents for children and 15 cents for the adults to attend. All their proceeds went to help fight cancer. Jim also spoke of going to school with Bob Dylan and dating the same girl which he thought was quite funny. In the end when he could no longer travel he truly missed going up to Chisholm to visit his sister, Sharon and brother-in-law, Darryl and joining with brother, Mikey and sister-in-law, Carolyn and not be able to hit his spot the "VFW" to sing

Karaoke on Friday nights. Jim was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and will be truly missed. During his illness he never complained and worried about everyone else instead of himself. Jim is survived by his wife, Gail; sons, Scott, Tim, Troy and Joey (Regan); daughters, Janelle (Brian) and Heidi; grandchildren, McKenzie, Jessie, Sumer, Kyle, Cole, Hannah, Devan, Boden, Marley and Brittany; sister, Sharon (Darryl); brother, Mike (Carolyn), sister-in-law, Tammy (Al); brothers-in-law, Tim (Heidi) and Steve; father-in-law, Warren; uncle Fred and aunt Gloria; nieces, nephews and many cousins and friends. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, and brother, Joe. A special thank you to Father Larry, Dr. Russell and the Oncology Nurses at the VA in Fargo, and his nurse Katherine and Hospice of the Red River Valley for all their compassion, care and visits during Jim's long illness. Visitation was on Tuesday, April 22, from 4:30 - 6:30 PM, with a prayer service at 6:30 PM in the Wright Funeral Home, Moorhead, MN. Visitation was from 10:00 - 11:00 AM on Wednesday at the church. The Funeral Mass was on Wednesday, April 23, at 11:00 AM in Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Moorhead, MN. Interment was in the Maple Hill Cemetery, Hibbing, Minnesota.

**JAMES N. "Jim" BRENNAN III** - Died Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at home in Fuquay Varina, North Carolina at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Norfolk, Virginia on February 10, 1928. Jim retired from the United States Army with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4. He served his country in WWII and two tours in Vietnam. Jim was a Bronze Star recipient. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hampton Chapter #433**. His son, James N. Brennan IV and his sister, Marguerite B. Williams, precede Jim in death. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Mary Elizabeth McBurney (Betty); his daughters, Peggy B. Chamblee (Art) of Birmingham, AL., Jan N. Allen (Marty) of Springfield, IL. and Kathleen B. Balding (John) of Holly Springs, NC; a daughter-in-law, Kathleen K. Brennan of Charlotte, NC, and; his 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held with full military honors at Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church on May 18, 2014 at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to MMIA (Military Missions In Action), 411 North Judd Parkway, NE, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526. Services were arranged by the Williford Funeral Home.

**JAMES A. BROWN** – Died recently in 2014 in Somerset, Pennsylvania at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 1, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hollidaysburg Chapter #359**.

**JOHN C. BULLOCK** – Died Friday, January 17, 2014 in Redondo Beach, California. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related esophageal cancer. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Redondo Beach Chapter #53**.

**MICHAEL WAYNE WRIGHT BURNS** - Died Saturday, May 3, 2014 in a local hospital at the age of 68. He was a resident of Fouke, Arkansas. The cause of death was due to a bullet in the brain left over from Vietnam and hitting his head. He was born September 10, 1945, in Fouke, Arkansas. He was a Veteran of the United States Army having served in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana (Texas) Chapter #278**. He is survived by three sons and daughters-in-law Chris and Regina Burns of Fouke, Arkansas; Michael and

Annette Burns of Fouke, Arkansas and Justin and Cheryl Burns of Fouke, Arkansas; a sister Sandra Simpson of Texarkana, Arkansas; three brothers Walter Nichols of Genoa, Arkansas, Raymond Nichols of Lewisville, Arkansas and Hank Nichols of Genoa, Arkansas; eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Graveside services with military honors were at 2:00 PM on Tuesday at Rondo Cemetery with Reverend Lloyd Shuecraft officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Texarkana Funeral Home, Arkansas. Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Monday at the Texarkana Funeral Home, Arkansas.



**THOMAS F. CALLAHAN** (USA, CSM-Ret.) - Died Saturday, May 24, 2014 at the Thompson Hood Veteran's Center in Lexington, Kentucky at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Somerville, Massachusetts in 1928 to the late John J. Callahan and Elizabeth (née Beeler) Callahan. He was a 30-year veteran of the United States Army and served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam Wars as E.O.D bomb disposal, received his Master's in Teaching from U of L. He taught U.S. History at Southern High School, Jefferson Community College and U of L. Was a member of the VFW an avid fisherman and hunter, and was a member of the German-American Club. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisville Chapter #454**. He is preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Rita Margaret Callahan. A loving father and grandfather, he is survived by his children; Susan Dotson, Judy Beggs (Paul), Richard Callahan, and his two grandchildren; Rachel Dotson and Thomas Callahan. Funeral service was at 11:00 AM on Thursday at Ratterman Funeral Home, 3711 Lexington Road in St. Matthew Catholic Church with burial and military honors in Calvary Cemetery. Visitation was from 1:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday at the funeral home.



**LLOYD CALVIN CAREY** - Died Sunday, May 6, 2012 in Indianapolis, Indiana at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 15, 1937. He served in the United States Army for 30 years with the rank of Sergeant Major and was stationed in France, Germany, Korea, and Vietnam. After he retired from the military, he worked at the Finance Center on Fort Benjamin Harrison for 10 years. He was also a member, treasurer and Deacon of Hope Community Church. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Indianapolis Chapter #295**. Lloyd is survived by his wife Gisele, married 51 years; children, Elizabeth, Anne, and Brigitte; siblings, Glenn, Margaret, Lois, and Vicki; a blessing of many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a daughter Jenny; sister, Betty and brother, Julius. Funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, May 10, 2012 in Hope Community Church, 7440 Hague Road, with visitation hours from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and one hour prior to service on Thursday.



**JOSEPH PHILLIP CARROLL, JR.** – Died Friday, Jan. 17, 2014 at the Hyder Family Hospice House in Dover after a long period of failing health. He was 68 years of age and a resident of Rochester, New Hampshire. The cause of death was renal failure, congestive heart failure and diabetes mellitus type II. He was born October 21, 1945 in Sanford, Maine to the late Joseph Carroll, Sr., and Margaret (née Remick) Carroll. He was raised and resided there for many years. Joseph graduated from Sanford High School. He was proud to serve his country in the Vietnam War in the United States Army. In his younger days, he loved to hunt and race stock

cars. He enjoyed riding his Honda Goldwing Trike. He was an active member of the American Legion Post #7 in Rochester - he was Post Commander from 2000-2002, Past District 3 Commander from 2002-2003, and Past Department Vice Commander from 2003-2004. He was also a member of the VFW, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sanford (Maine) Chapter #1044**, DAV, AMVETS, Goldwing Riders, CVA, Elks Lodge 1393, the Victoire Club and the Royal Canadian Legion. Members of his family include his wife of 26 years, Denise (Lessard) Carroll; his son, Eric Carroll, wife, Theresa, of Lyman, Maine; daughters, Lea (Carroll) Sabeau and husband, Gaylen, of Barnstead, Amy (Carroll) Therrien and husband, Michael, of Kennebunk, Maine, and Gwen (Carroll) Bedell, of Sanford, Maine; stepdaughter, Jacqueline Gingras, of St. Jean Quebec; brother, Brian Carroll and fiancée, Cindy Mathieson, of Alfred, Maine; and sisters, Darlene Burdette, of Florida, Linda Carroll and Bill Riley, of New York, Gloria Triano, of Florida, and June Turner, of West Georgia. He is also survived by his stepmother, Julia (Carroll) Beals, of Newington. Joseph also leaves behind his former wife and the mother of his children, Estelle (Cote) Gore; 12 grandchildren; aunts; uncles; nieces; nephews; and great friends. Joseph was predeceased by his parents and an infant son. Family and friends visited on Tuesday, January 21, at the R.M. Edgerly & Son Funeral Home in Rochester. The funeral service was held on Wednesday January 22, in the chapel of the funeral home with Ray Lapointe, chaplain of the American Legion, officiating. Burial was in the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Springvale in the spring. In lieu of flowers, donations in Joseph's name may be made to the charity of one's choice.

**RONALD "Ron" CATLIN** - Died at his home in Warren Center, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 following a period of declining health. He was 68 years of age. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on May 10, 1946 in Johnson City, New York to the late Leland and Emma Margaret "Peg" Catlin. He was a graduate of Northeast Bradford High School class of 1964 and proudly served his country with the United States Marine Corps. Ron was a member of the VFW Post #6824 and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Owego Chapter #480**. He will be greatly missed by his companion and longtime friend, Ellen Reynolds and her children, Susan, William and Denise; his brothers, Michael Catlin and Scott Catlin. Several nieces, nephews and numerous friends also survive. Friends were invited to attend a period of visitation from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on Monday, May 19 at the Sutfin Funeral Chapel, 273 South Main Street, Nichols, Pennsylvania. Funeral services and a celebration of his life were at 12:00 PM. Interment and prayers of committal with military honors were in the Warren Center Cemetery. Memories and condolences may be shared by visiting our website at [www.sutfinfuneralchapel.com](http://www.sutfinfuneralchapel.com).

**KENNETH R. CEKANDER** – Died Friday, February 14, 2014 in Coldwater, Michigan at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 9, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Coldwater Chapter #730**. He is survived by his wife.



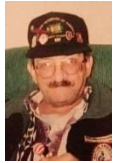
**JAMES W. CHERNESKY** - Died Sunday April 27, 2014 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, New Jersey with his loving family by his side. He was 68 years of age and a resident of Manville, New Jersey. The cause of death was a stroke resulting



from chemotherapy to treat pancreatic cancer. He was born in Somerville, New Jersey on December 5, 1945 to the late Frank and Phyllis Chernesky. He was a lifelong resident of Manville. He served his Country Honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. While serving his Country he received the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation Badge, the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal First Class Unit Citation Badge, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Combat Infantryman Badge and two Expert badges. He was the owner of JD Aluminum in Manville, NJ for 18 years and he then worked for Shamro Construction in Hillsborough, NJ before retiring. He was a Life Member of the Thomas J. Kavanaugh V.F.W. Post #2290 in Manville, NJ, the American Legion Post #12 in Somerville, NJ and the Combat Infantry Association. He was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Flemington Chapter #452**. He was also an avid fisherman. He was a member of Christ The King Roman Catholic Church in Manville, NJ. He was predeceased by two brothers Robert Chernesky and Joe Chernesky. He is survived by his wife of 43 years Barbara Chernesky of Manville, NJ, his son Jason Chernesky of Philadelphia, PA,, his three daughters Leandra Cain and her husband T.J. of Hillsborough, NJ, Rebecca Walyga and her husband Peter of Manville, NJ, and Sarah Chernesky of California, his brother Frank Chernesky and his wife Beverly of Pennsylvania and his two sisters Gertrude Hewitt of Arizona and Maryann Tomko and her husband Steve of South Carolina. He is also survived by his two cherished grandchildren Zachary and Meghan Cain. The viewing was on Wednesday April 30, 2014 from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Ketusky Funeral Home, 1310 Brooks Boulevard, Manville, NJ. The Funeral was on Thursday May 1, 2014 8:15 AM from the Ketusky Funeral Home followed by a 9:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Manville. Entombment Services took place at a later date at Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Wrightstown, New Jersey. Donations may be made in his memory to: American Cancer Society, P. O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73123-1718 or at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**MARTIN CICMANSKY III** – Died Saturday, February 22, 2014 at his home in Windber, Pennsylvania at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 21, 1948 in New Jersey to the late Martin, Jr. and Helen (née Yachovitz) Cicmansky. Survived by loving wife, Sharon (née Rich), Windber; daughters, Cindy, Virginia, and Kim and Allie, both of Johnstown; grandson, Kevin, Virginia; sister, Barbara Poole, Johnstown; and many special friends and family. Marty retired from Bethlehem Steel, where he worked as a mechanic. He was a member of the United States Army having served two tours in Vietnam. Marty enjoyed being with his family and spending time with his best buddy, his grandson, Kevin. He enjoyed fishing and going to car shows with his friends. Marty was a former member of First Lutheran Church, Windber. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Johnstown Chapter #364** and VFW Post 4795. Friends were received from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Hindman Funeral Homes and Crematory Inc., 1521 Frankstown Road. Funeral service was held at the funeral home at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, with Father Adrian Tirpak, officiating. At the request of the family, please omit flowers. Arrangements were in the care of Hindman Funeral Homes and Crematory Inc., “Exclusive Provider of Veterans and Family Memorial Care.”

**DR. JAMES C. COLEMAN** – Died Saturday, November 16, 2013 in Longview, Texas at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 19, 1932. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texas**.



**JOHN P. "Paul" COVEY** - Died at his residence in Elkton, Maryland on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Wilmington, Delaware and was the son of the late Roy and Emma Covey. John was a United States Army Veteran of the Vietnam War. He was past Commander of VFW Post #615 and District Commander of District #1. He currently belonged to Elkton Memorial Post #8175, Elkton. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dover Chapter #850**. He loved fishing. His wife of 22 years, Christine Covey passed in 2011. He is survived by his daughter, Amanda Covey-Murray and her husband Artemio of Elkton, MD, his fiancée, Linda Christensen of Elkton, MD, 3 step-children, Jamie, Richard and Carol; 4 siblings, Roy Covey, Agnes Poore, Mary Kilmer and Ruth Haslam. A viewing was held on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at McCrery & Harra Funeral Homes, 3710 Kirkwood Highway (at Duncan RD) in Wilmington. Interment was at the Delaware Veteran Memorial Cemetery. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in John's name to Disable American Veterans, c/o Veterans of Foreign War, PO Box 303, Elkton, MD 21922.

**ERNEST EVERETT DANKS, SR.** - Died Tuesday, January 28, 2014 in Sumter, South Carolina at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Camden, New Jersey to the late Elmer Haines Danks and Jessie May (née Sawn) Danks. Mr. Danks was a member of Alice Drive Baptist Church. He served 9 years in the United States Navy and was a Vietnam veteran. He retired with 25 years of service with the Cherry Hill, New Jersey Police Department. He was a member of the National Fraternal Order of Police and the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manning Chapter #960**. Surviving is his wife of 47 years, Cheryllyn (née Snow) Danks; a daughter, Tamara L. Danks; a son, Ernest E. Danks, Jr.; his mother-in-law, Janet Snow; two brothers, Charles W. Danks and Harold B. Danks; two sisters, Doris A. Beckman and Virginia M. Danks; a granddaughter, Krista J. Fisher (Harry); a great-grandson, Tyler Fisher; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Diana Elizabeth Danks; two brothers, Donald L. Danks and E. Robert Danks; a sister, Ruth M. Byars; and his father-in-law, Edward Snow. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Monday at the Alice Drive Baptist Church. Burial was in the Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery with military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Alice Drive Baptist Church, 1305 Loring Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29150. Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad Street, Sumter, was in charge of the arrangements.

**MELVIN BARBER DeFOE** - Died Saturday, May 31, 2014 at the West Warwick, Rhode Island home of his daughter Christina Walls. He was a resident of Woonsocket, Rhode Island and 75 years of age. He was born July 5, 1938 in Monson, Massachusetts to the late Michael and Patricia (née Worthe) Defoe. He was the husband of the late Gloria Racicot. He was a retired United States Navy veteran serving during the Vietnam War from February 12, 1968 to December 20, 1973. He earned to Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Navy

Expeditionary Medal and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Cuba). He served a total of 14 years, 10 months and 25 days attaining the rank of Petty Officer Second Class (E-5). He served as a member of the DAV Chapter #12 (Woonsocket) with great passion, and was an active member and former Commander of the VFW Post #11519 (Woonsocket), a former Rhode Island State Commander for VFW, was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield) Chapter #818** and was also a member of the United Veterans Council of Woonsocket. In civilian life, he worked as a chef at the Grand Buffet in Foxwoods, retiring in 2001. Besides his daughter Christina, he is survived by a son; Dale Matheson of New York; two other daughters, Jeannette Hardwick of Florida and Rebecca Matheson of California; fourteen grandchildren, and; a brother, Kenneth Defoe of California. He was also the brother of the late Christina Defoe. His funeral was held Tuesday morning, June 10, 2014 at 9:00 AM in the Fournier & Fournier Funeral Home, 463 South Main Street, Woonsocket, with procession departing at 10:00 AM for the Rhode Island State Memorial Cemetery, Exeter, Rhode Island. Visiting hours were on Monday, June 9, 2014 from 5:00-7:00 PM with a brief prayer service at 6:30 PM.



**JAMES HART DERBY, MD** - Died Tuesday, January 1, 2013 at his home in Masons Island, Mystic, Connecticut at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 27, 1934 in Hempstead, New York to the late Catherine and James Hart. He grew up on a farm in Peru, New York before graduating from Union College and McGill Medical School. James was drafted into the United States Army during the Berlin Crisis in 1961 and spent 2 years in Ankara, Turkey followed by 4 years at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, DC completing his orthopedic residency. He then served a year in Vietnam where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and other commendations. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Niantic Chapter #270**. He settled with his family on Masons Island in 1970 and practiced many years as an orthopedic surgeon in New London. He loved sailing, skiing, cooking and most of all traveling with his family and friends. James is survived by his sister, Virginia Hahn of Arizona, and his two sons Michael Derby of Boulder, Colorado and Scott Derby of Darien, Connecticut and grandchildren Evan, Timothy and Nicholas. James was predeceased by his dear friend and traveling companion, Elizabeth Moore. A memorial service to celebrate James' life took place in June, 2013. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, 365 Montauk Avenue, New London, CT 06320.



**HARRY H. DOZIER, JR.** - Died Monday, May 19, 2014 in Stevensville, Montana at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born to the late Harry and Doris Dozier on March 23, 1940 in Columbus, Ohio. Harry's father was a preacher and they traveled for many years across the country to camp meetings. They finally settled in the Denver area, where Harry graduated from the Pillar of Fire School in 1958. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Navy and that became his home for 20 years. Harry retired from the Navy in June 1978 in Denver. He went to work for the U.S. Postal Service in 1979 and carried the mail in Wheatridge, Colorado, until transferring to the Hellgate Post Office in Missoula, Montana in 1994. He retired from carrying the mail in 2006 after 27 years. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hamilton Chapter #938**. Harry married Karen Dozier in 1981 and they

have two children, Harry III and Cynthia Dozier Padgett. He has a daughter, Michelle, from a previous marriage. Harry was preceded in death by his father Harry Sr. and niece Priscilla. He is survived by his wife, Karen of Stevensville; daughter Cynthia (Scott) Padgett of Homewood, Alabama, and grandchildren Logan, Lucas and Layla; son Harry (Amanda) of Louisville, Kentucky, and grandson Tucker; daughter Michelle Cowling of Denver; his mother, Doris of Denver; sisters Roberta (Carl) Pratt of Missouri and Lois (Kenny) Hoke of Denver; and many nieces and nephews in Missouri, Colorado, Montana, Alaska and North Dakota. Services were held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Whitesitt Funeral Home.

**EDDIE R. DUNGEA** – Died recently in 2014 in Midwest City, Oklahoma at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 14, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oklahoma**.



**JOHN A. DVARECKAS III** - Died Tuesday, March 11, 2014 in Saint Vincent Hospital after a long illness with his loving wife by his side. He was 75 years of age and a resident of Auburn, Massachusetts. He was born in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1939 to the late John A. Dvareckas, Jr. and Yvonne (née Daniels) Dvareckas. John leaves his wife of 50 years, Ann T. (née Santimore) Dvareckas; a brother, Michael E. Dvareckas and his wife, Karen Haynes Dvareckas of Rutland, two nieces, Stephanie Dvareckas Plante and her husband, Jeff of Worcester, and Lindsay Dvareckas of Worcester, four nephews, Michael E. Dvareckas, Jr. and his wife, Gina of Las Vegas, NV, Jonathan Dvareckas and his wife, Laura Benson Dvareckas of Germany, Joseph Malinowski and his wife, Amy of Manchester, NH and Michael Malinowski and his wife, Bethany of Bedford, NH; also survived by goddaughter, Gail Daniels of Londonderry, NH and godson, Joseph Daniels, Jr. He also leaves many cousins and aunts; a special big "Bro" Garland Robertson and a loving buddy, Miss Bessie Robertson, both of Murfreesboro, TN and true blue buddies, Janice and Bob Smith of Moody, Maine. He graduated from St. John's Prep School and Worcester Junior College. He later attended the National Graduate University and received a certificate in Grants Management. John served his country honorably with the United States Navy aboard the USS Noble # 218 and thereafter, as a hospital corpsman at the San Diego Naval Hospital. John dedicated his life to helping people and for 23 years, John worked as the Director at the McKinnon Training Center in Southbridge, where he secured federal and state grants to help people move back into the workforce. Previously he worked for ITT Continental Baking in West Boylston and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a Cottage Supervisor at the Lyman School for Boys in Westborough. John was also the Union Steward for the Local 1368 AFSCME and was the statewide Treasurer for that Local. John was a two term Selectman for the Town of Auburn; Past Exalted Ruler of the Auburn/Webster Lodge of Elks #2118 and member of the National Association of Medics and Corpsmen and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Auburn Chapter #554**. When John was in the Navy and stationed at the Naval Hospital in San Diego he wrote music and recorded a record with his music group Johnny Daril and the Med Tones. He also appeared on stage with Connie Stevens, Glenn Ford and Stuart Whitman in the late 1950-1960's. Before retirement he enjoyed traveling with his wife to San Diego, CA, and Bar Harbor, Maine. After retirement he wintered in New Smyrna Beach, Florida with his Moontide friends. Relatives and friends were invited to visit with John's family on Friday, March 14, 2014 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM in the Britton-Wallace

Funeral Home, 91 Central Street, Auburn. Member of the Elks will perform their ritual at 6:00 PM. His funeral was on Saturday from the funeral home and a Funeral Mass at 10:00 AM at Saint Joseph Church, 189 Oxford Street, North, Auburn. Burial with military honors was in Hillside Cemetery, Auburn. Flowers may be sent or donations may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project, or a charity of one's choosing.

**JERRY K. EDICK** – Died recently in Willow, Alaska at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 19, 1934. He is survived by Kaylea Edick. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wasilla Chapter #891**.



**LaVAUGHN HODGES "Von" FRASER** - Died peacefully on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at North Florida Regional Medical Center at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Doerun, Georgia on February 22, 1938. Von was the eighth child born to the late Wallace and Sallie (née Hodges) Fraser. He was raised in a large family in a small, rural town with a strong work ethic. At age 12 he was a telephone switchboard operator and worked a paper route. On summer breaks he picked cotton, cropped tobacco and stacked peanuts while completing his high school education. When questioned about stacking peanuts he replied, "Anyone who grew up in rural Georgia in the 1950's can tell you what that means!" He inherited his love of conversing with others from his mother. With her nine children gathered around the dinner table on Sundays, she enjoyed sharing stories of growing up in rural Georgia. When questions why he talks fast, Von replied, he had to talk fast to get a word in edgewise with eleven people at one table. After a tour of duty in the United States Army as a Non-Commission Officer, Von attended the University of Florida where he earned his BSBA in Accounting in 1969. In 1992, he received a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from the University of North Florida. Von was hired in 1977 by the Alachua County Clerk of Court as a Supervisor of Finance and Accounting. He was hired in 1981 by the Alachua County Tax Collector's Office where he held the position of Assistant Tax Collector until 2000 when he was elected Tax Collector. During his tenure as a public servant, Von used his inherited talent for conversation from his beloved mother to reach out to thousands of people in all walks of life to help them with tax issues or personal concerns. He often said "no tax payer's concern is too small or too large; they deserve my undivided attention. "Von's extraordinary commitment to service was evidenced by the many positions of leadership he held both locally and statewide. His involvement included but was not limited to: Florida Tax Collector's Association, was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – High Springs Chapter #1092**, Korean War Veterans Association, American Legion, Military Support Group, Florida Credit Union, Habitat for Humanity, Leadership Gainesville Alumni Association, Cotton Club Museum and cultural Center, League of Women Voters, African American Accountability Alliance, Florida Cattlemen's Association, NAACP, PTA, A.L., Mebane Alumni Association, Inc., Arts Council of Elementary Schools, and the Gainesville Lion's Club. Most notably, among all honors, awards and accolades, Von was elected and ordained Honorary Deacon at two local churches, Third Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by brothers: Warren Fraser, Wendell Fraser, Wallace Fraser, and Arthur DeLacey Fraser. Survivors are:



sisters: Sadie King of Gainesville, Evelyn Chesser of Dinsmore, Mary O. Hunt (Raymond) of Starke, Joy Edmunds (Glen) of Albany, GA, sister-in-laws: Nell Fraser of Dublin, GA and Lucille Fraser of Valdosta, GA, numerous nieces and nephews. The family received friends at the Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home, 620 Nona Street in Starke on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. There will be an additional viewing on Sunday, April 27th from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM in Trinity United Methodist Church, 4000 NW 53rd Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32653 with funeral services beginning at 3:00 PM. Interment was in the Rock Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, County Road 231, in Brooker with Pastor Roswell Henderson and Pastor Jim Sandlin co-officiating. A reception followed the graveside service at Rock Primitive Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for family and friends. Arrangements were by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

**ROGER H. FREEMAN** - Died Thursday, July 17, 2008 in Elmira, New York at the age of 61. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related Diabetes Mellitus Type II and multiple sclerosis. He was born August 30, 1946 in Elmira to the late Herbert & Margaret Mary (née Stadler) Freeman. He was a graduate of Southside High School, Class of 1964, a United States Air Force Vietnam War Veteran & a retired Sergeant with NYS Corrections. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads Chapter #803*. He will be dearly missed by his life-long friends, Tom, Jim, Howard & George, along with godson Eddie Moran, Aunts Betty Freeman, Geraldine Freeman & many cousins & especially by his sister & brother in law; Diana & Jim Maher, Nieces- Colleen Maher, Patty (Bob) Howe with Robby & Timmy, all of Elmira, NY, Pam (Todd) Curren with Josh, Zach & Emilie of Gillett, PA & Nephew- Joe Maher of Charlotte, NC "Remember the good times" Our family thanks Dr. Corbalan, Dr. Kung & the Arnot Ogden Hospital Extensive Care & 4-T nurses for their care, concern & kindness shown to Roger & us during his final days. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our family & the many friends who offered their support & love with a visit, prayer, or thoughtful deed. At his request, full Military Honors were accorded Roger at Woodlawn National Cemetery, under the direction of Barrett Funeral Home. Donations in his memory can be made to one of the following: St. Mary's Church, Restoration Fund, 224 Franklin Street Elmira, NY 14904 or National MS Society Upper New York Chapter PO Box 23746 Rochester, NY 14692 or American Diabetes Association 6390 Fly Road 2nd Floor East Syracuse, NY 13047.



**NOHE GILBERT GALINDO** - Died Wednesday, April 9, 2014 in Vero Beach, Florida after fighting a long battle of cancer. He was 61 years of age. He was born in El Paso, Texas on June 6, 1952. His remaining days were spent in the comfort of his home surrounded by his loving wife, family, and friends. Nohe proudly served the United States Air Force and retired after 20 years of service. After retirement, he worked for Wyler Industrial Works. He then worked as a United States Immigration Inspector/United States Customs and Border Protection as an Officer and retired after 10 years of service. He was also an active *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America - Lucio G. Moreno (El Paso) Chapter #574*. Nohe is survived by his loving wife, Laura, their children Cynthia Berumen (David), Nohe Gilberto Galindo Jr. (Angela), Valerie Galindo, Samuel, Jesse, & Cassandra Madrigales, Jessica Mendiola (Jorge), and 11 grandchildren. The family would like to thank Dr. Arsenio Lopez and staff at Texas Oncology, Dr. Chalupa at the VA, the Doctors at William Beaumont Army Medical



Center, Dr. Imuro, Dr. Craig, Dr. Morang and nurses, CIMA Hospice and Nurse Mary. Visitation was held at Mt. Carmel Funeral Home on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM with a Vigil Service at 6:00 PM. Mass will be at Saint Stephen Catholic Church on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. Interment was at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery with full military honors.



**JOHN WILLIAM "Bill" GARDELLA** - Died Friday April 12, 2013 at the Catholic Memorial Home in Fall River, Massachusetts at the age of 66. He was a resident of Swansea, Massachusetts. He was the husband of the late Paula (Stone) Gardella who predeceased John on March 30, 2013. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Fall River to Frances (née Morris) Gardella of Fall River and the late Stephen Gardella.

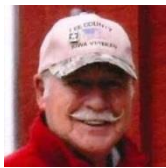
Mr. Gardella was a graduate of BMC Durfee High School class of 1965, Bristol Community College in 1972 and UMASS Dartmouth in 1973 with degrees in Sociology. Mr. Gardella served his country with the United States Army National Guard 5th Infantry Division during the Vietnam War. He served his country for twenty-two years and he earned the Rank of Master Sergeant. He was a communicant of Saint Dominic Church in Swansea. John was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westport Chapter #207** and the American Legion Post 145 in Swansea and the Italian-American War Veterans Post #10 in Fall River. Survivors besides his mother are a daughter: Stephanie Gardella of Ludlow, MA; a sister: Frances Kingsley of Swansea, MA; good friends and caregivers: Donna Crook of Somerset, MA; and Victor Tremmel of Fall River, MA; along with several nieces and nephews. His Funeral Service was held on Tuesday at 8:00 AM from the Hathaway Community Home for Funerals, 900 Buffington Street, Somerset, Massachusetts, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 9:00 AM in Saint Dominic Church, 1277 GAR Highway, Swansea, with burial with Military Honors in Vinnicum Woods Cemetery in Swansea. Calling Hours were held on Monday from 4:00-7:00 PM.

**LAWRENCE F. "Larry" GERVAIS** – Died Friday, October 18, 2013 in Downers Grove, Illinois at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 21, 1947 to the late Joseph and Dorothy Gervais. He was the beloved husband of Susan Gervais; loving father of Vince (Christine) and Brooke (Kevin) Bahnline; cherished grandfather of Kiera, Mike, Josh, Ryann, Ava, Julian, and Simon; dear brother of Joseph (Lydia), James (Carol), Matthew, Raymond, Rosemarie, Thomas, Gregory (Pam), Mark, and the late Alan Gervais; fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Lawrence was a proud United States Vietnam Army Veteran who served his country honorably. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Island Lake Chapter #242**. Visitation hours were on Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Adams-Winterfield and Sullivan Funeral Home, 4343 Main Street (1 block south of Ogden), Downers Grove. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Disabled American Veterans [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org) appreciated or [www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com](http://www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com).



**GEORGE C. GOBEIL** - Died at home in Westport, Massachusetts in the arms of his family on Monday, March 31, 2014. He was 67 years of age. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts to the late Edgar L. Gobeil and Laura J. (née Moraux) Gobeil. He lived in New Bedford before moving to Westport. He was a graduate from GNBVT and served in the United States Army in Vietnam from 1966-67. George was an equipment mechanic most of his life and later

became a firefighter with the New Bedford Fire Department until he retired. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – New Bedford Chapter #499*. He enjoyed spending time on “The Compound” (his yard), spending time with his grandchildren and going to motorcycle rallies & car shows with his wife and friends. Survivors include his wife Judy of 42 years; a daughter, Derica; a son, Jarid and his wife Jenn; his grandchildren, Cole, Shae, Dean and Quinn; his sisters, Jean Bonin, Laura Brook and her husband Ted; a brother, Roland and his wife Jean; and many nieces and nephews. He was the brother of the late Paul Gobeil. His Memorial Mass was celebrated on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM in Holy Name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Burial was in the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts. Visiting hours were on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-7:00 PM at the Saunders-Dwyer Home for Funerals, 495 Park Street, New Bedford. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the VFW of Freetown Post #6643, In Memory of George, care of Dan LeBlanc, 148 County Road, East Freetown, MA 02717.



**HARRY LEE GRABOWSKI** - Died Monday, December 2, 2013, at his home in Farmington, Iowa at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 9, 1937 in Rutledge, Missouri to the late William Franklin and Maxine Hughey (née Forquer) Grabowski. On December 22, 1955 he married Judith Ann Coop in Memphis, Missouri. Survivors include his wife Judith of Farmington, Iowa, one son Col. Rickey Lee Grabowski (Barb Troja) of Paris Island, South Carolina, two daughters Vickie Grabowski (Stephen Lee) of Excelsior Springs, Missouri and RoxAnn Grabowski Raisner (Walter Raisner) of Glen Carbon, Illinois, seven grandchildren Adam Grabowski, Alexandra Grabowski, Joseph Harrison Grabowski, Banning Grabowski (Jamie Wallingtime Grabowski), Bree Grabowski-Teague, and Gillen Raisner, two great-grandchildren Banning Carter Grabowski and Khloe Ann Lee, one brother Samuel Grabowski of Timpson, Texas and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by one sister Clairene Grabowski Rush. Harry was a graduate of Memphis High School. He was an Airman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class in the United States Air Force. He served for thirty eight years in the National Guard, was a United States Army Vietnam Veteran. Harry served on the Kansas City Police Department, was a Lee County Deputy Sheriff, he was a Major at the Iowa State Penitentiary in the position of assistant security director, United States Marshal Service, he was a helicopter pilot in Vietnam (flying Hughey and Chinook helicopters) 101st Airborne Division, he was a Lear Jet Pilot for Williams Company out of Tulsa, Oklahoma and a fire arms instructor. Harry was a member of the Mt. Moriah Masonic Lodge No. 27, Order of the Eastern Star and the I.S.P. Shooting Team where he shot competitive fire arms. He was an avid hunter, motorcycle enthusiast and was a dedicated husband and father. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Iowa*. Friends called after 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Schmitz-Lynk Funeral Home in Farmington where the family met with friends from 5:00 to 6:30 PM that evening. A Masonic Service was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Schmitz-Lynk Funeral Home in Farmington followed by a Funeral Service with Reverend Charles Hammack officiating. Following the visitation and service, his body was cremated. A memorial has been established in his memory for the Farmington EMT's. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzlynkfuneralhome.com](http://www.schmitzlynkfuneralhome.com). Schmitz-Lynk Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with the arrangements.



**LARRY EUGENE GRANTZ** - Pastor of First Baptist Church of Marland, Oklahoma and former mathematics professor at Northern Oklahoma College, resident of Ponca City, Oklahoma died Thursday, April 17, 2014 at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 3, 1946 to the late Luther James and Alvena (née Fern) Grantz in Wichita, Kansas. He graduated in 1964 from South High School in Wichita, KS. Larry joined the United States Navy in 1966 and served as a radioman on the USS Oriskany, USS Hancock and USS Coral Sea based in San Diego, CA. He served with the Navy until being honorably discharged in 1970. Larry married Marian Elaine Ellis on June 22, 1968 in Buffalo, New York, and they raised three children together James Leslie, Jennifer Elaine, and Lori Elizabeth. After serving in the Navy, Larry Graduated from NOC, then OSU with a Bachelor's degree in drafting and design, then earned a master's degree at Middle Tennessee State. Larry started teaching in Columbia, TN at Columbia Community College from 1974-1978. His teaching career next took him to Rose State College in Oklahoma City from 1978-1981. He then made his home in Tonkawa, OK where he taught Drafting and Design, and mathematics at Northern Oklahoma College. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Ponca City Chapter #751*. Larry met his wife, Jeanne, at the insistence of a mutual friend, Beverly Loney, on September 1, 2000. They were inseparable upon meeting, and later married on December 23, 2000 by Pastor Larry Nigh at Northeast Baptist Church in Ponca City. Larry and Jeanne made their home in Ponca City and shared a love of teaching, classic cars, camping, and Oklahoma State Basketball. He retired from teaching at Northern Oklahoma College in 2011 and followed a calling to serve the Lord full-time, serving as the Pastor of Marland Baptist Church. Survivors include his wife, Jeanne Grantz, of the home; brother, Ron Grantz of Valley Center, KS; children: James Leslie Grantz and wife Vickie of Enid, OK; and Jennifer Campbell and husband Gilbert, Grandson Grant of Maryville TN; Lori Holladay and husband Bobby, Grandsons Hunter and Landon and Granddaughter Elisabeth of Trumann, AR and many friends, and fellow motorcycle riders. He was preceded in death by his parents and grandson, Dakota Levi Cowan. A visitation with the family present was from 5:00-7:00 PM on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> in the Trout Funeral Home & Crematory Chapel. Memorial services were held at 11:00 AM on April 22, 2014 at Eastern Heights Christian Church in Ponca City, Oklahoma with Danny Cox officiating. Honorary Casket Bearers were the Gold Wing Riders, The Vietnam Veterans, and American Legion Riders Post #14, who will escort the family to the church. Contributions to memorialize his legacy may be made to the Marland Baptist Church, 503 North Main Street, Marland, OK 74644. Arrangements were under the direction of Trout Funeral Home & Crematory.



**KIRT LOUIS GUIDRY** - Died during the early morning hours on Friday, May 17, 2013 in Mermentau, Louisiana at the age of 76. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in Andrus Cove, Louisiana on July 7, 1936 to the late Augustine "Gus" Guidry and the late Molly (née Cormier) Guidry. He served his country honorably in the United States Air Force from 1955 until his retirement in 1975 at England Air Force Base. This proud American served his country for 20 years earning numerous decorations for his bravery and dedication to protecting the freedom of all. Kirt was honorably discharged earning the title of Law Enforcement and Corrections Supervisor and Technical Sergeant. Following his military service, he worked as an electrician and carpenter. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jennings Chapter #1058**. Kirt loved spending time with his family

especially his grandchildren whom he loved so dearly. He also enjoyed wine making. Kirt is survived by his beloved wife, Claudia Pierce Guidry of Mermentau; his four daughters and their spouses, Tina and Robert LeBlanc of Markham, TX, Gaynell and Terry Guillory of Evangeline, Joycelin and Mohammed Shamsie of Benton, and Bernadette and Scott Guidry of Pattison, TX; one brother, Roland "Rag" and Grace Guidry of Carencro; his sister, Joyce and Horace Broussard of Lafayette; also, his cousin who he look after like a sister, Judy and Wilbur Reon of Jennings, LA; and his twelve grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren. Kirt was preceded in death by his parents, Augustine and Molly C. Guidry; two daughters, LaDonna and Belinda Guidry; one brother, Warren Guidry and one sister, Dixie Gonsolves; two grandsons, Dammon Guidry and Josh Guidry; his two brothers-in-law, Wallace Pierce and Henry Fontenot. A gathering of Kirt's family and friends to bid their final farewell was held at Matthews & Son Funeral Home in Jennings, Louisiana on Sunday, May 19, 2013 from 2:30 PM until 9:00 PM with a rosary recited at 6:00 PM. Visitation resumed on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM until the time of his funeral mass at 2:00 PM. A Mass of Christian burial was held in Kirt's honor at Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Mermentau, Louisiana on Monday, May 20, 2013 at 2:00 PM. He was laid to eternal rest in Saint John the Evangelist Cemetery where he was honored with full military rites. Father David Broussard officiated.

**RICKIE ALLEN HACKER** – Died Friday, November 9, 2012 in Lawton Fort Sill Veterans Center in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 14, 1949. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751*. He was interred in Fort Sill National Cemetery.

**CHARLES R. "Charlie" HARDY** – Died Monday, April 7, 2014 in Jefferson City, Missouri at the age of 63. The cause of death was cancer. He was born January 15, 1951 in Washington, Missouri. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Jefferson City Chapter #393*.



**JOHN HENRY HAUPT** (USAF-MSG-Ret.) - Died Saturday, March 29, 2014 in Blue Ridge, Virginia at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 28, 1934. John retired from the United States Air Force following 26 years of service at the rank of Master Sergeant. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Virginia*. He was predeceased by his parents, four brothers and five sisters. Surviving family includes his faithful brother, Carl, who always stood by him; daughter, Deanna Rose; son, Gary Wayne and many nieces, nephews and grandchildren. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at the Lotz Funeral Home Chapel in Vinton with Reverend Jeff Gardner officiating. Interment was in Old Dominion Memorial Gardens. The family received friends on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 from 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM at the funeral home. The family extends a special thanks to all the nurses and doctors at the Salem VA Medical Center, Building 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, for their care of John. Online condolences and a live webcast of the service may be found at [www.lotzfuneralhomevinton.com](http://www.lotzfuneralhomevinton.com).



**DOUGLAS LOUIN HAYES** - Died peacefully Friday, October 11, 2013 at his home in Roanoke, Louisiana at the age of 68. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born and raised in Welsh, Louisiana on January 1, 1945 to the late Ralph and Eva Hayes. He graduated from Welsh High School in 1962 and from McNeese State University in 1966. Douglas was a United States Army Vietnam Veteran. He served as a 1LT in the 199th Army Light Infantry Brigade. Doug received a Bronze Star and was honorably discharged in 1968. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jennings Chapter #1058**. Doug farmed for 20 yrs. and spent his last 21 years in sales at Oustalet Ford. Doug was one of seven children born to the late Ralph and Eva Hayes. Doug will be forever remembered by his brother, Pratt Hayes and his sisters, Geneva Hebert, Mary Epperly, Johnnie Schulman, and Anne Marcantel, his beloved children, Chad Hayes and wife, Robin of Dallas, TX and Christopher Hayes of Lafayette, LA and his treasured granddaughter, Rylee Hayes of Dallas, TX and the mother of his children, Carolyn Guillory Hayes, along with countless other family and friends who were blessed to know him. He is preceded in death by his sister, Donna Hebert of Welsh. Doug touched the lives of many people with his smile, his generosity, and his sense of humor which he maintained to the end. His Funeral service was at the First Baptist Church of Welsh at 10:00 AM on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Visitation was from 7:00-9:00 PM on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at Hixson Funeral Home of Welsh and resume at 9:00 AM until service time on Monday at the church. Burial will be in Oaklawn Cemetery, Welsh, Louisiana.



**KEITH DONNELL HEGNAUER** - Died Monday, March 31, 2014 in his home in Ettrick, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 28, 1945 in Fergus Falls, Minnesota to the late Phyllis (née Van Buren) Hegnauer and Leonard Donnell Hegnauer. He was raised in Minneapolis, and graduated from Washburn High School in 1963. Keith enlisted in the United States Army on May 24, 1965, and completed jump school at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was then sent into combat in Vietnam in April 1966, and served two tours of duty with the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. He was honorably discharged with a Bronze Star on May 1, 1968. His military service colored the rest of his life, but also gave him a deep bond with his fellow veterans. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wisconsin**. Upon his return, he lived in Minneapolis, and worked as an over-the-road truck driver for four years. On May 18, 1973, Keith married Mary Lee Hayles in Allamakee County, Iowa. They purchased an old farm property in Trempealeau County, in 1974, where they lived and raised their three daughters. Keith later attended Dunwoody Industrial Institute on the GI Bill and graduated in welding in 1976. He then was employed as a union welder in La Crosse, until his retirement. Keith was a voracious reader, stamp and coin collector, and a lifelong member of the Decora Masonic Lodge in Galesville. Keith donated a large collection of his library to a veteran center established by a close friend. The collection will be named in his honor and will recognize his loyalty and concern for servicemen, as well as his lifelong love of reading. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lee Hegnauer; daughters, Celeste D. Jouanet (John) of Acworth, Ga., Josephine A. Moreno (Jorge) of Bloomington, Minn., Marilee F. Allsep (Craig) of New South Wales, Australia; his brother, Mark D. Hegnauer (Naomi) of St. Paul; and grandchildren, Madeline, Philip, Olivia, Idalia and Evelyn. Burial and memorial were at the Fort Snelling



National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Memorials may be made to Black River Falls Memorial Hospice, 711 West Adams St., Black River Falls, Wis., 54615.

**EARL HENDERSON HELMEY** - Died Thursday, May 15, 2014, at St. Joseph's Hospital at the age of 72. He was a resident of Midway, Georgia. The cause of death was acute promyelocytic leukemia. He was born January 23, 1942 in Savannah, Georgia. He was a United States Army veteran who served from May 10, 1967 to May 9, 1969 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from October 31, 1967 to November 1, 1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Liberty (Hinesville) Chapter #789**, retired pipefitter, a member of Local 188 and a member of Savannah Christian Church. He is survived by his wife, Jeannine Helme of Midway; son, Glenn Helme of Midway; daughter, Laci Kearney (Eric) of El Paso, TX; four grandsons, Gabriel, Caleb, Caiden and Brayson; four step-granddaughters; and a sister, Joyce Hays of Gainesville, FL. Visitation hours were from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the Richmond Hill Funeral Home. Funeral Services were on 11:00 AM on Monday, May 19, 2014, Richmond Hill Funeral Home with Reverend Jim Bolen officiating. Military Honors followed the service. Richmond Hill Funeral Home ([www.coxrichmondhillfh.com](http://www.coxrichmondhillfh.com)) was in charge of the arrangements.

**BOBBIE JEAN HEMPFLENG** - Died Friday, May 2, 2014 in Summerdale, Alabama at the age of 82. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Mobile, Alabama on March 3, 1932. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dixie Hempfleng, and son, Karl Hempfleng. He is survived by his sons, Charles (Jerri) Hempfleng, Kenneth Hempfleng, Keith Hempfleng, Curt (Deloris) Hempfleng, and Kevin (Monica) Hempfleng; brothers, C. C. (Dottie) Hempfleng and Jimmy (Ann) Hempfleng; sisters, Linda (Rick) Hoss and Virginia (Robert) Wiley; five grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. Bob joined the United States Marine Corps in 1951, serving in Korea and two tours of duty in Vietnam; receiving the Presidential Unit Citation, the Meritorious Unit Citation Civic Actions 1st Class, and numerous others. After retiring from the Marine Corps, he served several terms as VFW Commander Post #5660. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Robertsedale Chapter #864**. The family requested that memorial contributions be made in Mr. Hempfleng's name to VFW Post #5660, 950 Nichols Avenue Ext., Fairhope, Alabama 36532. The funeral service was held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Robertsedale, with the visitation from 1:00 PM until time of service. The interment was in the Pine Rest Memorial Park in Foley, Alabama.

**GEORGE MARTIN HOGSED** – Died Friday, May 11, 2012 in Franklin, North Carolina at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 7, 1948 in Macon, North Carolina. He served in the United States Army with a tour of duty in Vietnam from October 14, 1968 to October 13, 1969. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Franklin Chapter #994**. He is interred in Woodlawn Cemetery in Franklin, North Carolina.



**DAVID J. HOLIHAN** - Died on Sunday, April 20, 2014 at his home in Tully, New York, surrounded by family and friends. He was 68 years of age. The cause for death is unknown. He was born in Syracuse, New York on February 21, 1946 to the late John and Ethel (née Crawford) Holihan. He is survived by his brother, John



(Debbie) Holihan of Baltimore, MD; a sister, Linda (Wesley) St. Onge of Maryland, NY; his daughters, Kelley (William) Kriesel of Manlius, Melissa (Michael) Meyer of Liverpool and Erin Greco of N. Syracuse. He is also survived by many special friends, including Michael and Joyce Rienhardt and their children, MacKenzie and Zachary of Tully; several grandchildren; great-grandchildren; cousins; nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his daughter, Julia and his brother, Mark. He was a proud United States Army Vietnam Veteran serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, where he was awarded a Combat Infantry Badge, a Bronze Star and many other awards. He is a past Onondaga County Legislature member and was very active in the community and Veteran organizations. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Syracuse Chapter #103**. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, April 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM at Most Holy Rosary Church, 111 Roberts Avenue. Calling hours were on Sunday, April 27, 2014 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the Edward J. Ryan & Son Funeral Home, 3180 Bellevue Avenue. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America Central New York Chapter # 103, P.O. Box 675, Liverpool, NY 13088.

**EVERETT EDWIN HORN** - Died after a long illness at CareLink of Jackson, Michigan on Monday, March 10, 2014 at the age of 69. He was a resident of Rives Junction, Michigan. The cause of death was cancer. He was born May 27, 1944 in Ashland, Wisconsin to the late Warren and Luella (née Lund) Horn who survives. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Margaret "Peggy" (Wright) Horn; his mother; brother, Gary (Dawn) Horn; sister Rebecca Ackling; four sisters-in-law, Beth (Don) Hudson, Laurie (Greg) Leinbach, Jody Rogers, and Carol Jonas; many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by two children, Dianne and John Horn; his father; sister, Debra. Everett was a 1962 graduate from East Jackson High School. He served his country in the United States Navy on the USS Dash and Detector during the Vietnam War. Everett retired after several years of service with the City of Jackson Department of Public Works. He played drums in high school, with the Drum and Bugle Corp, while on board the Dash and Detector, and later with several dance bands in and around the Jackson area. He was an avid Civil and American-Indian War re-enactor. Everett was a life member of Tompkins Historical Society, was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jackson Chapter #109**, and the Michigan Cavalry Brigade, which he helped to start. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. According to his wishes cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Tompkins Historical Society 3333 Tompkins Rd., Rives Junction, Michigan 49277.

**LARRY RALPH HULSLANDER** – Died in 2013 in Ellensburg, Washington at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 2, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Washington**.



**ROBERT W. IRWIN** - Died Sunday, February 9, 2014 in Brighton, Michigan at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Pontiac, Michigan on August 31, 1935 to the late William A. and Sarah M. (née Wright) Irwin. A Brighton resident for the past eight months and formerly of Livonia, Michigan, he was a member of the Livonia American Legion and Livonia Moose Lodge. He was a

proud Korean War-era United States Army veteran and retired draftsman for Burroughs. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Plymouth Chapter #528**. He was the beloved husband of the late Nancy M. (née Belisle) Irwin who preceded him in death in December 1993; the loving father of Michele (Dave) Chojnowski of Bentonville, Arkansas and Jeannine (Mark) Neuenschwander of Howell; proud grandfather of Nathan and Monica Chojnowski and Eva, Olivia, Nicholas, John Paul, Dominic and Anthony Neuenschwander. He was preceded in death by his brother Richard. Visitation was on Thursday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM (Rosary at 7:00 PM) at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell with a Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, February 14, 2014 at 11:00 AM (in state 10 a.m.) at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, 440 East Washington Street (at Fowler Street) Howell, Michigan. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Pregnancy Helpline.



**WILLIAM RAY "Bill" JACKSON** - Died Tuesday morning in Galena, Kansas on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 after an illness. He was 61 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 11, 1952 to Ray Gene Jackson and the late Donna Lou (née Bradshaw) Jackson, in Joplin, Missouri. He had lived in this area most of his life, spending a portion of his youth in California. He graduated from Riverton High School, and later received his Art Degree from Talequah University. He was a Vietnam Veteran in the United States Navy, and later retired from the US Postal Service in Pittsburg, Kansas as a mail carrier. He was a member of the Riverton Friends Church in Riverton, Kansas. Bill was also a member of the American Legion, am *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Kansas**, and the Cherokee Nation. He was very proud of his Indian heritage. He married Jamie Burch in Pittsburg, Kansas on February 14, 1991. She survives. Surviving relatives include his father Ray of Baxter Springs, KS; 5 daughters, Shelby Anderson and husband Kyle, of Tarpon Springs, FL, Ronni Paxson of Joplin, MO, Kayla Paxson of Joplin, MO, Carey Jackson of the home, and Billie Jackson of the home; Stacy Cox, who was like a daughter, and her husband Brandon of Galena, KS; Grandchildren, Austin Anderson, Makenna Anderson, Cambree Anderson, and Paul LaTurner; and one sister, Barbara Ann Crossland of Marysville, MO. The body was taken for cremation in the care of Derfelt Funeral Home of Galena. Visitation was held Saturday evening from 5:00-7:00 PM at the funeral home. Memorial Services were held Sunday at 3:00 PM at Riverton Friends Church, Riverton, Kansas with Military Honors. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial donations be made to the Jackson Girls Scholarship Fund, in care of Jamie Jackson.



**FREDERICK A. "Butch" JOHNSON, JR.** - Died Friday, December 20, 2013 in Quaker Hill, Connecticut at the age of 63. The cause of death was cirrhosis of the liver. He was born on November 12, 1950 in New London, Connecticut to the late Frederick A. Johnson, Sr., and Helen (née Faulkner) Johnson. He graduated from Norwich Tech. in 1968 and was a member of the National Honor Society. He was an avid Yankee fan. In the 1970's along with his father and brother owned the family business, Johnson's Moving and Delivery. Butch was an active advocate for veterans and anyone who needed help. He volunteered for many years placing flags on veteran's graves in cemeteries in New London. He will be greatly missed by many. He was a United States Army Veteran, serving during the

Vietnam War from 1970 to 1971. In 1971 he was injured in Vietnam and received two Purple Hearts, and other medals. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion, DAV, RAFA, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Moose Lodge and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Niantic Chapter #270**. Mr. Johnson is survived by his wife Juanita Johnson; his son Jared Johnson of New London; his daughters Renee Smith and her husband Bob of Ledyard and Janet Plikus of New London; his brother Albert Johnson and his wife Janice of Niantic; his granddaughters Nicole and her husband Brandon, Jaclyn and her partner Brian, and Rebekah, his great granddaughter Isabel and his two nephews Jeffery and Timothy Johnson. Calling hours were held on Friday December 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00 PM at the Fulton-Theroux Funeral Home, 181 Ocean Avenue, New London. A funeral service was held on Saturday at 10:30 AM at the funeral home. Burial with military honors was in the Cedar Grove Cemetery, New London. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to DAV, or the Make A Wish Foundation.

**NORMAN RONALD JONES** - Died Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at home in Country Lakes, Browns Mills, New Jersey with his loving wife, son & niece Krissy Lester by his side. He was 74 years of age. He was a native of Brooklyn, New York, born May 17, 1940 and joined the United States Army and made it his career. Norman was a retired Sergeant First Class with 23 years in the US Army and served in the Vietnam War. He settled in Browns Mills in 1984 and he attended Messiah Lutheran Brethren Church, Presidential Lakes. Norman was a member of the Pemberton Masonic Lodge No. 199 F. & A.M. where he was very active and served in many different positions and was instrumental in putting the chair lift in the lodge for the older members. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of the Consistory and the Crescent Shrine. Norman also was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Somerdale Chapter #1068**. He was a very outgoing person and loved to joke around and was known as Stormin' Norman. He also loved Diners and was well known by the many waitresses. He was the beloved husband of June Lynn (née Fraser) and dear father of Norman Henry Jones at home. He is also survived by his brother William Jones of Texas. There was a viewing and visitation for Norman from 7:00 to 9:00 PM Wednesday evening at The Lankenau Funeral Home, 370 Lakehurst Road, Browns Mills where Masonic Services were held at 8:00 PM. Relatives and friends of Norman's family gathered from 10:00 to 10:45 AM Thursday morning at The Lankenau Funeral Home, 370 Lakehurst Road, Browns Mills where the Funeral procession departed at 11:00 AM for the BGWCD Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel 350 Provinceline Road, Arneytown, North Hanover Township for a Chapel Service & Military Honors at 11:30 AM. The Lankenau Funeral Home, 370 Lakehurst Road, Browns Mills, Pemberton Township was in charge of the arrangements.



**MICHAEL PAUL "Mike" JOZOVICH** - Died Saturday, June 22, 2013 in Bozeman, Montana at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 14, 1948 in Butte, Montana to the late George and Lucille Jozovich. There he graduated from Butte High and joined the United States Navy in 1967 where he served during Vietnam in the "R" division aboard the USS Kitty Hawk. After the war, Mike returned to Butte where he attended Butte Vo-Tech and received a degree in auto mechanics. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bozeman Chapter #788**.

Here he met the love of his life, Carol Simon and they were married on July 8, 1972. They have two daughters, Teri and Joyce. Mike worked 11 years for Albertsons in Butte, then moved to Bozeman and worked in the parts department at Owenhouse Ace Hardware for the next 30 years. Mike was a kind, generous man that enjoyed the simple things in life. The past two years he enjoyed spending his retirement traveling with his wife, Carol, visiting friends and family, and attending numerous car shows and drag races, his true passion. In addition to parents he was also predeceased by his brother, Kevin Jozovich. Mike is survived by his wife, Carol, of 40 years; daughters, Teri Jozovich of Bozeman and Joyce (Michael) Ciaramitaro of Denver, Colo.; brothers, George Jr. of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, James Jozovich of Butte; sisters, Joan and Dave Simon of Butte and Marlena and Michael McLaughlin of Roseville, Calif.; aunt, Verna Jozovich; nieces and nephews, Rose and (Kirk) Fuhringer, Tracy and Jason Simon, Tyler Jozovich, Amy Jozovich-Dye (widow of Gene Dye), Christie (Tim) Hazelwood, Kevin Jr., Clint and Chase Jozovich, Alex Jozovich, Kirk Ivankovich and numerous cousins and cherished friends. Friends were asked to join the family on Thursday after 5:00 PM in the Duggan Dolan Mortuary Chapel. Parish Vigil was recited at 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Resurrection will be celebrated at Saint John Parish in Butte, Montana on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at Noon with interment in Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery. A memorial was held in Bozeman at a later date. Memorials may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Resurrection Parish Building and Capital Campaign, 1725 S. 11th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715, or charity of donor's choice.



**CYNTHIA "Cindy" (née Wilson) KELLUM** – Died Sunday, November 3, 2013 at North Oaks Medical Center in Hammond, Louisiana at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. She was born, Saturday, October 18, 1947 in New Orleans, Louisiana to the late Albert W. and Rita (née Deist) Wilson and was a resident of Loranger, Louisiana for the past 11 years. The beloved wife of Bonnie Roy Kellum, she is survived by three sons: Brian A. Kellum (Dee), Keith W. and Ronnie R. Kellum (Patty); one brother - Merl Wilson (Judy); six grandchildren: Loretta K. Schroeder (Jonathan), Joshua A. Kellum (Olivia), Kayla R., Brooke L., Whitney K. and Jordan J. Kellum and two great grandchildren - James W. and Kayden Z. Schroeder. Cindy was President for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Louisiana and was a member of the Ladies Auxiliaries for the American Legion Post 16, VFW Post 8720 and was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Independence Chapter #1052**. She was a true patriot; her dedication and hard work for these organizations will be missed. Relatives and friends were invited to attend funeral services at 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, November 06, 2013 at E.J. Fielding Funeral Home, 2260 West 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Covington, Louisiana. Visiting hours on Wednesday began at 9:00 AM.

**DAVID A. KENNEDY** – Died recently in 2014 in Niantic, Connecticut at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 14, 1945. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Niantic Chapter #270**.

**DANIEL T. KIRK** - Died Friday May 9, 2014 in Hartly, Delaware at the age of 65. The cause of death was a hot-air balloon accident, death resulting. He was born September 22, 1948 in Miami, Florida to Donald J. Kirk and Verna (née England) Kirk. He enlisted in the United

States Army as a Private in 1970, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. He graduated from Officer Candidate School in 1980 and retired as Lieutenant Colonel in 2007 after serving 10 years in the US Army Reserves and 24 years active duty with the United States Army. Dan had many interests including motorcycling, auctions, home improvements, and helping his parents but ballooning and his wife were his passions. He was a commercial hot air balloon pilot and avid patriot; he flew "Support Our Troops" and the American Flag from his balloon. He was a member and Treasurer of Hartly United Methodist church, Secretary of the Experimental Aircraft Association of Delaware, was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dover Chapter #850** and the Balloon Federation of America. Dan is survived by his wife, Janice Gray Kirk of Hartly; his parents Donald and Verna England Kirk of Dover; daughter Becky Kirk, of Virginia Beach, VA; son David of Raleigh, NC; step-daughter Kim Kraft and husband Peter of Indianapolis, IN; brother Donald Kirk II (Buddy) of Corpus Christi, TX; sisters Pamela Joy of Ashland, OR and Sandy Billings of Dover, DE and granddaughter Gabby Kraft. Funeral services were held at 1:00 PM on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Hartly United Methodist Church, 85 Main Street, Hartly, Delaware. A reception followed at the Hartly Volunteer Fire Company. Interment was in the Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Letters of condolence may be sent, and guest book signed at [www.torbetfuneral.com](http://www.torbetfuneral.com). In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to the Great Eastern Balloon Camp <http://www.bfacamps.com/eastern-balloon-camp.html> or the United Methodist Church, 85 Main Street, Hartly, DE 19953.



**JAMES STEDMAN KITCHELL** - Died suddenly at his home in Wicomico, Virginia on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at the age of 72. The cause of death was coronary artery disease. Jim was the only child of George and Helen (née Renouf) Kitchell. Born February 22, 1941 in Long Island, New York, he grew up in New Hampton, New Hampshire. Jim served in the United States Air Force and then the United States Navy from which he retired as Senior Chief. He served during the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Virginia**. He then began a career traveling the world again, as an engineer for General Dynamics Corporation. Jim's life has been marked by community service, serving in many capacities over the years. He was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Rappahannock River Railroad Club and the Disabled American Veterans Association at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Carrie Fields Kitchell; children, Kim Leggett (Tommy), David Savage (Rose) and Carrie Savage (Tim Tuggle); his grandchildren, David Savage, Jr., Tom Leggett III, Boe Savage, Dustin Savage, Jennifer Stubblefield and Stephanie Marshall; great grandchildren, Angela, Shelby, Ashton and Brandon Savage. A Celebration of Life service with military honors was held at 3:00 PM on Monday, October 14, 2013 at Hogg Funeral Home, Gloucester Point. Reverend Daniel C. Warren officiated. The family received friends prior to the service on Monday, beginning at 2:00 PM. Inurnment was private. In our loved one's memory contributions may be given to the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 58, Post Office Box 58, Gloucester, VA 23061.



**THOMAS WINSLOW KLINCK** - Died at Denton Regional Medical Center on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at the age of 66. He was a resident of Denton,



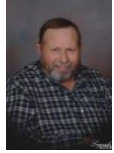
Texas. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Jackson, Mississippi on February 23, 1947 to the late Charles Edgar Klinck and Mary Louise (née Winslow) Klinck. He graduated from Provine High School in Jackson, MS and MS State University where he was member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, achieved Second Lieutenant in the United States Army ROTC and received a BA degree. Later, he obtained a MBA degree from Troy State University. He served as a pilot in the Army Helicopter Aviation and in Intelligence during active duty in the Vietnam-era. After an honorable discharge as Captain in military service, he made a career in the Human Resources field, including 15 years as Director of Human Resources for the City of Denton. Thomas was an Eagle Scout, completed three marathons and was an avid sailor. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Denton Chapter #920*. Survivors include daughter, Kara Lynn Vega (Jairo) of Richmond, VA, and sons; Thomas Christopher Klinck (Amanda) of Grenada, MS, Charles Ryan Klinck of Denton, TX, and George Michael Klinck, of Denton, TX; and six grandchildren, Alexia Sheri Axelsen, Elizabeth Grace Axelsen, Thomas Ethan Klinck, Andrew Christopher Klinck, Mary Grace Klinck, and Anabela Lynn Vega; and two brothers and two sisters, Lynda Sue Pritchard (Charles), Charles Richard Klinck (Heather), Claude Eugene Klinck (Jane), Christi Rene Peters, and Sailor Jon his beloved Labrador Retriever. Visitation and service were held at the First United Methodist Church in Denton on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00 PM. The family requested a private graveside service that will be held at DFW National Cemetery on Tuesday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his honor to the First United Methodist Church, 201 South Locust St., Denton TX 76201 or the mission organization Proyecto Abrigo, P.O. Box 17838, El Paso, TX 7991.



**ROBERT JAMES “Jim” KLUSMAN** - Died Thursday, January 9, 2014 in Olathe, Kansas, after a courageous journey with Alzheimer’s. He was 66 years of age. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri on April 19, 1947 to Gladys and Carl Klusman. Jim graduated from Paola High School in 1965 and married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Jean Graham, in 1968. He received a bachelor’s degree in marketing from Pittsburgh State University in 1969. Jim was an Eagle Scout who spent summers in Canada giving tours to younger scouts. He loved his time outdoors. He also served as a Lieutenant in Vietnam for the United States Army. He was an *At-Large Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas*. Jim was a cherished member of the Olathe and Platte City Communities for many years and, served on the Parish Council of Prince of Peace and was instrumental in the development committee of the Prince of Peace Church in 1990. He was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus. Jim had a long thirty-four year career with State Farm. He was appointed as a State Farm agent in 1974, became an agency manager in Kansas in 1982 and returned to personal production in Platte City, MO in 1995. Jim retired in 2007 due to his declining health. He was very involved in the life of his family, coaching many childhood soccer teams, and also helped established the Olathe Soccer Club. He and Barbara were very giving of their time and talents in the church and community. Jim loved canoeing, skiing, and going to the lake with his family and friends. Above all, he cherished the love of his life Barbara, kids, and grandchildren. Jim loved spending time with his 18 grandkids, dancing, eating ice cream, and making memories throwing his grandchildren in the pool. Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Barbara Klusman of Olathe, KS, his parents; Gladys and Carl Klusman of Paola, KS, his four children; Julie (Pat) O’Brien, Jeff (Jessica) Klusman, Kelly (Melissa) Klusman of Lenexa, KS and Ryan (Lindsey)



Klusman of Overland Park, KS. Jim is also survived by his eighteen grandchildren and his siblings; Larry Klusman of Louisburg, KS, Pat Lunbeck of Olathe, KS, Gary Klusman of Dallas, TX, and Sharon Bausher of Shumacher, PA. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Alzheimer's Association, 3846 West 75th St., Prairie Village, KS 66208.



**THOMAS EARL LAMAR** - Died Saturday, April 26, 2014 in Pulaski, Tennessee at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 24, 1945 in Pulaski to the late Odis Milton and Sarah Helen Lamar who survives him in Pulaski. He was a Veteran of the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pulaski Chapter #262**. He is preceded in death by his father O.M. Lamar and grandson Hunter Kimbrough. Survivors include his wife Judy S. Lamar of Pulaski, mother Helen Lamar of Pulaski, daughter Tiffany and husband Joey Kimbrough of Pulaski, son Tommy Lamar of Spring Hill, grandchildren Wes and Tory Kimbrough, sister Ann Holly of Pulaski, brothers James and wife Beth of Pulaski, and Rickie Lamar of Pulaski, and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends. Visitation with the family was held from 4:00 until 8:00 PM on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at the Carr & Erwin Funeral Home where funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 with burial in the Giles Memory Gardens. Carr & Erwin Funeral Home, Pulaski, Tennessee was in charge of the arrangement.

**JAMES LANGENDORFER** – Died recently in 2014 in Homer, Louisiana at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 12, 1941. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Angola Chapter #689**.



**LARRY J. LAY** - Died Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the Fisher-Titus Medical Center at the age of 64. He was a resident of Norwalk, Ohio and formerly of Sandusky, Ohio. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 8, 1948 in Oak Ridge, Tennessee to Lowell and Billie (née Jessee) Lay. Larry was a United States Army veteran and served in the National Guard. He was employed by General Motors as a setup man. He was a member of Science Lodge #50 F&AM, the U.A.W., a founding father of the Bikers Memorial Fund, a member of the V.F.W., American Legion, a Perkins Fire Dept. volunteer, and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sandusky Chapter #774**. Larry loved motorcycles and was a member of many hog groups. He also loved carving wood, was a collector of many items, and was an avid outdoorsman. He is survived by his parents, Lowell and Billie (Jessee) Lay; wife, Darlene (Horne) Lay; daughter, Sara (Jared) Martin, Norwalk; sons, Scott (Laura) Lay, New London, and Bryan J. Lay, Tiffin; step-children, Jeremi (Denise) Woodruff, Chagrin Falls, Justin (Kim) Woodruff, Fremont, and Lindsie Woodruff, Clyde; grandchildren, Alec, Colton, Kennadi, Cassidy, and Marshall; step-grandchildren, Payton, Ember, and Braiden; sisters, Barbara Tajkowski, Norwalk, Peggy (Steve) Heidl, Sandusky, and Mary (Mike) Walton, Sandusky; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary; paternal and maternal grandparents; and step-son, Jordan Woodruff. Friends called from 4:00-8:00 PM on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at Groff Funeral Home and Crematory, 1607 East Perkins Avenue, Sandusky, with Science Lodge #50 holding Masonic Services at 7:30 PM. Friends also called on

Wednesday from 10:00 AM until time of funeral services at 11:00 AM in the funeral home. Reverend Danny Miller officiated. Burial was in the Calvary Cemetery, with the American Legion Post #83 Honor Guard conducting military services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Bikers Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 1081, Sandusky, OH 44870 or to the American Diabetes Association, 1701 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311 or to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 3292, Lorain, OH 44035.

**RODOLPHE “Rody” LINDHE** – Died Sunday, December 29, 2013 in Lawndale, California at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 25, 1946. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Redondo Beach Chapter #53**.

**DENNIS M. LOWDEN** – Died Wednesday, April 16, 2014 in Reno, Nevada at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 8, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Nevada**.



**TIMOTHY R. MALONEY** - Died Tuesday, March 4, 2013, in Maui, Hawaii at the age of 65. He was a resident of Southgate, Michigan. He was born November 6, 1947 in Madison, Indiana to the late George and Mary Maloney. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, Glenn Maloney and his sister, Mary Maloney. He is survived by his brother, Patrick (Jacqueline) Maloney; sisters, Joanne Maloney, Karen (Robert) Rushman, Susan (Michael) Doubleday, Catherine (Allen) Corn; and many nieces and nephews. Timothy was a proud Vietnam Veteran and a retired Lieutenant of the Southgate fire department. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Southgate Chapter #259**. Donations may be sent to the International Association of Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation at [www.iafffoundation.org](http://www.iafffoundation.org).

**ADAM MARCZAK** - Died peacefully on Thursday April 17, 2014 at the Roosevelt Care Center, Old Bridge, New Jersey at the age of 89. He was a resident of South Amboy, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 19, 1924 to the late Adam and Catherine Marczak and was raised in South Amboy. He a United States Army veteran of World War II, fought in the Battle of the Bulge with the 285<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, was a member of the Sayreville Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #4699, Sayreville American Legion Post #211 and a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – New Brunswick Chapter #233**. Before his retirement 27 years ago he was employed by Jersey Central Power and Light as a maintenance mechanic where he worked for 40 years. Adam was an exempt member of Protection Fire Company in South Amboy. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his siblings Florence Thomas, Catherine Zambrowski, Dorothy Murasko, Adrian Marczak, Connie Mackiel and Arthur Marczak. Surviving are his children Edward Marczak of South Amboy, Raymond Marczak and his wife Rose of Sayreville, Sharon Avale of Freehold, and Robert Marczak of Bordentown, his grandchildren Forest & Travis Avale, Carol Dodge and Thomas Kelley, his great-grandchildren Renee and Christina, his sisters Rita Ferenci of Old Bridge, Lillian Dzielak-Kurek of Pennsylvania, his brother Alfons Marczak of Surf City, his former wife Agnes Marczak of Sayreville and his companion Shirley Kelly of South Amboy. Funeral

services were held Tuesday 11:00 AM at the Carmen F. Spezzi Funeral Home, 15 Cherry Lane, Parlin, New Jersey with burial at the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Parlin. Calling hours at the funeral home were held Monday from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The family has requested that donations in Adam's name be made to the Animal Shelter of your choice.



**JAMES RICHARD "Jim" MARTIN** - Died peacefully at home in Lakeland, Florida on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 after losing a hard fought battle with lung cancer. He was 78 years of age. He was born September 14, 1935 in Mallenaver, Pennsylvania to the late James Albert Martin and Esther Clark. He moved to Lakeland 33 years ago. Jim was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Navy where he served in Vietnam on the Riverine Force Boat Patrol, also known as the Brown Water Navy. He retired after 20 years of service. He also retired from IMC where he was employed as a maintenance supervisor. He was a lifelong fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, a Shriner, and a member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Lakeland. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Auburndale Chapter #1040**. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, Charles Martin; and sister, Emma Martin. Jim is survived by his wife of 32 years, Gayle; sons, Joseph (Vickie) Martin and Michael Martin; daughters, Denise Reinheimer, Vyvyenne (Jamie) Rial, Brenda (Richard) Sardo and Bridget (David) Ellerbe; sister, Gertrude Martin Haynes; 9 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren. A celebration of Jim's life was held on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at 2:00 PM at the Hickory Hills Manor Clubhouse at 1601 Josephine Street in Lakeland. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made, in Jim's memory, to Good Shepherd Hospice, 105 Arneson Ave., Auburndale, FL 33823.

**TOMMY REECE MARTIN** - Died Monday, March 10, 2014 in South Pittsburg, Tennessee at the age of 66. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born February 8, 1948 in South Pittsburg to the late William E. and Jessie (née Barnes) Martin. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his son, Tommy R. Martin, Jr., his sisters, Jewell Fulfer and Irene Martin and his father-in-law, Joseph L. Muir. He was veteran of the United States Army who proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. He was a member of VFW Post # 6362, a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**, and a DAV member. Mr. Martin was also a member of Midway Baptist Church. Tommy is survived by his wife, Wilma Muir Martin; daughters, Jessica Rana Martin, Christi (Michael) Jordan, and Lisa (Nathan) Triplett; brothers, Joseph, Chester, Charlie, and Jimmy Martin; sisters, Earlene Ziegler, Evelyn Lawson, Wilberta Rollins, and Nellie Kilgore; grandchildren, Isaiah and Amanda Triplett, Mercedes Uselton, Madison and Megan Reece Jordan and mother-in-law, Lucille Muir. The family received friends from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM CDT, on Wednesday, March 12, 2014, with funeral services following with R. Wayne Bowman officiating. Interment was in Sequatchie Valley Memorial Gardens with full military honors provided by the Sequatchie Valley Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers the family requested that donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



**EARL M. MacHOLL, JR.** - Died Monday, December 9, 2013 at University Hospital at the age of 67. He was a resident of Baldwinsville, New York. The cause of death was Diabetes Mellitus Type II; Renal failure; Congestive Heart Failure and Hypertension. A lifetime resident of the Syracuse area, he was a graduate of Marcellus High School and OCC. He was a Vietnam Army veteran and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America Syracuse Chapter #103**. Earl retired in 1999 as police chief after 26 years with the Town of Camillus Police Department. He loved spending time with his family and enjoyed watching football and was an avid Nascar fan. Earl was predeceased by his sister, Ellen Bradshaw, in 2012; and brother, Edward, in 2011. Surviving are his wife of 48 years, the former Patricia O'Connor; sons, Brian (Dawn) of Camillus, Kevin (Tammy) of Rivera Beach, FL, Timothy (Danielle) of Camillus and Dennis (Shena) of Constantia; grandchildren, Amanda, Alexandra, Mariah, Kevin, Joshua, John, Michael, Archer, Thomas and Bowen; and several nieces and nephews. Relatives and friends called on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Buranich Funeral Home, 5431 West Genesee Street, Camillus, New York. Funeral services were on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the funeral home. Earl was laid to rest in Greenlawn Cemetery, Warners. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Vietnam Veterans of America, CNY Chapter 103, P.O. Box 675, Liverpool, NY 13088.



**DAVID EARL McConnell** - Died Saturday, March 22, 2014 in Union, Ohio at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 21, 1946 to the late John and Carolyn (née Jameson) McConnell. He retired from GTE with many years of service. David was a veteran of Vietnam serving in the United States Army and a life member of the American Legion in West Milton. He was also an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ohio**. He is survived by his wife of 45 years: Donna Lee (née Riley) McConnell, brother: James (Carol Anne) McConnell, nieces: Pam and Judy McConnell, half brother-in-law: Robert Schaeffer, “special daughters”: Jackie (Kipp) Brown, Terri Davis, “special grandchildren”: A.J., Corrine, Ashley, Alexis, relatives and friends. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at the Kindred Funeral Home (400 Union Boulevard, Englewood). Interment was at the Miami Memorial Park in Covington. The family received friends on Wednesday, from 1:00 PM until time of services. If desired, memorial contributions may be made to Disabled American Veterans. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.KindredFuneralHome.com](http://www.KindredFuneralHome.com).



**ADRIAN SPENCER “Mac” McLAUGHLIN** - Died Wednesday, January 29, 2014, at Providence Hospital at the age of 65. He was a resident of Manning, South Carolina. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 26, 1948 in Paris, Maine to the late Merlyn Densmore and Elsie (née Dean) McLaughlin. He was a retired master carpenter, a United States Air Force Vietnam veteran, a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Manning Chapter #960**, the Flying Tigers, a Civil War reenactor, and a member of Manning First Baptist Church and the P.T. Bradham Sunday School class. He is survived by his wife of Manning, Deborah Sue (née Keys) McLaughlin; two sons, Brian McLaughlin (Jodi) and Keith McLaughlin (Kelli), all of Mechanicsville, MD; three grandchildren, Morgen McLaughlin, Abigail McLaughlin and Madison Marconi; four brothers, Merlyn McLaughlin, Herschel McLaughlin, Sheridan McLaughlin and Lyndon McLaughlin; a sister,

Charlotte Mayo (Mark); three brothers-in-law, William Byrd Keys (Bonnie), Richard Keys and Robert Keys (Sandy); and three sisters-in-law, Betty Ann Young (Dana), Linda Carol Shotwell (Bo) and Robin Darlene Groves (Jody). He was preceded in death by a brother, Albert McLaughlin; and a sister-in-law, Cinda Keys. A memorial service was held at 3:00 PM on Sunday, February 2, 2014, at the Manning First Baptist Church with the Reverend Dale Roach officiating. Honorary pallbearers were members of Vietnam Veterans of America. Memorials may be made to Manning First Baptist Church, 49 W. Boyce Street, Manning, SC 29102. Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church St., Manning, was in charge of arrangements.

**ROY WALDEMAR MORTENSON** – Died from pancreatic cancer on Monday, June 17, 2013 in Burnsville, Minnesota at the age of 87. He was born August 14, 1925, in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Swedish immigrants. He was a patriotic retired United States Marine and individual dedicated to a life of helping others. Known by many in the community as “Grandpa Roy,” he is survived by his four biological children, David, Sandie, Teresa and Jon; stepchildren, John, Mary and Chris; his brother, Carl-Rudy; and his family at Nature’s Edge Therapy Center. Roy joined the United States Marine Corps at the age of 18, shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. With his radio repair training, Roy saw combat service throughout the Asian-Pacific campaign (Palau, Saipan, Tinian, Iwo Jima and Guam). At the end of WWII, Roy found himself stationed back in Minneapolis, but soon his radio repair skills were required again during the Korean War. Although he retired from active duty after 23 years, those who knew Roy recognize that he never really retired from the Marine Corps. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wisconsin**. After his military career, Roy settled in Clear Lake, Wisconsin. Roy’s interest in Icelandic horses drew him to Nature’s Edge Therapy, where he became a contributing member of the board of directors. Over the years, he volunteered hundreds of hours and could often be found working with patients and logged many hours with his “Icelandic partner,” Svali. His volunteer work with children at Nature’s Edge was rewarded with, as he stated, “my pay is a million smiles.” With the help of friends, Roy took his last ride on June 14<sup>th</sup>, just a few days before his passing. Although Roy seldom displayed a religious denomination throughout his life, Roy’s personal religious beliefs were communicated as he oftentimes made reference to “the man upstairs.” Pastor Michael Schumacher from High-Way Gospel Church, where Roy devoted many hours in caring for the congregation, described Roy as having the “BEST servant heart” he has ever seen. Roy finally completed his mission on earth and now is on a journey to “meet the man upstairs.” His devotion to helping others will be missed by many. Pastor Mike Schumacher led services at 10:00 AM on August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Clear Lake Community Center, 560 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Clear Lake Wisconsin. A military funeral was at 2:00 PM at the Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, North 4063 Veterans Way, Spooner Wisconsin.

**DOUGLAS RANDOLPH MUNCY** - Died Thursday, May 8, 2014 in Wharton, West Virginia at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 10, 1946 at Eckman, West Virginia to the late William H. and Lydia (née Roberts) Muncy. He was also preceded in death by a brother, Larry C. Muncy. He was a coal miner and a member of U.M.W.A and was a United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of**

**America – Hurricane Chapter #37.** He is survived by his wife, Leona Simpson; sons, Jerry D. Muncy and Edwin P. Muncy both of Ohio, Douglas R. Muncy, Jr. of Sumerco and Kevin S. Muncy of Newton, NC; two brothers, William H. Muncy of Richmond, VA and Terry A. Muncy of Lerona, WV; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 10, 2014 in the Mausoleum at Roselawn Cemetery, Princeton, West Virginia with the Reverend Jay Blankenship officiating.

**GERALD “Gerry” MURAWSKI** - Died Monday, March 17, 2014 in Hamtramck, Michigan at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on December 15, 1951. He served in the United States Army with a tour in Vietnam from January 29, 1971 to October 27, 1972. Gerry was a five time PLAV Post #6 Commander, member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**, John Smith’s Old-timers’, International Order of the Alhambra Sancho Caravan, Half Century Club, VAVS Deputy Representative for the John Dingle Veteran Hospital in Detroit. He was preceded in death by his wife, Andrea. He is survived by many cousins and friends. Visitation was from Wednesday 5:00-8:00 PM and Thursday 2:00-8:00 PM with a memorial service at 7:00 PM by the Sancho Caravan at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212. He laid-In-State on Friday from 9:30 AM until the time of Funeral Mass at 10:00 AM at Saint Ladislaus Catholic Church, 2730 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212.

**EMERY L. D. MYERS** – Died Wednesday, November 20, 2013 in Altus, Oklahoma at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 12, 1947 in Yakima, Washington. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**.

**DON E. NABORS** – Died in June 2012 at the Lawton-Fort Sill Veterans Center in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Permanently Hospitalized Veteran Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**.

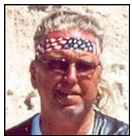
**THOMAS A. NAPOLITANO** – Died Thursday, April 24, 2014 in Chicago, Illinois at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 5, 1951. He was a retired Police Officer of the Chicago Police Department. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Island Lake Chapter #242**. He was the loving husband of Kathy; devoted father of Brian (Kelly) and Rocco Napolitano; cherished grandfather of Tori; dear brother of Tony (Maryann); fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. He was also a member of the Italian-American Police Association and the Marine Corps League. Visitation was on Sunday 4:00-9:00 PM. The Funeral was on Monday with prayers at 9:00 AM at the Elms Funeral Home 7600 West Grand Avenue (North at 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue) Elmwood Park to Saint Ladislaus Church with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 AM. Interment was in Queen of Heaven Cemetery.



**RICHARD LOUIS “Rick” PARSONS** - Died in Upland, California on Friday, January 3, 2014 of congestive heart failure. He was 68 years of age. He was born in Brooklyn,



New York on June 3, 1945 to the late Ann and Everett Parsons. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by one sister, Mary Duquesnel. He married to Denise Marie Landtroop on May 30, 1970, in LaMarque, Texas. In addition to his wife, Denise, he is also survived by his sons, Darren and Kevin Parsons; and, four grandchildren- Ian, Blake, Ireland and Ava Parsons. He graduated from LaMarque High School in LaMarque, Texas and earned a BA in Behavioral Science from California Polytechnic University in Pomona, California. He served in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam from 1966-1969. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Riverside Chapter #47**. Richard worked for the California Highway Patrol from 1970-1984 and left at the rank of Sergeant; Collectors Corner/Art Finds International as Vice President from 1984- 1992 and completed his professional career with the Department of Motor Vehicles as the Supervising Investigator for Internal Affairs. He had been retired since 2008. His Funeral Services were held in Burnet, Texas at Edgar Funeral Home at 9:00 AM on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. Interment was at Bluffton Cemetery in Bluffton, Texas at 2:00 PM that afternoon. A Celebration of Life Memorial was held in Ontario, California at the Doubletree Hotel on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at 11:00 AM. Arrangements were under the direction of Draper Mortuary, Ontario, CA.



**WILLIAM F. "Willy" PELTIER** - Died peacefully at home in Hudson, Wisconsin on March 12, 2014 at the age of 70. The cause of death was cancer. He was born November 16, 1943. He was predeceased by parents and an infant son. He is survived by loving wife, RaeAnn M. Peltier; children, Michelle and Renee (Victor) Green and their Mother Mary, bonus children, Brenda and Kip Denisson; grandsons, Benn, Shawn and Isaiah; favorite granddaughter, Cayla; siblings, Lee (Dottie) Green and Alice (John) Olson; goddaughter, Kathy Green; many other loving relatives & dear friends, especially his faithful and loving silky terrier Waylon J. Peltier. Willy was a friend of Bill W., a proud Vietnam Veteran and member of Freeman MC. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Paul Chapter #320**. He received a BA from the University of Minnesota and Masters from St. Thomas College. After retiring as a Maplewood Police Officer, Willy enjoyed many years as an over the road semi-truck driver. A celebration of life was from 4:00-8:00 PM on Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Wulff Funeral Home, 1485 White Bear Avenue, St. Paul. Tie dyed welcome! Inurnment was at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials may be given to the River Falls Cancer Center.

**RABBI DR. MORTON H. POMERANTZ** – Died Friday, May 2, 2014 in Douglaston, New York after a short illness at the age of 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 14, 1938 in East Cleveland, Ohio to the late Dr. Max Pomerantz and Gertrude Pomerantz. He attended Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati where he was ordained a Rabbi. He was a member and Assistant Rabbi at Cleveland's Temple Tifereth Israel, led by the late Rabbi Abba Silver. During the Vietnam conflict Rabbi Pomerantz joined the United States Navy and served as a Marine Corps and Navy Chaplain with the rank of Lieutenant. He served during this time with the late John Cardinal O'Connor, then a Navy Chaplain. After the Navy he served at several congregations in New York State, and became a Chaplain for the State of New York at the Long Island Developmental Center in Melville. He also was active in numerous veterans organizations including the Jewish War Veterans where he served as Deputy National Chaplain. He was also

an active member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hicksville Chapter #82** and the Navy League. Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion awarded him an honorary doctorate on the 25th anniversary for his long public service. Rabbi Pomerantz is survived by his brother Barry Pomerantz of Newton, Massachusetts, and his nephews Noah and Daniel. He is also survived by his cousin Barton Brier of New York and Betty Nichol of Columbus, Ohio. The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made in Rabbi Pomerantz's memory to the charity of the giver's choice. A funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at the Riverside Nassau North Chapel at 55 North Station Plaza, Great Neck, New York. Burial with military honors was at the Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton, New York.

**JAMES W. RAMAGE** – Died Tuesday, March 11, 2014 in Thiensville, Wisconsin at the age of 67. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born in Geneva, New York on July 25, 1946. He served in the United States Marine Corps from June 10, 1964 to July 28, 1969 with a tour in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Newburg Chapter #448**. The funeral arrangements were under the direction of Schramka-Densow Funeral Home, Thiensville, Wisconsin.

**FRANCIS LEE RAPLEE** - Died on Monday February 18, 2013 at the VA Community Living Center at the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg, West Virginia at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Elmira, New York on July 29, 1949 to the late LeRoy Raplee and Eva (née Worthington) Raplee Austin. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his stepfather, David Austin and his stepbrother David A. Austin. He is survived by his daughter, Tammi Raplee Gryniuk, (Darren); grandchildren, Mason and Mia Gryniuk; sisters, Beverly Raplee Foust (Dale), of Mainesburg, PA, and Kathy Raplee Harris, (Stan) of Wellsburg, NY; brother, Preston Raplee (Deby Kay), of Xena, OH,; also many nieces, nephews and cousins. Francis was a United States Army Veteran and Purple Heart recipient of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads Chapter #803**. He was a truck mechanic and retired from JCD Transportation of Elmira, NY. Family and friends were invited to call at Olthof Funeral Home, Inc. 1050 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elmira/Southport, NY on Thursday February 21, 2013 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM with Funeral and Committal Service there at 3:00 PM, the Reverend Donald Rockwell who officiated. Interment was at the convenience of the family in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, with military honors at the grave. Those wishing may make donations to the Bath VA Hospital, for Resident Activities, envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

**DANNY JOE RICHARDS** – Died Sunday, October 6, 2013 in Texas City, Texas at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 5, 1950. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dickinson Chapter #685**. He is survived by his wife.



**WILLIAM LESLEY RIDLEY, JR.** - Died Sunday, November 13, 2011 at Carteret General Hospital in Newport, North Carolina at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 24, 1946 to the late William, Sr. and Hannah Ridley. In

addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by a sister, Irene Reynolds. Mr. Ridley was employed with the UPS for 35 years in Manhattan, New York. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam Conflict. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – North Carolina**. He was a Deacon Minister at Harvest Chapel in Beaufort. He leaves in memory his wife of 42 years, Laverna Ellison Ridley; three daughters, Lesley Ridley, Arkeem Ridley and Heather Ridley Daniels all of New York; and five grandchildren, Genesis Ridley, Madison Ridley, Jorell Daniels, Saniya Ridley, and Nyle Ridley. He leaves also a brother, Curtis Ridley and wife Rosiland of Chesapeake, VA and their sons, Curtis Ridley, Jr., Kevin Ridley, and Kendall Ridley; and nephews, Mike Reynolds and LaVan Reynolds. Private services were held.

**W. J. "Buddy" RODGERS** - Died Sunday, October 20, 2013 at the VA Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee at the age of 66. The cause of death was cardiopulmonary arrest and metastatic cancer. He was born in Elkton, Tennessee on February 10, 1947 to the late Bill and Virginia Grace (née Hastings) Rodgers. He served as a Lance Corporal in the United State Marine Corps and retired after 32 years with Pulaski Electric System. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pulaski Chapter #262**, American Legion Post 60, Giles County Veterans Alliance, and a charter member of Marine Corps League of Giles County. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his sister, Pamela Sue Rodgers Tucker and his brother, William Clyde Rodgers. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Faye Rodgers of Pulaski; daughter, Kristie Fox and husband Shane of Pulaski; brothers, Bobby Joe Rodgers of Elkmont, Ala., James Dwight Rodgers and wife Lori of Ardmore, Ala., and Timothy Wayne Rodgers and wife Christy, and Stephen Kendall Rodgers, all of Elkton; sisters, Virginia Ann Rodgers Smith and Billie Faye Rodgers Bass, both of Elkton, Mary Elizabeth Rodgers Storey and husband Wilber of Savannah, Tenn., Shelby Jean Rodgers and husband Mike of Buckhead, Ga., Brenda Joy Rodgers Secrest and husband Kenny of Columbia; grandchild, Aaron Fox; special family members, Tim Tucker of Elkton, Bill Bass of Fayetteville, Judy Rodgers of Buckhead, Ga., and Jami Freeman of Ardmore, Ala.; and several nieces and nephews. Visitation was from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Carr & Erwin Funeral Home, Pulaski, followed by the funeral at 1:00 PM in the Carr & Erwin Chapel. Burial was in the Elkton Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Cornersville Baseball Team, c/o 5000 Campbellsville Road, Pulaski, TN 38478. Carr & Erwin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**CHARLES ANTHONY ROE** - Died Thursday, April 3, 2014 at his residence in Jackson, Tennessee at the age of 65. The cause of death was a massive heart attack. He was born in Jackson, Tennessee on December 12, 1948 to the late Bobbie D. and Betty Jane (née Loynes) Moling. He proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corp during the Vietnam War as a member of the Air Medevac Unit. He was retired as a lineman for South Central Bell with twenty-five years of employment. He was an active member of VFW Post #1848, traveling to funeral services of other fallen veterans and participating in numerous fallen flag ceremonies. Each year he participated in the Veterans Day program at Malesus Elementary making a Bible presentation. He often provided transportation for area veterans to the VA Hospital in Memphis. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jackson Chapter #995**. He was a big hearted caring man with many talents that loved animals of all

types, enjoyed hunting, playing softball and writing poems. He cared for his mother, his wife and his family always putting them first. His greatest joys in life were his grandchildren and he loved being involved in their lives. He is survived by his wife, Betty Ann Butler Roe of Jackson, TN; his daughters, Christy Smith (Woody Harris) of Jackson, TN, Charity Deaton (David) of Pinson TN, Carrie Stephenson (Chris) of Mercer, TN and Mary Beth Rankin (Jason) of Jackson, TN his son, Wiley Butler (Liz) of Spring Creek, TN; his brothers, Donald Roe (Wanda) of Jackson, TN, Bobbie Roe (Diane) of Pinson, TN and John Roe (Sherry) of Pinson and a sister, Dr. Laurie Baker (Mark) of Collierville, TN; sixteen grandchildren, Amber Jones, April Smith, Jesse Smith, Preston Smith, Autumn Smith, Ethan Smith, Collin Long, Cristen Long, Cadye Long, Will Deaton, Alison Deaton, Jace Deaton, Dalton Stephenson, Dillon Stephenson, Anna Blankenship and Jason Rankin Jr. and one great-grandchild, Summer Jones. He was preceded in death by his parents and two siblings, Richard Cannon and Tammi Murphy. A funeral service was held at 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 6, 2014 in the chapel of Arrington Funeral Directors with the Reverend Curtis Wilson officiating. Burial was in the Browns Cemetery with military honors. The family received friends and family on Saturday, April 5, 2014 from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Arrington Funeral Directors. Pallbearers will be Collin Long, Dalton Stephenson, Chris Stephenson, David Deaton, Wiley Butler and Jason Rankin. Honorary pallbearers were Jesse Smith, Preston Smith, Ethan Smith, Dillon Stephenson, Jace Deaton, Will Deaton, Sherif Elamrawy, Woody Harris and Donald Roe. Memorial contributions should be directed to the Marine Corps League, 165 Arlington Avenue, Jackson, TN 38301, the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 or Oaklawn Baptist Church, 1350 N. Parkway, Jackson, TN 38305.



**DAVID L. ROWLETT** - Died Tuesday, April 15, 2014 in Hendersonville, Tennessee at the age of 66. The cause of death was cancer. He was born November 11, 1947 in Lubbock, Texas to the late Ovaline and Hoyt Rowlett. David was a generous hardworking man with a loving and tender heart. He had a beautiful smile that would light up the room. He was a friendly man that never met a stranger. He was a selfless serving man and a faithful friend. He was a God-loving Christian man who was a member of Rivergate Church of Christ. He was also a very proud veteran that served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Gallatin Chapter #240**. He enjoyed reading, golfing, playing cards, fishing and spending time with his grandchildren. He is survived by his loving wife & best friend, Jane Rowlett; children, Shawn (Lori), Jason, Eric, Greg (Shelagh), David (Stacy); several grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; sisters, Ethel & Wanda (Mike); brother, Richard; several nieces nephews, extended family members and friends. A Life Celebration was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Hendersonville Funeral Home. Visitation was from 4:00-8:00 PM on Tuesday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Funeral Home. In Lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Alive Hospice. Hendersonville Funeral Home, 353 Johnny Cash Parkway, Hendersonville, TN 37075 (615) 824-3855 or [hendersonvillefh.com](http://hendersonvillefh.com)



**KENNETH RAY SAVAGE** – Died peacefully on the evening of Wednesday, March 5, 2014, in Nacogdoches, Texas having lost his battle with cancer. He was 69 years of age. He was born March 28, 1945 in Center, Texas, the youngest child of

Curtis and Mohea Savage. He was the beloved husband of Diane A. Savage for 34 years. Ken was a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970 and was on active duty in Vietnam as a helicopter door gunner from 1966 to 1969. He proudly served his country so that we could live freely. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Nacogdoches Chapter #931**. Ken and Diane met in 1979 in Port Arthur, and married on May 10, 1980. Ken attended Stephen F. Austin State University and Texas A&M University, and received an Associate of Applied Science degree in diagnostic medical imaging and radiology from Austin Community College. Ken worked as an MRI technician for the medical center in Nacogdoches for several years before retiring in 2010. Ken was a talented musician who enjoyed all kinds of music, but especially loved jazz, the big band era and opera. He loved animals and loved to travel. He also enjoyed studying photography, genealogy and archeology. More than anything, he loved his family. He is survived by his wife, Diane; sister, Patsy Savage Harris of Nacogdoches; daughters, Kheena Pineda and her husband, Hector, of The Woodlands, Deanna Joy Fyffe and her husband, Brian, of Fort Hood, and Dee Dee Yelverton and her husband, Mike, of Taylor; and two grandsons, James and Cameron Pineda of The Woodlands. Ken was a quiet, kind, caring and loving husband, father, brother and friend to all. He will be deeply missed. In remembrance of Ken and in celebration of his life, please consider making a donation, in lieu of flowers, to one of the following organizations of which Ken was a member: The Marine Corps League, Pineywoods Detachment No. 1189, P.O. Box 633781, Nacogdoches, 75963; or Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Pineywoods Chapter No. 931, Nacogdoches, 75963. Laird Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



**PATRICK JAMES SCANLON** - Died Thursday, January 23, 2014 in Horseheads, New York at the age of 71. The cause of death following a long struggle with several health issues from a combination of cancer and a stroke. He was born January 15, 1943 in Stambaugh, Michigan to the late Virgil R. and Marsell (née Skinner) Scanlon. By his side as he passed was Janice (née Glidden) Scanlon, his wife of 49 years. Pat was pre-deceased by his brother and sister-in-law Michael & Renee Scanlon. Aside from Janice, he is survived by his children Sean (Renee) Scanlon of Rochester, NY, Joshua Scanlon of East Syracuse, NY, Meghan Scanlon and beloved grandchildren Ireland, Aela, & Finnian of Horseheads, NY. He is also survived by his sister Debi (Ed) Gufford of FL, brother Richard (Bonnie) Scanlon of WI, nieces Sunda (Marty) Adams and Kerry Scanlon of FL, sisters-in-law Bonnie (Robert) Buchanan of FL and Marcia (Thomas) Parker of WI, and brother-in-law Moses (Dinah) Glidden of AZ, in addition to an extended family of nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. Pat, a 1961 graduate and all-star halfback for Iron Mountain High School (MI), enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and proudly served his country in California and abroad in Okinawa until his honorable discharge in 1964. Upon his return to the US, he married his high school sweetheart Janice Glidden in 1965. As a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (1970: B.S. in Audiology: B.A. in Radio/TV/Film) and Ohio University (1971; M.A. in Audiology), he began his professional career as an Audiologist at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Speech & Hearing Clinic in 1971. In 1974, Pat accepted a position at Elmira College and moved his family to Elmira (and eventually, Horseheads), NY where he served as Associate Professor of Audiology and Director of the Speech & Hearing Clinic until 2005. He was twice the recipient of the Catherine McGraw Rock Award (1989 &

2002) for service to the college and excellence in teaching. During his tenure at EC, he created community outreach programs that allowed the college's audiology students to screen the hearing of area pre-school children as well as visit local industrial sites to perform OSHA sound-level tests. He also spent several summers between the years 1978-82 at Camp Badger in Spencer Van-Etten (NY) where he provided services to hearing-impaired children in a residential camp setting. Additionally, in 1983, Pat created and taught a unique course at EC to honor his brother Michael's service in Vietnam. This Vietnam War History class was dedicated to the combat soldiers that served there, and provided a platform for local veterans to discuss (often for the first time) their experiences as Vietnam Vets. He never accepted credit or accolades for this course, claiming he merely "provided the space and opportunity" for "his" vets to teach. The course was one of the most popular and successful classes each year and remained part of the curriculum for over twenty years. Pat was honored with a *Lifetime Membership of Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads Chapter #803* (Elmira, NY) where he proudly served as Recording Secretary. This local chapter's library was dedicated in 2009 and bears his name. For Pat, family always came first, followed by his loyalty to the Marine Corps and the Green Bay Packers, of which he was a proud shareholder and lifelong fan. Pat was an outspoken advocate for veterans everywhere, and a dedicated audiologist and educator. He will be remembered for his incredible humor and wit, his belly-laugh, and his unending respect for others. He was a trivia expert, displaying an uncanny ability to remember the most minute details of pop-culture. He was also a master story-teller and prankster, an excellent cook, and a shark at card games. He enjoyed life and loved sharing his passions with his friends and family. Pat was above all a devoted husband, father and grandfather whose love and compassion extended to the many unique cats and dogs that shared his life. The world is now duller absent his smile and laughter. We are grateful for the time we shared together and are fortunate to have known him in life. He is eternally loved and missed. Per Pat's wishes, there will be no calling hours or service. Those wishing to remember him may do so by making a donation to the following: Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #803 (Elmira, NY) 1200 Davis Street, Elmira, NY 14901.



**ARTHUR E. "Art" SCHMATZ** - Died Sunday, April 6, 2014 at Libby's House Assisted Living in Chilton, Wisconsin at the age of 88. He was formerly from Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on June 22, 1925 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to the late Joseph and Mary (née Schiesl) Schmatz. He moved with his family to Manitowoc County as a child and graduated from Manitowoc Lincoln High School in 1943. He enlisted in the United States Navy on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday rather than letting the Army draft him. Art served as an Aviation Machinists Mate, 2nd Class, aboard a sub-spotting aircraft, squadron VPB-73. After his discharge from military service, Art returned to Manitowoc where he met and married the former Marilyn Massman on September 11, 1954. Art and Marilyn owned and operated Quality Service Oil Company until time of his retirement. Arthur was active in the American Legion Drews-Bleser Post #88 of Manitowoc, serving in many capacities including Commander for many years. During that time he was selected as Manitowoc County Veteran of the Year and as Legionnaire of the Year. He was also an active member of the 40 & 8. He also had the privilege of flying with Old Glory Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in August



2010. Art was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Manitowoc. He was a *Life Member of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Manitowoc Chapter #731*. Art is survived by his beloved wife: Marilyn, Chilton; his children: Mark Schmatz, Sturgeon Bay; Kelly Schmatz, Manitowoc; Karen (Terry) Wagner, Newton; Maria (Daniel) Viegut, Madison; six grandchildren: Jeremy Schmatz; Zachary Schmatz; McKenzy Wagner; Mallory Wagner; Madeline Viegut; Amelia Viegut; one brother and sister-in-law: Joseph (Lois) Schmatz, Cato; four sisters and two brothers-in-law: Betty Musial, Manitowoc; Frances (Harold) McDonnell, Manitowoc; Marion Dhein, Manitowoc; Anna (Milt) Hassemer, Whitelaw; one sister-in-law: Lorraine Massman, Manitowoc; one special niece: Annie Schwalbe, Manitowoc, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends also survive. Arthur was preceded in death by his parents: Joseph and Mary Schmatz; one son: Michael Schmatz; his father-in-law and mother-in-law: Paul and Catherine (Denor) Massman; four brothers-in-law and one sister-in-law: Melvin (Dorothy) Luckow; Norman Massman; James Dhein and Raymond Musial. Memorial services were held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, April 12, 2014 at Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 2601 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Manitowoc. The Reverend Dave Pleier officiated with burial of his cremated remains in the Calvary Cemetery with full military graveside honors accorded by the American Legion Drews-Bleser Post #88 of Manitowoc. Relatives and friends called at the chapel on Saturday from 9:00 AM until the time of the service at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers the family requested that memorials be made to Old Glory Honor Flight or The American Legion Baseball Team. The Reinbold & Pfeffer Family Funeral Home of Manitowoc is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.jensreinboldandpfeffer.com](http://www.jensreinboldandpfeffer.com). The family would like to thank the staff at Libby's House for the kind and loving care of Arthur over the last two and a half years.

**THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER** - Died Thursday, February 20, 2014 in Potomac, Maryland at the age of 68. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related cancer. He was born January 9, 1946 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was the beloved husband of Julie A. Bader and the late Lesley McGruder Schneider; the father of James Austin Schneider (wife - Jennifer Herndon Schneider) and Jonathan Lancer Schneider. Mr. Schneider is also survived by his granddaughter, Logan Elizabeth Schneider. He served in the United States Army from January 12, 1968 to January 7, 1972 with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a West Point graduate and attained the rank of Captain. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Silver Spring Chapter #641*. Friends were received at Pumphrey's Colonial Funeral Home, 300 West Montgomery Avenue (Rte. 28, exit 6A just off I-270), Rockville, MD on Monday from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Saint Raphael Catholic Church, Falls and Dunster Roads, Rockville, MD on Tuesday, February 25 at 10:30 AM. Interment with full military honors took place at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 or to the Yellow Ribbon Fund, 4905 Delray Avenue, Suite 500, Bethesda, MD 20814



**THOMAS J. SEMLER** – Died Thursday, September 18, 2008 at the Arnot Ogden Medical Center at the age of 77. He was a resident of Horseheads, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 22, 1930 in Elmira, New York to the late Gerald and Mary Catherine (née Ryan) Semler. In addition to his

parents, he was also predeceased by his sons, Michael Joseph and Gerald David Semler; and daughter, Katherine Elizabeth Semler. Tom is survived by his wife of 55 years, Shirley (Morgan) Semler; children, Donna Pidcoe of Millerton, PA, Gary T. Semler of Elmira, and Daniel P. Semler of Catlin; grandsons, Joseph Pidcoe of Catlin, and Patrick Semler of Elmira; brothers, Robert and David Semler, both of Elmira; sisters, Jeanne Bollen of Elmira, and Mary (Chris) Shelmerdine of Baldwinsville, NY; along with several nieces and nephews. Tom retired from Bedford Hills Correctional Facility as Food Service Administrator. He also retired from the United States Army as a Sergeant First Class after 20 years. He served one tour in Korea and two tours in Vietnam, being awarded 2 Purple Hearts, 2 Silver Medals and a Bronze Star. Tom was also a member of the American Legion Post 443 Elmira. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads Chapter #803*. Family and friends were invited to visit Walter J. Kent Funeral Home, 858 Lake Street at Washington Ave., Elmira, on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. His funeral service was held there on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:00 PM. Committal prayers and interment, with Military Honors, were in the Woodlawn Cemetery.



**EDWARD GENE SHANKLIN** - Died Sunday, April 27, 2014 at Treasure Coast Hospice in Fort Pierce, Florida at the age of 68. He was a resident of Port Saint Lucie, Florida. The cause of death was liver and kidney cancer. A native Floridian, Edward was born on August 20, 1945 to the late Frank and Dorothy Shanklin in West Palm Beach, Florida. He remained in Palm Beach County until 2011, when he relocated to Port Saint Lucie. Edward was a Vietnam Veteran whom served in the United States Navy, Mobile Battalion Unit 11. He was an auto mechanic by trade, and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – West Palm Beach Chapter #25**, and the Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-12, West Palm Beach. Edward is survived by his wife of nearly 3 years, Maggie Shanklin; daughters Shannon Krause of Port St. Lucie, and Kelly Lammert of Lake Worth; sons Frank Mandrell of West Palm Beach, Charles Shanklin of West Palm Beach, and Dustin Ziegler of Danbury, CT; step sons are Andy and Shane LeBlanc of Ontario Canada; grandchildren Matthew Shanklin, Alex Walls, Kyle Walls, Arielle Krause, Soraya Shanklin, Pearl Ziegler, Ryan, Jonah, Josh and Ethan LeBlanc; sister Elizabeth Burney; and his brother George “Bud” Shanklin. Inurnment was at 1:30 PM on Monday, May 5, 2014 at South Florida National Cemetery, Lake Worth, Florida. Immediately following there was a gathering of family and friends at the Lake Osbourne pavilion in John Prince Park at the north end of park near Lake Worth Road entrance.



**GARY T. SHOCKLEY** – Died Saturday, January 18, 2014 in Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, at the age of 66. He was a resident of Flintville, Tennessee. The cause of death was metastatic prostate cancer. He was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee to the late Ernest A. Shockley and Vera M. (née Hudson) Sewell, who survives. He was retired from the Department of Defense as a Documentation Specialist for Configuration Management, was a United States Army Veteran with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne and a member of the Smithland Community Church. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Fayetteville Chapter #580*. Survivors include his wife Carroll L. Thompson Shockley of Flintville, son Dion Shockley of Elora, daughter Mandy Allen and husband Joseph of Flintville, grandchildren Alexis and Jackson Allen of Flintville, mother Vera M. Sewell of Midlothian, IL,

brothers Wayne Shockley and wife Gail of Hazel Green, AL, Michael Sewell and wife Linda of Marion, IN, sister Judy Doyle and husband Gary of Midlothian, IL, 2 nieces, 4 nephews, 2 great-nieces and 2 great-nephews. Visitation with the family was on Tuesday evening from 5:00 until 8:00 PM and Wednesday from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM at Higgins Funeral Home. Funeral service was conducted Wednesday at 1:00 PM in the chapel of Higgins Funeral Home with Brother Charles Keller and Richard Wright co-officiating. Burial was in Shady Grove Cemetery.

**ROBERT L. SKELTON, JR.** – Died Saturday, May 11, 2013 Alameda, California at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 9, 1946. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oakland Chapter #400**.



**DAVID CHARLES SKIPWORTH** – Died Wednesday, January 29, 2014 in Garland, Texas at the age of 67, after a lengthy illness. The cause of death was cirrhosis, hepatitis C and malignant liver cancer. He was born in Greenville, Texas on January 13, 1947. After moving to Dallas, he attended Brian Adams High School in Dallas. With a heart for service, he joined the United States Marine Corps in 1967, and served several tours in Vietnam, of which he was very proud. He was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal and Campaign Medal with device. He attended Texas Aero Tech and Richland College. He worked for Ryder System Airline Service Division, and Horseshoe Casinos in Las Vegas and Shreveport. He became disabled in 1998. A quick wit, he loved to joke, he loved fishing, coin and stamp collecting and scuba diving. He was a member of American Legion and the NRA. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mesquite Chapter #137**. He is survived by his wife Sandra Skipworth, brother Jack Skipworth (Ida), sister Joy Dickey (Dan), daughter Shawn Echols (Eric), daughter Stephanie Wells (Eddie Crain), son David Skipworth, Jr. of Las Vegas, daughter Melissa Skipworth of Las Vegas, grandchildren Jessica Nix, Whitney Hensley, Britney Murphy (Rocky), Tyler Echols, great grandchildren Makenzie Lyon, Rocky Murphy III, nieces Courtney Potter, Luciana Morgan, Jeanette Kenney, grand-niece Jessica, Kendra and Joshua Taylor, Shayla and Philip Morgan and many beloved family members in Brasil. The Celebration of life was at the Casa View Baptist Church, 130 East I-30, Garland, Texas 75043, Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 1:00 PM. Ice Cream social following. Memorials are may be made to Disabled American Veterans and Wounded Warrior Project.

**ELLIS H. "Bootie" SMITH** – Died Sunday, May 18, 2014 while at Virginia Beach, Virginia with his beloved Vietnam brothers and sisters beside him. He was 65 years of age and a resident of Madison, Virginia. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Fauquier County, Virginia on July 5, 1948 to the late Ellis Gibson and Myrtle Lee Smith. Bootie was a member of Forest Grove Baptist Church in Amissville, Virginia. He loved the Lord and always helped others anywhere that he was. He served his country as a proud United States Marine and was an honored *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Piedmont Area Chapter #752** in Culpeper, Virginia and was a retired firefighter of Vint Hill Farm Station in Warrenton, VA. Bootie cherished his grandchildren and enjoyed fishing in his dear friend's pond. He is survived by two sons, Jason Howard Smith and his children, Isabella, Kaiden, Evan; Jonathan Matthew

Smith and his wife, Onnie and their children, Jonathan, Drake and Dalton. Additional survivors include three sisters and brother, Bobbie Coffey and her husband, Ray, Peggy Stringfellow and her husband, James, Janice "Peewee" Cooke and Sam Thompson; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. The family received family and friends on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Found and Sons Funeral Chapel, 850 Sperryville Pike, Culpeper, Virginia. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 2:00 PM at Forest Grove Baptist Church, 258 Forest Grove Road, Amissville, Virginia with Pastor Mark DeAngelis officiating. Interment was in the Forest Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Found and Sons Funeral Chapel of Culpeper was in charge of the arrangements.



**EKREM "Eck" SPAHICH** - A distinguished Croatian-American from Fritch, Texas, died Wednesday, August 6, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was 63 years of age. Eck was born in 1945 in Tuzla, Bosnia. At the age of four months, at the end of WWII, his parents took him and retreated with the Croatian Army toward Bleiburg, Austria. In the chaos, his parents were separated and never saw each other again. Having little choice, Eck's father left his infant son with a peasant woman in Slovenia. Eck's uncle took him back to Tuzla to his grandmother who raised him. At the age of fifteen, Eck immigrated to the United States and was reunited with his father in Amarillo, Texas. After arriving in the United States, Eck completed high school and subsequently attended West Texas State University, graduating in journalism and history. Eck volunteered in the Vietnam War and served as a war journalist and was awarded for his merits. After an honorable discharge from the United States Army, he settled in the city of Borger, Texas, and became an editor of the Borger News Herald. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sanford Chapter #404**. In 1973, Eck married Helen, a medical nurse. They had two children and two grandchildren. In addition to journalism, Eck was successful in real estate and was awarded several times for his activity. During the recent war in the former Yugoslavia, Eck was tireless in collecting and sending money, food, medicines, and clothes to the victims of the war. Most important was his journalistic activity resulting in countless letters and articles to all who could help defend Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina from Serbian aggression. In 1972, Eck organized the **Croatian Philatelic Society** and started the social journal, **Trumpter (Trubljac)**. He was an active member of "Bluebonnet" **Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 1836** in Houston. In 1993, Eck was especially pleased to receive an award by the Daughters of the American Revolution that represented their highest recognition given to naturalized Americans. Also, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, the former president of Croatia, awarded Eck with "**Red Hrvatskog Pletera**" for his efforts in recognition of new nations and liberation from Serbian oppression. During the award presentation, Eck noted: "I am proud to be an American and Texan, but I am equally proud of my Croatian ancestry. This award is not only mine, it belongs to all who worked with me for freedom, independence and international recognition of Croatia." Eck was asked by his dear friend how he wanted to be remembered. His answer was as a "**Borac and Domobran**" (fighter and Defender of the Homeland).

**JOHN R. "J.R." SPALDING** – Died on Sunday, October 20, 2013 in Monument, Colorado at the age of 88. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 28, 1925. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Colorado**.



**DAVID PAUL STAMP** - Died Saturday, April 19, 2014 in Hamlin, New York at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in 1943 to the late Herbert and Mabel (née Crouse) Stamp. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brothers, Herbert, James, and Nelson and his sisters; Martha Rounds, Sally Stone, Margaret, and Ruthie. He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Mary (née Winters) Stamp; son, Carlton and Jenn Winters; brothers, Burton (Joyce) Stamp of Medina, Lyman (Cathy) Stamp of Hamlin; sister-in-laws, Carol (Nelson) Stamp of Byron and Mary Ann (Jim) Stamp of OH; grandchildren, Brian, Albert, Trina Winters, Ashley Hunt, Jacqueline and Brianna Larson; several nieces and nephews and many beloved friends. He was a Vietnam Veteran with 2 tours of duty and 12 years in the United States Marine Corps including 2 Purple Hearts. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20** and a member of Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church. He drove trucks for Emerson Trucking. Friends and family called on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014, from 3:00-7:00 PM at New Comer Funeral Home, 2636 Ridgeway Avenue. His Funeral Service was at 7:00 PM with the Reverend Roberta Davis, officiating with Military Honors. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #20.



**MARK ELLIOTT STEPHENS** - Died Sunday, December 15, 2013 at the Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, New York at the age of 65. He was a resident of Millerton, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Iowa City, Iowa on August 27, 1948 to Beatrice "Bee" Stephens and her late husband Robert Stephens. He is survived by his wife of 36 years Cathy (née Taylor) Stephens of Millerton, daughter and son-in-law: Melissa (Michael) Hutcheson of Tioga PA, Son Robert (Tabatha) Stephens of Tioga, PA; three grandsons: Avery Hutcheson, Riley and Elliott Stephens.; Brother Michael (Patty) Stephens of Pine City, NY; nieces Lucy and Mary, nephew Zachary Stephens. Mark held a strong work ethic that he instilled in all who had the privilege of knowing him. With this strong work ethic, he founded and ran his company "Freestyle Striping" for 15 years for which he was very proud. The love he had for his family extended to his wrestling family as well. His will and dedication to mentoring and coaching the youth of the area leaves a profound legacy never to be matched. He was very proud to be the first New York State Wrestling Champion at Southside High School in 1966, that led to his lifelong dream of being inducted to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame; for his Lifetime Achievements and Dedication to the sport. Mark was a United States Marine Corps Veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads Chapter #803**. He would want us to celebrate his life, not mourn. Continue on, "In the Spirit of the Sport." There are no words to express the thanks for the unprecedented care of Mark and our family at Strong Memorial Hospital, Dr. Markandaya's team and the whole NeuroMedicine ICU 32800. They opened not only their technologic expertise but they enveloped us in love. We will be forever grateful to them for allowing us this time with him. Those wishing, please make



memorials in Mark E. Stephens name to this specific unit as they move forward caring for others and learning from Mark, again. Family and friends were invited to gather at the Olthof Funeral Home, Inc. 1050 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elmira, NY on Saturday, December 21, 2013 from 4:00PM -7:00 PM and again on Sunday, December 22, 2013 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM . A celebration of Mark's life was celebrated immediately following calling hours on Sunday at 3:00 PM. Lay Pastor John Knapp officiated. Graveside services and full military honors were held Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM at the Woodlawn National Cemetery. Guestbook may be signed in obituaries at [www.olthof.com](http://www.olthof.com).

**MICHAEL R. STODDARD** – Died Friday, January 18, 2002 in Niceville, Florida at the age of 55. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Elmira, New York on September 7, 1946. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Horseheads (New York) Chapter #803**.



**DOYLE THOMAS TAYLOR** - Died Thursday, November 14, 2013 at his home in Pulaski, Tennessee at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in McMinnville, Warren County, Tennessee on October 21, 1946 to the late William Bruce and Hassie Pauline (née Jones) Taylor. He was a retired shop foreman for Giles County School Bus Garage. He served in the United States Army and the United States Navy during Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pulaski Chapter #262**. He was a member of the Beech Hill Church of Christ and a song leader. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, William Ronnie Taylor and his sisters, Mary Novella Dennard and Marsha Wiser. Visitation was on Sunday, November 17, 2013, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Carr & Erwin Funeral Home. Funeral Services were held on Monday, November 18, 2013, at 11:00 AM at the Carr & Erwin Chapel, with burial in Beech Hill Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Mental Health or Cancer Association. Survivors are his wife, Kay Taylor of Beech Hill, TN, brothers, Robert Bruce Taylor of Jacksonville, FL, Larry Q. Taylor of Spencer, TN, sisters, Donna Herring of Athens, AL, Bonnie Scott of Caledonia, Miss., several nieces and nephews. Carr & Erwin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**GUY ABBOTT TELZER** – Died Thursday, July 26, 2012 in La Marque, Texas at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 24, 1940 in Tallahassee, Florida. He served in the United States Navy from August 23, 1962 to September 19, 1966. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dickinson Chapter #685**.

**LARRY BLAINE TENNANT** - Died peacefully with family by his side on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at his residence in Mannington, West Virginia at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 24, 1941 at Daybrook, West Virginia to the late Earnest and Esther (née Reeves) Tennant. Larry is survived by his wife and caregiver, Janet Whittaker Tennant; six children, Kevin Tennant and wife Susie of Texas, Tammy Jacobs and husband Gary of Mt. Airy, Maryland, Paula Tennant of Aurora, Tracie Heldreth and husband Frank of Mannington, Kurtiss Tennant of Barrackville, and Pamela Tennant and husband Greg of Morgantown; a brother, Richard Tennant and wife Onedia of Fayetteville, and a sister, Loretta Fluharty of Plum Run; grandchildren, Tiffany Tennant, Ashleigh and Andrew Cummings, Erika Jacobs, Levi and Danielle



Heldreth, Zaccheus and Ella Tennant, Brianna Maxwell and Chase Painter; special friends, Ronnie Powell, Donnie White, Mark Morris, John and Linda Latocha, Olive and Louise Toothman, and the late Joe Potoczny. In addition to his parents, Larry was preceded in death by two brothers, Robert Tennant and Wayne Tennant, and a sister, Alice Ruth Hinds. Larry was a United States Army Vietnam veteran. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mannington Chapter #1055**. He was also a member of the American Legion. He enjoyed camping at Big Bear and Bemis. He also enjoyed hiking, golfing and spending time with family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to All Veterans Memorial, c/o Vietnam Veterans of America, P.O. Box 8, Mannington, WV 26582, or the Fairmont Union Mission. Family and friends called at Masters Funeral Home, 209 Main Street, Mannington, on Sunday from 2:00-8:00 PM. Funeral services were held on Monday at 11:00 AM in the funeral home with the Reverend Mark Osborne and Pastor Jerry Bush co-officiating. Burial was at the Grandview Memorial Garden Cemetery in Fairmont. Pall bearers were Bill Anderson, Ronnie Powell Jr., Doug Lantz, Kurtiss Tennant, Kevin Tennant and Frank Heldreth.

**CARMEN TERRANOVA** – Died in May 2014 in Lakewood, New Jersey at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 15, 1950. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Brick Chapter #200**. A graveside service was held for Mr. Terranova on Monday, May 5, 2014 at the Ocean County Memorial Park at 1:00 PM.



**PAUL E. THOMAS** (USA, SFC-Ret.) – Died Friday, April 11, 2014 at the Willis Knighton Medical Center in Bossier City, Louisiana at the age of 83. He was a resident of Magnolia, Arkansas. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 13, 1930 in Emerson, Arkansas to the late Jessie and the late Alto (née Doss) Thomas. At an early age, Paul joined Pine Hill CME Church, and also became a member of Forest Grove CME. He attended school in Emerson, AR. Shortly after graduating from McMittress High School, he enlisted in the United States Army and served twenty-seven years including tours of duty in Vietnam, Germany, Fort Greely Alaska, Fort Chaffee Arkansas, Fort Bliss Texas, Fort Knox Kentucky, and finally at Fort Campbell Kentucky, where he retired in 1977. SFC Thomas received numerous decorations including two Bronze Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four campaign stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Sixty Device, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm for Valor and Heroic Conduct in battle, two Overseas Service Bars, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), National Defense Service Medal 1st OLC, and Good Conduct Medal (3rd Award). After retirement, he attended Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN, where he studied Business Management. Paul held management positions at Fort Knox Officer's Club and Fort Campbell Bowling Alleys. He later relocated to Columbia County, AR, where he was employed as a Security Officer at SMI. Paul married the love of his life, Flossie Biddle, on March 6, 1955, and enjoyed spending time with his family, working on his vehicles, gardening and volunteering his service to help others. Paul was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Magnolia Chapter #808**, Non-Commission Officers Association, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, AARP, Masons, and Columbia County Crisis Center. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Darnell Thomas, and a sister, Joyce Rhymes. Paul was a husband, father,

grandfather, and soldier, always, and will be greatly missed by those who had a chance to know the real SFC Paul Thomas. God rest his soul. Survivors include his beloved wife, Flossie (née Biddle) Thomas, Magnolia, AR; eight sons, Tommy Earl Thomas, Dallas, TX, James (Maria) Thomas, Pontiac, MI, Attorney Edward Taylor, Detroit, MI, Dr. Demetrius (Mary) Thomas, Clarksville, TN, Frederick Thomas, Seattle, WA, Jefferey Taylor, Donald Thomas and Bernard Thomas of Magnolia, AR; two daughters, Jocelyn Green, Kansas City, KS, and Jacqueline King, Lawton, OK; twenty-three grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, one brother, Carnell (Gloria) Thomas, Emerson, AR, two sisters, Gwendolyn McDowell, Emerson, AR and Maggie Wells, Milwaukee, WI, and nieces and nephews. Funeral services with full military honors were held at Columbia District Christian Center (Youngblood Auditorium), 611 South Madison, Magnolia, on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 PM with officiants Evangelist Hanna Coble and Reverend Clifton White and under the direction of Henderson Funeral Service. Burial was on April 22, 2014, at the Arkansas State National Veterans Cemetery in North Little Rock, AR. Visitation was from Noon until 4:00 PM on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at Henderson's Mortuary, 614 Calhoun Road, Magnolia.

**JOHN NEIL THOMPSON, JR.** – Died Monday, May 5, 2014 in Groveland, New York at the age of 68 years. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 23, 1945 to the late John Neil Thompson, Sr. and Helen and his stepfather LaVern McKelvey. He is survived by his wife, Cathy (née Schicker) Thompson, children, Matthew Thompson of Groveland, Amy Thompson of Euless, TX, Naomi (Brian Taylor) Thompson of Groveland, grandson, Evan Thompson of Euless, TX. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. Friends called on Friday from 4:00-7:00 PM at the Rector-Hicks Funeral Home, 111 Main Street in Geneseo. Graveside Services were held on Saturday, 11:00 AM at the Lakeview Cemetery in Groveland. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Wilmot Cancer Center, PO Box 23029, Rochester, NY 14692.

**MICHAEL ALAN THORNTON** – Died Thursday, April 24, 2014 at his home in Holden, Missouri at the age of 65. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related lung cancer. He was born May 28, 1948 in Kansas City, Kansas. He served in the United States Army from 13 February 1967 to 12 February 1970 with one year tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas City Chapter #317**. Services were held on Friday, May 2, 2014 at 12:00 PM at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Higginsville, Missouri. Arrangements were made by the Neptune Society, America's Most Trusted Cremation Services.



**TAURINO "T.J." TREVINO, SR.** - Died Monday, February 3, 2014, at his home in Carlsbad, New Mexico at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on October 23, 1947 in Loving, New Mexico to the late Lorenzo and Anastacia (née Florez) Trevino. He graduated from Carlsbad High School in 1966. T.J. served his country during Vietnam in the 31st Combat Engineer in the United States Army. He enlisted September 27, 1966 and was honorably discharged with combat wounds February 23, 1969. T.J. received three Purple Hearts and four Bronze Service Stars. He was a dedicated life member of the American Legion, a member of the Lake Carlsbad Golf Association, and an avid golfer. T.J. held all positions with the American Legion including past national vice-

commander. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Carlsbad Chapter #998**. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Lorenzo Trevino, Jr., and sister, Bessie Mata. Survivors are his wife, Josie Trevino of Carlsbad, NM; children: Carolyn Jurca and husband, Michael of Hillsboro, Oregon, Taurino "T.J." Trevino, Jr. and wife, Brooke of San Diego, California, JoAnn Trevino and husband, Jon Terribilini of Albuquerque, NM; grandchildren: Ali Taylor of San Diego, California, Adam Coor of Carlsbad, NM, Maia Jurca of Hillsboro, Oregon; brothers: Guadalupe Trevino and wife, Sandy of El Paso, Texas, Viviano Trevino and wife, Delia of Loving, NM, Ernesto Trevino and wife, Anna of El Paso, Texas; sister, Frances Trevino of Carlsbad, NM; and numerous nieces and nephews. Pallbearers were Lionel Navarrette, Tom Quintela, Henry Gutierrez, Danny Miller, Rick Onsurez and Robert Martinez. Visitation was from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at Denton-Wood Funeral Home. A vigil was on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 7:00 PM at Saint Edward Catholic Church. A Mass of Christian Burial was on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 10:00 AM, at Saint Edward Catholic Church with Father Cyprian Uline, OFM, Conv. officiating. Interment was in Carlsbad Cemetery, Carlsbad, New Mexico. Carlsbad Veterans Honor Guard provided full military honors. Denton-Wood Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements. Honorary pallbearers are the Legionnaires. Condolences may be expressed at [dentonwood.com](http://dentonwood.com).

**RUTH ANN TURNER** – Died Saturday, February 1, 2014 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. She was born as Ruth Ann Jaggie in Saint Louis, Missouri on May 2, 1949 the second child of eight children. She married at 17 to David Turner, a United States Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran on November 12, 1966. They were married 30 years before he died. She is survived by her children, John Franklin Turner and Lisa Marie Cypert, both of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma; her sisters, D. Colleen Becker, Jeanie, half-sister, Teresa; her brothers, Lawrence David Jaggie and John Curtis "Buddy" Jaggie; her grandchildren, Serenity Ruth Cypert, Joshua Keith Cypert, Tara June Cypert, Emma Elizabeth Salwaechter and Maesen Corinna Turner, and; her best make friend and companion, Doyle "Bear" Diebel. She was a member of The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, the National Gold Star Wives Association, the Snowball Express Event and a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Tulsa Chapter #216**. A memorial service was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Saturday, February 15, 2014 at the Carson-Wilson – Rigney – Forrester – Showmaker American Legion Post #1



**STANLEY J. "Stan" TYBUREC** - Died Monday, February 3, 2014, in Gregory Hospice following a courageous struggle with cancer. He was a resident of Winner, South Dakota and 68 years of age. He was born on April 5, 1945 in Winner, to the late Lumir and LaVerne (née Anderson) Tyburec. He attended school in Winner and graduated from Winner High School in 1963. After graduation, he worked in an Auto Body shop, which led to a life-time interest in restoring old cars and pickups. In August, 1965, Stan enlisted in the United States Army. He took his basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and took his advanced training in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He served in Vietnam from March, 1966 to March, 1967. He was in the Artillery and was assigned to a Hawk Missile Battery in defense of Tan Son Nhut Air Base as a Field Radio Operator. After Vietnam, Stan was assigned to duty in a unit in Germany for a year. He was honorably discharged in

August, 1968. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – South Dakota**. Stan's love of music was with him all of his life. He bought his first guitar when he was 14. Following his lead, some of his brothers joined him, playing guitar or drums. While in Vietnam, he and several buddies formed a band. After he returned home, he attended Norfolk Jr. College in Norfolk, NE. for a couple of years and played with a band based out of Crofton, NE. Stan was stationed in Redfield, SD, for several years while working for the Bureau of Reclamation on the Oahe Irrigation Project. He returned to Winner, SD and worked in the Auto body business. Stan then worked for the City of Winner in the Cemetery and Parks departments up until his retirement. He took great pride in his work and served his town well. Stan will be deeply missed by his sisters, Elaine (Larry) Larsen, Chamberlain, SD, Julie (Denny) Masteller, Rozet, WY, Marilyn (Denny) Klein, Burke, SD, Marie Tyburec, Burke, SD; his brothers, Jerry (Joy) Tyburec, Winner, SD, Joe (Rae) Tyburec, Gregory, SD, Dave (Melodee) Tyburec, Toronto, SD; sister-in-law, Donna Tyburec, Winner, SD.; nieces, Lori, Leslie, Janette, and Debra; nephews, Jon, Terry, Jesse, Jarrel, John, Ross, Sam and Adam; and several great-nieces and great-nephews. Stan was preceded in death by his parents, Lumir and LaVerne Tyburec, infant brothers, John and Emil; infant sister, Laurie; brothers, Ray and Frankie; nephew, Grant; nieces, Susan and Brandy. Funeral services were held on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 2:00 PM, at Mason's Funeral Home in Winner, SD. Burial with military honors followed at the Winner Cemetery.



**WILLIAM ROGER "Chigger" VANCE** - Died Monday, May 12, 2014 in the Holston Valley Medical Center at the age of 68. He was a resident of Kingsport, Tennessee. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 17, 1946 in Elizabethton, Tennessee to the late William Henry Vance and Bessie M. (née Miller) Vance. He was a former resident of Roan Mountain, Tennessee having attended Cloudland High School and a Vietnam Veteran 1966-1967 with the United States Army 53rd Signal Battalion. He received the following decorations, medals and citations; National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device, Marksman Badge M-14 Rifle, Vietnam Counter Offensive Campaign Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. He was so proud of his Army Military Service to be passed on to his sons Roger "Todd" Vance who retired with 20 years of service and Kevin D. Vance who medically retired having served in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2002 and both were highly decorated. His grandson PFC. Roger E. Vance is a Combat Medic in the 6th Ranger Training Battalion with the United States Army at Camp James E. Rudder and continues to carry on the family pride. He was a member of Saint Luke United Methodist Church and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kingsport Chapter #979**. He retired from the Sprint Phone Company with 33 years of service as a PBX Installer Repair. He was preceded in death by one brother, Bobby Gene Vance and one sister, Virginia Holtzclaw. Mr. Vance is survived by his wife of 48 years, Vickie L. Vance; two sons, Roger "Todd" Vance and wife Debra of Huntsville, AL and Kevin D. Vance and wife Melissa of Murfreesboro, TN; seven grandchildren, Ashley Nichole Vance, PFC. Roger E. Vance, Austin Vance, Dylan Vance, Shelby Loyd, Jeff Loyd and Sam Loyd; two sisters, Elwanda Nave of Elizabethton, TN and Yvonne Birchfield and husband David of CA; two brothers, James R. Vance and wife Mavis of California and Kelly Vance and wife Ann of TN; one sister-in-law, Gladys M. Vance of Roan Mountain, TN; beloved dog, Crickett; and several special nieces and nephews. Funeral services

were held on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the East Lawn Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Gerald Holly and Pastor Susan Arnold officiating. Honors were rendered by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #979 of Kingsport. Graveside services were held Friday, May 16, 2014 at 10:00 AM in the Happy Valley Memorial Park with military honors rendered by the American Legion Hammond Post #3 and Gate City Post #265. Pallbearers were his sons and grandsons. The honorary pallbearer was Paul Williams. The family received friends on Thursday, May 15, 2014 in the East Lawn Funeral Home Chapel from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. The family wishes to say a special thanks to W3 Wilcox Hall Nursing Staff, D.O. Tonya Hall Carr and Dermatology Associates of Kingsport for continued support. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #979, PO Box 3983, Kingsport, TN 37664, Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256 or to charity of choice. East Lawn Funeral Home served the Vance family.



**BRUCE F. VIGUE** – Died Thursday, January 9, 2014 in Redlands, California, at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Skowhegan, Maine, on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 1934 to the late Francis C. and Marion E. (née Raynes) Vigue. Bruce was a graduate of Skowhegan High School, class of 1952. He has been a resident in Riverside County in California since 1971. Tech. Sgt. Vigue served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was stationed at various bases in Colorado, Alaska, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Texas, California, Guam, Okinawa, Thailand, ending his United States Air Force career at Kincheloe Air Force Base in Michigan with 21 years eight months and 24 days of service. Tech. Sgt. Vigue was a recipient of the Bombardier Award and the Air Medal with 13 Oak Leaf clusters for Meritorious Flight Achievements. Tech. Sgt. Vigue is a member of the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots association for successfully striking targets located in Red River Valley of North Vietnam facing MIGs, Sams & Guns defending those targets. Because of Tech. Sgt. Vigue's professional actions as a B-52 Tail Gunner, while at U-Tapao Thailand, Tech Sgt. Vigue shall forever be known as a "Bonus Dealer," having dealt "Charlie" a bad hand!!! During TDY assignments to Guam, Okinawa and Thailand, Tech. Sgt. Vigue completed 297 Southeast Asia B-52 combat missions. Upon retiring from the Air Force, Bruce was employed by the U.S. Postal Service at the San Bernardino service center as a dock supervisor for 22 years. He was very proud to refer to himself as a "Double Dipper." Bruce had many hobbies that included deep sea fishing, target shooting (making special reloads for himself and his "shooting buddies"), prairie dog and wild pig hunting, and Harley riding with his son, Rodney, to Missouri, Death Valley and Arizona. He also went on several vacations where he would walk down to the bottom of the Grand Canyon to camp for a week. Most of all Pops enjoyed his camp and cruising Lake Wesserunsett on his Pontoon Boat. From his cabin he would sit in his chair and watch the fish jump while he waited for Louie and Madelyn (Loons) to paddle around and dive in the rain or shine. Bruce was a member of the American Legion Post #426 in Yucaipa, Calif., Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #7865 in Madison, Maine, and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Riverside Chapter #47**. Bruce "Pops" is preceded in death by his sister, Barbara, in 2006. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, of 52 years; son Rodney K. (wife Pamela), of Bermuda Dunes, Calif.; daughter Tina L. (husband Alan Meservey), of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; four grandchildren, Cody, Bret, Kala Meservey and Chase Vigue; one great-granddaughter;



brother Joel Vigue, of Pennsylvania; and a very special brother-in-law, Everett Salisbury, of Canaan, Maine. A graveside service was at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, Riverside, California, staging area No. 3. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to charity of your choice in his memory or get together with a friend and give a toast to "Pops".



**RAYMOND KEITH WEBSTER** - Died Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at the VA Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio at the age of 66. He was a resident of Lawrenceburg, Indiana. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on July 31, 1947 in Madison, Indiana to the late Raymond Lee & Kathleen (née Hambrick) Webster. Raymond acquired the rank of Army Staff Sergeant during his service in the Vietnam War. He received various commendations including the National Defense Service Medal, the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star Medal. Raymond married LaVern Shepherd on October 18, 1980 in Harrison, OH. He retired from Lanxess (Bayer) in Addyston, OH as a Safety Coordinator. Ray was a member of the Harrison VFW Post #7570 and the Aurora VFW Post #5312. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Aurora Chapter #71**. He is survived by his wife, LaVern, children, Cindy Spaulding of Florida, Shelly Rae (Tony Stanton) Cossman of Ross, OH, Stephanie (Gus) Viel of Bright, IN and Kerri (Vicki) Spaulding of Florida; grandchildren Brandy Carnes, Kyle Cossman, Breanna Fields, Bryson Spaulding, Brady Fields, Kaleb Spaulding and Colton & Kelsie Viel; and great granddaughter Callie Cossman; along with his brother Larry (Jane) Webster of Versailles, IN. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his siblings: Sandra Upton, Patricia Jenkins, Gregory & Ricky Webster and his son Rodney Spaulding. Visitation was on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM with Funeral Services at 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 17, 2014, all at Jackman Kercheval Meyers Funeral Home in Harrison, OH. Reverend Jeff Limerick officiated. Burial was in the Gibson Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites. Memorials may be given to the family c/o the funeral home. See [www.jkmfuneralhome.com](http://www.jkmfuneralhome.com) for online condolences and tributes.



**JOSEPH A. WEST** - Died Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, New York at the age of 66. He was a resident of Syracuse. The cause of death was Cirrhosis of the liver, alcohol related. He was born in North Syracuse, New York to the late John and Melita West. He was a 1964 graduate of North Syracuse High School. He resided in Syracuse for the past 26 years. Joseph was a United States Naval veteran of the Vietnam War who patrolled the inland waters of Vietnam. He retired in 2008 after 37 years as a police officer with the Syracuse City Police Department. Joe was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Syracuse Chapter #103**, the VFW Post #3146 in Mattydale, the American Legion Post #1276 in Eastwood, the Syracuse Police Benevolent Association, and the Syracuse Central Police Retirees Association. He was predeceased by his wife of 20 years, Beverly, who leaves her beloved Joe with a special message, "Sleep well Joseph darling, Love you, Bye, Bevey." Joseph is survived by two daughters, Tammie (Greg) Zemotel of Liverpool, and Jennifer (Tad) Shear of Clay; three sons, Matthew McIntyre of Syracuse, Scott (Julie) McIntyre of MD, and Stephen West of ME; his two brothers, John West of MI and George (Dale) West of CT; six grandchildren, SSGT Neil (Megan) Hafter, Alura Hafter,



Brittanie McIntyre, Stephanie Jo West, Lilah West, and Olivia West; his two great-grandchildren, Haiden and Ahrianna Hafter; and several nieces and nephews. Contributions in Joe's memory may be made to the VA Medical Center Volunteer Services/Community Care Center, 800 Irving Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210. Friends may call on Monday from 4 to 7 p.m. at Krueger Funeral Home, 2619 Brewerton Rd., Mattydale, NY. Funeral services were Tuesday at 10:00 AM at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, Syracuse.

**SHARON M. WEST** - Died recently in 2014 in Pensacola, Florida at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. She was born December 30, 1945. She was a veteran of the Vietnam-era. She was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Greenville (North Carolina) Chapter #272**.

**WILLIAM DAVID “Dave” WHALEY, SR.** - Died Sunday, March 30, 2014 in Clayton, Ohio at the age of 69. The cause of death was a stroke. He was born in Dayton, Ohio on July 17, 1944. Dave was retired from Borden Dairy. He was a veteran of Vietnam having proudly served in the United States Marine Corps from 1964-1967. Dave was a member of Precious Blood Catholic Church, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Dayton –Chapter #97** where he served as State President and lifetime member of the V.F.W. Post 5434 in Union. He was also a former coach for Meadowdale Little Lions and S.A.Y Soccer. Dave loved the Ohio State Buckeyes and a proud owner of a 1997 Harley Davidson. He is survived by his wife of 46 years: Peggy (Kastner) Whaley, son: Major William David (Tammy) Whaley Jr. of CO, grandsons: Owen David and Isaac William Whaley, sister: Marjorie (Allen) Cornelius of Trotwood, sister-in-law: Anita DeeDee Harrison, 2 sisters-in-law, 3 brothers-in-law, nephews, nieces, great nephews and great nieces, relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents: Harry and Kathryn (Watson) Whaley, brother: Tony Whaley and sisters: Mary Beth Rush and Melinda Kay Hughes. Funeral Services were held at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 4, 2014 at the Kindred Funeral Home (400 Union Blvd., Englewood). Interment was at the Dayton National Cemetery with full military honors. The family received friends on Thursday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.kindredfuneralhome.com](http://www.kindredfuneralhome.com).



**DANIEL R. WHEAT** (USA, PSG-Ret.) - Died Thursday, May 29, 2014 in Copperas Cove, Texas at the age of 70. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on October 9, 1943 in Peoria, Illinois to the late Charles V. and Ruth (née Reed) Wheat. He grew up in Peoria, Illinois and went into the United States Army in 1960 serving in Vietnam as a combat medic. He retired in 1980 after 20 years of service. He married Eva Kerley on April 27, 1963. They have resided in Copperas Cove since 1974. He was a Roman Catholic and active in the Knights of Columbus and life members of the D.A.V., V.F.W. and the N.R.A. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texas**. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his two brothers; Jerry and James Wheat. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Eva; sons, Danny Wheat and wife Shelly of Copperas Cove, Billy Wheat and wife Tracy of Willis, Michael Wheat and wife Jessica of Austin, adopted son, James Wheat; eight grandchildren, Cody Wheat, Candi Williams, Steven Armstrong, Levi Wheat, Lacy Wheat, Alyssa Calkin, Sean Calkin and Logan Wheat; two great-grandchildren, Luke and Kalynn. Graveside

services were held at 10:00 AM on Monday, June 9, 2014 at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, Texas with full military honors. The family received visitors on Friday, June 6, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the funeral home.



**ROGER C. WILGUS** - Died Monday, September 30, 2013, at a local hospital at the age of 77. He was a resident of Texarkana, Texas. The cause of death was cancer. He was born October 9, 1935, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was a Veteran of the United States Army having served in Korea and Vietnam, a member of the Wounded Warriors, retired from Wadley Hospital and a long-time member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Texarkana Chapter #278**. He is preceded in death by his parents, a son, Anthony Wilgus, and a daughter, Peggy Walton. He is survived by his wife Peggy Wilgus of Texarkana, Texas; one step son, Robert Frazier of Texarkana, Texas; three sons, Cliff Wilgus of Longview, Texas, Chris Wilgus of Texarkana, Texas, and Nathan Wilgus of Little Rock, Arkansas; five daughters, Kathy Hogland of Seattle, Washington, Debra Hughes of Forney, Texas, Susan Moore of Redwater, Texas, Shannon Thomas-Smith of Texarkana, Texas, and Stacy Korenek of League City, Texas; one brother, Dick Wilgus of Anacoco, Louisiana; one sister, Georgene Harkness of Plano, Texas; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends. Memorial services were at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the Texarkana Funeral Home, Texas Chapel with Brother John Hall officiating under the direction of Texarkana Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The American Cancer Society, 1301 South Broadway Avenue, Tyler, TX 75701 or The Christus St. Michael Foundation, 2600 St. Michael Drive, Texarkana, TX 75503.

**MILTON N. WILLIAMS** – Died recently in 2014 in Angola, Louisiana at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 11, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Angola Chapter #689**.



**WILLIE JAMES “Nick” WRIGHT** – Died Tuesday, April 29, 2014 in Madison, Alabama at the age of 67. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born on November 22, 1946, in Chattanooga, Tennessee to the late James and Ethel Wright. His childhood years were spent in Madison, AL. His early adult life was spent in Pal Alto, CA. Willie returned home to Alabama in 2007, where he lived the - remaining years of his life in Madison, AL. Willie accepted Christ as his personal savior and was baptized on September 15, 2010 Willie loved his family. He was a son, a cousin, an uncle, a companion and a dear friend. Willie vigilantly served his country during the Vietnam War. He was a Retired Sargent in the United States Marine Corps. During his service to our country he was awarded: The National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, The Good Conduct Medal and several other commendations. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Decatur Chapter #1067**. Willie had a fruitful career as a gamer and a wonderful life as he called himself a Philosopher and Lover of Life. He always made time for his hobbies which included, family time, gardening, listening to music, playing cards, reading, especially the bible, relaxing, socializing, traveling and watching sports--mainly baseball which he loved; prior to his death he made it his mission to teach Catherine all of the baseball lingo. Willie's greatest hobby was traveling. He often shared his knowledge garnered through his travels of the United

States. Willie drove coast to coast several times and he bragged of driving the continental 48, less only the upper northeast coast. Willie and Catherine loved to travel. Together they journeyed to: Panama City Beach, FL, New Orleans, LA, Memphis, TN, Chattanooga, TN, Jacksonville, FL, Stone Mountain GA, Indianapolis, IN and the Bahamas. Willie loved to give back to the community. He volunteered his time to Operation Standdown and helping homeless veterans procure their veteran's benefits. He also volunteered to work The Body of Christ Church Food Pantry, which will now be named in his honor. He is survived by his fiancée, Catherine Toney; his sisters, Elizabeth Ann (John) Marks of Indianapolis, IN, Thelma L. Wright of Jamestown, NC, Regenia (Anderson) Ayers of Memphis, TN and Marilyn (Charlie) Holman of Huntsville, AL; adopted daughter, Carol (Devins) Jackson of Huntsville, AL; and adopted son, Emanuel Sledge of Huntsville, AL. The memories of his life will be cherished by many adopted grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Funeral services were at 1:00 PM on Sunday, May 4, 2014 at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Brother Devins Jackson officiating. Interment was in the Faith Memorial Park. Public Viewing was held from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Saturday, May 3, 2014; and from 9:00 AM until the service time on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at the Royal Funeral Home.

**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