

# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain

## Taps

November/December 2012



**GARY A. ANDERSON** - Died Friday, August 31, 2012, at Trinity Rock Island at the age of 72. He was a resident of Moline, Illinois. The cause of death was cancer. Gary was born January 9, 1940, in Clarinda, Iowa, the son of Clyde and Daniela (née Beezley) Anderson. He married Julia Cochuyt on September 1, 1984, in Moline. He retired after 30 years as a welder with Williams-White, Moline. He also owned and operated Gary Anderson Construction Company. Gary proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities (Rock Island) Chapter #299**, the American Legion, enjoyed fishing and gardening and was a fantastic cook and baker. Survivors include his wife, Julia; children, Bruce (Leigh Anderson) Anderson, Fredericksburg, Va., Patricia (Steve) Voycheske, Satellite Beach, Fla., and Douglas Anderson, Frederick, Md.; grandchildren, Kyle, Samuel, Dayna and Kristina; a sister, Phyllis (Leonard) Suhr, Coal Valley; and brother, Danny (Judy) Anderson, Michigan. Funeral services were at 10:00 AM Thursday at Van Hoe Funeral Home, East Moline. Burial were at Davenport Memorial Park Cemetery, where the VVA will conduct military honors. Visitation was 4:00-7:00 PM Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to breast cancer research. Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.vanhoe.com](http://www.vanhoe.com).

**ROBERT SPENCER LOGAN “Bob” ANDERSON** - Died Sunday, July 22, 2012 in Sodus Point, New York at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Windsor, Ontario, November 19, 1944, son of the late Robert and June (née Bartow) Anderson. He was editor for DBI Publishing and worked for Gun Digest and Gun & Ammo. He served a tour in Vietnam in the United States Army. He got his degree in Communication from South Utah University and then went to South Asia as a Red Cross social worker. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**, VFW of Newark, and Newark Elks. He worked in Hollywood and Chicago and retired in 1995. Survived by his wife of eight years, Marylyn Ianiri; his adopted children, Jennifer (Cameron Smith) Ianiri, of Charlotte, N.C., Chip (Marti) Ianiri, of South Charles, Miss. and Chris (Jamie) Ianiri, of Plymouth, Mass.; special friend, Adam Ducayne, of Charlotte, N.C.; three grandchildren, Alayna, Landon and Morgan Ianiri; sister, Susan (Kaspar) Cupriks, of Newark; niece, Ellen; nephew, Joshua; grandniece, Juliana; grandnephew, Zachary; his caregivers, VA Hospital of Canandaigua and Lifetime Care of Newark. Memorials may be made to Blue Star Mothers, PO Box 426, Bloomfield, NY 14469, of Army Relief, 200 Stoval St., Alexandria, VA 22332. A memorial Mass was celebrated at 4:00 PM on Tuesday, July 31, at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Wolcott, New York. Private burial was in the St. Joseph's Cemetery,

Weedsport, New York at the convenience of the family. Arrangements were by Schulz-Pusateri Funeral Home, Newark.



**MARCEL HECTOR AYOTTE** – Died Monday, October 8, 2012 in his home in North Smithfield, Rhode Island at the age of 64. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related lung cancer. He was born November 12, 1947 in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. He is survived by his twin brother, Maurice, a brother, Leo Ayotte, and; several sisters and brothers. He served in the United States Army from November 2, 1967 to June 20, 1969 with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield) Chapter #818**. A gravesite service with full military honors was celebrated at Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Cemetery in Nasonville, Rhode Island with the Reverend Fathers, Gerald Caron, Pastor of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church and Philip G. Salois, M.S., President and Chaplain of VVA #818.

**WILLIAM RAY BARLOW** - Died Monday, August 6, 2012 in Guin, Alabama at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 1, 1943 in Mobile, Alabama. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wingate Chapter #796**. A Memorial Service was held Friday at 11:00 AM from the chapel of Norwood Funeral Home, Guin. Burial was in the Mt. Willing Cemetery.

**GEORGE H. BIRDSONG** - Died Thursday, July 5, 2012 at Hospice Ministries at the age of 70. He was a resident of Hazlehurst, Mississippi. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 17, 1942. A dedicated and faithful Christian, he was an active and faithful member of Harmony Baptist Church. Mr. Birdsong was a member in the Christian Motorcycle Association. A veteran, Mr. Birdsong served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Brandon Chapter #1057**. Survivors include: son, Nathan Birdsong of Canton; step-daughter, Charlotte Allen; step-son, Troy Lee McManus, II; and step-son, Kendall McManus all of Hazlehurst; grandchildren, Jayden, Caleb and Kinley Birdsong and numerous step grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. A funeral service was held 11:00 A.M. Saturday, July 7, 2012 at Harmony Baptist Church in Crystal Springs. Burial was in the church cemetery. Visitation hours were held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 6, 2012 at the church and will resume at 10:00 A.M. Saturday at the church.

**FREDERICK B. BYROM** – Died recently in 2012 at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 8, 1937. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Atlanta Chapter #883**. He is survived by wife, Mrs. Ruby Byrom; one daughter, Krystalon of California; three step-sons, one step-daughter, two grandson; a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral Services for Mr. Frederick Byrom, of Atlanta, were held Saturday, August 11, 2012, 11:00 A.M. at the chapel of Donald Trimble Mortuary with Elder Theodis Holmes, officiating. Interment was in the Lincoln Cemetery.

Family and friends are asked to assemble at the mortuary at 10:45 A.M. Donald Trimble Mortuary, Inc., 1876 Second Ave.

**ARTHUR NEIL BORGQUIST** - Died Friday, July 13, 2012 in Calabasas, California at the age of 64. He passed away after a six year battle from cancer and complications from the affects of Agent Orange due to his service in Vietnam. He was born September 16, 1947 in Fresno, California. He was the first born of four children, graduating from Pasadena High School, receiving his teaching credential from San Diego and California Lutheran Universities. Arthur taught earth science and chemistry at A.E. Wright Middle School since 1989. This quote from a parent sums up his love of teaching, and the inspiration and devotion to his students, "Mr. Borgquist taught my son about how to live in a sometimes hostile world and maintain a sense of dignity, purpose and value. He is a man of honor and deep intellectual and moral commitment. He has been an inspiration to my son, and we are deeply grateful to have had him for teacher. When Mr. Borgquist decides to retire, the school district will lose a great man." His goal was to not only to teach the sciences but to instill his students with a sense of respect, honor and dignity for human life and the American freedoms we cherish. He organized patriotic programs on Memorial and Veterans Day in many schools. His message was clear: "Freedom is not free and many Veterans gave the ultimate sacrifice so we can live in a free county, respect those who have served as All Gave Some, and Some Gave All." ABC News featured his class room presentation on national television. He served in the United States Navy from September 10, 1969 to August 16, 1973. He was a Life member and Senior Vice Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7799, Chairman of the Voice of Democracy and Youth Activities, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pasadena Chapter #446**, American Legion Post 826 and Disabled American Veterans Some of the professional awards include Military Order of the Purple Heart Teacher of the Year, VFW California Middle School Teacher of the Year, Las Virgenes Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year, Disney Outstanding Educator nominee, Outstanding Student Teacher at San Diego State University. Arthur was written up in many articles regarding his patriotism and dedication to teaching. Mr. Borgquist was the featured speaker for The Lions Club, Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Conejo Valley Chapter of the Military and many other Veteran service organizations. Arthur was an avid Dodger fan, his photo holding the American Flag on a recent Dodger magazine is a tribute to his love of baseball. He was a licensed real estate broker in California and Arizona. He is survived by his wife Marilyn "Mimi". His Christian faith gave him the inner strength to move through the many challenges throughout his life. Art would have been touched by the out pouring of love and support shown by all. A "Celebration of His Life" will be held on September 15 at 11:00 AM at Saint Bernadine's of Siena Catholic Church, 24410 Calvert St., Woodland Hills, CA 91367. He will be buried at Riverside National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make any donations to: USC Head and Neck Cancer Research Fund, 1520 San Pablo Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033.

**WILLIAM "Bill" CHRISTIANSON** - Died Wednesday, June 20, 2012, at the VA Hospice in Madison, Wisconsin at the age of 62 with his loving wife by his side, after a long battle with Agent Orange-related cancer. He was born in Reedsburg, Wisconsin on June 17, 1950. He served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1972 with a tour of duty in Vietnam from April 1970 to April 1971. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Adams Chapter**

**#729.** He is survived by his wife, Jo; his children, Heather (Mike) Lesch, Jamie Christianson and Kimbra Berry; grandchildren, Lili Christianson and Isla McConnell; siblings, Carolyn Rhinehart, Shirley (Allen) Holloway, Rosalie (Mike) Bredeck and Sandy Klinge; sisters-in-law, Ann Manley and Susan Van Rixel; nieces; nephews; other relatives and many friends. A Celebration of Bill's Life was held from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 1, 2012, at the VFW Post No. 7694 in Prairie du Sac. Memorials may be made to the family or to the William A. & Jo Christianson Veteran's Essay Scholarship at the UW-Baraboo/Sauk County Campus. The Redlin Funeral Home in Baraboo is assisting with arrangements. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the nursing staff of the VA Hospice Unit at the VA Medical Center in Madison.



**MELVIN E. "Bud" COLE** – Died Monday, August 20, 2012 in his residence in the Philippines from an apparent heart attack. He was 71 years of age. He was born December 27, 1940. He is survived by his wife Clementine, son Joe Shelby here in the Philippines and two daughters in the U.S. He served in Vietnam with the United States Navy on river boats and was a submariner on various diesel and nuclear submarines. He retired from the Navy a very long and fruitful career. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Angeles City Chapter #887**. Bud was a Past First Vice President of the Chapter and a current member of the Board of

Directors. He also was a member of DAV Chapter 3 and American Legion Post 123. He is currently our vice president for the second consecutive year. Cole served on the wooden hulled minesweeper USS Engage MSO-433 during "Operation Market Time" out of Cam Rahn Bay, South Vietnam in 1971. They stopped and searched suspected infiltrator junks, some of which were carrying North Vietnamese regular army and supplies for the enemy. These infiltrators were sunk. Cole was awarded the Vietnam service medal with two bronze stars, National defense medal, Navy expeditionary medal, unit commendation medal, personal commendation medal and the Republic of Vietnam campaign medal. During his Navy career Cole served aboard a heavy cruiser, USS Rochester CA-124 as a 1st loader on a 3"50cal antiaircraft gun, He attended Basic enlisted submarine school in 1959 and served on three diesel electric boats and three nuclear powered boats. On board Scamp SSN-588, a Skipjack class sub. (their sister ship the Sculpin is still at 8,500 ft off the Azores islands with a Russian torpedo up in the rear of the sail) he was the assistant navigator, ships 1st lieutenant, and nuclear safety officer in charge of the handling and stowage of nuclear weapons. Cole retired in August of 1977 from the Los Angeles class fast attack submarine USS Drum SSN- 677. In twenty years service, Cole was awarded ONE good conduct award. All of his commanding officers agreed that underway, Cole was the best sailor on board, however his conduct ashore left much to be desired! Funeral arrangements are pending at this time.



**CLARENCE G. COOPER** - Died Sunday, January 29, 2012 in Virginia Beach, Virginia surrounded by family and friends. He was 78 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 23, 1933. He was preceded in death by his wife of nearly 36 years, Evelyn. He was a beloved Dad, Grandpa, a United States Navy Veteran and Vietnam veteran, a recipient of the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam**

**Veterans of America – Virginia Beach Chapter #969**, veterans advocate and dear friend. Coop is survived by a brother, Ronald Cooper of Granbury, Texas; daughter, Vicki Hughes of Newport News, Virginia; a son, Eric Cooper of East Hartford, Connecticut; grandson Derek Hughes and granddaughters Jessica and Elena Cooper. He will be greatly missed. A memorial service was held for Coop, Friday, February 3 at 11:00 AM at the PBR 109 Game Wardens of Vietnam Memorial located on the Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story. Please enter the base using gate #3. In order to attend the service, the Base requests you call the funeral home at 428-7880 and provide your name and your driver license number for entrance onto the base. Following the service the family will host a reception from 1230-1430 in the Willoughby Room at the Norfolk Hilton located at 1500 N. Military Hwy, Norfolk, Va. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to a veterans or troop-support organization, or simply thank a veteran. H.D. Oliver Funeral Apts., Laskin Road Chapel is handling arrangements and online condolences may be made to the family at [hdoliver.com](http://hdoliver.com).



**IVAN LEE CUMPTON** – Died Friday, January 13, 2012 in Dayton, Missouri at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Dayton on January 6, 1947 to the late Guy Dorven Cumpton and Georgia Marie (née Brown) Cumpton who survives him in Dayton. Ivan spent his early years in Dayton, Missouri and attended the Dayton School for 8 years and then entered High School in Archie, Missouri where he completed his graduation in 1965. At a young age the Cumpton boys began hauling hay for farmers all around the areas. They created contests to see who could toss the most, the highest, or the fastest. Ivan's Mom and Dad raised the boys to be hard workers. They had several International trucks over the years and hauled livestock to Kansas City or anywhere you needed a delivery as well as hauling water for lots of families in the area. Ivan saved up his money and purchased a 1965 Chevrolet Impala from his Uncle Van-brand new and it was his pride and joy, which he still had to this day. After graduation Ivan received his summon from the great Uncle Sam. He was inducted into the United States Army in 1966 and the home boy was sent across the seas to the jungles of Vietnam. He was on a slow moving barge and cooked 3 meals a day for the whole ship. While in the service he contracted hepatitis and spent 33 days in the Hospital, then was flown back to the United States. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas City Chapter #317**. In May of 1971 he married Sharon Swetnam of Clinton, Missouri and they moved to his parent's farm just outside of Dayton, Missouri. He purchased a 10- wheeler and decided to broaden his traveling by going south to buy watermelons and bring them back to Missouri. That was the first great fiasco- they ended up spread all over the Oklahoma turnpike! He then purchased a tractor Trailer-so began his real over the road trucking career. He loved his trucks and going fast. Ivan loves family and always raced back to Dayton and everyone. Many hours he spent playing with the little kids. He had the biggest smile and became a youngster again with them. Ivan was one of the biggest pranksters you will ever meet. He was so full of life and enjoyed all of his family and friends. In September 1957, Ivan gave his life to Christ and was baptized at Setter Ford. He was a member of Dayton Church and helped rebuild the original church after the fire then hauled in the material needed for the most recent expansion.





**BETTY J. (née Becker) DALLMAN** – Died Thursday, June 26, 2012 in Chicago, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. She was born October 22, 1928 in Chicago. She was the beloved wife of Joseph; loving mother of Jean (Vic) Alesi, Janet (Richard) George and Joan (Dan) Prena; cherished grandmother of Joseph (Dawn) Alesi, Stefanie (Brandon) House and Jaclyn (Zach) Thompson, and; great grandmother of Connor, Chloe and Blake. She was also the fond sister of Doris (Late Bernard) Davis; also loving aunt and friend of many. She was devoted 50+ year member of the Ladies Auxiliary

VFW 1284 and a lifelong Cubs fan. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Chicago Chapter #242**. Funeral services were on Saturday, June 30 at 11:00 AM at the Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home, 6250 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago. Interment was in the Maryhill Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Arthritis Foundation, 29 East Madison, Chicago, IL 60602 appreciated. Visitation was on Friday 3:00 – 9:00 PM.

**ALBERT DE LA ROSA** – Died Monday, December 27, 1993 in Miami, Florida at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 8, 1929. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Miami Chapter #121**.



"Job well done, Brother"

**WARREN KENNETH "Ken" DIEGEL** - Died Sunday, September 2, 2012 at Hospice of Lenawee at the age of 66. He was a resident of Onsted, Michigan. The cause of death was glioblastoma. He was born in Wyandotte, Michigan on October 4, 1945 to late Leo Russel and Blanche Cleo (née Stringfellow) Diegel. Warren was a 1963 graduate of Trenton High School where he was a wrestling champion. During the Vietnam Conflict, Warren served his country honorably as a member of the United States Marine Corps. He demonstrated his "brotherly love" by saving the life of a fellow Marine and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor. He later would

obtain his Master's Degree from University of Detroit Mercy. Warren married, the former Nancy Ann Laura on November 12, 1966 in Rockwood. From this union came the birth of two children. Warren supported his family for more than thirty years as a factory and clerical worker at the Chrysler Corporation and Ford Motor Company. He was a member of the UAW. For the past 20 years he was extremely active with Veteran's organizations attending several different conventions. Warren was the former president of Michigan State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142** and VFW Post 1138. In 2009 he was selected as the Michigan Veteran of the year for serving fellow veterans. In addition to his parents, his passing was preceded by brother, Russell and sisters, Janet Diegel and Kristen Markakis. To cherish his memory he leaves his wife Nancy of Onsted two children: Angela Ostdiek of Monroe and David Diegel of Walled Lake; step-father: Robert and Sherri Polgar of Grosse Ile; four sisters: Roberta (Ed) Heineman of New Boston, Patti (Vic) Watkins of Virginia, Jennifer (Greg) Kish, and Jeanie (Chris) Labadie both of Grosse Ile; two brothers: Mike (Lori) Polgar of Grosse Ile and Mark (Sandy) Polgar of Trenton. Friends gathered from 2:00-8:00 PM, Tuesday, September 4, and from 12:00-4:30 PM, Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at Merkle Funeral Service, 2442 North Monroe (734) 384-5185. A Celebration of His Life

was held at 4:30 PM on Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at Merkle's. Pastor Louie Barnett officiated. Burial was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan under full military honors 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to VVA Michigan State Council, Monroe VFW Post 1138, or VVA Post 142.



**JAMES LAWRENCE "Jim" DOUTE** - Died at 6:58 PM Friday, August 17, 2012, in the emergency room of St. Rita's Medical Center in Lima, Ohio at the age of 65. He was a resident of Lima. The cause of death was a heart attack. He was born October 18, 1946, in Lima to James M. and Virginia C. (née Rader) Doute, who preceded him in death. On May 27, 1977, he married Judith A. "Judy" Steiner, who survives. Mr. Doute retired after 39 years at the Husky Oil Refinery. He was an Allen County Veterans Service Commission Officer. He was a United States Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War stationed in the Philippines flying support missions. He was a past president, treasurer and *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – LZ Lima Chapter #89**. He was also a life member of American Legion Post 96, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1911 and AMVETS Post 1, all of Lima. He was an adviser to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter at the Allen Correctional Institution and previously was the adviser for Chapter 261 at the Lima Correctional Institution. He was twice honored as the Vietnam Veteran of the Year by the Department of Ohio of Vietnam Veterans of America and was also selected as a Volunteer of the Year for Husky Oil Refinery. He was a former member of Grace United Methodist Church, had formerly attended West Elm United Church of Christ and was attending Lima Community Church of the Nazarene. He was a 1996 graduate of the Allen Lima Leadership Class and a member of Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 370. He had been on the Allocations Committee of the United Way of Greater Lima. He was an avid photographer and loved to travel and spend time with his grandchildren. He was a 1964 graduate of Lima Senior High School, where he was a season-ticket holder for more than 40 years and was an avid fan of its athletics, especially basketball. He loved God and his country. Survivors also include two children, Jason "Jay" (Heather) Doute and Jennifer "Jen" (Ryan) Smith, both of Lima; three granddaughters, Céline, Alyssa and Bren; two brothers, Jerome R. (Stephanie) Doute, of Wapakoneta, and Donald C. (Bonny) Doute, of Lima; a mother-in-law, Irene Steiner, of Lima; four brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Linda K. (Darhl) Worrell, of Russellville, Ark., Michael D. (Irma) Steiner, of Raleigh, N.C., Kathy L. (Karl) Hirn, of Lima, and Mark A. (Ing Wan) Steiner, of Fairfield; and numerous nieces and nephews. Services will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Siferd-Orians Funeral Home. The Rev. Brian Romine will officiate. Entombment will be in Memorial Park Cemetery Mausoleum, with military rites by VFW Post 1275. Friends may call from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to his granddaughters or a charity of the donor's choice.

**MATTHEW LOUIS EDMONDS** – Died Thursday, August 23, 2012 in Baltimore, Maryland at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Littleton, North Carolina on December 13, 1946 to the late Willis and Clara Edmonds. He served in the United States Army assigned in Vietnam to 135<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Baltimore Chapter #451**. He married Peggy Ann Redfearn on July 6, 1968. She predeceased him. He had two daughters Helena Lisa and Monique Pecola

both of whom also predeceased him. He is survived by his son, Matthew Willis. He was a member of the Southern Baptist Church. The funeral service was conducted on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 10:30 AM in the Carter Memorial Church of God in Christ with Elder Carl A. Pierce, presiding. The Derrick C. Jones Funeral Home, P.A. in Baltimore was in charge of the arrangements. Interment with full military honors was in the Crownsville Veterans Cemetery in Crownsville, Maryland.

**KERRY GEORGE EHRHART** – Died Saturday, August 11, 2012 in Easley, South Carolina at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. She was born in Washington State on May 31, 1951, a daughter of the late Hurley and Joy (née) Gribble George. She was the wife of William "Bill" Ehrhart. She served for 18 years as a Graphic Artist at Fort Sam Houston, was a member of the Board for Hope Women's Ministry in Easley, a member of Brushy Creek Baptist Church and the Couples Bible Class. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – West Union Chapter #1017**. Surviving in addition to her husband are her son, George Markham, of San Antonio, Texas and a step-daughter, Lisa Ehrhart, of Sicklerville, New Jersey. A memorial service was at 2:00 PM Tuesday at Brushy Creek Baptist Church with the Reverend Dr. Jim Spencer and the Reverend Rodney Graham officiating. Visitation was from 1:00 PM until 1:45 PM Tuesday, prior to the service, at the church. The family is at the home. Memorials may be made to Brushy Creek Baptist Church, 100 Clay Street, Easley, SC 29642 or to HOPE Women's Ministry, 879 Gentry Memorial Highway, Easley, SC 29640.

**DAVID PAUL EILERT** - Died Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 8:15 PM in Branson, Missouri at the age of 64. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related ALS. He was born in Beloit, Kansas January 5, 1947 to Paul and Rosella (née Konzem) Eilert, the eldest of eleven children. He served in the United States Army in Vietnam with the 169<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion – Charlie Company from 1968 to 1969. He was predeceased by his father, his niece, Amber and his nephew Caleb. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Pat, of the home; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Tina and Pete Ross, of Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Nicole Foutch, of Hendersonville, North Carolina and Shawnda and Chris Weisner, of Boonville, Missouri; four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; five sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol and Norman Feingold, of Tucson, Arizona, Dee Eilert, of Queen Creek, Arizona, Pauline Casey, of Denver, Colorado, Deanne and Alan Winkel, of Glen Elder, Kansas and Lisa and Ed Long, of Beloit, Kansas; five brothers and sisters-in-law, Richard and Louise Eilert, of Duluth, Minnesota, Dan and Tammy Eilert, of Wichita, Kansas, Norman and Linda Eilert, of Salina, Kansas, Allen and Tammy, of Beloit, Kansas and Scott and Janine Eilert, of Wichita, Kansas, and; a large number of nieces, nephews and cousins. He was a member of Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Church in Branson and also a member of the Knights of Columbus – Fourth Degree. David and Pat hosted the second Reunion in Branson which was immensely enjoyed. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Branson Chapter #913**. A Rosary service was celebrated in Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Branson on February 7, 2011. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Saint John's Catholic Church in Beloit, Kansas.

**ARTHUR LOUIS ESPINOLA** - Died Wednesday, April 18, 2012 in Key West, Florida, surrounded by friends and family. He was 66 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born



December 27, 1945 to Evelyn Espinola and the late Arturo Espinola. In addition to his father he was predeceased by his nephew, John L. Siniscal. In addition to his mother, he is also survived by his sister, Natalia. He served a tour of duty in Vietnam in the late 1960's. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida**. A memorial service was given in remembrance of him at Douglas Gardens in Miami, Florida. The family sends all of their love and gratitude to hospice and the nursing staff at Douglas Gardens. Private services will be held at a later date.



**EARL ALCIDE FONTAINE, SR.** - Died Monday October 1, 2012 at Roger Williams Hospital at the age of 66. The cause of death was a massive heart attack and suffered from terminal cancer. He was the beloved husband of Paulette C. (née Lanctot) Fontaine for 44 years. He was born in Woonsocket on October 26, 1945 to the late Antonio and Lillian (née Belanger) Fontaine. Mr. Fontaine was a Coach Bus Driver before his retirement and was a United States Army Veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **James Michael Ray Memorial Vietnam Veterans of America (North Smithfield) Chapter #818**. He was the loving father of Melissa C. Makowski, Jennifer A.

Edwards, Kimberly A. Hebert, Earl A. Fontaine, Jr., and Brian M. Fontaine; cherished grandfather of five and caring brother of Elaine St. Laurent and the late Conrad and Raymond Fontaine and Lorraine Trammner. Relatives and friends were invited to a Mass of Christian Burial Saturday October 6, 2012 at 10:00 AM in Saint Joseph Church, Sayles Avenue, Pascoag, Rhode Island concelebrated by the Pastor, Reverend Father Cabral and Father Philip G. Salois, M.S. Burial with military honors was in Scott Cemetery, Bellingham, Massachusetts. Calling hours respectfully omitted. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society, 931 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 3004, Warwick Rhode Island, 02886 or the American Heart Association, Post Office Box 417005, Boston, Massachusetts 02241 would be appreciated. Arrangements were made by Tucker-Quinn Funeral Chapel, Greenville, Rhode Island.



**BERNARD "Berny" FOYLE** - Died Sunday, June 10, 2012 at the Martinsburg Veterans Hospital in Martinsburg, West Virginia at the age of 62. He was a resident of Mount Jackson, Virginia. The cause of death was Cardio-respiratory failure and Myeloid leukemia without remission. He was born May 30, 1950 in Detroit, Michigan. Berny graduated from Central High

School, Bay City, Michigan in 1969. He served in the United States Air Force as a POL Specialist from 1969 to 1972 with honorable discharge. Berny was a Vietnam Veteran and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Staunton Chapter #936**. He was a volunteer for the Martinsburg VA Van that transports Veterans to the Martinsburg Hospital for medical care. Berny was also part owner of Vivid Hair Designs and Spa in Woodstock, VA with his wife Carolyn. He was a Deacon at Shenandoah Community Fellowship in Woodstock, VA. Berny always had a hug and a smile to give to everyone. Preceding him in death was his mother, Edna Mae Lowe of Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Jones Foyle of Mt. Jackson, VA; a son, Ashley Foyle of Las Vegas, NV; sisters, Syble Jean Rock and her husband Robert Rock of

Holton Lake, MI, Juanita Marie Douglas of Cheyenne, WY; a brother, Joseph B. Trejbrowski, of Panama City Beach, FL and brother-in-law, Larry Jones and wife Barbara of Waynesboro, PA. A memorial service for Berny will be held at Shenandoah Community Fellowship at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 16, 2012 with Pastor Banks Swanson officiating. Graveside services will be conducted at a later date. In lieu of flowers Berny requested that donations be made to the building fund at Shenandoah Community Fellowship, 197 Patmos Road, Woodstock, VA. Sign the guest book and submit condolences to the family at [www.stoverfuneralhome.com](http://www.stoverfuneralhome.com). Stover Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc., Strasburg is serving the family of Mr. Foyle.

**JOSEPH “Jo-Jo” GASSARO, JR.** - Died Wednesday, August 1, 2012 at the Margaret McLaughlin McCarrick Care Center in Somerset, New Jersey. He was 63 years old and a resident of New Brunswick, New Jersey. The cause of death was cancer. A lifelong resident of New Brunswick, Joseph served as a United States Marine in the Vietnam War. Before retiring, he worked as a taxi driver for the Victory Cab Company. Joseph was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Brunswick Chapter #233** and also the Franklin Eagles A.C. Joseph was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Mary and two siblings, Donna Marie and Gerard. He is survived by his loving wife Brenda, his brother Martin of Belmar, a stepson, Thomas Brown, an aunt, Eleanor Langone and his sisters-in-law Jackie and Alice. Also surviving are numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. There was a funeral service on Monday, August 6 at 11:00 a.m. at the Boylan Funeral Home, 188 Easton Avenue in New Brunswick, followed by interment at St. Peter's Cemetery in New Brunswick. Relatives and friends visited the funeral home on Sunday from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM.



**ANTHONY “Tony” GILLUM, SR.** - Died Monday, July 30, 2012 in Ypsilanti, Michigan at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 26, 1947 in Ypsilanti, Michigan. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ann Arbor Chapter #310**. The funeral service was at 11:00 AM Saturday, August 4, 2012 at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 718 N. Prospect, Ypsilanti with Pastor Garther Roberson officiating. Cremation followed. Contributions in his memory may be made to Toys for Tots. Envelopes are available at Stark Funeral Service where the family will receive friends 4-7 pm Friday. There will also be visitation at the church from 10 am until time of service Saturday. Please sign his guest book at [www.starkfuneral.com](http://www.starkfuneral.com).

**ROBERT K. “Dude” GLOWINSKI** – Died Saturday, June 16, 2012 in North Tonawanda, New York at 63 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 30, 1945. He was the beloved husband of the late Linda J. Glowinski; dear father of Jennifer Glowinski, Justina Glowinski (fiancé Ben Stanley) and Jessica Stanley (Aaron); grandfather of Aaron Jr. and Alexander Stanley; brother of Ken Glowinski (Debbie), Pat DiMora (Dom) and Paula Pardee (Al); also survived by nieces and nephews. Friends may call Wednesday from 3-6 PM at the John E. Roberts Funeral Home (Amherst Chapel), 280 Grover Cleveland Highway at N. Bailey where services will immediately follow at 6 PM. Friends invited. Mr. Glowinski was retired from GM Powertrain Tonawanda Engine Plant and a member of UAW Local No. 774. He was also a

Vietnam War veteran who served in the United States Army. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77** and a member of VFW Post #15033 and The American Legion Stephen Sikora Post #1322 for 26 years.

**HAROLD GORDON “Hal” GORDON** – Died Saturday, April 23, 2011 in Walstonburg, North Carolina at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born Sept. 11, 1946 and grew up in the Chicago, Illinois area. He was preceded in death by his parents, David and Leona (née Olson) Gordon. He is survived by his daughter, Barbara Ciavarella and husband, Dana; granddaughters, Candace, Ashley, and Kemeeka; and great-granddaughter, Kensley, all of Clarksville, Tenn. He is also survived by his sister, Elizabeth Gordon of Arlington Heights, Ill.; nephews, Daniel Vaslow and wife, Jill of Baltimore, Md., Joel Vaslow and wife, Peggy of Overland Park, Kansas and Josh Vaslow and wife, Dawn, of Arlington Heights, Ill. and their children; many beloved relatives and friends; and special friend, Kathy Stokes of Winterville. He played guitar in a makeshift "garage" band. He was on the speed skating and track teams in high school and learned to scuba dive at the local YMCA. Upon graduating from Lindblom Tech High School, he attended the University of Illinois. In 1965, he joined the United States Navy, whereas he was a damage controller and carpenter on the USS Guam, stationed out of Norfolk, Virginia. He was honorably discharged in 1972. Hal was a proud veteran and patriotic American. Hal was an avid member of American Legion Post 151 where he enjoyed many hours participating in projects, working the Pitt County Fair and the local pancake suppers. Hal was a life member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 31 Greenville, North Carolina and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Greenville Chapter #272**, North Carolina. Hal worked construction before hiring on with the U.S. Postal Service. Beginning his career in Virginia, he served Roanoke and Grandan Road Station. In North Carolina, he served the towns of Farmville, Walstonburg, Hamilton, Simpson, and retired from the Stokes Post Office, September 2009 with 29 years of service. Hal was a member and past Master of the Farmville Masonic Lodge #517 AF and AM. He was proud to be a Mason. His love of dancing prompted him to join the Greenville Singles Club where he dedicated many hours as an officer and member. Hal was also a member of the Wilson Singles Club and a member of the Eastern North Carolina Shag Club. Hal was a member of the First Christian Church of Farmville and a choir member. His hobbies included golfing, fishing, and woodworking. Family members and friends benefited from his many hours of service helping them to complete their projects. He was affectionately called "The Tool Belt Man." You were blessed to have a friend who shared his time and talents. A celebration of life service will be held at 7 p.m. Monday at the First Christian Church in Farmville by Dr. John Dunstad. A gathering of friends will follow in the Church Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the First Christian Church, 3776 S Main St., Farmville 27828. Designate to the rebuilding of homes for Mamie Dail, Bruce and Melody Dail and B.J. Lawrence. Arrangements were made by Farmville Funeral Home, Farmville. Online condolences may be made at [www.farmvillefh.com](http://www.farmvillefh.com).

**VICTOR W. GORLINSKY (LTC-USA Ret.)** – Died Sunday, August 12, 2012 in Reston, Virginia at the age of 89. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 23, 1923. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years Blanche Jordan Gorlinsky; daughter Vicki L. Miller

(husband Michael), sons David W. (wife Patricia), Paul F. (wife Christina), and Mark J. (wife Cynthia); a daughter Barbara M. predeceased him. He is also survived by one sister Ellen Hubbard of Russellville, AR; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Arlington Chapter #227**. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1020 Springvale Road., Great Falls, Virginia 22066 on Friday, August 17 at 11:00 AM. Interment with full military honors was at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Knights of Columbus, Padre Pio Counsel, at the above named Church.



**LEE J. H. HANSEN** – Died Monday, August 13, 2012 at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota at the age of 66. The cause of death was pancreatic cancer. He was born March 15, 1946 in Elk River, Minnesota to the late Walter and Christina Hansen. He joined the Army in 1965. He served in the United States Army in Vietnam where he was wounded and earned the Purple Heart. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mora Chapter #684**. He was married to Linda Johnson from

1968 to 1972. He married Iris Lindell in June 1974. They lived on the Hansen homestead near Princeton, MN. He was a carpenter by trade. He enjoyed woodworking, deer hunting, gardening, and making maple syrup. Above all else, he loved his family and friends. Lee is survived by his wife, Iris; sons, Tom, Rob, Lance and Robin, Leslie and Amy, and Corey and Ann; twelve granddaughters and one great grandson. He is also survived by brother, Alvin, sisters, Vera, Leona, and Elaine and many other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Donna. Funeral service was on Saturday August 18, 2012 at 2:00 PM at Bethany Lutheran Church in Princeton, Minnesota. Visitation was held the hour before at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Fisher House Foundation, One Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417 in memory of Lee Hansen or the Princeton Evangelical Lutheran School at P.O. Box 340, Princeton, MN 55371 in memory of Lee Hansen.

**STEVEN ROBERT HARDMAN I** – Died Friday, April 13, 2012 at the Jackson-Madison County Hospital in Medon, Tennessee at the age of 64. The cause of death was a stroke. He was born in Columbus, Ohio on May 24, 1947 to the late Robert and Irene (née) Hardman of Logan, Ohio, who survives. In addition to his mother, he is survived by three daughters and two sons-in-law, Shari and John Singleton, Stephanie and Jimmy Puckett and Shaw Hardman, all of Jackson, Tennessee; a son, Robert Hardman II, of Jackson; eleven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and; three brothers, Fred Hardman, of Elizabethton, Tennessee, Randy Hardman and Matt Hardman, both of Logan, Ohio. He served in the United States Navy and continued to serve his country with the United States Army Tennessee Army National Guard for 11 years. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jackson Chapter #995**. He was a member of the Clover Creek Baptist Church of Medon, Tennessee. Funeral services were conducted in the chapel of the Lawrence-Sorensen Funeral Home with the Reverend Ken Skelton, officiating. Burial with full military honors was in Highland Memorial Gardens.

**STEPHEN C. HARVEY** - Died Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at his home in Old Orchard Beach, Maine at the age of 69. The cause of death was cancer to the brain and the lungs. He was born on March 15, 1943, in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine the son of Charles and F. Ethel Harvey. He was a graduate of Foxcroft Academy. Stephen proudly served his country as a medic in the United States Army. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sanford Chapter #1044**. He had lived his entire life in Maine and Massachusetts, and always made time for his hobbies, which included fishing, gardening, hunting and watching sports. He especially enjoyed his beloved dog, Pebbles. Stephen loved his family. He is survived by his dearest wife, Margaret A. (née Finnell) Harvey; his loving children, Lori Dawson, Thomas Drake and his partner David Nevers, Lynn Young and her husband Mark, Theresa Plummer and her husband Howard, William Mitchell and his wife Nichole, Melissa Harvey and her fiancé Nelson Pacheco, and Marcia Haynes and her husband Benjamin; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He will be remembered by many friends and extended family members. A memorial service was conducted at 1200 Noon on September 29, 2012, at the Old Orchard Beach Salvation Army, 2 Sixth St., Old Orchard Beach. A graveside committal service was held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, October 6, at the family lot in Dover Cemetery, Dover-Foxcroft. Arrangements were in the care of the Lary Funeral Home, Dover-Foxcroft. Messages of condolence and memories may be expressed at [www.laryfuneralhome.com](http://www.laryfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial donations in honor of Stephen C. Harvey to: Hospice of Southern Maine 180 Rt. 1, Suite 1, Scarborough, Maine 04074.

**NANCY JEAN (née Uhlenbush) HEANEY** - Died suddenly on Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at Saint Clare's Hospital, Sussex, New Jersey at the age of 71. She was a resident of Glenwood, New Jersey. The cause of death was a heart attack. She was born in 1941 to the late William and Doris Uhlenbush in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey; she had lived in Hawthorne, New Jersey and Totowa, New Jersey for 6 years before moving to Glenwood, New Jersey 36 years ago. Mrs. Heaney worked as a sales manager for the Ultra Chemical Division of Witco Chemical Corp. in Paterson, NJ for 25 years before retiring in 1985. She was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Vernon Chapter #1002** and an avid donor to many veteran organizations and the local public services. She was a member of both the Hospitalized and Paralyzed Veterans of America Organizations and enjoyed reading, cooking and was a doting grandmother. Mrs. Heaney was predeceased by a brother and his wife, Ted and Hazel Uhlenbush and a sister and her husband, Margaret and Joseph Walsh and was the beloved wife for 42 years of William Heaney of Glenwood, NJ; devoted mother of Michael Gene Heaney of Sparta, NJ and Stephanie Ann Sales of Sussex, NJ; loving grandmother of Jordan Krystopher, Michaela Grace, Madison Rose and Samantha Anne; dear sister of Ronald Uhlenbush and his wife, Judy of West Winfield, NY. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. The family received their friends at Ferguson-Vernon Funeral Home, 241 Route 94, Vernon, NJ on Sunday, September 9, 2102 from 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-9:00 PM. Funeral service was at the funeral home on Monday, September 10, 2012 at 11:00 AM. Interment was in the Glenwood Cemetery, Vernon Township, NJ. Memorial gifts are welcome to Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter # 1002 Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 463, Vernon, NJ 07462 or a favorite veteran charity would be appreciated.





**ELWOOD E. "Butch" "Woody" HINKLE** - Died Thursday, August 16, 2012 in Temple, Pennsylvania at the age of 67. He died suddenly from a heart attack while driving near his residence. He was born in Blandon, Pennsylvania August 5, 1945 to Dorothy (née Moyer) Hinkle of Temple and the late George Hinkle. Elwood was married to Donna J. (née Swavely) Hinkle. Elwood and Donna celebrated 24 years of marriage. Elwood served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Reading Chapter #131**. Elwood was a truck driver for Eastern Industries

Inc., in Kutztown for 38 years. Elwood enjoyed fishing, bowling, golfing, and camping. Elwood loved his dog, Brooklyn. Elwood was a former volunteer fireman for the Alsace Fire Co. Elwood made everyone around him laugh with his fun sense of humor. Additional survivors include one son, William G. Hinkle of Exeter Twp.; and stepsons, Harold Berube of Adamstown and Joey Remp of Exeter Twp. There are three grandchildren: Derek, Jarad, and Logan Hinkle, as well as two stepgrandchildren. Also surviving are sisters, Loretta M., wife of Ronald Ernst of Hamburg, and Kathleen K., wife of Clare Seidel of Reading. Elwood was predeceased by one brother, Donald Hinkle. A celebration of life gathering will be Monday, Aug. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Milkins Giles Funeral Home, Inc., 4914 Kutztown Rd., Temple. A viewing will be held in the funeral home on Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. A private interment will be held in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 498 Bellevue Ave., Laureldale, PA 19605. Online condolences may be made at [www.milkinsgiles.com](http://www.milkinsgiles.com).

**RICHARD L. HOLTON** - Died suddenly Tuesday, September 4, 2012 in Macedon, New York at age 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 28, 1946. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Donna; children, Raymond (Christina) Holton, Laura (Gregory) VanScott, Matthew Holton, Melissa Holton; 6 grandchildren; brother Charles Holton; sisters, Carol, Joanne; nieces, nephews, other relatives & friends. He was a lifetime member of the VFW & member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. Services were held privately. Donations may be made to a favorite veterans' charity in his memory. Arrangements were made by Payne and Murphy Funeral Home in Macedon, New York.

**PATRICK HENRY HORSCH** – Died in July 2012 in Douglas, Georgia at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 8, 1947. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ann Arbor (Michigan) Chapter #310**.

**JOHN W. "Jack" HRUSTH** - Died Friday evening, July 6, 2012, at his residence in Weedville, Pennsylvania at the age of 65, after a lengthy illness. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 17, 1947 in St. Marys, Pennsylvania to the late John D. and Mary Jane (née Lipsey) Hrusth. He was a lifelong resident of the area and was a graduate of the St. Marys Area High School. He was formerly employed by the Metal Product Company as a tool and die maker. On September 8, 1984 in the Virgin Islands, he married Dianne M. Wonderly, who survives. He is also survived by a son, John E. (Sheri) Hrusth of Elbon, PA; two grandchildren, Madison Lynn Hrusth and Aaron John Hrusth; two sisters, Constance (Calvin) Malo of Honolulu, HI and Susan (Ronald) Davido of Ridgway; a sister-in-law, Darlene (Kip) Lewis of Philipsburg, PA; and by

nieces and nephews. Also surviving are his cousins, Bronwin Bullers, Richard Lipsey, Dwight Lipsey and Scott Lipsey, who he helped his parents and sisters raise. Mr. Hruth served in the Army in the Vietnam War, was a former member of the Fox Township. Servicemen's Burial Detail, was a member of the Dagus Mines American Legion, the Kersey Eagles and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Marys Chapter #720**. There will be no visitation. Family and friends were invited to attend a Memorial Service and Committal Service held in the Maria Lutheran Church on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 2:00 PM, with the Reverend Donald Smith officiating. Full military rites were accorded by the Fox Township. Servicemen's Burial Detail. Memorials, if desired, may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 720, Post Office Box 220, St. Marys, Pennsylvania 15857.



**RICHARD DANIEL "Griz" HUMPHREYS III** – Died Monday, January 2, 2012 in Baltimore, Maryland at the age of 64. The cause of death was cancer. He was born July 23, 1947 in Baltimore to Evelyn Smith and the late Richard D. Humphreys Jr. Mr. Humphreys was a proud former United States Marine, who loved riding his Harley Davidson. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Baltimore Chapter #451**. He was the beloved husband of Dorothy D. Humphreys. He was the loving brother of Donna Marszalek and companion Chuck, Debbie Wojtowycz and husband John, dear uncle of Jimmy Auman, Ashley Hoerr and husband Blake, and Kristin Wojtowycz, and stepfather of Nora Szumlanski and husband Leonard, Anna Gray and companion Ron. Friends may visit at Gonce Funeral Service, P.A. 4001 Ritchie Highway, on Thursday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 PM. Services and Interment in Maryland Veterans Cemetery 1122 Sunrise Beach Road Crownsville, Maryland 21032 on Friday at 10:00 AM. Those who wish may contribute to the American Cancer Society.

**WILLIAM F. JACKSON** - Died Sunday, July 22, 2012, at his home in the Highland Lakes section of Vernon Township, New Jersey following a long illness of cancer at the age of 63. Mr. Jackson, son of Frank R. and Margaret (née Graham) Jackson, was born in Sheridan, Montana November 4, 1948. He resided in Glendale, New York, before moving to Highland Lakes 25 years ago. Mr. Jackson was a project manager for Xerox Corp., retiring in 2011. He was a United States Army Vietnam veteran and a *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Queens, New York Chapter**, and a member of the **VVA Sussex County Chapter #1002**. He was a member and past commander of Wallkill Valley VFW Post 8441 of Vernon. Mr. Jackson was an avid gardener. Mr. Jackson is survived by his wife, Darlene Jackson; daughter, Erin Dasraj and her husband, Cyrel, of Liberty, N.Y.; mother, Margaret Jackson, of Waco, Texas; sisters, Peggy Kelly of Frankford, Janet Madera of Waco, Texas, and Nancy Willumsen of Esperance, Australia; grandson, Colin Jackson Dasraj; and nieces, Collette Freer, Adrienne Kierans, Jamie Weaver and Hannah Wauson. Funeral services was held Thursday, July 26, at 9:15 a.m. from Ferguson-Vernon Funeral Home, 241 Route 94, Vernon, to Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church, Highland Lakes, for a 10:00 AM Mass of Christian Burial. Private cremation will follow. Friends called at the funeral home Wednesday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and 7:00 to 9:00 PM. VFW services were held at the funeral home Wednesday at 7:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Our Lady of Fatima R.C. Church, P.O. Box 242, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422; Karen Ann

Quinlan Hospice, 99 Sparta Ave., Newton, NJ 07860; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, P.O. Box 27106, New York, NY 10087-7106, [www.mskcc.org/giving](http://www.mskcc.org/giving); American Red Cross Sussex County Chapter, 93 Spring St., Suite 101, Newton, NJ 07860; or Smile Train, P.O. Box 96231, Washington, DC 20090-6231, [www.smiletrain.org](http://www.smiletrain.org). For condolences and directions, please see [www.fergusonvernonfuneralhome.com](http://www.fergusonvernonfuneralhome.com).



**DONALD GEORGE "Don" "Doc" JOHANSEN** - Died with his wife and daughter by his side on Thursday, September 27, 2012 at Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank, New Jersey. He was 69 years of age and a resident of Holmdel, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. Don was born on July 11, 1943 in Brooklyn, New York and resided in Holmdel since 1986. Don was a proud veteran of the United States Army serving with the 1st Cavalry Division as a combat medic during the Vietnam War in 1965-1966, whereby he was awarded the Purple Heart during his service. He was an active volunteer for the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation in

Holmdel, often holding lectures (at schools) and educating students about the Vietnam War. Don was a member and advocate of LZ-Hope based at East Orange and Lyons VA Hospitals. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elizabeth Chapter #779**. Mr. Johansen was a bond trader for Paine Webber and Company in New York, where he held the position of VP before his retirement in 1989. Characterized by his handlebar mustache, Don was an avid NY Jets fan, loved to golf and spends time with family and friends. Don was predeceased by his parents, George and Mary (Coleman) Johansen. He is survived by his beloved wife, Eileen; his loving daughter, Jennifer, and her fiancé Chris; his dear brother and sisters, George Johansen and his wife Gail of Greenwood Village, CO, Arlene Cummings and her husband Eugene of Pine Bush, NY, Mariann Hartmann and her husband Lou of Red Bank, along with many beloved nieces, nephews, friends and his cherished dog, Oliver. A devoted husband, father, and uncle, Don was never one to back down, living his life to the fullest with unwavering strength and the will to fight and succeed when faced with adversity. He will be sadly missed, but never forgotten as his journey has not ended here. family and friends were invited to visit on Sunday, September 30 from 2:00 to 4:00 & 7:00 to 9:00 PM and Monday, October 1 from 9:45 to 10:30 AM at the Shore Point Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 3269 State Rt. 35 N, Hazlet. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, October 1, at Saint Benedict Roman Catholic Church, Holmdel, at 11:00 AM. Entombment was in the Holmdel Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Disabled America Veterans or National Kidney Foundation. For information, directions, or to send condolences to the family, visit [www.shorepointfh.com](http://www.shorepointfh.com).

**ERIC ARTHUR JOHNSTONE** - Died Wednesday, March 2, 2011 in Hollywood, Maryland at the age of 66. The cause of death was cirrhosis of the liver. He was born November 13, 1944, in Bremerton, Washington he was the son of Charles Arthur Johnstone and Helen Jane Latimer. He served in the United States Army, was a proud Vietnam veteran with a tour of duty in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968 and retired from the U.S. Department of Defense. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Silver Spring Chapter #641**. After moving to St. Mary's County, he volunteered at multiple senior centers, on behalf of the AARP Tax-Aide program and with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; his

children, Caren and Michael Trudel, Stephen and Keisha Johnstone, Robert and Rebecca Redman and Christi and Gene Sullenger; and six grandchildren, Samantha, Bryce, Carli, Sienna, Elliot and Hayden. The family mourned privately. A celebration of life will be held in April.

**CARL JAMES JONES, JR.** - Died Sunday, February 26, 2012 at his daughter's home in Midlothian, Virginia at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was a native of Nassawadox, Virginia and resident of Nassawadox, born November 7, 1932 to the late Carl James Jones, Sr. and the late Beulah (née Jones) Jacobs. Mr. Jones was a retired United States Air Force Staff Sergeant; a *Life Member* and past president of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Onley Chapter #614**; member and former deacon of Red Bank Baptist Church, Marionville, Virginia. He was the husband of the late Doris (née Nock) Jones for fifty years. He is survived by three children, a daughter, Barbara Lee Jones of Midlothian, a son, Robert James Jones and his wife, Barbara Sparrow Jones, of Exmore, VA, and a daughter, Pamela Jones Lilliston and her husband, Jeffery Lynn Lilliston, Sr., of Exmore; four grandchildren, Megan Renee Asal and her husband, Thomas James Asal, Robert Carl Jones, Jeffery Lynn, and Elizabeth Marie Lilliston; and one great-grandchild, Ryan James Asal. Graveside services with Military Honors were conducted Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 11:00 AM at Red Bank Cemetery with the Reverend Dr. John Robertson and the Reverend Dr. William Nieporte, co-officiating. Family joined friends Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Doughty Funeral Home in Exmore. Flowers were accepted or memorial donations made to the Red Bank Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, P. O. Box 932, Nassawadox, Virginia 23413.



**DAVID JORDAN** – Died recently in 2012 in Pearland, Texas at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 29, 1949. He is survived by his wife, Janis K. Jordan. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Peters (Missouri) Chapter #458**.

**EVAN ANDREW “Andy” KELLY, JR.** - Died at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah, Kentucky at 2:14 AM on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at the age of 54. He was a resident of West Paducah, Kentucky. He suffered from Chronic Seizure Disorder. He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on December 6, 1957 to Sylvia Ann Kelly of Kevil, Kentucky and the late Evan Andrew Kelly, Sr. Mr. Kelly was a disabled United States Marine Corps veteran who held the military in very high regard. He was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 7 where he served as acting commander. He was a lifetime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1191, American Vets, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Paducah Chapter #337** and a member of the American Legion Post 31. Since 2001 he has been van coordinator in charge of transportation veterans to and from the VA hospital in Marion IL, where he has volunteered over 10,000 man hours. Andy was a musician and entertainer who took great joy in playing Santa Claus each Christmas season throughout this area. He is survived by his loving wife, Mary Ann Ray Kelly of Paducah; his mother, Sylvia Ann Kelly of Kevil; one sister, Katie Renea Tanner of Barlow; three brothers, John Garcia Kelly Sr. and wife Shirley of Kevil, Colin Patrick Kelly and wife Tonia of

Kirksey, Shawn Harold Kelly of Graves County and several nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews. Visitation for Mr. Kelly will be 5:00 until 8:00 PM, Sunday July 8, 2012 at Milner and Orr Funeral Home of Paducah. Masonic Rites were held at 7:00 PM. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM Monday July 9, 2012 at Milner and Orr Funeral Home of Paducah with the Reverend John Wooley officiating. Burial with Military Rites took place at 2:00 PM, Monday July 9, 2012 at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Disabled American Veterans, 1133 Murray Avenue, Paducah, KY 42003. You may leave condolences or light a candle at [www.milnerandorr.com](http://www.milnerandorr.com).

**KIRK P. "Doc" KITT** - Died Wednesday, July 4, 2012 in Lone Rock, Wisconsin at the age 65. The cause of death was astrocytoma (brain cancer). He was a current resident of Lone Rock, and a longtime resident of Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin. He was born June 28, 1947 in New Berlin, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, Sandy, of the home. His faithful wife, Sandra (née Zeman) was by his side at the Veterans Hospital hospice care facility in Madison when he passed. Kirk will be proudly remembered by his family for his service to our country. He enlisted in the United States Navy and served with distinction in the Vietnam War from 1966-1967 as a field corpsman stationed with the Marines (Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division). Kirk earned the praise and respect of his fellow soldiers, and was subsequently decorated with several service medals including two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. He was wounded during battle while field treating wounded soldiers. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Portuge Chapter #221*. In addition to Sandra, Kirk is survived by his son, Erik (Jennifer) Kitt of Victoria, Minn.; and two granddaughters, Ellery and Regan Kitt. He is also survived by his brother, Michael (Donna) Kitt of Marinette; niece, Cory Kitt of Madison; and nephew, Joshua Kitt of Denver, Colo. He was preceded in death by parents, Ralph and Patricia; and daughter Debbra. He received military honors at VFW Post No. 7694 in Prairie du Sac on Friday, July 20, 2012, at 1100 AM. As per his wishes a private service for immediate family members followed later that day. Memorial donations in honor of Kirk can be made to Dogs On Call, Inc., PO Box 284, Baraboo, WI 53913; [deltadogs@gmail.com](mailto:deltadogs@gmail.com)). These donations will be directed for use at the Madison VA Hospital's Hospice Center. Kirk's family would like to offer its sincere gratitude to the entire professional staff at the Madison VA Hospital, and in particular the individuals serving the Hospice Unit. Your compassion and grace during a difficult time for our family was greatly appreciated.

**PETER JOSEPH LAQUIDARA** - Died Monday, August 8, 2011 in Bellingham, Massachusetts, following a period of declining health at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Framingham, Massachusetts on August 28, 1943 to the late Joseph and Doris (née Doty) Laquidara. A lifelong resident of Framingham, Massachusetts, he was a 1961 graduate of Framingham High School, after which he enlisted in the United States Navy and served from March 2, 1965 to January 2, 1968. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Massachusetts*. He was born August 28, 1943 to the late Joseph and Doris (née Doty) Laquidara of Framingham, he is survived by his sister, Pamela-Jo L. Woods of Bellingham, his nephews, Andrew Woods and his wife, Tracey, Geoffrey Woods, and Philip Woods and his wife, Corey. He is also survived by his three great-nieces, Lauren, Andrea and Haley Woods.



Burial took place at 11:00 AM on September 14th at the National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts. Donations may be made in his memory to the Disabled American Veterans, c/o Robert Sinclair, 7 Willow Place, Norfolk, MA 02056.

**ROCCO J. LEE** - Died Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at his residence in Westbrook, Maine at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Portland, Maine on November 30, 1947 to John J. and Catherine (née Nicolai) Lee. Rocco attended Portland schools and was in the United States Army, serving in Vietnam. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Maine**. He worked in residential construction for much of his life, mainly in roofing. In recent years he enjoyed metal detecting and spending time with his family, especially his nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father; and a brother, Dennis Lee. He is survived by his mother, Catherine Lee of Portland; and siblings, Ellen McKenney of Portland, Andrea Lee of Portland, Kathleen Horton of Alabama, Donna Lee of South Portland, Cynthia Berenson of Portland, John Lee of the Philippines and Michael Lee of Florida. A graveside service at Calvary Cemetery will be held at a later date. Arrangements were by Independent Death Care, Portland.

**MICHAEL LEIBOWITZ** – Died recently in Monroe Township, New Jersey at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 19, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Allenhurst Chapter #12**.

**CAROL S. LOUIS** – Died recently in 2012 in Burlington, New Jersey at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. She was born November 24, 1945. She was a veteran of the Vietnam War. She was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Jersey**.

**JAMES JOSEPH “Jim” LOUNSBERY** - Died Tuesday, July 5, 2011 in Flagstaff, Arizona at the age of 64. He was formerly of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He moved to Flagstaff, Arizona in March 2010 to be close to his grandchildren and enjoy the sunshine. He grew up in Chelsea and worked for Ford Motor Co. in Saline until his retirement. Jim was a proud Vietnam Veteran. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ann Arbor Chapter #310**. His passions included spending time with his grandchildren, enjoying the outdoors, and photography. Jim will be remembered for his infectious smile, his generous spirit and his sense of adventure and fun. He is survived by his sister, Susan Hale of MI; brother, Bill Lounsbery of MI; daughters, Maya (John) Murray, Laura (Dave) Murray both of AZ, Melissa (Alex) Lounsbery of NYC; son, Thor (Marie) Lounsbery of NC; five grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Alice and Elliot and his brother, Tom. A memorial service will be held in Michigan at a later date.

**ALBERT LUPEJKIS** - Died Saturday, June 30, 2012 in Tonawanda, New York at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 30, 1945. He was the beloved husband of 39 years of Marsha (née Long) Lupejkis, father of Kristy (Michael) Fanuele, and Kimberly (David Palivoda) Lupejkis, son of the late Domenic and Rosalia (Trimper) Lupejkis. Albert was a United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a life member of Hillwarner Post 414 American Legion and a member of the Antler Rod & Gun Club in Angelica, NY; and was a social

member of National Hose Co. No. 1, and a member of the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. Albert was an avid golfer, hunter, painter and guitar player. A gathering to celebrate Albert's life was held on Monday, July 23, from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00-8:00 PM at the John O. Roth Funeral Home, Inc. 25 William Street (Between Morgan and Broad Streets), City of Tonawanda. Interment was private. Memorials may be made to the SPCA, 205 Ensminger Road, Tonawanda, New York 14150.



**BILLY RAY MARLER** - Died Friday, June 8, 2012 in Salt Lake City, Utah, due to congestive heart failure. He was 81 years of age. Billy was born on May 25, 1931 in Grant City, Missouri to the late Roy and Maude Marler. He served his country proudly for 30 years and retired as a Command Sergeant Major in the United States Army from Fort Douglas. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Salt Lake City Chapter #924**. He enjoyed his second career as a school bus driver with Granite School District. During his retirement Dad loved to load up his camper and meet with other retirees and he also made many trips out to the Midwest to see his family. He will sadly missed by his daughters, Mona and Tina, son-in-law; Lex and son, Michael along with his grandchildren. Billy is no “longer above ground”, as he would say whenever you called, but has joined his beloved wife; Betty Marler. Special thanks to Jeff, his nurse from First Choice Hospice for the care he provided our Father. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to your local Disabled American Veterans organization. Condolences may be sent to [www.garnerfuneral.com](http://www.garnerfuneral.com).

**HUGH J. McGEE III** - Died Wednesday, July 4, 2012, at Virtual Memorial Hospital in Mount Holly, New Jersey. He was 64 years of age and a resident of Lumberton, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. Mr. McGee was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania the son of Helen Lee McGee and the late Hugh McGee II. He was a United States Army veteran of Vietnam. For 30 years, he was a business owner, specializing in sales representatives. He was a member of DAV 44 Cape May, Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians 39, Philadelphia, V.F.W. Post 2692, Mount Holly, an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Jersey**, and he was a life member of the Lumberton Fire Company. Mr. McGee is survived by his wife, Charlene; three children, Colleen McGee and her companion, John, of Lumberton, Christine Tyson and her husband, Robert Jr., of Lumberton, and Hugh McGee IV and his fiancée, Darlene, of Petrolia, Calif.; and six grandchildren, Caitlin, John, Meghan, Michael, Aaron and Brianna. He also is survived by his mother, Helen McGee of Villas, N.J.; and four siblings, Kathy Wszolek, Mary Ann Lorimer, Theresa Sadowl, and Tom McGee. His Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11:00 AM Tuesday, July 10, at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Marne Highway, Hainesport. Interment was in Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Arnetown. Friends called from 9:00 to 10:30 AM Tuesday, at Perinchief Chapels, 438 High Street, Mount Holly. Contributions in his name may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, 7262 Mercy Road, Omaha, NE, 68124-2389.

**DONALD C. MELELLA** - Died Saturday, August 11, 2012, at the Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center in Topeka, Kansas at the age of 68. He was a resident of Junction City, Kansas. The cause of death is unknown. Donald was born April 24, 1944, in Yonkers, New York to the late Carmine and Anna (née Kuzma) Melella. Donald retired from the United States Army and served during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Junction City Chapter #344**. Survivors include two sons, Donald C. Melella, Jr. of Temple, TX and Michael S. Melella of Malmstrom, MT. He is survived by three daughters, Donna Ann Lyons of Lillington, NC, Cynthia L. Boots of Malmstrom, MT. and Hatsue Barbee of Chicago, Ill. He is also survived by one brother Stephan Melella and one sister Angie Ritchie. He has fourteen grandchildren. A graveside service with full military honors was held at 11:00 AM Monday, August 20, 2012, at the Kansas Veterans' Cemetery with the Reverend Dr. Joe Belardo officiating. Cremation has taken place. Memorial contributions may be given to the American Legion Post #45, 201 E. 4th, Junction City, Kansas 66441 and to the Vietnam Veterans of America, North Central Kansas Chapter #344, P.O. Box 1492, Junction City, Kansas 66441.



**JOHN T. MELTON** - Died Sunday, September 9, 2012 at his home in West Chester, Pennsylvania at the age of 65, surrounded by family after a long fight with COPD. He was married to the love of his life, Joann (née Mellinger), for 29 years. He was born on March 14, 1947 in Galax, Virginia. He was the son of Mabel (née Roberts) Melton and the late John F. Melton, Jr. He was a 1965 graduate of West Chester High School. He then joined the United States Navy and proudly served one tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a machinist by trade. John enjoyed fishing, boating, Sci-Fi movies, trips to Las Vegas and visiting local casinos, trivia and his beloved Oldies music. "It's 5 o'clock somewhere" he'd say. He was a life member of the Butler-O'Connor-McCormick VFW Post 106 in West Chester, having served 22 consecutive years on the board of directors there. In 2009 he received the Legion of Honor Award from the Chapel of Four Chaplains for recognition of his service to others. He was also a *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Phoenixville Chapter #436**, and was a member of American Legion Post 362 for sixteen years. Surviving, in addition to his wife and mother, are a sister, Glennis Singleton of Nottingham, England; daughters Christine Melton of Julian, N.C. and Amy Mellinger of Malvern, Pa.; two granddaughters, three grandsons, and one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by a son, Scott A. Melton. Relatives and friends were invited to his Funeral Service at 11:00 AM on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at DellaVecchia, Reilly, Smith & Boyd Funeral Home, 410 North Church Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380. Visitation was held from 7:00 to 9:00 PM Wednesday, September 12, 2012 and from 10:00 to 11:00 AM Thursday September 13, 2012 at the funeral home. Interment was in Philadelphia Memorial Park, Frazer, Pennsylvania. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the V.F.W. Post 106, 857 Lincoln Avenue, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380; or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1 Reed Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147.

**CHARLES M. MILLER** - Died Thursday, September 13, 2012 at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He was a resident of Catasauqua, Pennsylvania and 65 years of age. The cause of death was chronic multiple sclerosis. He was born in Easton, Pennsylvania to Helen (née Gassler) Miller of Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania and the late Charles Miller. He was the husband of Joan M. Matyas Miller of Catasauqua. Charles worked as a line serviceman for Reading Aviation at the ABE Airport. He served his country during the Vietnam War in the United States Air Force. Charlie's love for life touched many people. Doctors, nurses, aides, delivery people, friends and family will all hold special memories of Charlie. His infectious smile, carefree attitude and dry sense of humor will always be remembered. Charlie has circled his wagons for his last big round-up, and we know that we will be with him again. Memberships: He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Easton Chapter #415**; a life member of Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 7; American Legion, Catasauqua Post 215; a founding member of Han-Le-Co Volunteer Fire Company, No. 1; and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Catasauqua. Survivors: Surviving along with his wife, Joan are a son, Michael S. Miller; daughter-in-law, Kathryn; granddaughter, Dalys; and great-grandson, Jaedyn. He is also survived by sisters, Linda and husband, John Davey of New Albany, PA and Sharon and husband, Stephen Roberts of Bemus Point, NY; and numerous loving nieces; and nephews. Services: Funeral services were at 11:00 AM Monday, September 17, 2012, at the Brubaker Funeral Home, Inc., 234 Walnut Street, Catasauqua, Pennsylvania 18032. His viewing was from 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM in the funeral home. Due to allergies, the family must refuse all flowers. Your thoughts and prayers are welcome and appreciated. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Catasauqua Public Library or Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, in care of the funeral home.



**GARY L. MINICH** - Died Sunday, November 6, 2011, at Carlisle Regional Medical Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He was 62 years of age and a resident of Carlisle. The cause of death was cardiomyopathy. He was born on Saturday, November 5, 1949, in Carlisle to late Raymond E. and Sarah (née Calaman) Minich. Gary was a 1968 graduate of Carlisle High School and was a United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pennsylvania**. He retired from the former I. A. C./C. H. Masland & Sons in Carlisle after 35 years of service as a mechanic. Gary was a former member of the Friendship Volunteer Fire Co., Carlisle. He enjoyed his grandchildren, golfing and dirt track racing. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 38 years, Susan M. (née Sipe) Minich, one son, Jason E. Minich of Carlisle, one daughter, Amy S. Minich and her companion, Paul "Mike" Crowe of Newville, two brothers; Raymond Minich of Hummelstown and Richard Minich of Carlisle, two sisters; Carolyn Diehl and Joyce Snyder, both of Carlisle, two grandchildren; Haley and Gabriel Crowe and several nieces and nephews. Gary was preceded in death by brothers; Ted, Lester and Kenneth Minich. Memorial services were

held Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 2:00 PM, in the Ewing Brothers Funeral Home, 630 South Hanover Street, Carlisle, with John L. Shellenberger, Jr. officiating followed by military honors by the Cumberland County Honor Guard. Visitation was on Thursday from 1:00 Pm, until time of services. Burial was private. Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, Suite 300, 4899 Belfort Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32256. Please visit [www.Since1853.com](http://www.Since1853.com) for condolences.



**TILLMAN WESLEY "Wes" MITCHELL, JR.** - Died Saturday, August 25, 2012 at his residence in Corsicana, Texas following a brief battle with pancreatic cancer at the age of 66. He was born February 6, 1946 to the late Tillman Wesley, Sr. and Mary Mitchell in Dallas, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents and all his aunts and uncles. He is survived by his beloved wife of 31 years, Pamela; his older son Daniel and wife Amber Mitchell of Corsicana, Texas; his daughter Lara and husband Jim Costello of Adelanto, California and his younger son Brian and wife Becky Mitchell of Dothan, Alabama. Mr. Mitchell is also survived by 11 grandchildren whom he loved and adored always. He is also survived by his sister Mary Myers from Simi Valley, California, nieces, nephews, sisters and brothers in law and numerous cousins from Florida, Texas, Arizona, California and Oregon. Mr. Mitchell moved to Upland, California when he was very young. He graduated from Upland High School in 1964. He served in the United States Navy Seabees and was in active duty in Vietnam for two tours of duty. He worked as a plumber and pipe fitter with Local 398 and then with the city of Santa Anna, as a Mechanical and Building Inspector for 25 years. He retired three years ago. He and his wife Pamela moved to his beloved home state of Texas for retirement. Wes loved being part of the Boy Scouts of America with Old Baldy Council and Pack 605 and Troop 601 in Upland, California and Troop 253 in Corsicana. He was a proud *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Corsicana Chapter #1009**. He was a member of Upland United Methodist Church for 20 years and attended Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church in Corsicana for the past 3 years. Visitation with the family was held on Wednesday, August 29, 2012 at Corley Funeral Home Chapel from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Funeral services were on Thursday, August 30, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church in Corsicana, Texas with the Reverend Leslie Byrd officiating. Burial was at the Hamilton-Beeman Cemetery. Mr. Mitchell's pallbearers will be his fellow brothers of the Chapter 1009 of Vietnam Veterans of Corsicana. Memorials may be made to The Boy Scouts of America or any Veteran Association.

**VON RUSSON MITCHELL** - Died Thursday, May 10, 2012 at Jacksonville Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida at the age of 76. He was a resident of Green Cove Springs, Florida. The cause of death is unknown. Mr. Mitchell was born August 20, 1935 in American Fork, Utah to the late Otto Mitchell and Florence Russon. He served in the United States Navy for 25 years, serving on several ships, and as the Chaplain for the Fleet Reserves Unit 126 in Jacksonville. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Orange Park Chapter #1059**. He is survived by his children; Ranae Mulford of Southwest Hampton, Iowa; Victoria Billter of Green Cove Springs, Florida; Mark Mitchell of Yucca Valley, California; Paul Mitchell of Yucca Valley, California, and the mother of his children Barbara Mitchell, of Yucca Valley, California as well as



8 Grandchildren, 5 Great-Grandchildren and numerous Step-Grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Vonda Mitchell and by his Granddaughter, Misty. A memorial service was held at the Fleet Reserve Association of Jacksonville on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at 10:00 AM. Arrangements were under the care of Helm-Gallagher Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 1811 Idlewild Avenue, Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043.

**JOHN C. MOORE** - Died Thursday, August 16, 2012 in Huntington, Massachusetts with his loving family by his side at the age of 66. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on May 1, 1948 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts to late John E. Moore and Beulah R. (née Farnham) Moore of Russell, Massachusetts. He lived in Huntington for the past 42 years coming from Becket. He was a United States Navy Veteran serving in Vietnam. He worked for Driver Leasing in Springfield, Massachusetts for many years. He was a member of the VFW Post 6645 in Russell and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Westfield Chapter #219**. Besides his mother Beulah R. (Farnham) Moore, John leaves his beloved wife of 42 years Christine L. (Scott) Moore of Huntington; two daughters, Kelly R. Moore of Huntington and Lisa M. Neveu of Russell and her husband Michael E. Neveu; three brothers, Thomas Moore of Chester, Gary Moore and Michael Moore both of Russell; three sisters, Bonnie McKinney of Huntington, Wendy Lemanski of Westfield and Laurie Waite of Becket; two grandchildren, Ashley Rose and Avery Michelle. The funeral was held Monday, August 20th at 7:00 PM at the O'Brien Hilltown Community Funeral Home, 27 Russell Road, Huntington. Calling hours were held on Monday from 5:00-7:00 PM. Burial was private. Donations may be made to the D'Amour Center, Baystate Regional Cancer Program, 3350 Main Street, Springfield Massachusetts 01199 or to the Soldier On, 421 North Main Street, Building 6, Leeds, Massachusetts 01053.

**JOHN CURTIS MOORE** - Died Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at his residence in Steens, Mississippi at the age of 64. The cause of death was a heart attack. Mr. Moore was born September 11, 1947 in Hightog, Alabama to Ora Nell (née Conn) Moore, of Columbus, Mississippi and the late William John Moore. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, and was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Columbus Chapter #997**. Mr. Moore retired from Royal Trucking after being a truck driver for most of his life. He was a member of the American Legion of Columbus, MS, loved NASCAR racing, cooking, and spending time with his family and friends. Mr. Moore was of the Baptist faith. In addition to his Mother, Mr. Moore is survived by his wife of eight years, Judith Palmer Moore, Steens, MS, daughters-Kristi Moore (Dustin Gory), Missouri and Hanna Moore, North Carolina, sons- Lane (Lucretia) Moore, Alabama, Tyler Moore, North Carolina, and Stuart Ferguson, New York, sister- Carolyn Forrester, Alabama, brothers- Billy (Joan) Moore, Alabama and Terry (Deborah) Moore, Mississippi, four grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 1:00 PM at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Columbus, MS with Brother Tommy Whaley officiating.

**DEBORAH ELLEN MORGAN** - Died Saturday, August 11, 2012, after an extremely long, painful illness. She was 63 years of age and a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada. The cause of death was cancer. She was born March 9, 1949, in Columbus, Ohio, and raised in Phoenix, Arizona and a

resident of Nevada since 1995. She was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Las Vegas Chapter #17**. Deborah is survived by her husband, Joseph Morgan; four sons; one daughter; and eight grandchildren. Viewing was from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM Saturday, August 18, at Desert Memorial, 1111 Las Vegas Boulevard, North. Burial was at 9:15 AM Monday, August 20, at Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1900 Buchanan Boulevard. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Labre Indian School, Post Office Box 216, Ashland, Montana 59003-9989.



**ROLAND WARREN NEE** - Died Friday, July 20, 2012 at his home in Rush Springs, Oklahoma at the age of 89. The cause of death is unknown. Roland was born Friday, October 20, 1922 in Winchester, Massachusetts, to Michael and Mary Elizabeth (née Sheehan) Nee. He had lived in the Rush Springs area since 1969. Roland grew up in Massachusetts and after graduating from high school in Wilburton, MA, he enlisted in the US Army. He proudly served his country during WWII, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. During his career in the military from 1941 to 1971, he was stationed in Ft. Bliss, Texas, White Sands, New Mexico, Ft. Polk, Louisiana, Ft. Ord, California, Germany and Japan. Roland was involved in several organizations including the VFW, American Legion, AARP, DAV, Shriners and the Scottish Rite. Roland was a 33rd Degree Mason and was a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Korean War Association, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**, 25th Infantry Division and the Oklahoma Veteran Council. Roland enjoyed traveling and was a member of the Vimy Ridge Baptist Church in Rush Springs. Survivors include, wife, Joan Nee of the home; son, Roland W. Nee, Jr. and wife Kathy of Duncan; two daughters, Ellen Mary Shaddox and husband David of Hot Springs, AR, and Cathy A. Nee of Martha's Vineyard, MA; five grandchildren, Roland W. Nee, III, Jennifer Soltero, Amanda Shaddox, Matthew Shaddox and Robbie D'Orazio; seven great-grandchildren; brother, John Nee and wife Delorse of Burlington, MA; numerous nieces and nephews. Roland was preceded in death by his parents, brother, William Nee and four sisters, Ella Needham, Olive Carson, Lillian Corcoran, and Helen Doyle. Members of the US Army Honor Guard served as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were members of the Masonic Lodge and the VFW. Services were held at 10:00 AM, Thursday, July 26, 2012, at the Vimy Ridge Baptist Church in Rush Springs with David Hale and Dr. Joe Ligon, co-officiating. Burial was in the Rush Springs Cemetery under the direction of Callaway-Smith-Cobb Chapel in Rush Springs. Family visitation was from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Tuesday, July 24 at the Callaway-Smith-Cobb Chapel in Rush Springs.



**DOYLE CLARENCE O'KELLEY** - Died Thursday, September 20, 2012 in Ringgold, Georgia at the age of 71. The cause of death was a stroke and complications from vascular disease. He was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee on January 1, 1941. He was a lifelong resident of North Georgia and a member of Mission Ridge Baptist Church. Doyle served his country in the United States Marine Corps and was a member of American Legion Post #95, serving as an honor guard for many years. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America –**

**Chattanooga Chapter #203.** He was preceded in death by his mother, Mable Elaine Ballew O'Kelley; sister, Marylee Honeycutt; brothers, Tom O'Kelley, Jerry O'Kelley, and Paul O'Kelley; and grandson, Michael Henning. Doyle is survived by his daughters, Janet Mann, Jennifer England and Jennett (Monte) Orr all of Ringgold; step-son, Bart Cofer of Chattanooga; sister, Barbara Powers; brothers, Bill O'Kelley, Bean O'Kelley, Robert O'Kelley and Elbert O'Kelley; grandchildren, Jamie O'Kelley, Tabitha Young and Brandon Orr; great grandchild, Levi; and several nieces and nephews. A graveside service was held at 2:00 PM Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at Chattanooga National Cemetery with Bro. Lester Norton officiating. The family will receive friends from 11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Tuesday at the funeral home. Arrangements were by W.L. Wilson and Sons Funeral Home-Ft. Oglethorpe.



**JULIAN MELTON "Butch" PETREA** - Died Thursday, July 5, 2012 at his home in Kannapolis, North Carolina, surrounded by his family at 67 years of age. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related lung cancer. He was born October 11, 1944, in Cabarrus County, North Carolina to the late Crawford "Buck" Petrea and Maudie (née Moore) Petrea. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by a daughter, Julie Ann Petrea. Butch was educated in the Cabarrus County Schools before serving in the United States Army from 1969 to 1970, in the 3rd Army, 1st Infantry Division, 2nd Battalion 28th Infantry "Black Lions" Lai Khe, Vietnam. He received medals in Army Commendation, National Defense, Vietnam Campaign, Expert Marksman and the Bronze Star for Meritorious Achievement. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Concord Chapter #909**. He later worked for Gamewell Mfg. and Pillowtex Corp. Fabric Print Dept. Butch was an avid NASCAR fan, loved fishing, beach trips and the Tams. A funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Monday, July 9, at North Kannapolis United Methodist Church, with the Reverend Roger Bostic officiating. Interment followed at Carolina Memorial Park with full military graveside honors. The family received friends on Sunday, July 8, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Whitley's Funeral Home. Survivors include his wife of 26 years, Frances Lynnette Clark Petrea, of the home; son, Tony Petrea, of Concord; daughters, Kay Prevette, of Clayton and Shelley Banther, of Concord; brother, John (J.D.) Petrea and wife, Judy; sisters, Virginia Runett Crosby, Kathryn Earnhardt and husband, David, and Sandra Petrea, all of Kannapolis; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and his special niece, Kate. A special thanks to his niece, Sharon and her husband, Mike Quinn, for the adventures and everything you did to make his days brighter. Memorials may be made to North Kannapolis UMC, 1307 N. Main St., Kannapolis, NC, Hospice & Palliative Care of Rowan County, 720 Grove St, Salisbury, NC 30144 or Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 909.



**ROBERT T. PIRELLI** - Died Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at the Sherman Home in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 60. He was residing in Scottsdale, Arizona for the last year. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related cancer. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 27, 1952 to the late Gaetano and Mary (née Thomas) Pirelli. Mr. Pirelli grew up in Dorchester, Massachusetts and resided in Quincy, Massachusetts until moving to Franklin, Massachusetts in 1990. After his retirement, he

moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico and then Arizona to be near some of his family. A United States Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, Mr. Pirelli received the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Star and the Sharpshooter Badge. Before his retirement, he worked as a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service out of the Boston Harbor Hotel. Mr. Pirelli was a member of the Franklin Elks Club. He was also active in the Franklin Youth Hockey Assoc. and was the voice of Franklin Hockey for many years. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield, Rhode Island) Chapter #818**. He is survived by his son Shawn E. Pirelli of Dover, New Hampshire, his daughter Stacey L. Pirelli of Hull, Massachusetts and was the father of the late Army SSG Robert R. Pirelli who was killed in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is also survived by six brothers, Ed Androlones of Sebastian, FLorida, John Pirelli of Scottsdale, Arizona, Guy Pirelli of Palm Springs, California, Ralph Pirelli of Scottsdale, Joseph Pirelli of Boston and Jimmy Pirelli of Clinton, Massachusetts and many nieces and nephews. He was a brother of the late Chris Barbato. Relatives and friends were invited to attend his funeral Mass on Monday, September 17 at St. Mary's Church in Franklin at 10:00 AM. Burial was in the parish cemetery. Calling hours were held on Sunday from 5:00 – 8:00 PM in the Ginley Funeral Home of Franklin, 131 Main Street. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mr. Pirelli's memory by making a donation to care packages to benefit our nation's soldiers serving overseas to the Franklin Elks Club, 1077 Pond Street, Post Office Box 447, Franklin, Massachusetts 02038 or by dropping off items directly to the container inside the Franklin Senior Center.

**ALBERT GEORGE PROVENCHER** – Died Thursday, August 15, 2002 in North Smithfield, Rhode Island at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 29, 1928 in Woonsocket, Rhode Island to the late Henry and Laura Provencher. He had five siblings: Laura, Louise, Henry, Archibald and Alice Provencher. He served in the United States Army and retired at the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). He served tours of duty in Korea and Vietnam. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rhode Island**. He is interred in Saint Jean-Baptiste Catholic Cemetery in Bellingham, Massachusetts.

**MICHAEL MOORE REDDAN** - Died in his home in Lorton, Virginia on Sunday, July 8, 2012 surrounded by those that loved him deeply. He was 70 years old. He was born April 4, 1942 in Washington, DC to the late John T. and Josephine Olive Reddan. He attended St. John's College High School in Washington, DC and graduated in June 1960. He then went on to graduate from Tulane University, School of Architecture, and received his Master's Degree. A Captain in the USAF, Mike served his Country honorably during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Bronze Star. Mike was an advocate for all veterans and was a Life Member of VFW, PVA, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Alexandria Chapter #917**, and DAV. Mike is predeceased by his parents and Brother John Reddan. He is survived by his wife and biggest fan, Sandra Reddan; sisters, Mary Jo Barnes and Susan Westbrook; children, Michele Knowlton, Erin McCaffrey, and Brian Reddan, step-children: Susan Sharon, Tom Dyson, and Farley Jones. Grandpa Mikey is also survived by 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held September 14, 2012, 11:00 AM at Church of the Nativity in Burke, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, the family requested Memorial Donations be sent to: [Woundedwarriors.org](http://Woundedwarriors.org) or

Capitalcaring.org. Beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend you are so loved and will be so missed by so many.



**BLAS H. REYES, JR.** - Died Thursday, May 24, 2012 in La Mesa, New Mexico at the age of 65. The cause of death was diabetes mellitus II and renal and heart failure. He was born in La Mesa, New Mexico on June 16, 1946. Blas was a beloved son, husband, brother, father, uncle, grandfather and friend. He was a friend to many and a stranger to none. Blas had a personality that could brighten a room and put a

smile on everyone's face. He was a United States Army Vietnam veteran who was very proud of his service for his country. Blas was always willing to help anyone who needed a hand; if he could not physically do it, he would make calls and find a way to get it done. He touched many lives and made many friends throughout his lifetime. Blas was very involved at the Veterans of Foreign Wars #4384 of Anthony, NM and also at the Lucio Moreno **Vietnam Veterans of America – El Paso (Texas) Chapter #574**. He retired as sales representative of 26 years combined from Kwal Paint of Las Cruces and also at Sherwin-Williams of Las Cruces. He always had a way to cheer people up and make people laugh no matter the circumstance; he had quite a sense of humor. He had a mission to search for and reconnect with his Vietnam War comrades throughout the years, in which he had great success in finding his "brothers". He had such a close bond with his two cousins, Hector and Arturo Ramirez; they were there for each other no matter the situation. His beloved mother, Amelia H. Reyes, survives Blas. He is also survived by his wife of 39 years, Clara Reyes, his two daughters, Alesha Ivonne Reyes (Burbank, CA) and Anna Lisa Reyes (Denver, CO). Blas was the eldest of his surviving siblings followed by his sister, Linda Reyes (son Michael Reyes), brother, Freddy Reyes (Rosie Reyes, son-Sean Reyes), sister Beatrice Reyes-Duran (Ron Duran, son Frankie Duran) and brother, Ray Reyes. Blas is survived by his pride and joy of a grandson, Ezra Eidman (son of Anna Reyes). He loved his grandson very much and he would do anything for him. Many very loving uncles, aunts, and cousins survive him and will all miss him very much. His father, Blas Reyes Sr., his paternal grandparents Juan Reyes and Tranquelina Reyes, and maternal grandparents Salvador Holguin and Soledad "Chole" Holguin preceded him in death; also by his in-laws, Francisco and Francisca Alvarez, and by his two uncles, Antonio Valencia and Saul Holguin. Services for Blas was held at the San Miguel Catholic Church on Monday, May 28, with visitation from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM along with prayer vigil. Funeral service was also held at San Miguel Catholic Church on Tuesday, May 29 at 10:00 AM followed by his final resting place at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers for Blas will be: nephews, Michael Reyes, Sean Reyes, and Frankie Duran, his cousins, Hector Ramirez and Ray Stewart, and best his friend, Xavier Marquez. Honorary pallbearers are Ramón Alvarez, Xavier Alvarez, Benjamin Ramirez, Arturo Ramirez, Ray Reyes, Freddy Reyes, and C.T. Gross. As an honor to Blas, the family asks that you wear a color of patriotism (not black) to his funeral services. The family would like everyone to celebrate Blas' life rather than mourn his death. Arrangements by Getz Funeral Home, corner of Solano and Bowman Ave. To sign our local online guestbook please log onto [www.GetzCares.com](http://www.GetzCares.com).



**ROBERT G. RICHMOND** - Died of cancer at his home in Lakewood, California on Sunday, August 26, 2012, at the age of 64. He was born July 9, 1948 to Robert W. and Helen Richmond in Long Island, New York. His parents, Robert W. and Helen Richmond, moved to Cutchogue when Bobby was 4 years old. He joined the United States Navy after graduating from Southold High School. While in the Navy, Bob served aboard the USS Frank E. Evans, which was involved in a collision with the Australian ship Melbourne. Seventy-four lives were lost. When discharged from the Navy, Bob went to work for the City of Long Beach, remaining there until his retirement. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – California**. Bob was a Long Islander at heart and made many trips back home through the years. Bob is survived by his wife, Georgia; his mother and father; his sisters, Barbara (William) Kaelin, Patricia, Carole and Elaine; and three nieces, Michelle, Dawn and Melissa. Family and friends gathered for a memorial service on Saturday, September 1, at DeFriest-Grattan Funeral Home in Southold. Burial, with full military honors, was at Cutchogue Cemetery.



**ALAN E. RICKER** - Died Thursday, August 30, 2012 at the Hospice House in Concord, New Hampshire after a brief but courageous battle with cancer. He was 65 years of age and a resident of Hooksett, New Hampshire. His loving wife, Clara, was by his side. Alan was born in Riverside, California March 8, 1947, the son of the late Carroll and Yvonne Ricker. He was raised in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, moving to Burlington, Vermont in 1976. In 2001 he and Clara relocated to Hooksett. Alan proudly served his country during the Vietnam War as a Coastguardsman on the Coast Guard Cutter Chase from 1966 to 1970. He was a member of the **Vietnam Veterans of America – Concord Chapter #41**. Following his time in the military, he graduated from the University of New Hampshire. Alan was most recently employed as a sales engineer at Cutter Atlantic Refractories in Woburn, Massachusetts. Alan was a devoted husband and a loving father and grandfather. He loved nothing more than spending time with his family and spoiling his grandchildren. He also enjoyed playing poker, fishing, watching baseball, and going to UNH football games. He loved travelling and connecting with his Coast Guard shipmates at their annual reunions. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Clara (Mills) Ricker; daughter Sherry Ricker; daughter Michelle Keaney and her husband Jonathan; son Matthew Ricker; grandchildren Isaac Trombley, Emma Keaney, Evan Keaney and Mairén Keaney; brother Mark Ricker and his wife Carolyn; brother Jack Ricker; brother Steve Ricker; sister Carol Phaneuf Pelkey and her husband, Jim; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Ronald Ricker. A memorial gathering was held at Phaneuf Funeral Home on Friday, September 7th at 2:00 PM at the Phaneuf Funeral Home, 172 King Street, Boscawen, New Hampshire, followed by internment at the Boscawen Military Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester.

**ROBERT “Bob” ROBESON** – Died Thursday, October 13, 2011 in Kansas City, Missouri at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 2, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Kansas City Chapter #317**.

**CLARENCE L. ROLLER** – Died recently in 2012 in the Indiana Veterans Home in Lafayette, Indiana at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 19, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Portage Chapter #905**.

**MARGUERITE WILMA (née Houston) SHARP** - Died Tuesday, September 11, 2012 in Chattanooga, Tennessee after a long battle with cancer. She was 72 years of age. She was born in Chattanooga on July 9, 1940 to the late James William Houston and Marguerite (née Copeland) Houston. She was a graduate of Central High School Class of '58 and the University of Chattanooga, where she obtained a bachelor of art as well as a masters of arts in education. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority, and the singles group at First Centenary UMC. She served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. She was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. Marguerite also volunteered at the local animal shelter when her health allowed. She was also predeceased by her husband, Gilbert Sharp. Survivors include her daughter Megan Hughes; son, William Hughes (fiancée Jordan O'Neal) and grandson Xander O'Neal. Special thanks to Sandra Hughes, Susie Shimel, Judy Sharpe and Pastor Neil Brown as well as to the countless others who have helped Marguerite. Visitation was in First Centenary United Methodist Church from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM on Tuesday. The Reverend David Harr conducted the service at 1:30 PM in the church. Interment was in the Chattanooga National Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to First Centenary United Methodist Church. Arrangements were by Covenant Funeral and Cremation Service, Crox family owned and operated.

**JAMES DELBERT "Jimmy" SKAGGS** - Died Saturday, October 13, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 9, 1946. He was a retired manager for J.P. Amusement, a disabled United States Army veteran of Vietnam, a member of Millcreek V.F.W. Post, and Catholic by faith. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisville Chapter #454**. Survivors include his wife, the former Peggy Snodgrass; his daughter, Tessa Ann Skaggs; mother and stepfather, Anna C. Kelty (Charles); his sister, Beverly Ann Beck (Don), stepchildren, Tiffany JoAnn Disspayne and Timothy Disspayne; grandchildren, Katlyn Anna Skaggs and Mekensi Faith Disspayne; and his niece, Angela Gallagher (Paul). His funeral was at 1:00 PM Wednesday at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Hwy. Entombment was in the Evergreen Mausoleum. Visitation was from 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM Tuesday and 9:00 AM until the funeral Wednesday.

**GARY RONALD SETLOCK** – Died Sunday, July 22, 2012 in Wayne, Michigan at the age of 63. He had been a resident of The Villages, Florida. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on September 28, 1948. Gary was a resident of Wayne, Michigan. Gary was formerly from Canton, Michigan. Gary was preceded in death by Sandy. He was the dear Father of Dan (Heather) and Jeff; brother of Ray (Mary Lou), Rick (Faye), Marlene (Bob) Leinonen, and the late Gerald (Kathy); loving Grandfather of Cadence and Cameron. Gary was a United States Army Vietnam veteran and had retired from Ford Motor Company. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oxford (Florida) Chapter #1036**. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved a good game of poker. Visitation was at the Harry J. Will Funeral

Home, 34567 Michigan Avenue, Wayne, Michigan, Friday, July 27 from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM. The Funeral Service was on Saturday, July 28 at 10:30 AM at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Interment was at the Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland, Michigan. The family requests memorial donations be made in Gary's honor to: The American Cancer Society.

**PATRICK E. SHERIDAN** – Died peacefully at his home in Manhattan, Montana on Friday, July 8, 2011. He was 61 years old. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in San Francisco on February 25, 1950 and was raised in Southern California, Patrick was an alumnus of Mater Dei High School, Class of 1968. Upon graduating from high school, Patrick enlisted in the United States Army and proudly served our country in Vietnam. His distinctive service was recognized by being awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious achievement. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bozeman Chapter #788**. After his military service, Patrick attended the University of Idaho where he received a degree in environmental law. He went on to pass the bar exam and used his knowledge to serve as a water law judge, as well as to help the environment in several different ways. Patrick had many other interests and later on used his abilities to work in the areas of construction and carpentry. He volunteered his time to several causes near and dear to his heart. He had a keen interest and love for horses and military veterans. He assisted in the equestrian program at Eagle Mount for several years and in 2010 began volunteering with "Operation Never Forgotten." Because of his service in Vietnam, Patrick had a special connection with today's younger war veterans and all the wounded warriors who visited Montana this past January. Patrick was preceded in death by his mother and father, Betty Lou Bateman of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Philip Edward Sheridan of Marshalltown, Iowa; as well as three sisters, Mary Elizabeth, Amy Ann, and Eileen Marie. He is survived by one nephew, Matthew Philip Vasquez of Anaheim, Calif.; and his dear friends in California and Montana. Patrick searched for many years to find a place he could call "home." He found that place in Bozeman. Here he fell in love with the people and the lifestyle. He found his way into many people's hearts and became a friend who will be missed by all. Patrick was a man who loved carpentry, horses, his beloved dogs, and just being a cowboy. Services were held Friday, July 29, at Fort Harrison in Helena, Montana. A gathering in the chapel began at 1:00 PM, followed by military burial at 2:00 PM. An evening reception was held at 7:00 PM at the Eagles Lodge in Bozeman. Arrangements were in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.



**GERALD W. "Jerry" SMITH** - Died Monday, March 12, 2012, surrounded by his loving family in Glendale, Arizona at the age of 77. Jerry, a retired Chief Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force, was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in the Vietnam War among many other awards & medals. He finished his distinguished 30-year career traveling the globe for the Inspector General's Office and retired in 1982. The following year, Jerry began a new adventure with his first wife, Joan, by opening "Sign of the Cross", a Catholic gift store. He ministered to Catholics throughout the Valley for 22 years. Jerry was loved by all. He was always the first to offer help to family, friends and neighbors. He was known for his leadership, friendliness, sense of humor and kindness. Jerry was preceded in death by his first wife Joan Smith. He is survived by

his beloved wife Maria Smith; his children: Karen King, Anthony Smith and Valerie Elwell; his step-children: Lucy Orta, Patricia Levandowski, Veronica Valles, Raymond Valles, Monique Price, Angela Sanchez and ten grandchildren and one great grandchild. A visitation will be held on March 22, 2012 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 5614 W. Orangewood Ave., Glendale. A Rosary will be recited at 6:30 p.m. with Vigil Prayers to follow at 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on March 23, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church, 3140 North 51st Avenue, Phoenix. Burial with full military honors was in the Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery, 10045 West Thomas Road, Avondale. Please come and help us celebrate his life! The family requests that in lieu of flowers, please send donations In Memory of Gerald W. Smith to: Maggie's Place, Post Office Box 1102, Phoenix, Arizona 85001 or online @ [www.maggiesplace.org](http://www.maggiesplace.org) to help pregnant women choose life for their babies.



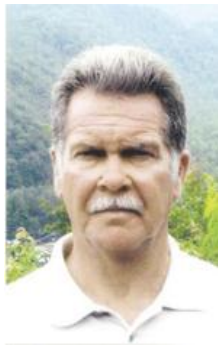
**WAYNE A. "Smitty" SMITH** - Died Thursday, July 26, 2012, at Arrowhead Hospital, Glendale, Arizona at the age of 67. He was a resident of Peoria, Arizona and formerly of Bettendorf, Iowa. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Davenport, Iowa on June 23, 1945. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rock Island Chapter #299**. He is survived by his lifelong partner, Karen Sharp, Peoria; sister, Carol (Gary) Morrison, Apache Junction, Ariz.; nephews and nieces, and a special family to him, the Huffmans, of Bettendorf. Memorial graveside services with military rites are 1:30 PM Thursday at National Cemetery, Arsenal Island. Visiting hours were from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Thursday, at Weerts Funeral Home in Davenport, Iowa.

**DINDIAL SOOGRIM** – Died Saturday, November 6, 2010 in Hollywood, Florida at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in New York on November 4, 1946. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Miami Chapter #121**.



**SANDRA K. SPARKMAN** - Died Thursday, August 9, 2012 in Poplar Bluff, Missouri at the age of 59. The cause of death was a heart attack. She was born July 16, 1953 in Poplar Bluff. She was a longtime resident of Butler County. Sandra was a member of the Mt. Zion Missouri Baptist Church. She was a teacher at Barnes Hospital as a Doctor of Psychiatry. Sandra was a veteran of the United States Air Force. She received the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with one Oak Leaf Cluster and the National Defense Service Medal. She was a Registered Nurse. She was a volunteer at the V.A. Hospital, volunteer Chaplain at the Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center, a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harviell Chapter #1056**, made Christmas shoe boxes for the under privileged, participated in the Relay for life, a member of the World

Laughter Tour, Laughter club at the V.A. and the nursing homes, volunteer for B.E.S.T., Acupuncture Detox, March of Dimes, and took care of the Bulletin Board at the V.A. Also she was the leader of the Mt. Zion childrens church and a Sunday school teacher. She loved taking care of her dogs. Sandra is survived by two brothers; Elmer Sparkman and George Sparkman, both of Poplar Bluff; and one sister Debra Fay Sparkman of McAllen, Texas. Visitation was Tuesday, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Fitch-Hillis Funeral Home Chapel. The funeral service was at the Mt. Zion Missouri Baptist Church Wednesday at 10:00 AM, with the Reverend Matthew Johnston officiating. Burial was at the Missouri. State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, Missouri. Memorials may be made to the Disabled Veterans Fund.



**DENNY H. "Sparky" SPARKS** - Died Sunday, July 1, 2012, in the CHP Defiance Area In-Patient Hospice Center at the age of 62. He was a resident of Defiance, Ohio. The cause of death was cancer. He was born February 28, 1950, in Grundy, Virginia, and was the son of Burns and Ora (née McGlothlin) Baldrige. Denny is survived by his wife of nearly 28 years, Karen (Searfoss) Sparks; a brother, Tivis (Faye) Baldrige of Woodbridge, Va.; a sister, Mavis (Sid) Grinnell of Perry, Mich.; father- and mother-in-law, Carl and Evelyn Searfoss of Continental; two sisters-in-law, Vicki (Jim) Tyler of Defiance, and Debra (Monto) Mumea of Continental; and a brother-in-law, Robert Searfoss of Continental. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Von (Gerald) Garner. Denny has lived in the Defiance area for most of his life. He served his county in the United States Marine Corps during Vietnam. Denny worked at the GM Powertrain for 25 years, retiring in 2001. He was a member of the American Legion, Napoleon, VFW Post 3360, Moose Lodge 2094, AMVETS Post 1991, all of Defiance, a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Defiance Chapter #954** and the CMVA. Family received friends on Thursday, July 5, 2012, from 4:00-8:00 PM in the Hanenkrath-Clevenger-Schaffer Funeral Home. Funeral services were on Friday, July 6, 2012, at 10:30 AM in the funeral home with Tom Wiseman officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance, with military honors provided by the VFW. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice the Caring Way of Defiance. Online condolences may be made at [www.HCSfuneralhome.com](http://www.HCSfuneralhome.com).

**VICTOR S. SPOTO** (USN CPT-Ret.) - Died peacefully on Monday, June 4, 2012 in Safety Harbor, Florida at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. Vic was born on August 16, 1933 in Tampa, graduated from Jefferson High School; Florida State University and received his Masters Degree from American University in Washington D.C. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary Lou; three sons, Mark and wife, Andrea and their daughters, Kati and Samantha; Michael and wife, Debbie and their daughter, Mikenna; Todd and his deceased wife, Kathleen and their twin daughters, Haley and Emily; brother, Joe and wife, Joy; (predeceased sister, Connie and husband, Jim Walter); niece, Tarra Mitchell and husband, George and their children, James, Reid and Mark. He was commissioned a Naval Officer in 1955, attended Flight School in Pensacola, was assigned to the Naval Intelligence School and later appointed to attend the National War College. During his over 26 year career, he was assigned to many commands throughout the world, including the commissioning of the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk and other ships of the United States Navy Fleets, as well as serving in Vietnam. He was appointed a



Naval Attaché to Sweden and was the Naval Intelligence Officer for the Sixth fleet in Gaeta, Italy. After retiring and returning home to Florida, he became involved with Sertoma and other civic organizations, was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida** and fundraisers, as well as being a long time member and Commodore of both the Clearwater Yacht Club and Island Estates Yacht Club. Services were held at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church in Safety Harbor on Friday, June 8th with visitation at 10:00 AM, Mass at 10:30 AM followed full military honors at gravesite, Sylvan Abbey Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, contributions are requested to be directed towards your favorite charities. Further obituary information and online guestbook may be accessed at [www.Sylvanabbey.com](http://www.Sylvanabbey.com).



**ARTHUR JAMES TAYLOR** - Died on Monday, August 13, 2012 at Vanderbilt University Medical Center at the age of 79. He was a resident of Clarksville, Tennessee. The cause of death was cancer and kidney failure. He was born on June 18, 1933 in Shellman, Georgia to the late George W. Taylor and Anna Mae (née Jordan) Taylor. He was also preceded in death by his daughter, Petra Taylor. Arthur was a Retired CSM with the United States Army having served three tours in Vietnam and the Korean Conflict. He was very involved in DAV. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Clarksville Chapter #396**. He was a member of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. He is survived by his wife, Ingeburg Damke Taylor of Clarksville, TN;

two sons, Michael Taylor (Debbie) of Clarksville, TN and Arthur Taylor, Jr. (Teresa) of Oakhurst, NJ; brother, George Taylor of Hartford, CT; two sisters, Dorothy Taylor Rush of Hartford, CT and Mary Ann Owens of West Hartford, CT; six grandchildren; and three great grandchildren. A funeral service was held on Friday, August 17, 2012 at 11:00 AM at Neal-Tarpley-Parchman Chapel with Pastor Matt Brown officiating. Burial was in the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery-West in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Visitation was held on Thursday, August 16, 2012 from 4:00-7:00 PM and Friday, August 17, 2012 from 10:00 AM until the hour of the service at the funeral home. Military personnel will serve as pallbearers. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the DAV, Post Office Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45290. Arrangements were entrusted to the Neal-Tarpley-Parchman Funeral Home, 1510 Madison Street, Clarksville, Tennessee 37040.

**LOUIS A. THOMPSON, JR.** – Died Thursday, December 8, 2011 in Cumberland, Maryland at the age of 57. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 20, 1954. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Maryland**.



**MICHAEL R. TRUEX** - Died Friday, September 7, 2012 at Jersey Shore University Hospital in Neptune, New Jersey at the age of 65. He was a resident of Neptune, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Red Bank, New Jersey on February 19, 1947. Michael worked for Applegate Moving and Storage Company in Manasquan. He was a United States Coast Guard Veteran of Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Allenhurst Chapter #12** of Oakhurst. Michael was past president of the USCGC Campbell Association. Michael was a former

Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, George Armstrong Camp # 17. He was a past president of the Monmouth County Genealogy Club and the Neptune Historical Society. Michael was a graduate of High Point University in North Carolina. Michael is predeceased by his father, Raymond and his brother, Thomas. He is survived by his mother, Rita S. Truex of Red Bank and his wife of 28 years, Lynn Egan Truex; 4 sons, Robert Lindblad and his wife Staci of Washington DC, William Lindblad and his wife Jenny of Texas, Stephen Truex and Rachel of Colorado and Darren Truex of Colorado; two daughters, Barbara Estenes and her husband Ray of Middletown NJ and Kristen Lindblad of Neptune; five grandchildren, John Tully, Brandon Lindblad, Paul Tully, Wilde Truex and Caroline Lindblad; three brothers, Phillip Truex, Jake Truex and his wife Denise and Joseph Truex and his wife Ethel, and two sisters, Patricia White and her husband Paul and Mary Cayt Portee and her husband Rob. Visitation was on Friday, September 14 from 3:00 to 8:00 PM and Saturday from 2:00 to 6:00 PM at the Reilly Funeral Home, 801 D Street, Belmar, New Jersey. There will be a service in the funeral home on Saturday at 6:00 PM. Donations in his name to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Post Office Box 276, Allenhurst New Jersey 07712 would be appreciated.

**WAYNE ALLEN TURNEY** - Died Thursday, May 10, 2012, at his home in Clinton, Iowa at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. Wayne was born June 11, 1938, in Clinton, Iowa to the late Blaine T. and Hazel A. (née Wilden) Turney. He was a 1956 graduate of Clinton High School. Wayne married Darlene Warning on October 8, 1977 in Tinley Park, Illinois. Wayne proudly served four years in the United States Navy and was a Vietnam veteran serving on the USS Guide MSO-447. Wayne worked at Hill's Wood Products, Clinton Corn Processing and International Harvester (Farmall Plant) in Rock Island, IL. Wayne enjoyed gardening, fishing, bird watching, traveling, bottle collecting and his morning coffee group. He was one of the founders of the Rock River Valley Bottle Club. He was a life member of AMVETS, life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rock Island Chapter #299** and Clinton Moose Lodge 363. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Clinton. Wayne is survived by his wife, Darlene; daughter, Patti, at home, brother, Robert (Eldona) Turney of Clinton; sister-in-law, Kay Frances Warning of Oak Forest, IL; niece, Tami (Mike) Redman; nephew, Brent (Karen) Turney; four grandnephews; two uncles and six aunts. He will be greatly missed by his wife, daughter, family, coffee friends and all the BEAMers. Funeral services were held Monday, May 14, 2012, at 10:30 AM at First United Methodist Church, 7th Avenue South and 3rd Street, Clinton. Visitation was on Sunday, May 13, 2012, from 3:00 to 7:00 PM at the church. The Clinton Chapel Snell-Zornig Funeral Home and Crematory assisted the family with arrangements. Burial was in the Clinton Lawn Cemetery where military honors were conducted. Pallbearers were Brent Turney, Mike Redman, Steve Sivertsen, Gary Sivertsen, Tom Wiebenga and Steve Bromley. Honorary pallbearers will be Ronald Jurgensen, Reynold Jurgensen, Louis Jurgensen, Claire Butz, Ron Neblung, Roger Gammon, Tyler Redman, Jared Redman, Logan Turney, Ethan Turney, Gene Hynous, Don Wyant and Jerry Henry. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church.



**GENE CONRAD WEITZEL** - Died Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea, Minnesota at the age of 79. He was a ruptured aortic aneurysm. He was a resident of Northwood, Iowa. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on March 31, 1932, in Wells, Minnesota, the first of 11 children, the son of the late Conrad "Tony" and Berneice (née Genke) Weitzel. Gene attended Hayward Country School and Mason City schools. Gene joined the United States Army at the age of 17, on March 18, 1950, and served in the infantry during the Korean Conflict and received the Purple Heart. He also served in the Vietnam conflict, receiving the Bronze Star Medal for keeping the air field at Bien Hoa operating under adverse conditions. Gene also served two tours of duty in

France with pipeline companies. His family was with him on these tours and three of his six children were born in France. Upon retiring from the Army on June 30, 1970, Gene accepted the position of chief of police in Northwood. He also held various jobs over the years, including security guard at Winnebago Industries, high school custodian, sheriff of Worth County, factory work and custodian at the post office. His favorite job was custodian of Northwood-Kensett High School. He loved the kids and took pride in "his" clean building. Gene was very active in the VFW and was past commander and quartermaster. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lake Mills (Iowa) Chapter #790**. He was also active in and a member of Peace Lutheran Church and knew God as his Savior. Gene met the love of his life, Verna Kalvig, a cute WAC, at Ft. Riley, Kan., and after a whirlwind courtship of three months they were married on May 3, 1952, in the post chapel. Gene loved life, his wife of 59 years and his six children and their families. Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Verna (Kalvig) Weitzel of Northwood; four sons, Gene Weitzel II and Paul Weitzel of Northwood, Frank (Donna) Weitzel of Williamsburg, Va., and John (Stacy) Weitzel of Waterville, Minn; two daughters, Christine (Arnie) Dorenkamp of Hanlontown and Susan (Luane) Lau of Glenville, Minn; 17 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by one brother, Jack (Sue) Weitzel of Albert Lea, Minn; four sisters, Mary Geistler of Manly, Elizabeth (Wayne) Groe of Elk Point, S.D., and Kathy and Connie of Texas; sisters-in-law, Jackie Anderson of Albert Lea, Minn., Woodie Weitzel of Refugio, Texas, Dorothy (James) Schoolcraft of Hudson, Caroline Kalvig of Northwood and Betty Jane Kalvig of Mason City; and brothers-in-law, Donald (Shirley) Kalvig and Arthur (Cathy) Kalvig of Northwood; as well as many nieces, nephews and many other extended family members and friends. Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Tony and Berneice Weitzel; four brothers, Donald in infancy, Billy Dean, John and Robert; his sister, Marie; and one great-grandson, Courtland. A funeral service for Gene was held at 2:00 PM Saturday, March 3, at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 307 4th Street, Grafton, with Pastor Barbara Wills officiating. Following the service, military honors were accorded at the church by members of Our Buddies VFW Memorial Post #6779 of Northwood. According to his wishes, cremation took place following the funeral service with inurnment at 1:00 PM on Monday in the Sunset Rest Cemetery in Northwood. Visitation was held from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM on Friday at the Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 First Avenue South, Northwood. Visitation was also held one hour prior to service time on Saturday at the church. The family would like to suggest that if friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the Sunset Rest Cemetery Memorial Fund in care of Our Buddies VFW Memorial Post 6779 in Northwood.

**JOE THOMAS WILLIAMS** - Died Sunday, September 16, 2012 in a Chattanooga healthcare facility at the age of 65. He was a resident of Dunlap, Tennessee. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 11, 1947 to the late Lawrence and Amanda (née Payne) Williams. He was a Veteran of the United States Army. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Chattanooga Chapter #203**. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Wayne Williams, Chester Williams, Alma Ruth Smith, John Larry Williams, and Retha Jenkins. Survivors include his children, Rhonda Scott, Kristi Williams, both of Ringgold, GA, Justin (Lisa) Williams, and Jodi Williams, both of Dunlap; brother, Wade Williams; sisters, Irene Allen and Lillie Clemons; grandchildren, Haley Scott, Faith Scott, and Kylee Williams. Funeral Services were held at 1:00 PM CDT Wednesday, September 19, 2012 in the Ewton Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in the Sequatchie County Memorial Gardens. Visitation hours were 4:00 – 8:00 PM CDT.



**JAMES E. WILLIAMSON** - Died in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at the age of 73. The causes of death were complications from pneumonia. He was born March 10, 1939 in Dillon, South Carolina to the late Daniel and Dora (née Jackson) Williamson. At age 15, he convinced his father to sign documents that certified his age as 17 and gave consent for him to enter the United States Army. He served as a soldier for 20 years, including 2 tours in Vietnam where he was awarded two Bronze Star Medals and was one of the youngest First Sergeants in the

Army. Jim was very proud to serve his country. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Oshkosh Chapter #437** and active in the local Chapter 437. After retirement Jim became a civilian employee for the United States Army and retired after nearly 20 more years of service from the Rock Island Arsenal Headquarters in Rock Island, Illinois. He earned his bachelor's degree in Business from Western Illinois University in 1978. On June 21, 1986 he married Christine "Tina" Troxell in Milan, Illinois and they began 26 years of adventure and devotion to one another. Tina will forever be Jim's darlin'. Jim was an avid runner, completing many marathons and ultra marathons in his lifetime. He was an accomplished golfer and was most proud of his hole in one of August 15, 2000 in Muscatine, Iowa. Jim is survived by his wife Tina, his brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Lois Williamson, mother-in-law and father-in-law, Helen and Gene Troxell, brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Gary and Sarah Troxell, niece and nephew-in-law, Laura and Jesse Laster, nephew, John Troxell, special great nephew, Matthew Laster, and other nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his honorary kids from Slovakia, George Krcma and Zuzana Stuetz. Additionally Jim has many friends in Nashville, TN, the Quad Cities, and Oshkosh, WI. He will be truly missed by his loyal canine companion, Elvis who brought him endless joy and comfort in illness. A memorial service for Jim was held September 15, 2012 at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church at 11:00 AM with the Reverend Father Luke Ferris officiating. Visitation preceded the service from 9:00 AM to the time of service. Military Honors were performed following the service at the church. Private graveside services were held at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society, Quad City Animal Welfare Center or the Veterans Military Museum. Tina would like to give a very special thank you to the staff of Sterling House who cared for Jim so competently and compassionately during the last days of his life.

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

FATHER PHIL SALOIS, M.S.