

# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Office of the National Chaplain

## Taps

**November/December 2014**

**DAVID MILLARD ALLEN** - Died Friday, August 15, 2014 in Copperhill, Tennessee at the age of 70. The cause of death was cancer and renal failure. He was born August 5, 1944 in Copperhill to the late Abe and Katherine Allen. David was a loving and giving man who enjoyed life and helping others. He retired from the United States Army after 22½ years of service and two tours in Vietnam. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sevierville Chapter #1078**. David also enjoyed auctioneering, serving as a pastor in the Universalist Church, and his recent passion of traveling the southeast and Missouri in his RV with his wife, Rene. Together, David and Rene enjoyed buying and renovating homes and restoring furniture. x He is survived by his wife of almost 10 years, Rene Allen; children and spouses, Dwight and Rita Allen, Donna Holmes, Abe and Janet Allen, and David Allen, II; grandchildren and spouses, Lana and Jamie Carlson, Josh Little, Neal Little, Ashley and Ryan Edwards, Khya, Aleah, and Trey Allen; great grandchildren, Ryan Carlson, Jaxon Little, and Aubrey Edwards; step children, Adam and Kasey Koetsch, and Natasha Koetsch; siblings and spouses, Weldon and Pat Allen, Ray and Austeen Allen, Lois and Rusty Shriver, and Tom and Amy Allen; several nieces and nephews also survive. No services were held. The family requested that donations be made to the American Cancer Society in David's name. Gentry Griffey Funeral Chapel was honored to serve the Allen family and invited you to sign and view the family guestbook at [www.gentrygriffey.com](http://www.gentrygriffey.com).

**ROY LEE ANDERSON** – Died Thursday, June 19, 2014 in Geronimo, Oklahoma at the age of 65. The cause of death was chronic myelogenous leukemia. He was born August 3, 1948 in Dalhart, Texas to the late R. L. Anderson and Ada Mae Davis. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Anderson. He served in the United States Army from June 17, 1968 to March 16, 1972. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #751**.



**ALLAN EDWARD "AL" ANDREWS** - Died unexpectedly, Wednesday, August 27, 2014, at his home in Silvis, Illinois at the age of 66. He was formerly of Moline, Illinois. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 7, 1947 in Moline, Illinois to the late Alvin "Andy" and Marjorie Andrews. He was confirmed at Salem Lutheran Church and graduated from Moline High School in 1965. Al was proud of his Swedish Heritage, and a very proud *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Quad Cities (Rock Island) Chapter #299**. He served in the United States Army as an Artillery Communications Specialist during the Vietnam War. He was most recently employed at Enterprise Rental Cars, but it was his bartending career at Len Brown's North Shore Inn, The Belgrade, Regal Lanes, and The Gallery he's most fondly remembered for. Al's many interests included a lifelong love of motorcycles (especially his favorite Triumph). His many friends remember him as a free spirit with a "Come on, let's go" smile. He frequented the

Dickeyville, Wisconsin Hill Climb, Peoria, Illinois, T-T Races, and the Knoxville, Iowa World of Outlaws Sprint car races. His interests were not limited to land. He also loved the water. He competed in flat-water canoe racing, cruised most of the rivers in northern Illinois and Iowa in a canoe or kayak, and fished many Illinois farm ponds as well as Lake Michigan. He spent several years in Southern California beach towns and fished mountain streams all over the West. Al loved to go camping, especially in the spring, when in the company of a few "Woodsy Friends", he would hunt for the very tasty Morel mushroom. In the words of one of his dearest friends: Al was a connoisseur at life's table, he sampled fully and whenever possible, whether it was food, people, music, or nature. He will never be far from our thoughts, and always in our hearts. Survivors include: his sister, Patti Stuck (Andrews); his brother-in-Law, Lester Stuck; his nephews, Andrew, Allan, Matthew and Bernard Stuck. A graveside service was at 2:30 PM on Friday, September 5, 2014 at the National Cemetery on the Rock Island Arsenal. Military rites were conducted by the East Moline American Legion Post #227. A celebration of his life was at the Len Brown's North Shore Inn at 5:00 PM Friday evening. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Allan Andrews Memorial Account at First Midwest Bank. Online condolences may be left for his family by visiting his obituary at [www.esterdahl.com](http://www.esterdahl.com).



**LELAND ROBERT "Lee" ARNOLD** - Died unexpectedly on Friday, May 16, 2014 while on a religious retreat in St. Louis, Missouri at the age of 67. He was a resident of Janesville, Wisconsin. The cause of death was arteriosclerotic heart disease. He was born on August 26, 1946 in Janesville to the late Robert and Marie (née Kampa) Arnold. He was a 1965 graduate of Janesville Senior High School and received an Associate Degree in electronics from Herzog Electronics School in Madison. Leland was a member of the United States Air Force from 1965 to 1968 and did a tour in Vietnam from June 1967 to July 1968. He married Nancy Sue Wuksinich on June 28, 1969. Lee started the first bio tech department at Luther Hospital in Eau Claire, WI. He was formerly employed by Parker Pen Company in Janesville and retired as chief engineer from United Industries in Beloit. He was a member of Saint John Vianney Roman Catholic Church where he was a Fourth Degree member of the Father Carlton Council of the Knights of Columbus. He was active in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry from American Civil War Shooting Association, the Civil War Round Table group and Northern Illinois Woodturners. Surviving is his wife, Nancy Sue Arnold, two children, Kristin (Doug C.) Kath of Janesville, Peter Arnold of Suffolk, VA, two grandchildren, Deegan and Seth Kath, his siblings, Monica (Dan) O'Shea of Littleton, CO, Dean Arnold of De Forest, WI, Debra Gajdosik of Janesville, Becky Cronin of Littleton CO, two sisters-in-law, Kathy Wuksinich of Janesville, Mable Wuksinich of Sebastopol, MS, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and close family friends. His parents preceded him in death. A funeral Mass of Christian Burial was at 12:00 Noon Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Saint John Vianney Roman Catholic Church. Monsignor Donn Heiar presided. Visitations with a Knights of Columbus Honor Guard were from 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at Henke-Clarson Funeral Home, 1010 North Wright Road, Janesville and at the church on Thursday from 11:00 AM until Noon. Military rites conducted by a U. S. Air Force honor guard and Kienow-Hilt V.F.W. Post # 1621 will follow the funeral.

**MELVIN BAKER** - Died Sunday, September 14, 2014 in Searcy, Arkansas at the age of 84. The cause of death was a massive heart attack. He was born September 19, 1929 in Vanndale, Arkansas to the late Charlie and Lillie Mae (née Miller) Baker. Melvin served 22 years in the United States Air Force and retired in 1972. He was a Veteran of Vietnam, where he was awarded 3 Bronze Stars with 2 Oak leaf clusters, and a Silver Star. Melvin specialized in explosive ordinance disposal while in the service. After retiring, he helped many veterans and their surviving spouses obtain proper benefits from the VA by guiding them through the process. He educated himself on the laws and procedures pertaining to benefits to be the most help. Melvin was a lifetime member of the VFW, DAV, and the American Legion. He was also a member of the Air Force Master Blasters, Retired Enlisted Association, National Radiation Survivors, and the National EOD Association. He was also a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bradford Chapter #184**. In addition to helping other veterans, Melvin also enjoyed working on his farm, where he built their home and raised pigs, cows, and horses. For many years, he had a garden that could feed an army (well, the USAF). He was always honest and extremely resourceful, taking bits of nothing and making something useful. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, Marvin Baker. Melvin is survived by his wife, Sheila (Clark) Baker of the home; two sons, John Baker of Johnson City, Tennessee, and David Baker and wife Mali of Fort Worth, Texas; three daughters, Susan Stevens and husband Nuel of Shawnee, Oklahoma, Betty Cruz and husband, Al of Searcy, and Pam Helms and husband Kenny of Searcy; one brother, James Baker of Chattanooga, Tennessee; five sisters, Ruby Hodges of Cherry Valley, Arkansas, Hazel Evans of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Faye English of Wynne, Arkansas, Wilma Butler of Marietta, Georgia, and Glenda Baker of Wynne, Arkansas; twelve grandchildren, Autumn Baker, Karen Miller, Julian Stevens, Michael Stevens, Amanda Eich, Jennifer Adair, Kendall Baker, Haley Baker, Phoebe Baker, Anna Baker, Korey Cruz, and Alia Cruz; and seven great-grandchildren, Jared Miller, Carter Miller, Aiden Stevens, Abigail Stevens, Landon Comer, Kinleigh Adair, and Hallie Adair. The family requests memorials be made to the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Scholarship Fund, 9263 Hwy. 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037. Graveside memorial services were at 2:00 PM on Friday at the White County Memorial Gardens in Searcy.



**JAMES A. "Jim" BAUMAN, JR.** - Died Friday, September 12, 2014 at Bridge Hospice in Bowling Green at the age of 66. He was a resident of Fostoria, Ohio. The cause of death was cancer. He was born September 27, 1947 in Fostoria to the late James A. Bauman, Sr. and Irene (née Soals) Bauman. He is survived by his wife, Alice Haney-Bomer Bauman; step-children, Johnathan (Rebecca) Bomer of Columbus, Sara(Matt) Pierron of Greenville, Joshua Bomer of Columbus; step-grandchildren, Lauren, Quinten, and Aaron Bomer; mother-in-law, Helen Haney, Fostoria. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his son, Michael Bauman and his Father-in-law, Robert Haney. Jim was a disc jockey and on air personality for WFOB in Fostoria for many years. He was a United States Air Force Vietnam War veteran and proudly served his country. Jim was a *Life Member* of both the Fostoria VFW and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fostoria Chapter #440**. He enjoyed going to the lake and spending time with his family. Memorial services were at 2:00 PM on Friday, September 19, 2014 at the Mann-Hare-Hoening Funeral Home, Fostoria, with the Reverend Linda Davison presiding. Military honors were conducted by the United Veterans of Fostoria. Memorial donations may be sent to the American Diabetes Association or

the American Heart Association, both c/o the funeral home. Mann-Hare-Hoening Funeral Home, 407 N. Countyline Street, Fostoria has been entrusted with the arrangements.



**PAUL DALE BEARB** – Died Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at Iberia Medical Center after a very courageous fight with kidney disease for over five years. The actual cause of death was staphylococcal sepsis, acute respiratory distress, nephrotic syndrome and coronary artery disease. He was 71 years of age and a resident of New Iberia, Louisiana. He was born in Rayne, Louisiana on October 30, 2014 to the late Joseph Bearb and Virgie (née Cormier) Bearb. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Eraste Cormier and Alece Richard Cormier; his paternal grandparents, Dewey Bearb and Angella Sonnier Bearb; and his uncle Joseph Cormier. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jane Landry Bearb; his son Juddson Dale Bearb and wife, Tracey Dailey Bearb, of Overland Park, Kansas; his daughter Joetta (Jo) Bearb Stephens and husband, Ryan Stephens, of New Braunfels, Texas; and three grandchildren Jayden Cole Bearb, Cade Joseph Stephens and Beau Jordan Stephens. He served in the United States Air Force for four years. He was honorably discharged in 1965. Paul worked for Lafayette Utilities Systems for a number of years, moving on to the oil industry. He then worked as a Wireline Supervisor and Operator for Otis Engineering (Halliburton) in California and Alaska, transitioning to other positions with Western Company of North America, BJ Services and Black Warrior until his retirement in March of 2010. His oilfield career included special recognition of his work on February, 5, 1985, on Alaska's North Slope. The occasion marked the first use of the RR-2 Gravel pack system, he was the HPT Service Technician operator on the job. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Iberia Chapter #1001**. An avid traveler while working, he loved to fish and go camping all over the United States while spending time with his wife, children and especially his three grandsons and most of all his dog Beau. His hobbies also included woodworking and reading. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 9, 2014, at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in New Iberia, Louisiana. A gathering of family and friends was held Friday from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM at the Pellerin Funeral Home in New Iberia. Deacon Jay Bergeron recited the Rosary at 7:00 PM on Friday. Visitation continued on Saturday from 8:00 AM until 9:30 AM. The Reverend Buddy Breaux was the celebrant and the Reverend Richard Greene and the Reverend Gary Schexnayder concelebrated. Readers were Joanie Kraker, Patsy Hawthorne and Ron Hebert. Gift bearers were Jo, Cade and Beau Stephens and Tracey and Jayden Bearb. Servers of communion were Harvey and Loretta Gonsoulin, Terry Schexnayder, Pat Grisaffee, Loney and Ronnie Leeson and Sylvia Veillion. Interment was at Cavalry Cemetery in Lafayette, Louisiana. Pallbearers were Judd Bearb, Ryan Stephens, Paul Touchet, Teddy Landry, Buddy Dimarco, Jack Kracker and Ken Luke. Honorary pallbearers were be Joseph Touchet, Donald Ray Leblanc, Howard Matt, Dr. James Falterman Jr. and members of the James Earl Gray Chapter #1001 Vietnam Veterans of America. Paul served as president of the chapter in New Iberia during his illness. Paul's family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Dr. James Falterman Jr. and his staff Lenise and Nicole; Dr. Ken Ritter and his staff; Dr. Akshey Gupta, Dr. Perry Stokes, Dr. Paul Gulotta, Dr. Eli Levine, Dr. Thomas Borland and Dr. Henry Kaufman; Anna Sullivan, Sharon Hamilton and Latonia Antoine with Professional Homecare; and the entire staff of the fourth floor, third floor, emergency room and intensive

care unit of Iberia Medical Center for their compassionate care and attention given to Paul during his time of need. Most of all, our hearts will always remember and thank Dr. James Falterman Jr. for being an incredible person and dedicated doctor, he has gone far beyond what is expected of a physician. Paul would always say, "God sent me Dr. Falterman to give me more time on Earth, what a human being he is." To view online obituary, video tribute and sign the guest book, please go to [www.pellerinfuneralhome.com](http://www.pellerinfuneralhome.com). Pellerin Funeral Home, 502 Jefferson Terrace Boulevard, New Iberia, LA, was in charge of the arrangements.



**JOHN MICHAEL "Mike" BILLINGSLEY** – Died Thursday, July 24, 2014 in Rising Sun, Indiana at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Milan, Indiana on June 8, 1947, to the late Bertha (née Kittenbrink) and Orien "Bud" Billingsley. He was a graduate of Rising Sun High School Class of 1965. Mike served his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. Mike was the husband of Ronna (Rollins) Billingsley. On April 22, 1967, they were married at the Rising Sun Church of Christ. Mike and Ronna were married 47 years. He worked as a Machinist at Cummins Engine in Columbus, IN, retiring after 30 years. Mike was a member of the Aurora American Legion, Aurora VFW, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Larry D. Fogle Memorial (Aurora) Chapter #71**, Aurora Eagles and Aurora Moose Lodge. He enjoyed sprint car and go kart racing, building model cars, woodworking, fishing and doing mower repair for friends and family. In addition to his loving wife Ronna, Mike is survived by a daughter, Lori Hayes (Billy), of Rising Sun, IN; by grandchildren Will and Megan Hayes; by two sisters, Clara Lou Fredenburgh, of Rising Sun, IN; Pam Shiltz, of New Haven, WV; by a brother, David Billingsley, of Aurora, IN. Mike was preceded in death by his parents and by 3 brothers; Donald, Edward and Tony Billingsley. Funeral services were at 11:00 AM, Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Markland Funeral Home in Rising Sun, IN. Friends were invited to call Sunday 5:00-8:00 PM. at Markland Funeral Home. Interment was at Rising Sun New Cemetery with military graveside honors. Memorial donations may be made to the Larry D. Fogle Chapter #71 Vietnam Veterans or the Rising Sun High School Alumni Scholarship.

**EDWARD MEREDITH BLAESS** – Died Friday, June 15, 2012 in Pueblo West, Colorado at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Boone, Iowa on June 20, 1944. He attended the United States Air Force Academy and served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War and retired at the rank of Major. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Colorado**. He was interred in the United States Air Force Academy National Cemetery on July 5, 2012 at 2:00 PM.

**JASPER EARLE BROWN** – Died Thursday, January 16, 2014 in Rogersville, Alabama at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 21, 1950. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511**.



**JOHN WALTER BROWN** - Died Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at the Wellspan York Hospital in York, Pennsylvania due to complications from multiple injuries after a motorcycle accident. He was 66 years of age and a resident of McGaheysville, Virginia. He was born August 21, 1947 in Montgomery, Alabama to the late Buist W. and Dorothy H.

Brown of Hampton, Virginia. John was a 1965 graduate of Hampton High School and a 1976 graduate of Old Dominion University. He was a Vietnam Combat Veteran serving in both the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions of the United States Army. He retired from R. R. Donnelley and Sons after 25 years and most recently retired from Old Dominion Realty as a real estate developer. John was a member of Massanutten Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder and participated regularly in the weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast. He was an avid sports fan and booster for Spotswood High School Athletics, where he announced home football and baseball games. He enjoyed salt-water fishing, golf, and riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He was a member of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA), a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisonburg Chapter #1061**, Proud American Riders, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also actively involved in the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia, the Charles Franklin Shuler Lodge No. 74 AF&AM, and the Shriners International. He is survived by Sally, his wife of 44 years, his sister, Becky Brown Scott, and two sons, Scott D. Brown with grandsons Oliver and Elliott of McGaheysville, VA, and Todd R. Brown and his wife, Kristin, with grandsons Charlie and Maxwell of Hanover, PA. A celebration of life memorial service was held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, July 26, 2014 at Massanutten Presbyterian Church, 50 Indian Trail Road, Penn Laird, VA 22826, with Pastor John P. Leggett officiating. A Masonic Service was held beforehand at 1:30 PM in the outdoor chapel behind the church. In lieu of visitation the family will receive friends and guests at a covered-dish picnic reception immediately following the service. At a later date John was laid to rest at the Columbarium at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to "Breaking Free", a horse therapy center, 15150 Strooptown Road, Timberville, VA 22853 or The Virginia Wounded Warriors Veterans Service Foundation, Attn: Jack Hilgers, 900 E. Main Street, 6 Floor West Wing, Richmond, VA 23219.



**STEPHEN MICHAEL BROWN** – Died Wednesday, July 9, 2014 in the hospital after he vigorously fought for his life over the last six years. He was 63 years of age and a resident of Santa Rosa, California. The cause of death was cardiac arrest, septic shock and pulmonary embolism. He was born September 8, 1950 in Columbia, South Carolina and was raised in New Jersey with his three surviving siblings: Peg Laramie, David Brown and Chris Brown. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and went to school upon his return. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Santa Rosa Chapter #223**. He resettled on the west coast in California with his brother Chris and Stephanie Haag whom he later married. They had one child, Samuel Moses Brown who is an ordained Roman Catholic Priest, before they divorced. Stephen lived a full and activity packed life, taking advantage of every vacation, long weekend or time off that he could find. Among the many activities that he enjoyed, he had particular affinity for Scottish dancing, cycling, camping, and hiking. He spent much time with his friends and family and often coordinated group outings and activities. He had a great love for the environment and wildlife, thus donations in his memory may be made to Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue ([www.scwildliferescue.org](http://www.scwildliferescue.org)). He will be greatly missed and always loved by those who knew him. The funeral Vigil was held on July 22 at 7:30 PM at Saint Rose Catholic Church in Santa Rosa (398 Tenth Street, Santa Rosa). On the following day, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, his funeral



Mass was at 10:00 AM also at Saint Rose Church celebrated by his son, Father Samuel Moses Brown. His ashes were interred at Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Santa Rosa.

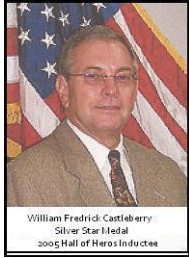
**BRENT GLENN BUTLER** – Died Monday, December 2, 2013 in Reno, Nevada at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Hopkinton, Massachusetts on March 16, 1947. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Reno Chapter #989**. He was interred with full military honors in the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada.

**WILLIAM E. CALHOUN, JR.** – Died recently in 2014 in Lady Lake, Florida at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 7, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida**.



**JOHN DOUGLAS CAMPBELL** - Died Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore after a lengthy illness. He was 73 years of age and a resident of Brunswick, Maryland. The cause of death was cancer. He was the husband of Betty Campbell, his wife of 43 years. He was born December 20, 1940 in Frederick County, Maryland to the late Albert and Maxine Campbell. John graduated from Lincoln High School in Frederick and enlisted in the United States Coast Guard shortly thereafter. He served over 20 years in the Coast Guard, including a deployment to Vietnam and retired in 1979 as a Master Chief. He then began a second career with the Frederick County Unemployment Office, retiring again in 2004 after a total of 45 years of public service. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Frederick Chapter #304**. In addition to his parents, Mr. Campbell was preceded in death by a brother, Patrick Campbell, a sister, Mary King, and a daughter, Lisa Campbell. In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by three children, Colette Campbell and friend Marvin, John D. Campbell, Jr. and wife Daphne, and Wayne Campbell and wife Chrissy; a brother, Joseph Campbell and friend Pat; nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and other relatives. He will also be remembered by many close associates, such as Ron, Toni, and Elaine, just to name a few. The family received friends on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 PM in the Chapel Mausoleum of Resthaven Memorial Gardens, 9501 U.S. Route 15 N in Frederick, where a funeral service was conducted at 2:00 PM. The Reverend Aaron Moye officiated. The interment service was with military honors. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)).

**DAVID WILSON CANFIELD** - Died Tuesday, February 25, 2014 in Kennewick, Washington at the age of 86. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 10, 1926 in Fairmont, Washington and lived in the Tri-Cities for 30 years. He was a retired United States Navy radioman during the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Washington**. Mueller's Tri-Cities Funeral Home, Kennewick, was in charge of arrangements.



**WILLIAM FREDRICK “Will” CASTLEBERRY** – Died Friday, February 12, 2010 in Florence, Alabama at the age of 62. The cause of death was metastatic lung cancer. He was born in Fort Baker, California on April 14, 1947 to the late Vera Mae Marshall. He was a United States Army veteran from 1964-68 where he was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisburg (Pennsylvania) Chapter #542*. Will served as a reserve police officer in St. Florian. Visitation was on

February 15, 2010, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Greenview Funeral Home. Funeral services were at 2:00 AM in Greenview Memorial Chapel, with burial in Greenview Memorial Park. Officiating was Ralph Richey and Bruce LeMoine. He is survived by his loving wife of 26 years, Cathy, of Florence, and a daughter, Erica Stone and husband, Danny, of Aurora, Indiana. Pallbearers were Jason Brewer, Jimmy Floyd, Danny Stone, Shorty Word, Larry Buie and Anthony Buie. Honorary pallbearers were George McFall, Chip Kasmeier, Larry McAnnally and Sam Hudson.



**RICHARD ROBERT CHABOT** - Died on Monday, August 25, 2014 at home in Coventry, Rhode Island after a courageous three month battle with lung cancer, surrounded by his loving family. He was 67 years of age. He was born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island on November 19, 1946 to the late Louis and Cecile (née Girard) Chabot. Richard loved life, especially spending time with his family and

friends. He was an avid sports fan and loved the NY Giants, Boston Red Sox and Boston Bruins. He thoroughly enjoyed fishing, gardening and caring for his meticulous yard. Richard is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years, Mary (née Kilcline) Chabot. They were life- long loves and high school sweethearts. He was the loving and devoted father of Jeffrey Chabot and his wife Amy of Cranston, Rhode Island and Karen Correia and her husband Gregory of Warwick, Rhode Island. Richard’s proudest accomplishment was becoming a grandfather four times in two months to Landon Cooper and triplets Colin, Nathan and Peyton. They were his “little loves”. He is also survived by his sister Lorraine Roberts and brother Robert Chabot. Richard was a United States Army combat veteran of the Vietnam War with a tour in Vietnam as an Armor Crewman (11E20) attaining the rank of Specialist Four. He served from September 6, 1966 to August 18, 1968. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial Chapter #818* in North Smithfield, Rhode Island. He was a driver and salesman at My Bread Baking Co. for 25 years and later retired from the security department at Women & Infants Hospital. His Funeral was held on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM from the Iannotti Funeral Home, 415 Washington Street (Route 117), Coventry, Rhode Island with a Mass of Christian Burial at 9:00 AM in Our Lady of Czestochowa Roman Catholic Church, Coventry with Reverend Father Philip G. Salois, M.S. VVA National Chaplain as the Main Celebrant. Interment with Military Honors was in the Rhode Island State Veterans Cemetery, Exeter. Visiting hours were on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM.



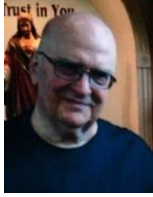
**CURTIS RAY CLARK** - Died Sunday, September 7, 2014 at his residence in Beaumont, Texas at the age of 68. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on October 4, 1945 in Mayflower, Texas to the late Dessie Marie Clark and Walden Robert Clark. He moved to Beaumont with his family in 1950. Curtis was a part of the French High



School - Class of 1964. Curtis served in the United States Army, where he was part of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne "Screaming Eagle" Division. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Parachute Badge. He served two tours in Vietnam before being honorably discharged in April 1969. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Beaumont Chapter #292**. Curtis worked at Motiva from 1972 until his retirement in August 2012. He served as union board president for the United Steelworkers Local 13-423, was a member and Past Master of B. F. Quicksall Lodge #1370 A.F. & A.M., an Eastern Star, El Mina Shriner, and a recipient of the Golden Trowel. He was also a member of Cub Scout Pack 10, in China. Curtis was a great support to his daughters and grandchildren accompanying them to sporting events and other activities where he could be seen helping in any manner needed. In addition to his parents, Dessie and Walden Clark, he was also predeceased by his brother, Robert Clark; and his grandson, Nehemiah "Spot" Stager. Survivors include his daughters, Laura Stager and Crystal Smith and her husband, Luke; son, Kenneth Williams; grandchildren, Kay Fuller, Dessie Lee Jagneaux, Daniel Lee Stager, and Gabriella "Gabbie" Smith; brother, Jerry Clark and his wife, Kaaren; two nieces; many aunts, uncles and cousins. Curtis will be missed greatly by family and friends alike. A gathering of Mr. Clark's family and friends was from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM on Wednesday, September 10, 2014, at Broussard's, 1605 North Major Drive, Beaumont. His funeral service was at 10:00 AM on Thursday, September 11, 2014, at Broussard's, followed by a graveside service at 3:00 PM at Weeks Chapel Cemetery in Newton County.



**ROBERT JAMES CLARK** - Age 68 of North Tonawanda, Died Saturday, September 13, 2014 surrounded by his family at Buffalo General Hospital at the age of 68. He was a resident of North Tonawanda, New York. The cause of death was esophageal cancer. He was born in Brunswick, Maine on September 29, 1945. He was the beloved husband of Sue Anne (née Lyons) Clark; loving father of Christopher (Janet) of Orlando, FL and Elena (Donald) Schumann of Watertown, NY; grandfather of Ethan and Landon Schumann and Sofia Clark; brother of Diane (Stephen DePalma) Clark of North Tonawanda, Nancy (Jeffrey) Perkins of Sanbornville, NH and Paul (Carol) Drapeau of Fremont, NH; also survived by many nieces and nephews. Robert was a well decorated veteran of the Armed Forces serving our country in the United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Air Force and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. During his 40 plus years of service, he was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat "V", a Purple Heart and a Meritorious Service Award among numerous other service commendations and medals. Besides serving as Alderman-at-Large in North Tonawanda he was a member of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**, American Legion Stephen Sikora Post #1322, NY Naval Militia, Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 3-5, US Naval Reserve Association, Marine Corp League, SeaBees, VFW Post #12097, Fraternal Order of Eagles #1411 The Masonic Lodge, and the Erie Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club and numerous other civic and community organizations. Friends called at the Fretthold Funeral Home, Inc., 1241 Oliver Street at Ward Road in North Tonawanda on Friday from 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-9:00 PM. Funeral services were held on Saturday at 10:00 AM from Saint Mark Lutheran Church in North Tonawanda. Interment was in Acacia Park Cemetery with military honors. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Roswell Park Cancer Institute.



**STEPHEN JOSEPH COLEMAN** - Died Friday August 22, 2014 in Columbia, South Carolina at the age of 65. He was a resident of Utica, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on September 17, 1948 in San Mateo, California to Robert Coleman and the late Evelyn (née Ullrich) Coleman. Stephen attended local schools, having been a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School. On August 11, 1968, he was united in marriage to Vincenza Montana in Blessed Sacrament Church, a blessed union of 46 years. Stephen proudly served our country in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Conflict. He was employed for many years with the US Postal Service, until his retirement in 2004. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Utica Chapter 944** and of the Retired Members of the American Postal Workers Union. Surviving are his beloved wife, Vincenza; his father, Robert Coleman and wife Ethel of S.C.; one son, Stephen Coleman Jr. of Utica; one daughter and son-in-law, Tricia and Mark Service, of Frankfort; his cherished grandchildren, Alexandria Rose Service and twins, Thomas Francis and Nicholas Joseph Service; one sister, Debra Tomaselli of NY Mills; one brother and sister-in-law, Kim and Sharon Coleman of Utica; and several nieces, nephews and many dear friends. He was predeceased by his brother, Craig Robert Coleman in 1975. Relatives and friends were invited to attend his Memorial Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday at 10:00 AM in Saint Mark Church with the Reverend Mark Pasik officiating and Military Honors conferred. There will be no public visitation. The family received visitors at the conclusion of mass in church.

**CHRISTIAN ADAM “Bear” COPELAND** - Died Friday, October 3, 2014 in Austin, Texas at the age of 74. The cause of death was Alzheimer’s disease. He was born May 24, 1940 in Columbus, Ohio to the late William Harold Copeland and Hattie Mildred (née Spangler) Copeland. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Laura Copeland of Austin; his four children, Camille, Paul, Christopher and Kimberly, one grandchild as well as nieces, Arlinda Dixon and Carolyn Copeland, a nephew, Ron Copeland, and an uncle, Don Davidson. Christian grew up in California and graduated from Sweetwater High School in National City, California. After graduation he served in the United States Coast Guard in California. Christian retired from the military after serving in the Coast Guard and the United States Air Force. He was a Master Sergeant in the Air Force and received the Bronze Star and Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster while serving in Viet Nam. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Austin Chapter #915**. A funeral service was held at 10:00 AM Friday, October 10, 2014, at the Harrell Funeral Home, 4435 Frontier Trail, Austin, Texas. A graveside service was held at 2:30 PM Friday at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Christian may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project of Topeka, Kansas, [Woundedwarriorproject.org](http://Woundedwarriorproject.org), or a charity of your choice.

**GEORGE B. CULLEN** - Died suddenly on Saturday, July 19, 2014 in Jacksonville, Florida at the age of 62. He was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts on January 10, 1952 to the late Joseph and Elizabeth (née West) Cullen and was also formerly of Quincy, Massachusetts. George attended Quincy and Weymouth schools and proudly served in the United States Navy. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jacksonville Chapter #1046**. He leaves his wife of

37 years, Terri; and daughter, Kristan and her fiancé Tony Harp. He was the brother of Betty McLean, William and wife Leona of Quincy, Terry and wife Charlene of Punta Gorda, Florida, Alice Ash and husband Richard, Pat DiLillo and husband Jerry of Weymouth, and the late Joseph and Eugene. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Celina Cullen; and his many nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services and burial were held in Jacksonville, Florida by Eternity Funeral Home.



**ROBERT LEE DAVENPORT, JR.** - Died Friday, July 25, 2014 at his home in Milan, Michigan with his loving family by his side. He was 70 years of age. The cause of death was cardio-renal syndrome. He was born January 24, 1944 in Maysville, Kentucky to the late Robert Sr. and Mary (née Sebastian) Davenport, Sr. Robert grew up in New Richmond, Ohio where he graduated from high school. Following graduation in 1963 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and fought in Vietnam. He was honorably discharged in 1967. In August of 1967 he married Beverly Short and she survives. He attended the University of Michigan school of Forestry and graduated in 1972. Robert worked at the University of Michigan Police Department as a Public Safety officer since its inception and was one of the original seven officers of the University's Public safety department. He medically retired in 2003. He is well known throughout the local law enforcement agencies. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion and **Vietnam Veterans of America - Ann Arbor Chapter #310**. Robert was proud to be called a Christian and was a member of the Milan Free Methodist Church. Besides his wife Beverly, survivors include his daughters Rebecca (Doug) Kreager, Robin (Tom) Fricke and granddaughter Kaicee Kreager. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother, Norman Davenport, his sister, Mary Jo Rose, and his grandchildren, Erin and Callie Kreager. Visitation was held at Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home in Milan on Tuesday from 6:00–8:00 PM and Wednesday from 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 PM. Funeral services were held at Milan Free Methodist Church on Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM where he laid-in-state from 9:30 AM until the time of the service. Burial was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan at 2:00 PM with full military honors. Memorial contributions may be made to Milan Free Methodist Church.



**RUSSELL KEITH DEARDEN** - Died Saturday, June 7, 2014 at home in Nampa, Idaho at the age of 58. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 15, 1955 in Idaho Falls, Idaho to the late Richard and Joy (née Bowen) Dearden. Russell leaves behind his mother, his brother, Kurt (Ida) and his sister, Marie. In addition to his father, he was also predeceased by his brother Randy and several special cousins. Russ was a happy, generous outgoing person who loved life, his family and his many friends. Russ was paralyzed at the age of 23 in a car accident. He always made the best of his situation. He was always grateful for all that people did for him, the people who drove him in his old van and for the aides that cared for him, especially Debbie. Russ was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and was sincerely appreciative of their love and support. He always was fond of the older members and called the ladies his 'other mothers'. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America –**

**Idaho Falls Chapter #972.** Graveside services were held at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Caldwell with Bishop Scott Barclay officiating. Services were under the direction of Dakan Funeral Chapel, Caldwell. Condolences may be shared at [www.dakanfuneralchapel.com](http://www.dakanfuneralchapel.com).

**CRAIG A. DEMAY** – Died recently in 2004 in Fort Myers, Florida at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 15, 1951. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – North Fort Myers Chapter #594**.



**DONALD J. DePAPE** – Died Thursday, September 4, 2014 in Detroit, Michigan at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 22, 1949. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Detroit Chapter #9**. He was the beloved husband of Claire; dear father of Dawn (Bruce) Banks, Jessica (Ricky) Neal, and Sarah (Paul) Thomas; loving grandfather of Allie, Ethan, Morrigan, Alasdair, and Cameron; brother of Kathy (Tom) Farchone; brother-in-law of Barbara Post, and; the dear uncle of Frank, Casey, and the late Mic Arthur. Visitation at the Saint Clair Shores Chapel of Bagnasco & Calcaterra Funeral Home 25800 Harper Avenue (3 blocks N. of 10 Mile) was on Sunday from 2:00-9:00 PM with evening prayers. The Mass of Christian Burial was on Monday, laid-in-state from 9:30 AM at Saint Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, 21120 Madison Street, Saint Clair Shores, until the time of the Mass at 10:00 AM. He was interred at Resurrection Cemetery with full military honors at 18201 Clinton River Road Clinton Township, Michigan.

**ARTHUR JAMES DIAS** – Died Saturday, September 6, 2014 in Coventry, Rhode Island at the age of 69. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Providence, Rhode Island on May 17, 1945. He served in the United States Army from May 13, 1968 to September 17, 1969 at the rank of Sergeant (E-5). He served a tour of duty in Vietnam for nine month and eighteen days with the 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company as a teletype radio operator. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America of America – Providence Chapter #273**.



**GEORGE DAVID "Dave" DOUGLAS** - Died Thursday, July 17, 2014 in Jacksonville, Florida surrounded by his loving family. He was 67 years of age. The cause of death was prostate cancer. He was born on July 16, 1947 in Jacksonville to the late Margaret (née Parham) Douglas-Peckum and Baskin Culpepper Douglas Douglas. He was also predeceased by his stepfather, Thomas Beckum. He joined JEA and retired after 28 years of service. Dave was an avid hunter and fisherman and loved the outdoors. Dave served honorably in the United States Army and served one tour of duty in Vietnam in the Infantry. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jacksonville Chapter #1046**. He is survived by his wife, Sue, of 41 years; son Bradley, (fiancée Ginny); son, Daryl (Sherry); his brothers Henry (Jane), Edward (Cindy); his sister, Margaret (Richard); his brother, Tommy (Florence); grandchild, Sheryl and numerous nieces and nephews. Family and friends were

invited to a Memorial Service on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Hardage-Giddens Chapel Hills Funeral Home, 850 St. Johns Bluff Road North, Jacksonville, Florida.



**GEORGE ALLEN DURHAM, JR.** (USA, MAJ-Ret.) - Died Friday, September 5, 2014 in Lawton, Oklahoma at the age of 71. The cause of death was cancer. He was born December 4, 1942 in Cambridge, Massachusetts to the late George Allen Durham, Sr. and Charlotte (née Levrino) Durham. He grew up in a military family and graduated high school in Lompoc, California. He later earned his Bachelor's degree from Milton College in Wisconsin. He married Mary Poloni on April 7, 1962 in Lompoc, California. He served in the United States Army, including with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service medal with Second Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Three Bronze Service Stars, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Achievement Medal and the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device. Following his retirement from the Army in August 1989, he worked for Civil Service at Fort Sill where he became director of the FIRES Battle Lab until his subsequent retirement in April of 2012. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church and also served on the board for the St. Mary's Catholic School. He was active with the Boy Scouts and had served as a district chairman with the Black Beaver Council as well as a course director for the Boy Scout Wood Badge. He was a member of the Lawton Boat Club, the Italian-American Club, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lawton Chapter #750**, the Military Officer's Association of America, the Order of St. Barbara and the Ancient Order of St. Barbara, served on the boards for the Center for Creative Living and Marie Detty and was a Ducks Unlimited sponsor. He also enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting and shooting. He is survived by his wife, of the home; three children, George Durham and his wife Linda, Oklahoma City, Kimberly O'Neill, Woodinville, Washington, and John Durham, Gilbert, Arizona; his sister, Jeannette Lackett, Eureka, California. The Funeral mass was at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, September 11, 2014 in Holy Family Catholic Church with the Reverend Philip Seeton, pastor officiating. Burial with full military honors was in Fort Sill National Cemetery under the direction of the Becker-Rabon Funeral Home. A prayer service was held at 6:00 PM on Wednesday in the funeral home chapel and the family greeted friends until 8:00 PM. Memorial contributions may be made to the Center for Creative Living, 3501 Dr. Elsie Hamm Drive, Lawton OK 73505 or Saint Mary's Catholic School, 611 SW A Avenue, Lawton OK 73501.

**RHODA B. EATON** - Died Monday, July 21, 2014 in Mount Carmel West Medical Center, Columbus Ohio at the age of 68. She was a resident of West Jefferson, Ohio. The cause of death was a heart attack. She was born December 8, 1945 in Madison County, Ohio to the late Willie and Rachel Crum. Rhoda was member of the Planning and Zoning Commission Village of West Jefferson. She was a member and current guard of the West Jefferson VFW Post #7005 Ladies Auxiliary. She also served with the Color Guard. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – London Chapter #746**. She is survived by a daughter, Rebecca Pasholk; son, Tommy Wright; six grandchildren, Megan, William, Rachel, Victoria, Teresa and Julia; a sister, Swana White; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great-nieces and nephews. She was also a second mother to John and Mike Sullivan. She was



loved by the Staudt family, Charlie and Sandy were great friends and she was a second grandmother to their children, Danny, Renee and Chris. In addition to her parents, she was also predeceased her husband, Rodney C. Eaton (2010); and thirteen siblings. Family and friends called from 5:00-9:00 PM on Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, and from Noon to 1:00 PM on Friday, July 25, 2014 in the Rader-McDonald Funeral Home, 1355 West Main Street, West Jefferson where Funeral Services were held at 1:00 PM on Friday. Burial was in the Hampton Cemetery.

**ROBERT EHLERT** – Died was officially declared dead in 2014. His last known residence was Harris, Minnesota and 72 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 6, 1942. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mora Chapter #684**.



**RICHARD A. ELIA** - Died peacefully on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at the Vitas Hospice, Saint Mary's Hospital, Waterbury, Connecticut with his family by his side. He was 68 years of age and a resident of Hamden, Connecticut. He was the beloved husband of Susan (née DeLucia) Elia. Richard was born in New Haven, Connecticut on March 29, 1946 to the late Pasquale and Christine (née Crescenti) Elia. He served his country faithfully as a sergeant in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam-era; had worked as an accountant for many years; was a member of the VFW; and a NASCAR fan. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Milford Chapter #251**. He was the father of Christine D. Uzpen; step-father of Teresa A. DellaRocco; brother of William (Mary Anne) Elia; and great-uncle of Juliana and Joey. His funeral procession left the North Haven Funeral Home, 36 Washington Avenue on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. A Mass of Christian Burial followed at the Church of the Ascension at 9:30 AM. Interment with full military honors was in All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Post Office Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101-9929; or the Vitas Hospice, St. Mary's Hospital, 199 Park Road Ext., Middlebury, CT 06762.

**DENNIS ESPINOZA** – Died Monday, February 2, 2004 in Fallon, Nevada at the age of 55. The cause of death is unknown. He was born May 19, 1949. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Reno Chapter #989**. He was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars – Reno Post #9211. A Celebration of Life was celebrated on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM at the VFW Post #9211, 255 Historic Lane, Reno, Nevada. The Funeral Service was on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the Northern Nevada Veterans Cemetery, 14 Veterans Way, Fernley, Nevada. In lieu of flowers please send donations to VFW Post #3396, P.O. Box 3659, Sparks, Nevada 89432. Make checks to VFW Post #3396, in the memo section write “Memorial for Espinoza”.

**DOROTHEA EVERGATES** – Died recently in 2014 in Tucson, Arizona at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. She was born April 7, 1947. She was a veteran of the Vietnam War. She was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Arizona**.

**ANDREW W. FAGO** – Died Wednesday, July 6, 2011 in High Springs, Florida at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 20, 1950 in New Jersey. He served in the

United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Jersey**. He was interred in the VA National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.

**EDWARD FARRELL** – Died Tuesday, February 11, 2014 in Bedford, Texas at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 7, 1947. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New York**.



**JAMES BYRON FINLEY** – Died Monday, June 16, 2014 in Sparks, Nevada at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 9, 1947 in Jonesboro, Arkansas. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Reno Chapter #989**. A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at 10:00 AM in the Walton's Sparks Funeral Home in Sparks, Nevada officiated by Pastor Angelo Austria.



**CHARLES BRACELEN FLOOD** - Died Friday, August 15, 2014 at his home in Richmond, Kentucky at the age of 84. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Manhattan, New York on November 14, 1929. Mr. Flood was a noted writer and historian who authored more than a dozen books, including the 1953 bestselling novel *Love Is a Bridge*, for which he had a contract before he graduated from Harvard. Other novels included *A Distant Drum* and *More Lives than One*. He wrote a number of books on historic figures, including Adolf Hitler, Robert E. Lee and William T. Sherman. Recent offerings included *1864: Lincoln at the Gates of History*, which was released in 2009, and, in 2011, *Grant's Final Victory: Ulysses S. Grant's Heroic Last Year*. His short pieces were published in magazines, including *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic* and *Esquire*. He finished his most recent work, *The Lafayette Escadrille*, two months ago. The book, which tells the story of Americans who volunteered to serve as pilots on the Western front before the U.S. entered World War I, is to be published next year. He was well-traveled, having taught world literature at Sophia University in Tokyo from 1963 to 1965, and he spent time in Taiwan as a senior Fulbright scholar. He covered the Olympic Games in Australia, Italy, Japan and Mexico as a reporter for *The Associated Press* and spent a year as an embedded correspondent in Vietnam, which resulted in the controversial book *The War of the Innocents*. Mr. Flood moved to a farm in Richmond in 1975, after marrying Kentucky native Katherine Phelps Burnam, who had been working in Manhattan. He became known locally as an outspoken opponent of plans to incinerate the chemical weapons stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot and later was part of a group of Kentucky writers who spoke out against mountaintop removal. He was active at Saint Mark Catholic Church and taught literature classes to middle school students at the parish school, said his son Caperton Flood. "He was just an incredibly outgoing, friendly guy," Caperton Flood said. "Very, very kind with his time." Betina Gardner, dean of libraries at Eastern Kentucky University, recalled Mr. Flood as "a great ambassador" for the school's libraries and a friend of the students there. "He resurrected our Friends of the Library and made that a very active group," she said. Although he was not on staff at ECU, Mr. Flood for years worked out of an office in the John Grant Crabbe Library. He had coffee in the library's cafe every day, striking up conversations with students and, over time, developing relationships

with them, Gardner recalled. "He loved talking to them, hearing about their lives," Gardner said. "He was a very caring person." Caperton Flood said that when students from this area applied to Harvard, his father conducted local interviews on behalf of his alma mater. Mr. Flood was a past president of the American Center of PEN, an international writers' organization, and he served on the governing bodies of the Authors League and the Authors Guild. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Big Hill Chapter #1066**. In 1989, Mr. Flood told former Herald-Leader columnist Don Edwards that people often asked whether he planned to write about Kentucky. "I've been so busy living life here that I haven't found time to step back and look at it as material for a book," Mr. Flood said. In addition to his wife, Katherine Flood, Mr. Flood is survived by three children and four grandchildren. Visitation was from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Monday at Saint Mark Catholic Church in Richmond. Services were at 10:00 AM on Tuesday at the church. Oldham, Roberts & Powell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**CHARLES M. FREEMAN** – Died recently in 20014 in Corcoran, California at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 27, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – California**.

**JAMES L. FUGETT** – Died Sunday, August 24, 2014 in Louisville, Kentucky at the age of 72. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Louisville on June 24, 1942. He was a United States Army veteran and member of Star Hope Baptist Church. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Louisville Chapter #454**. Survivors include his wife Sylvia Fugett and a host of other relatives and friends. The Funeral Service was at 11:00 AM on Saturday at his church, 5009 East Indian Trail, with burial in Highland Memory Gardens. Visitation was from 10:00-11:00 AM on Saturday at the church. G. C. Williams Funeral Home in Louisville, Kentucky was in charge of the arrangements.

**GOLDIE CHRISTINE "Chris" (née Haynes) GEARHART** - Died peacefully early Wednesday morning, July 30, 2014 at the Lewis Gale Hospital in Salem, Virginia at the age of 64. She resided in Pulaski, Virginia and formerly of Lerona, West Virginia. The cause of death is unknown. She was born June 26, 1950 in Princeton, West Virginia to the late Bud Haynes and Ruby (née Lawson) Haynes-Wall and her biological mother, Marie Waller. Chris attended Princeton High School and was a graduate of Trap Hill High School in Beckley class of 1968. She was a licensed cosmetologist. For more than 28 years, Chris was a devoted and dedicated employee for Princeton Community Hospital, having retired as the secretary for the Emergency Room Department. Chris was a faithful member of Burke Memorial Baptist Church on Thorn Street in Princeton. After her retirement, Chris and Charles loved to travel. One of her most memorable trips was to Hawaii. At the drop of a hat, she was ready to go and see this beautiful country, whether by land or sea. She was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Princeton Chapter #628**. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and friend. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two sons, Charles D. Gearhart, Jr. and David Kevin Gearhart, along with her sister, Shirley Lewis. She will be lovingly remembered by her devoted husband of 47 years, Charles Gearhart; her two loving daughters, Rhonda Kay Walls and husband Terry of Ruckersville, Va., and Amy Lynn Weaver and husband Russell

Steven of Roanoke, Va.; four grandchildren, Kailey, Karsen, Kinsley and Kambri; great-grandchild, Addyson, all of whom she loved dearly; one sister, Linda Waller Ballenger of Falls Church, Va. On Saturday, August 2, 2014 at 3:00 PM the family celebrate the life of Chris Gearhart from the Burns Wornal Chapel of the Memorial Funeral Directory on the Athens Road in Princeton with Pastors Kevin Belcher and Charles Drake officiating. Burial was in Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton. Friends visited with the family on Saturday from 1:00 PM until the service hour at the funeral home. Family and friends served as pallbearers.



**REV. DR. BENNETH W. "Ben" GERARDY** – Died Thursday, July 17, 2014 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina at the age of 72. His cancer was brought on by Agent Orange contracted while serving as a combat chaplain in Vietnam. A native of Colorado, he was born in Denver, Colorado on January 5, 1942. Ben was ordained in Atchison, Kansas at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). After completing a term of three years in the United States Army, Ben served as an associate regional minister in Kansas. Then he became the executive regional minister for the Central Rocky Mountain Region, where he served for eight years. He served as a regional minister of the Utah region for four years. During his years of ministry, he served churches in Kansas, Oklahoma, Indiana and North Carolina. He was a popular keynote speaker all across the United States and Canada at assemblies, conferences and workshops. He was also well known for his Bible studies and teachings. Ben served on the board of many institutions including the National Evangelistic Association (NEA), where he was a consultant to several denominations, teaching evangelism and church growth techniques. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fayetteville Chapter #1033**. Gerardy is survived by his wife, Mary; three daughters, Tonja, Lisa, Dana, and their spouses, Tamara, Mark and Keith; a stepson, Jordan; stepdaughter, Jenna; sister, Margot Irwin and her husband, Dave; three brothers, Kenneth, Donald and Charles, and their spouses, Carol, Nancy and Linda; many wonderful nieces and nephews who knew him as "America's Sweetheart," and the treasures of his heart, three granddaughters, Bethany, Madison and Olivia; and three grandsons, Evan, Christian and River. A memorial service was held at the First Christian Church in Winston-Salem at 11:00 AM on Thursday, July 24, 2014, with the Rev. Ryan Thrasher officiating. The family received friends following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a charity such as the Wounded Warrior Project.

**MICHAEL A. GERWIG** – Died Monday, June 2, 2014 in Woodland Hills, California at the age of 66. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related hepatocellular carcinoma and hepatitis C infection. He was born February 25, 1948 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife, Maureen. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War assigned to HHC 3/12<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Guadalupe Chapter #982**.



**JOSEPH LEE "Bubba" GILMORE** - Died Friday, August 8, 2014 after a lengthy battle with cancer in the Johnson City VA Community Living Center at the age of 64. He was a resident of Johnson City, Tennessee. He was native of Kingsport Tennessee, born on September 11, 1949 to the late Edward and Grace Gilmore. He was preceded in death by his sister, Lily Ruth Crum, and his brothers James Edward and David

Gilmore. Joseph was a member of Central Baptist church in Kingsport, and also attended Friendship Baptist church in Johnson City, TN. He was a graduate of Douglas High School, and later attended East Tennessee State University...he served in the United States Army....and retired from Sears after 20 years of service. Bubba was a member of Elks Lodge #492. Favorite hobbies included stamp & coin collecting and gardening. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elizabethton Chapter #824**. He leaves to mourn devoted and faithful wife of nearly 40 years, Jeraldine F. Gilmore; his daughters and sons-in-law, Angela Gilmore, Constance (Richie) Carson Young, Pamela (Clinton) Rollins; His sons and daughters-in-law, Earnest (Ann) Carson, Mose (Christina) White, and Todd Page-Gilmore; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Nathan (Alma) Blye (Kingsport), Gregory (Ora) Gilmore (GA), Edward (Theresa) Gilmore (Bristol); his sister, Hazel Leverett (Knoxville); his grandchildren, Sydney Edwards, Thomas Edwards (Kingsport), Ebony Alexander,(FL) Akeelan Young (Nashville) Michael Young, Alan B Alexander (FL) Jordan Carson, Duran Ferguson, Duran Carson, Brittany Carson, Jasmine Carson, Skylar, Allana, Ayden, & Landyn White, Alex Anderson, and AJ Anderson; his great-grandchildren, Zailen Alexander, Kalyna Young, Zarayah Alexander, Caislyn Love, Antonio Alexander, and; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Funeral Services were held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday August 13, 2014 at Friendship Baptist Church. The family received friends from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the church. Burial was held at 10:45 AM on Thursday August 14, 2014 at the VA National Cemetery.



**JAMES ARTHUR "Jim" GRANDALEN** - Died Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at the Sanford Hospital in Mayville, North Dakota at the age of 72. He was a resident of Portland, North Dakota. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 7, 1942 at home, west of Portland, North Dakota to the late Gilmar and Gina (née Basol) Grandalen. He attended country school in Enger Township in rural Portland through eighth grade. He graduated from Portland High School in 1960.

He served with the United States Marine Corps from 1964 to 1967 with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He married Faye Vannoy on December 22, 1972, and together they had 2 daughters. Jim drove trucks in western North Dakota and Montana for twenty one years before his love for farming brought him back to Portland in 1985. Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, and had a great love of the outdoors. Always by his side was the love of his life, Faye. He treasured his time with his daughters, granddaughters and had a special relationship with his son-in-law. Jim had an infectious smile and great sense of humor. He was a true gentleman and conversationalist. He was very meticulous and took pride in his work. Jim was a member of Ebenezer Lutheran Church where he served as a trustee. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mayville Chapter #374**. Jim is survived by his wife of 41 years, Faye Grandalen and by his two daughters, Tammy (Josh) Ensign of Buxton, ND and Deanna Grandalen of Cavalier, ND; three grandchildren, Kaitlin, Lora, and Megan Ensign; brother, Ronald (Linda) Grandalen of Cooperstown, ND and sister, Connie Jerome of McClusky, ND and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his nephew, Dean Grandalen. Visitation hours were from 6:00 – 7:00 PM with a 7:00 PM Public Prayer Service on Sunday, August 31, 2014 at the Baker Funeral Home Chapel and will resume one hour prior to the service at the church. The Funeral Service was at 2:00 PM on Monday, September 1, 2014 at



Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Mayville, ND. The burial with full military honors was at the Aurdal Cemetery, Portland, ND.

**PAUL H. GRAY** – Died recently in Warren, Maine at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 16, 1945. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Limestone Chapter #478**.

**DENVER F. GUNNOE** - Died Saturday, March 19, 2014 in Fairdale, West Virginia at the age of 61. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on November 28, 1952 to the late Fred Gunnoe and Zella (née Osborne) Gunnoe. He was a United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He worked as a coal miner for many years. Then he worked 15 years as a State Coal Mine Inspector of West Virginia. He was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4326 of Midway and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Beckley Chapter #860**. He was a member of Beckley Masonic Lodge No. 95, the Beni Kedem Shriners of Charleston, the Scottish Rite of Charleston, Beckley Moose Lodge, Montgomery Eagles Club, NAACP, Southern Poverty Law Group and American Civil Liberties Union. He loved life and he loved people. He had an appreciation for all coal miners. He loved animals and loved the outdoors. He was a sports fan, especially football. He was from a large family. He was preceded in death by brothers, Arlen, Kenner, Clarence, Erman and Cecil, and by sisters, Nadine Toler, Waveline Lusk, Joyce Todd, and special friend Joe Comer. Survivors include his sisters, Coetta Toler of Glen Daniel, Retha Armstrong of Pineville, Lilly Cook of Beckley, Joselene Stewart of Oceana and Geraldine Aliff of Georgia; brothers, Arvil of Ohio, Dale of Fairdale, Danny of Midway, Hearldine of Naoma, Ricky of Fairdale and Ronnie of California. And he is survived by special friends, Roger Shelton of Sophia, Charlie Randall Canterbury of Lester, Randall Dillon of Glen Daniel, Roger “Snorkel” Clay of Pettry Bottom, and special friends and neighbors, James and Loretta Bragg of Fairdale, ; and his special godson, Ethan Comer of Mt. Hope. He wishes to thank all the good people he has met in his lifetime. And to leave this: “Remember any act of kindness and love, however small, never goes away. It lasts for all eternity.” He believed greatly in the spiritually and salvation of our Christ the Lord. In keeping with his wishes, his body has been donated to the Human Gift Registry of West Virginia University, School of Medicine. Also in keeping with his wishes, no services were held. Any donations of sympathy should be made to Hospice of Southern West Virginia, P.O. Box 1472, Beckley, WV 25802-1472.

**FRANK W. HABER** - Died Thursday, August 7, 2014, after a courageous battle with lung cancer at his home in Wildwood Crest, New Jersey. He was 68 years of age. He was formerly a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Venice, Florida. His own mother, Sally Haber passed away the next day on August 8, 2014 in Warminster, Pennsylvania. He was born in Philadelphia on December 12, 1945 to the late Frank and Sally (née Kruces) Haber. He was employed for thirty-seven years by PNI (Philadelphia Inquirer) as driver/sales with numerous Safe Driving and Driver of the Year awards. Frank was very popular with his customers, even attending their weddings and family parties. In 2004 Frank retired as a member of Teamsters, Local 628. Even after his retirement he enjoyed the annual union parties joining his old friends and dancing with his wife, just like the good old days. Frank was a kind, generous, humorous

and polite husband, father, son, brother, and uncle who will be greatly missed while waiting for, as he would say, "the love of his life", his wife. Frank was a proud veteran who loved his country and proudly served in the United States Army in Vietnam 1965 - 1967 where he earned honors for sharpshooting. Frank enjoyed retirement doing what he loved best; walking the boards, riding the waves, sitting on the beach, and riding the amusements at "The shore at its best"; Wildwood Crest. He was always ready to welcome friends and family stating "Welcome to my island." After retirement, cruising, traveling, attending Vietnam Reunions and dining with friends and family were some of the best years of his life. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – New Jersey*. Everyone enjoyed Frank's outstanding personality, quick humor, and polite and friendly manner. He cherished the simple things in life as a humble man and devoted husband. Frank will be dearly missed by his beloved wife, Alice (Greble) Haber; children, William (Michele) Haber; Barbara (Tony Deamicis); Beth (Patrick) Stack; Joseph (Lisa) Donahue; Patrick (Carolyn) Donahue, and sister, Kathy (Sam) Conti. His mother, Sally Haber, survived him by one day (survived by her daughter and Frank's sister Kathy Conti); O'Pa to Giana and Giulietta Haber, Katie and Patchy Stack, Kyle, Sara and Aidan Donahue and William, Maddie and Hollins Donahue. He is also leaves behind his two brothers in spirit, Wayne Chambers and "Vince the Gas Man" Schwoerer. Survivors also include nieces and nephews: Kate (Zoe) Murdaugh, Jenn (Justin) Grisin and Sam Conti. A Visitation for both Frank and Sally was held on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM at Saint Ephrem Roman Catholic Church, 5400 Hulmeville Road, Bensalem, PA 19020 followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM.

**ROBERT K. HARDESTY** – Died Friday, January 17, 2014 in Webb City, Missouri. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on May 29, 1945. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Missouri*.



**AUSTIN AMOS HARJO** – Died Saturday, May 24, 2014 at Gateway Hospital, Clarksville, Tennessee at the age of 84. He was a resident of Clarksville. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 15, 1929 in Henryetta, Oklahoma to the late David and Hinney (née Simmer) Harjo. He was a member of the Muscogee Creek Nation. He attended Yardeka Indian Day School in Yardeka, OK. He graduated from Haskell Institute in Lawrence, KS. At age 14, he was saved and baptized by the Reverend John Jacob on February 21, 1944. Mr. Harjo joined the United States Army in 1948. He was first stationed at Fort Bragg, NC and assigned to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. In 1951, he moved to Fort Campbell, KY and joined the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division as a jump school instructor. First Sergeant (Ret.) Harjo's military deployments included two tours in the Korean War and two tours in the Vietnam War. During his service in the Vietnam War, 1<sup>st</sup> SGT (Ret.) Harjo was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. He distinguished himself in the vicinity of Phuoc Vinh, Republic of Vietnam, on March 18-19th, 1968. 1<sup>st</sup> SGT (Ret.) Harjo was awarded three Bronze Star Medals, for heroic and meritorious service while serving in the U.S. Army. He was also awarded the Purple Heart. His other awards include: two Meritorious Service Medals, an Air Medal with distinguished actions in combat, three Army Commendations, Army Good Conduct Medal 7<sup>th</sup> award, two National Defense Service Medals, two Korean Service Medals, two Vietnam Service Medals, Humanitarian Service

Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Korea Service Medal, Army Master Combat Jump Wings, Vietnamese Airborne Jump Wings, two Combat Infantry Badges, and the Expert Shooting Medal-Rifle. Awards earned with his unit include: two Army Presidential Unit Citations, two Army Valorous Unit Awards, two Army Meritorious Unit Commendations, the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, the Republic of Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation, two Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citations, and the Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation with Bronze Palm Device. After 21 ½ years of active military service, he retired at Fort Campbell, KY in 1970. 1<sup>st</sup> SGT (Ret.) Harjo's greatest honor from his military experience was his association with his Rakkasan brothers of Delta Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 187<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. He continued his service to his country by working with the Veteran's Administration after his retirement from the military. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Muskogee Chapter #216**. He was preceded in death by his parents; the mother of his children, Mary Harjo; one brother, Rudy Johnson; his sister, Christine Tory and his grandson, Keith Austin Caudill. He is survived by his two brothers, Amon (Sylvia) Harjo and Josh Harjo; two sons and two daughters, Billy (Cindy) Harjo, Bobbie (Steve) Caudill, Johnny Harjo, and Teresa (Jamie) Burger; eight grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Honorary Pallbearers were his Rakkasan brothers of Delta Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 187<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. In lieu of flowers, to honor 1<sup>st</sup> SGT (Ret.) Austin Harjo, please make donations to Wounded Warrior Project or the Disabled American Veterans. Visitation hours were from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM on Sunday, June 1, 2014 and from 10:00 AM until 1200 PM on Monday, June 2, 2014 at the McReynolds-Nave & Larson Funeral Home. The service was at 12:00 PM on Monday, June 2, 2014 at the funeral home. Burial was at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West with full military honors.



**JAMES ALAN "Jim" HERBERT** (formerly Mould) - Died Sunday, July 27, 2014 in Hamburg, New York at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born July 29, 1945. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. He was the cherished companion of Margaret "Peg" Beyer; devoted father of Denise Dembowski, Jeni Herbert, and Alicia Herbert; loving son of the late Marion (Joseph) Maduri; dear brother of Penny (Butch) Sikorski and Sandra Mould-Dula; also survived by 5 grandchildren, 4 step-sisters, a step-brother, and a niece. Friends were received at the Lakeside Memorial Funeral Home, Inc., 4199 Lake Shore Road (corner of Camp Road and Route 5) Hamburg, NY on Friday from 5:00-8:00 PM, where funeral services were held Saturday at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 77 Museum, 47 Main Street, Tonawanda 14150. Please leave online condolences at [www.lakesidefuneralhome.com](http://www.lakesidefuneralhome.com).

**JAMES A. "Jim" HERMAN** - Died at his home in Fostoria, Ohio on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at the age of 67. The cause of death was cancer. He was born September 14, 1946 in Toledo, Ohio to the late Kenneth E. and Genevieve (née Davis) Herman. He married Paula J. (née Bland) December 29, 2000 at Saint Wendelin Catholic Church, Fostoria, and she survives him in Fostoria. Also surviving are first wife, Judy (née Frankart) (Phil) Helterband, from whom he was divorced, and from that union were born two children, Julie (Buddy) Roach, Beaver Creek, and

Jackie Herman, who survive in Fostoria. He then married Connie Sorg and she preceded him death. Surviving are their children, Nikki (Dan) Reineke of Tiffin, Angela (Rick) Ginnever of Fostoria, Jamie (Chris) Twining of Findlay, Jenna (John) Crull of Tipp City, Rob (Charise) Herman of Wallingford, Conn., and Beau (Sarah) Herman of Florida; along with 14 grandchildren; siblings, Kenny (Kathy) Herman of Fostoria, Tommy (Kathy) Herman of Alvada, Kathy (Jere) Witt of Genoa, Janine (Hank) Schultz of Fostoria, and Don (Tena) Herman of Bucyrus. Jim will also be missed by his faithful friend Bitsy. He was also preceded in death by a son, Jimmy, Jr. Jim was a member of St. Wendelin Catholic Church, Fostoria, and a graduate of St. Wendelin High School. He attended Tiffin University for four years. He was a United States Army veteran who served in Vietnam, for which our Nation is forever grateful. Jim was a very proud member of the United Veterans of Fostoria Honor Guard, and a member of the AMVETS Post #69, VFW Post #421, American Legion Post #73 and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Fostoria Chapter #440**. An avid sportsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, and belonged to Fostoria United Sportsmen Club, and was a committee member for The National Wild Turkey Federation and The Delta Water Fowl. He was also a member of the Green Machine Softball Team. Jim retired from Honeywell in 2003 after 39 years of service. He also enjoyed traveling. A Mass of Christian Burial was at 10:30 AM on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, at Saint Wendelin Catholic Church, Fostoria, where a rosary was prayed at 10:00 AM. Committal services were at the Veterans Chapel of Fountain Cemetery and the United Veterans of Fostoria provided full military honors. Jim was then laid to rest in Saint Wendelin Catholic Cemetery.

**CALVIN WILLIAM “P’nut” HICKS** - Died suddenly Thursday, August 14, 2014 at his home in Imlay City, Michigan, after long battle with failing health. He was 63 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 22, 1950 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Calvin and Sally Hicks. P’nut graduated from Wilbur Wright High School in Detroit. He immediately entered the United States Army serving his country from 1969 – 1971 during the Vietnam War. P’nut married Marcia Lou Maxfield on December 2, 1972 in Lapeer. He worked for Hyper-Alloys as a welder and fitter in stainless steel fabrication. P’nut was a charter member of the Imlay City Eagles; a *Charter Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lapeer Chapter #287**; and a member of the Imlay City American Legion. He was also actively involved in Special Olympics programming. P’nut is survived by: his wife: Marcia Hicks of Imlay City; sons: Joshua (Kathy) Hicks of Holland Michigan and Justin (Amea) Hicks of Almont; grandchildren: Cayne, Gavin, Kylie, Logan, Adrian, Ian; a brother: Kevin (Theresa) Hicks of Imlay City; sisters: Christine Colon of Troy and Kathleen Mayes of Washington Township. A celebration of life was held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at the Muir Brothers Funeral Home of Imlay City. There were visiting hours from 2:00-5:00 and 6:00-8:00 PM on Monday, August 18, 2014 at the funeral home. A veteran’s salute was held at 7:15 PM on Monday evening. Committal services were at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. Those wishing to make memorial contributions may direct them to the Wounded Warrior Project. Funeral arrangements were ade with Muir Brothers Funeral Home of Imlay City.



**ROSS W. HOLBROOK** – Died Wednesday, August 13, 2014 in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico at the age of 62. The cause of death was a stroke and heart failure. He was born March 23, 1952 to the late Vic and Bonnie Holbrook. In addition to his

parents, he was also predeceased by his childhood sweetheart and wife, Donna. He brought great happiness to his wife, Virginia "Ginny" and puppies, Kyle and Red. His brother, Kurt Holbrook and Karol of California will miss him. Friends of many years Holly & Dave Peterson; Sherry and Deone Harty; Linde & Donnie Polstin, supported his RV living of many years. He will be missed by many other friends who are like family to him, though too numerous to list with fear of leaving someone out. Other survivors are his stepchildren he called his own; include Peter Oettinger & wife, Rebecca; grandchildren, Sophie and Cece; Mark Oettinger & wife, Mendy; grandchildren, Adi, Kadin and Keegan; Paul Oettinger & wife, Amy; grandson, Jack; Phill Oettinger & wife, Jody; grandchildren, Keta and Keaton; John Oettinger & wife, Amireh; grand-twins Tabitha and Duncan. Ross, PTA, will be missed by many people. He had an active life in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico that touched those around him since 1998. As a physical therapist, he pushed others to make their best efforts to heal. As a mentor, he is greatly missed by Lewis. He was active in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam-era. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – El Paso Chapter #574**. Interests included Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; Search and Rescue, Ducks Unlimited; 30 year Moose Member; VFW and American Legion. He was an avid NASCAR fan. A Prayer Vigil/Rosary was held on Monday, August 18, 2014 at 6:30 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with Gary Montoya officiating. A Celebration of Life and Mass was celebrated on August 19, 2014 at 10:00 AM with Reverend Father Don Hyatt, CSB officiating. Thank you to everyone who has supported him during his physical challenges of the past few years. For condolences, please go to [www.kirikosfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.kirikosfamilyfuneralhome.com). Arrangements were by the Kirikos Family Funeral Home, Inc. & Sierra Crematory, LLC, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

**ROGER D. HUNT, SR.** - Died Monday, August 11, 2014 at his home in Richmond, Indiana at the age of 65. The cause of death was Ischemic cardiomyopathy and end-stage renal disease on hemodialysis. He was born March 12, 1949, in Dayton, Ohio, to the late Harold and Mary A. (née Hartshorn) Hunt. Roger had lived in this area most of his life. He was a Vietnam veteran, having served in the United States Army for 14 years and completed three tours of duty. Roger was an independent truck driver, a truck dispatcher for Domino's Pizza in Dayton, Ohio, worked at Domino's Pizza in Richmond, and worked for Palladium-Item in circulation. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and VFW Kirk-Little Post 1108. Roger was a lifetime member of the Darby Fire Patrol in Darby, Pennsylvania; past Secretary and *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Richmond Chapter #777**; and past president of Disabled American Veterans #104 in Lewisburg, Ohio. He enjoyed traveling, fishing, cooking, telling "tall tales" to his kids, and spending time with his grandchildren. Survivors include his wife, Elaine Bastedo Hunt to whom he was married on November 1, 1980, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; daughters, Elaine S. Hunt of Richmond and Melissa Hunt of Richmond; sons, Roger Hunt Jr. of Richmond and Charles (Jeannette) Fricker of Texas; five grandchildren and one-on-the-way; sisters, Kathy (Paul) Deeter of Oregon, Virginia Edwards of Ohio, Lillie Perry of Ohio, Valerie Stockstill of Kansas, and Carla Robbins of Kansas; brothers, Russell Bishop of Nevada and Terry Shoe of Kansas; nieces; nephews; cousins; and friends. He was preceded in death by his father; mother, Mary A. Fetzer; and step-father, Charles "Moby" Fetzer. Visitation for Roger D. Hunt Sr. was from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM on Monday, August 18, 2014, at Doan & Mills Funeral Home, 790 National Road



West, Richmond. The funeral service was at 2:00 PM on Monday, August 18, 2014, at Doan & Mills Funeral Home with Pastor Jim Culver officiating. Burial was in the Earlham Cemetery Veterans Field of Honor with military honors provided by the Wayne County Honor Guard. Memorial contributions may be made to: St. John Lutheran Church, 501 South 7th Street, Richmond, IN 47374; Reid Hospital Foundation for the Hospice Program, 1100 Reid Parkway, Richmond, IN 47374; or a charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be sent to the family via the guest book at [www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com](http://www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com).



**RUSSELL JOHN HUTH** - Died Thursday, November 15, 2012 in North Patchogue, New York at the age of 72. The cause of death was cardiopulmonary arrest. He was born October 24, 1940 in Brooklyn, New York. He served in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1965. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Farmingville Chapter #11**. Russell was a devoted member of the North Patchogue Fire Department serving as Chief for two terms. He was the beloved husband of Lynne; loving father of Steven and Ronald, and; cherished grandfather of Cassandra, Britney and Dean. Arrangements were entrusted to the Ruland Funeral Home, Inc. The family received friends at the North Patchogue Fire Dept. (Off of Rte. 112 on the corner of Dahlia Street and Franklin Avenue) on Sunday from 7:00-9:00 PM and on Monday from 2:00-4:00 PM and 7:00-9:00 PM. Fire Department services were on Monday at 8:00 PM. Religious services were on Tuesday at 10:00 AM. The committal with Military Honors was in Calverton National Cemetery.



**ORION JACKSON "Sam" HYDE** - Died Thursday, January 24, 2013 at the Huntsville Hospital in Huntsville, Alabama at the age of 85. He was a resident of Decatur, Alabama. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 11, 1927. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marlene McBride Hyde; and son, Samuel S. Hyde. After 34 years of United States Army military service, rest would be on the minds of most soldiers, but Hyde's passion for his country and to help others led him to the American Legion Morgan County Post 15 in 1982. He directed the organization as state commander of over 26,000 members. In 1946, World War II was over but the national emergency was not declared over until December of that year. Thus, the draft still was operating. So, Hyde enlisted in June. But that tour of duty ended in November 1947 and he came home and went to Florence State, now the University of North Alabama. He played on their first football team. It was at Florence that Hyde joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and since he already had military service, he was able to skip the first two years of ROTC training. By the time he retired, Hyde's military service record included serving with the 7th Psychological Operations Group, 1st Cavalry Division, 24th Infantry Division, 11th Air Assault Division, 1st Air Cavalry Division, 7th Army Headquarters, Combat Development Command and the United States Forces Command and Military Assistance Command. "I found out it just suited me to serve people, to serve the community." Part of that service (an important part) according to Hyde is the children's programs sponsored by the Legion. "Our programs reach (for) the children because they are the future of this country." Mr. Hyde received the World War II Victory Medal; Parachutist Badge; Vietnam Parachutist Badge; Vietnam Service Medal; National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device; Presidential Unit Citation; Army Commendation Medal with 3rd Oak Leaf Cluster; Bronze Star Medal with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster;

Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Unit Citation; Joint Service Medal; Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm (2nd Award); Legion of Merit; Distinguished Service Medal of Alabama and The Mississippi Magnolia Medal. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Athens Chapter #511**. Survivors include one daughter, Linda L. Hyde of Decatur; one brother, Tharold Andrew Hyde; three sisters, Martha Gay Stack, Pauline Eason and Hazel Dustin. The funeral service was Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 3:00 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church with the Reverend Eddie R. Scheler officiating and Roselawn Funeral Home directing. Burial was in Decatur City Cemetery. Visitation was from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the church.

**CHESTER LEE IDALSKI** – Died Friday, August 22, 2014 in Branson, Missouri at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 16, 1942 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Chester and Joy (née Reynolds) Idalski. Chester had been a resident of the area since January coming from Troy, Michigan. He was a veteran for the United States Army and served his country in the Vietnam War. Chester worked as a security officer, a fire marshal and last worked as a police officer in Washington, DC. He was of the Christian faith and a member of the Woodland Hills Church in Branson, Missouri. Chester was a member of the Moose Lodge, American Legion Organization, and Police Officer Association. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**. Survivors include: his wife, Phyllis Idalski of Branson, Missouri; one son, Glenn Scott Idalski of Ionia, Michigan; two daughters, Rebecca Ann and her husband Scott Callens of Sterling Heights, Michigan; Wendy Sue Liu of Jackson, Michigan; three grandchildren, Jennifer Marie Liu, Amanda Christine Liu, Justin Michael Liu and a host of other family and friends. Visitation hours were held on Thursday, August 28, 2014 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Stumpff Chapel South, Kimberling City, Missouri. The Funeral Service was held Friday, August 29, 2014 at 2:00 PM at the Stumpff Chapel South with Senior Pastor Ted Cunningham officiating. Cremation was held under the direction of Stumpff Funeral Home-South, Kimberling City, Missouri. In Lieu of Flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetic Association at <http://www.diabetes.org> or to the Vietnam Wounded Veterans Memorial Fund at <http://www.vvmf.org/memorial>.



**CLOVIS MORRIS JACKSON** - Died Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at the North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo, Mississippi at the age of 66. He was a resident of Boonesville, Mississippi. The cause of death is unknown. He was born December 28, 1947 to the late Clovis and Vera Jackson. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church in Blackland. He was a Vietnam Veteran in the United States Marine Corps and was a recipient of the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with palm and frame. He was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tupelo Chapter #842**, the American Legion and Free Mason Lodge #305. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Mary Ann Jackson of Booneville; one son, Jason M. Jackson of Tuscaloosa, AL; three brothers, Gerald (Kathryn) Jackson of Marietta, Tony (Sherry) Jackson and Perry Jackson both of Booneville; three sisters, Catherine Stokes, Marjorie Ringer both of Paden and Sandra Stevenson of Booneville and a host of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased by three brothers, M.D., Edward and Danny "Mike" Jackson. Visitation began at 9:30 AM on Saturday September 13, 2014 and continued until service time at the McMillan Funeral Home. Funeral services were at 11:00 AM Saturday,

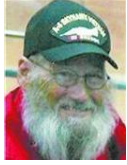
September 13, 2014 at McMillan Funeral Home with Dr. Walter Downs officiating. Burial was in Jumpertown Cemetery with full military honors.



**DAVID JOHN "Sarge" JAMES** - Died Saturday, June 7, 2014 in New Bern, North Carolina at the age of 78. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Michigan on April 11, 1936. He joined the United States Marine Corps and served with honor and distinction for more than 22 years, including several tours of duty during the Vietnam War before his retirement as a Master Sergeant in 1978. Following his service to our country, he enjoyed a second career in automotive sales at Tryon Chevrolet and Joe Alcock Auto and Truck Center. "Sarge" was a deacon and elder at Bridgeton Christian Church and had also served as the chairman of the church board for many years. He had been a member and supporter of the V.F.W. and a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – New Bern Chapter #886**. Funeral service was at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at Bridgeton Christian Church with Pastor Grady Burroughs officiating. Burial was at Greenleaf Memorial Park with full military honors. "Sarge" is survived by his devoted wife of 58 years, Jeweldean Hancock James of the home; two sons, David Kenneth James (LynnAnn) of New Bern and Richard Albert James (Sandy) of Hickory; one daughter, Carla James Petteway (Matthew) of New Bern; eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. The family received friends from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Tuesday evening at the funeral home and other times at the family residence. Friends are invited to share memories and sign the online guest book by visiting [www.pollockbest.com](http://www.pollockbest.com). Arrangements were by Pollock-Best Funerals & Cremations.

**EDWARD JASINIECKI, JR.** – Died recently in 2014 in Newport, Michigan at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 21, 1945. He is survived by his son. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142**.

**PATRICK CARL "McLeod" JESSE** – Died Tuesday, May 13, 2014 in Frankfort, Illinois at the age of 70. The cause of death was myocardial infarction, diabetes and hypertension. He was born in Chicago Illinois on March 8, 1944 to the late Carl Jesse (WWII AAF) and Havelina "Babe" (née McLeod) Jesse (granddaughter of Colin McLeod Civil War U.S. Navy). He was a veteran of United States Army of the Vietnam War, Secret Crypto. He was awarded Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, USN VCM, MVLR, VGCM, Cold War Certificate and the Silver Rose Medal. He was one of 29 family members who served U.S. Military. He was a life member of VFW Post #1493, an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Illinois**, member American Legion Post #2000, Scottish American Military Society. He was a founding member of U.S. Army National Museum. He retired after 29 years of employment at the Norfolk Southern Railroad Police Special Agent. He graduated from Calumet College with an Associate's Degree in Arts/Law Enforcement. He was the former president FOP #248, IPA, German-American Police Association, Emerald Society of Illinois. He loved the study of history, USA Military Members and Law Enforcement. He loved all his dogs through the years. Visitation was on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon at the Gerardi Funeral Home, Lincoln Highway at 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue (1 block east of LaGrange Road on Route 30) Frankfort, IL. Services and interment was at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL.



**KENNETH LEE JOHNSON** - Died Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at Mercy Medical Center in Redding, California at the age of 66. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 26, 1948 in Van Nuys, California to the late Bobbie Johnson and Jeannie May (née Davis) Clements, of Redding and who survives him. He joined the United States Navy in January 1968 and retired in June 1989. He then worked for San Diego Unified School District in custodial services from 1993 to 2003. But the one thing he was best known for is being "Santa Ken." He was a *Life Member* of both **Vietnam Veterans of America – Redding Chapter #357** and **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Redding Chapter #357**. In addition to his mother, Jennie, he is survived by his wife of 45 years, Linda Lee Johnson; brother, David and family; daughter, Samantha and spouse; granddaughter, Lovin; grandson, Kyler; grand- daughter, Cheyenne; son, Kenneth II; grandson, Kenneth III "Cito." In addition to his father he was also predeceased by his grandson, Branston Alexzander Dunn. Memorial Services, with full military honors, were held at Fort Rosecrans, San Diego on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Vietnam Veterans Monument, NCVCSB- VV Monument, P.O. Box 177, Redding, CA 96099-0177.

**RALPH L. KEIPER** - Died on Monday, February 3, 2014 at home in Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania surrounded by his loving family. He was 64 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Ridley Park, Pennsylvania on April 26, 1949 to the late Ralph and Eleanor (née Patterson) Keiper. He was the husband of Sherry (née Argot) Keiper with whom he shared 40 years of marriage. Ralph was a Veteran of the United States Army and served in the Vietnam War. He owned and operated Keiper's Lock and Alarm for 37 years until his retirement. Ralph was an EMT with the Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Ambulance Corps and was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Stuart (Florida) Chapter #1041**, and the Wilson- Fischer Post American Legion. In addition to his wife Sherry, he is survived by his sons: Jason Keiper of Pocono Pines and Alan Keiper and his wife Tamara of Wilkes-Barre; daughters: Carolyn Keiper of Pocono Pines and Kristen Green and her spouse Kalani of Yardville, NJ; his sister Kim Keiper and her companion Yash Nylan and several nieces and nephews. There was a viewing on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco. Reverends Luke and Carey Richards conducted a funeral service on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Wesleyan Church, State Highway 940 at Locust Ridge Road, Pocono Lake. Burial was at the Mountain Rest Cemetery.



**CLIFFORD "Cliff" "The Chair Dr." KENNEY** - Died Thursday, April 17, 2014, surrounded by his family. The cause of death was progressive supranuclear palsy. He is survived by his wife, Cindy; his son and daughter-in-law, David and Sandy Kenney; his daughter, Angie, and; his grandsons, Cameron, Dylan and Ryan. On April 22, 2014, he was laid to rest with a Military Burial in Roosevelt Cemetery in Gardena, California, for his service to his country as a Vietnam Veteran in the United States Army. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Redondo Beach Chapter #53**. Donations can be made in Cliff's name to: CurePSP, 30 E. Padonia Road, Suite #201, Timonium, MD 21093.

**ROBERT G. KINDRED** – Died Wednesday, January 1, 2014 in Ecorse, Michigan at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 20, 1934. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Michigan**.



**JAMES A. "Runner" KORBEL** - Died unexpectedly on Monday, July 15, 2013 In Dayton, Ohio at the age of 62. The cause of death was heart disease. He was born September 3, 1950 to the late John W. Korbel and Anna S. Korbel who survives him. He is also survived by his brother John P Korbel and by his special cousin Jenine and his friends, Richard Quill, Diana Marie, Rhonda, and other special cousins and his cat Gina. Jim was a former employee of DMAX who loved Thoroughbred racing and playing cards. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ohio**. The funeral service was held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 20, 2013 at Tobias Funeral Home, Belmont Chapel with burial in Woodland Cemetery. Friends visited from 12:00 Noon until the time of service on Saturday. Donations may be made to the American Heart Association.



**DONALD MICHAEL KOSIN** - Died Thursday, August 7, 2014 at his home in East China Township, Michigan at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 2, 1948 in Hamtramck, Michigan to the late Joseph and the late Catherine (née Krempasky) Kosin. With thanks & praise from a grateful nation, we pay homage to Donald for his service to our country as a sailor in our great United States Navy during the Vietnam War. Answering the call to duty in September of 1967, he served with honor and patriotism for the next 3 years until his separation in December of 1970. Having attained the rank of Yeoman 3rd Class, Donald was a decorated veteran to whom we extend our posthumous gratitude for the sacrifices made in supporting his country and his willingness to stand in harm's way on our behalf. Our country has been represented over the years by thousands of brave souls who have worn, and wear, the uniform with distinction,...and Donald was one of them. Following his service to our country, Donald's return stateside would ultimately find him exchanging his military uniform for that of the Detroit Police Department's,...and serving in a more local setting. He was quite proud of his role in law enforcement, and took very seriously the protection of his fellow man. As with the gratitude shared for his time in the military, we also thank Donald for his service to the community as a protector and the keeper of justice. After his separation from active duty in the Navy, Donald became quite active with the naval reserves out of Grayling, Michigan, and would go every few months or so for a weekend of service and reconnecting with his fellow veteran's. And being a veteran and police officer, it simply came natural that Donald would amass quite a passion for guns and shooting. It's a hobby / pastime for many of our veteran's,...and certainly was for Donald. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**. Donald will also be remembered for his incredible gift of giving. He was the kind of friend who would drop everything to help someone in need,...often driving hours at night just to rescue loved ones out of a bind. He was genuinely kindhearted and caring, the kind of person who made friends everywhere he went. But without question, his most precious cherubs were definitely his grandchildren. He adored them beyond measure and enjoyed each & every moment he was given with them to create the warm & wonderful memories they shared together. With them,



and everybody he met in his journey through life, one of Donald's most profound lessons was all about finding ways to be silly and "make it fun!" And every now & then, he would decide to infuse that little bit of flair by donning the ever-popular creepy fake teeth,...or that gross nose with its fake booger. Crazy fun? You bet. Genuine to the core? All day long! A loving father and grandfather, he leaves behind a host of loved ones,...and a host of memories to reflect upon with each thought that comes. Though his parting comes way too soon, the legacy and lessons he imparted will forever be a beacon towards the fun and laughter that always accompanied his presence. He will be missed immensely and loved eternally. Donald was the dear father of Michael Kosin, Katrina (Jonathan) Wrobel and Jill (Rick) Kosin-Fewer and the former husband of Roxanna; loving grandfather of Casey, Jacob, Hannah and Dekklin, and; brother of Joseph Kosin. Visitation for Donald was on Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-9:00 PM at the D.S. Temrowski & Sons Funeral Home, 30009 Hoover Road at Common (12 ½ Mile Rd) in Warren. His Funeral Service was at 11:00 AM on Wednesday at the funeral home. Interment, with full military honors, was at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton Township,, Michigan.

**MARY E. KOSTECKI** - Died Sunday February 2, 2014 at the Harbor Hospice Poppen Residence after a courageous battle with cancer. She was 66 years of age and a resident of Muskegon, Michigan. She was born on March 8, 1947 in Manistee, Michigan to the late Roosevelt and Esther (née Jankwietz) Ross and lived in the Muskegon area for many years. On August 8, 1970, she married David J. Kostecki and they enjoyed 43 years of marriage together. Mary worked in the Radiology Department at Hackley Hospital for 37 years, before retiring in 2007. She was a member of Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church. Mary was also a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Muskegon Heights Chapter #31** and the Polish Falcons. She enjoyed antiquing, cooking and the beach. She is survived by her husband, David; 2 brothers, Blair (Carol) Ross of Roosevelt Park and Ted (Judy) Ross of Manistee; brother-in-law, Steve (Audrey) Kostecki of Manistee and sister-in-law, Mary (Dean) Hoxie also of Manistee; and several nieces and nephews. Mary was preceded in death by her sister, Darlyne McDougal and her brother, Bruce Ross. The Mass of Christian Burial was at 11:00 AM on Saturday at Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church Marian Chapel with the Reverend Father Philip P. Salmonowicz presiding. Visitation with the family was from 6:00-8:00 PM on Friday at The Walburn Chapel, Sytsema Funeral Homes, Inc., 1547 West Sherman Boulevard and one hour prior to the service, from 10:00-11:00 AM. Burial took place at a later time in Manistee. Memorial Contributions in Mary's name to Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church will be appreciated.



**RANDALL T. "Randy" KOURI** – Died Monday, June 23, 2014 in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Minneapolis to the late Doris and Namie Kouri. He is survived by his siblings, Marty Kouri, Diane LeClaire, Cheryl Womack, Larry, John and Ricky (Ann) Kouri and many nieces and nephews and special friends, John and Jo Haluska. Randy was a strong advocate for environmental and neighborhood issues regarding the Mississippi River and North East E Minneapolis. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Mora Chapter #684**. He was a founder and past president of the Mississippi Corridor Coalition and Bottineau Citizens in Action. The Liturgy of Resurrection

was celebrated at Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church 600 University Avenue NE on Thursday at 10:00 AM with visitation one hour prior. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.



**MERRELL ADDISON LANE** - Died Saturday, August 16, 2014 in Wheatfield, New York after a lengthy illness in Strong Memorial Hospital Palliative Care, Rochester. He was 67 years of age. The cause of death was liver failure. He was born August 5, 1947 in Meadville, Pennsylvania to the late Robert T. and Ruth (née Moore) Lane. They moved to Niagara Falls when he was three months old to open the Lane Funeral Home, Inc. Merrell graduated from LaSalle Senior High in 1965. He then attended N.C.C.C. and graduated from Simmons School of Mortuary Science in 1967. He served as a Staff Sergeant in Vietnam in the United States Army, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division where he served from January 1969 until his honorable discharge in August 1970. He then continued working at the funeral home until his retirement in 2010. In 1995 Merrell was asked by the Chamber of Commerce to chair a new committee, the Niagara Military Affairs Council (NIMAC), to lead the community in efforts to keep the Niagara Falls Air Base off the base closure list. He continued until stepping down last June due to his health, but remained active as vice chairman. He was honored by numerous community groups for the work he did in 2005 during the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure). He was chosen by former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, N.A. Schwartz, to represent New York State on his newly formed Civic Leaders group. Merrell was a 53-year member of Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church where he served as an Elder. He was a member and former District Governor of the N.Y.S. Funeral Directors Assn., a member and former President of the Erie Niagara Funeral Directors Assn., and a member of the Niagara County Funeral Directors Assn., a 42-year member and former President of the N.F. Kiwanis Club, on the Board of Directors of the Salvation Army, and the Niagara Beautification Commission. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. He enjoyed a lifelong hobby of rocketry and was a longtime member of the National Association of Rocketry. He is survived by his wife, the former Patricia Wasley, whom he married February 15, 1974; two daughters, Jennifer (Richard) Overholt and Deborah (Neil) Townsend; three granddaughters, Mikayla Townsend, Leah Overholt and Lindsey Overholt; his brother, Robert T. (Kay) Lane, Jr.; two brothers-in-law, Robert (Debra) Pils and Richard (Debra) Pils; two nephews and five nieces and his dear friends, John and Jennifer Cooper. The family received friends from 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-9:00 PM on Monday in the Lane Funeral Home, Inc., 8622 Buffalo Avenue. Funeral services were held on Tuesday at 11:00 AM at the Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church, 166-59<sup>th</sup> Street with the Reverend Dr. O. Lee Holliday officiating. Interment was in the Acacia Park Cemetery, Town of Pendleton.



**ROBERT L. LARSON** - Died Wednesday, August 27, 2014 in East Tawas, Michigan at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. Robert was born in Northville, Michigan on August 20, 1943 to the late Lyman and Arla (née Reed) Larson. He served in the United States Army during Vietnam. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**. Robert worked for Ford Motor Company retiring after many years of service. He was a member of Rods and Relics Car Club. He enjoyed restoring old gas pumps and many other items. He loved cooking, canning, woodworking and his great passion was welding. Mr. Larson is survived by his two children,

Janet Larson of Northville and Greg Larson of Redford; step daughter, Kimberly (David) Clemons of Brooklyn; and son-in-law, Rich Marsh of St. Helen. Also surviving are a brother and sister, Michael Larson of South Lyon and Debbie (John) Tarbush of Howell. A life celebration service and luncheon was held at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at the First Baptist Church, 401 Second Street, Tawas City. Those considering an expression of sympathy are asked to consider memorial contributions to Heartland Hospice.



**JAMES "Jay" LAWSON** – Died peacefully in Cheyenne, Wyoming at the home of his friend Tanny Van Dall on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at the age of 65. He was a resident of Cheyenne. He was born in Casper, Wyoming to the late Don and Marjorie Lawson. In 1967, he graduated from Natrona County High School. Following graduation from high school, Jay enrolled in classes at Casper College majoring in biology. Jay was drafted and inducted into the United States Army on January 21, 1970 and much to his surprise, he was number two in the draft lottery selection. During his tour of duty in Vietnam, he served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division as a combat medic. Jay was wounded in combat, earning him the Purple Heart Medal. After recovering from his wounds, Jay volunteered to serve as a medevac or "Dustoff" medic and flew hundreds of helicopter missions rescuing and recovering injured American and South Vietnamese soldiers as well as civilians. Jay was honorably discharged from the Army in 1971. After returning home from Vietnam, Jay completed his college education under the GI Bill, earning a B.S. degree in Wildlife at the University of Montana at Missoula, Montana. In 1977 Jay began a 33-year career with the Wyoming Game & Fish Department working as temporary biologist in the Green River District. During the winter of 1977-1978, Jay fed elk at the Patrol Cabin Feed Ground on the upper Gros Ventre River. He also worked as a special deputy on the North Platte River reservoirs during the summer of 1978. In 1978 Jay was appointed to serve as the district game warden in Lovell and then transferred to the district game warden position in Thermopolis in 1982. In 1985, Jay was appointed to serve as the Laramie Regional Supervisor, a position he held four years. In 1989, Jay was promoted to serve as Wyoming's Chief Game Warden, a position he held for 22 years before retiring in 2011. Jay was known well around the state as an expert wildlife manager who cared very passionately for Wyoming's people and wildlife. Jay was an excellent communicator and led by example in the professional manner in which he interacted with the public. He promoted a wildlife law enforcement approach focused on fairness and treating all people with dignity and respect. He molded the Wyoming approach to enforcing wildlife laws. Over his career, Jay had a long list of noteworthy accomplishments. He was involved in the promotion of youth hunting. Jay was responsible for creating partnerships across geo-political boundaries to manage big game populations and building teams within the Department to find solutions to tough problems. He played key roles in the mitigation of damage and disease issues between livestock and wildlife serving in several statewide influential roles and committees. As Chief Game Warden, Jay worked extensively on several major lawsuits filed against the State of Wyoming in attempts to import exotic wildlife and privately commercialize Wyoming's wildlife resource and hunting licenses. Wyoming prevailed in court on all this litigation, which has left Wyoming one of the few places in the world where wildlife is still managed for the public benefit with equal access for all. Jay taught courses at the University of Wyoming as well Colorado State University. He taught at CSU's Wildlife Management Short Course for 22 years.

He served on the Pacific Flyway Council for 16 years, chairing the group twice. In 1995, Jay received the WGFD Director's Award and in 2010 he received the Western Association of Wildlife Agencies Special Achievement Award. In 2011, Jay received the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Lifetime Achievement Award. He served in the Wyoming Game Warden's Association as the Vice President and was a strong supporter throughout his life. Jay had a keen interest in Wyoming history, particularly with 19th and 20th century outdoorsmen and wildlife professionals. In 2007, Jay wrote and published the book, "Men to Match Our Mountains," a collection of short biographies documenting the lives of early Wyoming game wardens, trappers, hunters and cowboys. He donated all of the proceeds to the Wyoming Forensics Fund enabling the purchase of new DNA testing equipment for Wyoming's wildlife forensics lab. For this generous gift, he was awarded the Wyoming Conservation Philanthropist-of-the-Year award in 2008. In 2011 Jay was inducted into the Wyoming Outdoor Hall of Fame at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. Jay was an ardent big game and game bird hunter. He prided himself in his knowledge of wildlife and the state and used his talents to successfully hunt in most of Wyoming's premier locations. He was a skilled dog trainer who was well known for being afield with two or three highly trained dogs. He took exceptional care of his four legged companions and encouraged others to do the same for their own pets. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Wyoming**. His parents, Don and Marjorie and his sister, Dawn Leigh, preceded Jay in death. Jay is survived by his sister Leslie Lawson (Dan Himelsbach) in Denver, and his brother Bruce in Casper. A memorial service and celebration of Jay's life was held in Cheyenne on August 10, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. in the Grand Ballroom at the Little America Hotel.



**GERALD STANLEY LAZARCZYK** - age 73, of Grand Island, NY, formerly of Dunkirk, Died Sunday, July 13, 2014 in Grand Island, New York at the age of 73. He was formerly of Dunkirk, New York. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 12, 1941 in Dunkirk, New York to the late Stanley J. and Stella (née Poweski) Lazarczyk. He is survived by his daughters, Jennifer (Andrew) Kearfott of Urbana, Ohio, and Katrina (Todd) Ohlmeyer of Austin, Texas, and his four grandchildren Alex, Ian, Tori and Lauren. Also survived by his brother John (Lisa) R. Lazarczyk of Land O' Lakes, Fla., and was predeceased by his sister Nancy A. Lazarczyk. Gerald is also survived by his beloved companion Carol Merckel and his cousin Richard Lazarczyk of Cassadaga, NY. Many other cousins, nephews and nieces also survive. He was a graduate of Dunkirk High School and earned a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma. He also held a Master of Business Administration degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He served with distinction as an officer in the United States Navy, including sea and shore duties in Vietnam. He was an avid outdoorsman, traveled extensively in the U.S. and Canada and was an accomplished birdwatcher. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. Friends called on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, followed by a prayer service at Noon at the Kaiser Funeral Home.

**STANLEY E. LEASE, JR.** - Died Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at the JFK Medical Center at the age of 79. He was a resident of Metuchen, New Jersey. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Plainfield, Connecticut on May 24, 1935 to Pauline Lease, of Metuchen and the late

Stanley E. Lease, Sr. He has resided in Metuchen for the last 50 years. Stanley was a retired Elementary school teacher. He received his MBA from Jersey City State College. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War. Stanley was also a licensed Real estate Broker and was the Owner/President of Lease Realty Property in Metuchen. He was the President of Kiddie Keep Well Camp for many years. He was a former Metuchen Councilman and a former Planning Board Member. He was a member of the Metuchen American Legion and the Metuchen VFW. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – New Brunswick Chapter #233**. Stanley was a member of the Metuchen Elks, Lodge #1914. In addition to his father, he was also predeceased by his sister, Patricia Cameron. In addition to his Mother, he is survived by his wife, June Lease (née Knowling); two sons, John Lease and his wife Maria of Metuchen; Jeffrey Lease of Australia; two grandsons, Maximilian E. Lease and Sebastian J. Lease. Visitation hours were on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 10:00 11:00 AM at the Flynn and Son/Koyen Funeral Home, 319 Amboy Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840. Funeral Services were at 11:00 AM in the funeral home. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery in Metuchen. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kiddie Keep Well Camp.

**KENNETH LEROY “Kenny” LEDOM** - Died Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at Ransom Memorial Hospital at the age of 64. He was a resident of Ottawa, Kansas. The cause of death was cancer. He was born Wednesday, January 25, 1950 in Kansas City, Kansas, to the late Barney L. and Gladys F. (née Carrell) Ledom. He was a lifelong Ottawa resident, attending Ottawa and Williamsburg schools. Kenny served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War with the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division from 1969 to 1971. He worked for Kalmar Industries, formerly Ottawa Truck, for 30-plus years retiring in 2009. He held several positions; most recent was being in charge of parts and services. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ottawa Chapter #912**; life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post 5901; and Ottawa Lodge 803, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and past president and former trustee of Aerie Lodge 2700, Fraternal Order of Eagles, also of Ottawa. Kenny was united in marriage with Sue Cox in 1974. They later divorced. He was married to Karrel Wood for 18 years. She preceded him in death Sept. 16, 1999. He was also predeceased by his brother, Terry Ledom. Survivors include his daughter, Angela Clancy and husband, Billy, Rantoul; three step-daughters, Casey Burgoon and husband, Rich, Ottawa, Laurie Stocker, Lawrence, and Camille Milam, Pea Ridge, Arkansas; nine grandchildren, Jasmine and Jacey Clancy, Amanda, James, Caitlin and Matthew Burgoon, David Moore, Megan and Tri Milam; three great-grandchildren; sister, Betty Payne and husband, Eddie, Ottawa; and many nieces and nephews. Family members met with friends from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Friday, June 27, 2014 at the Dengel & Son Mortuary, Ottawa, for a visitation. Graveside services and interment were at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 28, 2014, at Princeton Cemetery, Princeton, Kansas. Military honors were presented by the Fort Riley Honor Guard. A celebration of life gathering following the graveside service at Aerie Lodge No. 2700, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Ottawa. The family suggested memorial contributions to Aerie Lodge 2700, Fraternal Order of Eagles through Dengel & Son Mortuary, 235 S. Hickory St., Ottawa KS 66067.



**ROBERT M. LEWIS, JR.** – Racine - known to many as “Sarge”, age 73 Died unexpectedly Thursday, September 6, 2012 at his residence in Racine, Wisconsin at the age of 73. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Racine on February 14, 1939 to the late Robert and Irene (née Beyer) Lewis. Robert attended William Horlick High School and at the age of 17 joined the United States Army. He served for 4 years stationed in Korea. On January 16, 1960 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church he was united in marriage to Judith Ann Lewis who preceded him in death August 26, 2007. Robert retired from J.I. Case IH and was a member of the J.I. Case Twenty Year Club. Robert and Judee were drum corps fans and Robert had been a bus driver for the Kilties from 1978-1982. Together they also enjoyed many trips to Las Vegas. Robert was active with the Wisconsin Vets Day Inc. and had served as State Chair. He was also an active fundraiser and supporter of the Union Grove Veterans Home and NOK events. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #921**. Although he was an avid Green Bay Packers fan he most importantly was a devoted husband, father and grandfather who will be dearly missed. Survivors include his children, Shelly (Jim) Bent, Robert (Melissa) Lewis III; six grandchildren, Jenna and Michael Bent, Natasha (Bill) Giese, Heather, Robby, and Nicholas Lewis; two great-grandchildren, Taylor and Vincent Giese; brothers, Richard (Rosemary) Lewis, Ronald Lewis; step sister, Teri (Richard) Rowley; half-brother, Brian Giese; mother-in-law, Esther Hermansen; sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Pat Peterson,, Harold (Lori) Hermansen Jr.; nieces, nephews, other relatives and many dear friends. In addition to his parents and wife he was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Harold Hermansen, Sr. Funeral services were held on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 10:30 AM at the funeral home with Reverend John Fleming officiating. Interment with full military honors was at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Town of Dover. Relatives and friends called on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM until time of service. In lieu of flowers memorials to the Union Grove Veterans Home were suggested. Arrangements were made by the Maresh-Meredith and Acklam Funeral Home, 803 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin.



**JOHN PETER “Jake” LUBERA, JR.** - Died Friday September 5, 2014 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Providence, Rhode Island at the age of 67. He was a resident of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. The cause of death was pulmonary fibrosis. He was born in Central Falls, Rhode Island to the late John Peter and Jennie (née Cordeau) Lubera, Sr. He lived in Pawtucket for most of his life. He was the beloved husband of Dorothy M. (née Lapierre) Lubera. Before retiring John was employed as a Mail Carrier for the U.S. Postal Service for 20 years and also owned and operated Lubera’s Window Cleaning Service. He was a United States Army Veteran serving in Vietnam. John was a member of several Veterans organizations. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield) Chapter #818**. Besides his beloved wife, John leaves his loving children, Jennifer Andrew and her husband Thomas of Hope Valley, Tricia Cassidy and her husband Kevin of NH, Joseph Lubera and his wife Sharon of Johnston and Robert Lubera of Coventry; ten grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two brothers, Wilfred “Willie” Lubera of Lincoln and Michael Lubera of Burrillville, and; several nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday September 20, 2014 at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church on Sabin Street in Pawtucket at 10:00 AM. Relatives and friends were welcome to attend. Burial with Military Honors at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial



Cemetery, Exeter will be private. Memorial Donations in John's Memory to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation 230 East Ohio Street - Suite #304, Chicago, IL 60611-3201 would be greatly appreciated.

**WILLIAM JOSEPH LUDWIG** – Died Monday, September 1, 2014 in Rochester, New York at the age of 69. The cause of death was complications from hypertension. He was born in Rochester on December 27, 1944 to the late Edward J. Ludwig and Jean (née Senatore) Ludwig. He leaves his dear wife of 29 years, Beth; children, Teresa Lockart, William (Kelly), Lisa; stepsons, Scott (Aima) and Lance Whitbeck; grandchildren, Zackary, Kitana, Kierra, Alec and Emily; great-grandchildren, Jackson and IsaBella; brothers, James (Ann Marie), Edward (Toni); nieces and nephews. Bill was a proud Vietnam Veteran with active duty in the United States Army and the Army National Guard service totaling 20 years. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester Chapter #20**. Friends called from 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM Friday at Willard H. Scott Funeral Home, 12 South Avenue, Webster, New York. The Funeral Service was at 10:00 AM on Saturday at Henrietta Christian Fellowship, 1085 Middle Road, Rush, New York. Interment was in the Webster Union Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to Vietnam Veterans, Chapter 20, Post Office Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14612.



**THOMAS E. LYNCH, SR.** – Died Friday, September 19, 2014 in Broomall, Pennsylvania at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 18, 1945. He graduated in 1965 from St. Joseph's University, where he founded and served as President of the Marketing Club. Upon graduation, he took a position with the Insurance Company of North America (INA). He began as a Marketing Research Analyst and after graduating the INA Executive School, became a commercial underwriter. He served in the United States Army and Army Reserves from 1966 through 1995. He retired as a First Sergeant (E-8). Prior to his lengthy illness, he was very active in the support of all Veterans. He was a member of the Association of the United States Army and served four terms on the advisory board of advisors in Washington, D.C. Mr. Lynch was also a member of associate of many veteran organizations. His memberships included the American Legion, AMVETS, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Philadelphia Chapter #590**, Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans and the Marine Corps League. He was also inducted into the Chapel of the Four Chaplains. Following his release from active duty in 1988, he accepted a position with the Department of Defense. Mr. Lynch eventually was promoted to Staff Supervising Administrator, with the 338 Medical Brigade, headquartered in Chester. His responsibilities included: overall management of nine medical units; spread over twelve locations in four states including direct supervision of over one hundred officers enlisted and civilian personnel. He received numerous awards and decorations from the U.S. Army, the Department of Defense and many Veteran's organizations. Mr. Lynch also served as the Military Chairman of the "Standdown" program for homeless veterans from 1994 to 2004. He retired in 2005 and his deteriorating health precluded further participation in his many veterans organizations. Survived by his beloved wife of 49 years Catherine A. (née Burns), his loving children Thomas E. Lynch, Jr. (Mary Ann), Maureen A. Clark (Kenneth) and Catherine M. James (Jeffrey), his 9 adoring grandchildren, his cherished great grandchild and his devoted brothers Charles V., Jr., John M. and James P. Lynch. He was predeceased by his granddaughter Anna Agnes Lynch. Relatives and friends

were invited to his Visitation on Wednesday Evening from 7:00-9:00 PM at the D'Anjolell Memorial Home of Broomall, 2811 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008 and also to his Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday morning at 10:00 AM in Saint Pius X Church, 220 Lawrence Road, Broomall, PA 19008. Inurnment was private. In lieu of flowers contributions in his memory to the American Legion, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1954 or Vietnam Veterans of America, 103 North Bishop Avenue, Clifton Heights, PA 19018 would be appreciated.



**MARK D. MADSEN** - Died at his home in Chaska, Minnesota on Friday, July 18, 2014 at the age of 60. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 29, 1954 in Granite Falls, Minnesota to Kenneth and the late Joan (née Nesburg) Madsen. Mark graduated from Granite Falls High School in 1972. Following graduation Mark joined the United States Air Force. After his service he attended Moler School of Barbering and worked as a barber for many years, most recently at Kens Barbershop in Minnetonka. Mark loved

to travel and enjoyed being outdoors. He devoted much of his time helping other veterans and took great pride in his work. He was a *Life Member* and *Past President* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Cloud Chapter #290** and also a recent *President* of the **Minnesota VVA State Council**. Left to cherish his memory are his son, Matthew; daughter, Kristin (Jake) Nicoson and their two children, Cole and Bryn; his father, Kenneth and special friend Dar Hanson; brothers, Charles (Gary) and Robert and many, many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lori (née Anderson) who died at a young age and by his mother, Joan. Interment was in Fort Snelling National Cemetery with full military honors on Friday, August 8, 12:30 PM, Lane #4. Memorial Gathering to follow at the Minneapolis/Richfield American Legion Post #435, 6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield, Minnesota.



**JAMES THOMAS MAGUIRE** - Died Saturday, July 26, 2014 at Tampa General Hospital where he was awaiting heart surgery. He was 71 years of age and a resident of Marco Island, Florida. Jim was born November 19, 1942 in Ossining, New York to the late John and Anna Maguire. The family moved to Andover, New Hampshire in 1957 where Jim's dad owned a restaurant, Quimby's Diner. Jim started college at the University of New Hampshire after high school, and then enlisted in the United States Army in March 1965. After initial training, he was selected to attend the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California to become an Arabic Linguist. He graduated from that schooling in October 1966, and was then selected to attend Officer Candidate School and became an Ordnance Corps officer in 1967. Jim served in Vietnam in 1968 and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his actions there. After leaving active duty in 1969, Jim went back to college and completed his Bachelor's and Master's degrees and started work towards his PhD. Jim was a research sociologist, working with various companies and organizations over the years. He was a master at helping business and government entities with organizational development and leadership from within. He retired from civil service with the U.S. Army in 1997. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida**. Jim was a gentleman of so many talents and interests. He loved jazz, woodworking, cooking, working with plants and flowers, and, most of all, fishing. He fished everywhere he went and loved the diverse waters from Alaska to Hawaii and

California, and from New Hampshire to Florida. He taught his daughters to fish and, most recently, his six year old grandson. He made the best mango marmalade you've ever tasted, and his family and friends are going to be sorely disappointed that there are only a dozen jars left. Jim was an activist in the interests of the rights of people here in the U.S. and around the world. He did a lot of traveling to countries around the world both for business and pleasure and immersed himself in other cultures to know the world's peoples. Jim so wanted this country to be on the right track. He was an avid reader, a critical thinker, and a problem solver. He loved to discuss the issues and was well grounded in his sense of right and wrong. Jim will be held with love in the memories of his wife, Karen; his daughter, Allison (Kyle); his brother, John (Ellen); his cousins, Dan (Hanna) and Elaine (Jan); his grandchildren, Liam, Declan, Megan, and Fiona; and the many good friends he made along his life's journey. A remembrance of Jim was held on Monday, August 4, 2014 at Fuller Funeral Home in Naples, FL. Jim then made one more boat ride with his wife, daughter, and brother to a favorite fishing spot off Marco Island where he will remain.

**ROBERT MARKHAM** – Died recently in 2014 in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi at the age of 83. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 4, 1931. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Riverside (California) Chapter #47**.

**WILLIAM F. MATHEWS** – Died recently in 2014 in Sherwood, Arkansas at the age of 74. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 21, 1940. He is survived by his wife. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bradford Chapter #184**.



**WILLIAM E. "Bill" MAULT** - Died peacefully surrounded by the love of his family on Monday, August 11, 2014. He was 65 years of age. The cause of death was non-small cell lung carcinoma. He was born in Mount Clemens, Michigan on February 17, 1949 to the late Archie and Louise (née Allor) Mault. He served our country honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154** and served on the ritual team for many years. Bill was known for his kind smile and his wonderful sense of humor. He will be deeply missed but will remain steadfast in our hearts forever. Bill is the loving husband of Tracy; dearest father of Thomas (Debbie) Mault, Robin (Kurt) Bovensiep, Mary Mault and the late Melissa Orlowski; dear brother of Charles (Nancy), David (Brenda) and the late Ralph, Rick, Robert, Walter Mault; cherished grandfather of Ashley, Josh, Joslyn, Caleigh, Wyatt and DaMarco ; and great grandfather of Declan.



**STEVEN D. MEHAS** - Died Thursday, January 31, 2013 at Easton Hospital, Wilsonboro, Pennsylvania at the age of 66. He was a resident of Bangor, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 6, 1947 In East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania to the late Steven F. and Margaret (née Morken) Mehas. He was the husband of Marilyn (née Butz) Mehas. They celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary last May. He worked as a Mechanical Engineer for Foster Wheeler, Hampton, NJ for 35 years, retiring in 2012. When

he was younger, he worked at Marquette Industries, Bangor, PA. He also owned and operated Delbrook Farms in Bangor, PA. He was a graduate of Bangor High School, Class of 1964. After his Naval service, he graduated from Northampton Community College and then Lafayette College, Class of 1975 with an Mechanical Engineering degree. He was a veteran of the United States Navy from 1964 to 1967 where he served on the USS Forrester during the Vietnam Conflict. He was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Martins Creek, PA. An avid hunter and fisherman, he was a member of the National Rifle Association. He also belonged to **Vietnam Veterans of America - Dallas (Pennsylvania) Chapter #1035** and the Forrestal Association. Surviving are his wife; daughter, Michele Hawk Fogel, wife of Ronald Fogel of Bangor; grandchildren, Alex and Julie Poliskiewicz and Lukas Fogel. He is predeceased by a sister, Margaret Mehas. Services: Funeral Services were held on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Martins Creek, PA. Friends were able to call one hour prior to services at the church. The James J. Palmeri Funeral Home, Martins Creek was entrusted with the arrangements. Online Condolences may be offered at [www.palmerifuneralhome.com](http://www.palmerifuneralhome.com) Memorials: In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.



**JERALD G. "Jerry" MESSERSCHMIDT** - Died Monday, July 28, 2014 at the VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota at the age of 67. He was a resident of Watertown, South Dakota. The cause of death was a massive stroke. He was born on September 29, 1946 in Gary, South Dakota to the late Roy G. and Lois D. (née Reihe) Messerschmidt. He graduated from Watertown High School in 1964. Jerry enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his country for 20 years. He retired and received an honorable discharge in 1985. Jerry lived in the state of Washington until returning to Watertown. On June 23, 1994, Jerry married Verna Sandquist at Watertown. The couple lived on an acreage near Grover, South Dakota, and then traveled for a year before settling in Watertown where they have continued to live. He was a member of First Baptist Church, the American Legion, V.F.W., a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Watertown Chapter #1054*, and the D.A.V., where he once served as commander. Jerry enjoyed spending time on Facebook. He also enjoyed watching baseball and the Seattle Seahawks. He loved the farm animals and his dog, Midnight. Jerry is survived by his wife, Verna, of Watertown; four children: Andrea (Allen) Bell of Auburn, WA, Cliff Messerschmidt of Olympia, WA, Robin (Brad) Puthoff and Bill Schreier all of Watertown; four grandchildren: Patrick Brownlee, Mathew Weinzirl, and Kenedy and Parker Schlenker; one brother, Larry (Pam) Messerschmidt, of Watertown; and one sister, Kay Ann Webb, of Watertown. He was preceded in death by his parents; his grandparents; and one brother-in-law, Robert Webb. Funeral services were at 10:30 AM on Friday, August 1, 2014 at the Crawford Funeral Chapel in Watertown. Reverend Greg Berkey officiated. The family requested to meet at the chapel on Friday by 10:00 AM for a family prayer service. Visitation was at the chapel on Thursday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM and prior to services at the chapel on Friday. Burial was on Friday at 1:00 PM at the Dexter Cemetery in rural Florence, South Dakota. Military graveside honors were conducted by Codington County Post #17 of the American Legion, Frank H. Adams Post #750 of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Veterans of Vietnam War Chapter #1054, and Disabled American Veterans, all of Watertown and the Air Force Funeral

Honors Team of Ellsworth AFB. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the local military organizations. Active pallbearers were: Harold Bury, Jordan Lorenzen, Jon Messerschmidt, Brad Puthoff, Roger Janssen, Randy Ward and Patrick Brownlee.

**LARRY FRANK MULLINS** – Died Monday, November 11, 2013 in Akron, Ohio at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 29, 1944. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America. – Reno Chapter #989.**

**SHIRLEY WYNONA (née ALLEN) MURPHY** – Died Monday, September 15, 2014 in Birmingham, Alabama at the age of 78. The cause of death was heart failure. She was born on November 9, 1936 to the late Jack and Eva Inez Allen in Lee County, Alabama. She was married to her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade sweetheart, Alfred, for 57 years. She was a registered nurse for 45 years and she worked in hospitals all over the country, while being a devoted wife to a U.S. Navy Submariner, but her home port was Medical Center East (East End) where she spent 33 years with the staff at MCE, some of the greatest folks in the world. Even though she was born in the Loveliest Village on the Plains, she was a big fan of Alabama Football...Roll Tide! Her retirement years were spent loving her family, spending time with her dear friends, supporting veterans, and traveling. She was a *Life Member* of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Gardendale Chapter #416.** Mrs. Murphy was preceded in death by her brothers, Robert and Matt Allen. Mrs. Murphy is survived by her husband, Alfred; daughter, Maureen Murphy Sparks (Jack) of Gardendale, AL; grandson, Andrew Sparks (Callie Ann) of Auburn, AL; her sisters, Joy Hamm (Gerald), Jackie Doberstein, and Rosell Thorpe; and two Angel Caregivers, Connie Yelder and Matthew Ford. Funeral services were held on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 12:00 PM at Jefferson Memorial Trussville, with the Reverend Elvin L. Ford officiating. Interment followed at Jefferson Memorial Gardens. A visitation was held from 11:00 AM until the funeral hour. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Vietnam Veterans Chapter 416, PO Box 1212 Gardendale, AL 35071. Jefferson Memorial Trussville is directing.



**JOSEPH LUCIEN BERTRAND NADEAU** - Died Friday, September 12, 2014 at home in Woonsocket, Rhode Island at the age of 79. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born in Woonsocket on October 31, 1934 to the late Leo Aimé Nadeau and Anita (née Boudreau) Nadeau. He was the husband of the late Dorothy C. Nadeau. He attended Saint Joseph's Elementary School and was a 1952 graduate of Mount Saint Charles Academy. Earning an Associate of Science degree from Dean Junior College in Franklin, MA, in 1978, Mr. Nadeau also attended Bryant College, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1983. He was a retired United States Air Force Senior Master Sergeant. Following his career in the United States Air Force, he was a salesman for Sears at Walnut Hill Plaza for 20 years while operating his own real estate business, the Joe Nadeau & Sons Real Estate Agency from his home. Mr. Nadeau joined the Air Force in 1952, undergoing Basic Training at Sampson Air Force Base in New York and attending Aircraft and Engine Mechanic School in Amarillo, Texas. He also attended Advanced Aircraft and Engine Mechanic School at Shepherd Air Force Base in Texas and worked on the F-86D jet fighter and the T-33 shooting star jet aircraft. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, he



served with the 26th Air Defense BOMARC Missile Squadron at Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod and participated in the preparation of the squadron's nuclear-tipped surface-to-air missiles for the defense of the East Coast during the Cuban Missile Crisis with the Soviet Union. He continued to work with the BOMARC program while assigned to the 4751st Air Defense Missile Wing at Hurlbert Field, near the town of Mary Ester in Okaloosa County, Fla., serving with disaster control in the launch of BOMARCS for various anti-missile tests conducted into the early 1970s. As part of his military training, he attended Non-Commissioned Officer's Management Training in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the Boeing Factory BOMARC Missile Training School in Seattle, Washington, the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy in Colorado Springs, Test Writing School in San Antonio, Texas in 1972, and First Sergeants School at Hamilton Air Force Base in California in 1973. He served as First Sergeant of the 762nd Radar Squadron at North Truro Air Force Station, MA, until his retirement in 1974. Mr. Nadeau and his family relocated to Woonsocket in 1974, returning to the East Woonsocket neighborhood in which he had grown up. His years as a city youth watching local residents head off to fight in World War II and his own military service gave him a strong desire to honor those who have served their country both in times of war and peace. He was an active member of the United Veterans Council (UVC) of Woonsocket and Post Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 11519. He was a past District 1 Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Rhode Island. He organized and served as master of ceremonies for many veteran events in the City of Woonsocket, most recently the September 11<sup>th</sup> observances at the World War II Veterans Memorial State Park. He was also working on the development of a Woonsocket Veterans Memorial along Davison Street as part of the Memorial Committee. He was named 2002 Veteran of the Year by the UVC of Woonsocket. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – James Michael Ray Memorial (North Smithfield) Chapter #818**. Among his military honors, he holds the Air Force Commendation Medal for outstanding service, the Meritorious Service Medal, Missile Maintenance awards with the 4751st in 1967 and 1968, the National Defense Service medal, the Good Conduct medal, and the United Nations Service medal. He served during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He and his beloved wife, Dorothy, enjoyed their family in retirement and celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary in February, 2012. He had met and married Dorothy while serving at Dow Air Force Base near her home in Old Town, Maine, and she traveled with him throughout his career in the service. He wrote of her in 1973, saying "My love for you is strengthened by your radiance, the inner beauty of your person. I love you forever." He is survived by the couple's five children and their families, Mark and Betty Nadeau of Woonsocket, Joseph and Linda Nadeau of Woonsocket, Eric Nadeau and Tina Santos of Woonsocket, Diane and Alex Lynch of Cumberland, and Paul Nadeau of Fort Mills, South Carolina, and his grandchildren, Ashley, Jamie, Ryan, Jonathan, Jeremy, Victoria, and Nicolas. He was the brother of the late Maurice and Marcel Nadeau. His funeral was held on Thursday at 9:30 AM from the Fournier and Fournier Funeral Home, 99 Cumberland Street, Woonsocket, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 AM in Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Mendon Road, Woonsocket. Burial with Military Honors was in Resurrection Cemetery, Cumberland. Visiting hours were on Wednesday from 4:00-7:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Heart Association or military service charity of your choice would be appreciated.



**WILLIAM R. "Skip" NOELL** - Died Thursday, April 10, 2008 at the Lebanon VA Medical Center, Lebanon, Pennsylvania at the age of 61. He was a resident of Howell, New Jersey and formerly of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 5, 1946 to James T. and Evelyn N. Noell of Palmyra, Pennsylvania. He was a United States Navy Veteran of the Vietnam War, receiving the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. He retired from the United States Army. He also retired from the U.S. Postal Service; was a Deputy Chief with the Paxtang Fire Company, with 30 years of service to the company. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisburg Chapter #542**, numerous car clubs in the Harrisburg area, including the Blue Moon Cruisers. He drove a school bus for the Paxton Presbyterian Church pre-school and was known as "Mr. Bill the bus driver." In addition to his parents, James T. and Evelyn N. Howell of Palmyra, he is also survived by one son, Cory M. Noell, husband of Deborah M., of Paxtang; a daughter, Lisa A., wife of John Curtis of Enola; brother, Kenneth E. Noell and wife, Kathleen of Chambers Hill; step-mother, Delores Noell of Fells Point, MD; 3 grandchildren, Adam, James, and Victoria; several nieces and nephews; and the love of his life, Arlene O'Donnell, of Howell, NJ. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 12:30 PM in the Neill Funeral Home, 3501 Derry Street, Harrisburg. Burial was in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA. There will be a viewing from 10:30 AM until the time of the service.

**GENE W. NORTHROP, JR.** – Died Tuesday, July 8, 2014 in Waukesha, Wisconsin at the age of 66. The cause of death was cancer. He was born February 17, 1948. He was a member of **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America – Waukesha Chapter #425**.

**DAVID A. NOWICKI** – Died recently in 2014 in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The cause of death is unknown. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Waukesha Chapter #425**.



**RICHARD LEE ODELL** - Died at his home in Camp Crook, South Dakota on Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on July 14, 1944 in Ekalaka, Montana to the late James and Bonita (née Eilert) Odell. Richard attended Plainview Grade School and graduated from Carter County High School in 1963. Richard joined the United States Marine Corps after High School. He proudly served his country in Vietnam and often talked about President Kennedy in attendance at his boot camp graduation parade march at Camp Pendleton in the fall of 1963. After his tour of duty Richard started mechanics school at Bailey Technical School in St. Louis, Missouri. Before moving home Richard tried his hand in car racing and also worked on barges on the Mississippi River. Once Richard moved home to Camp Crook he worked as a ranch hand and lumberjack. He was eventually employed by the Harding County Highway Department where he retired after 9 years. Richard was a lifetime member of the VFW, American Legion Lamnison Post #147 and a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Deadwood Chapter #1039**. He carried the flag for the Honor Guard in many of the local parades. Richard was part of the Camp Crook Town Board, helped maintain the cemetery and enjoyed placing flags on the graves of fallen veterans. His hobbies were woodworking, collecting model cars, gardening and reading. In addition to his parents, Richard is preceded in death by his brothers, David Odell and Glen

LeRoy Odell. Richard is survived by a brother, John (Mary) Odell of Loganville, GA; sisters, Shirley (Bob) Lannen of Sturgis, and Janet Odell of Camp Crook; an uncle, Gordon (Lil) Odell of Belle Fourche; fourteen nieces and nephews, including Shaine (Cassidy) Odell of Buffalo. Graveside services were held at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis with Pastor Milton Douglas officiating. Military Honors were conducted by the Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard and the United States Marine Corps. A memorial service followed at 1:30 PM at the Camp Crook Area Community Center. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are preferred. Arrangements have been entrusted to Black Hills Funeral Home of Sturgis, SD.



**DENNIS W. "Bubba" OMANN** – Died Tuesday, February 18, 2014 in Sartell, Minnesota at the age of 62. The cause of death is unknown. He was born September 6, 1951 in Saint Cloud, Minnesota to the late Joseph and Patricia (née Mensinger) Omann. He married Deborah Brown on May 12, 2010. Bubba was a United States Army Veteran of the Vietnam War. He owned and operated Bubba's Bar in Sauk Rapids for 15 years. He retired about ten years ago. Bubba was a member of St. Stephen American Legion Post #221, DAV, **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Cloud Chapter #290**, and VFW Granite Post #428. Survivors include his wife Deb, Sartell, children, Joseph Omann, Minneapolis, and Cortney Klocek (Scott) Clarks Grove, grandchildren, Kendel, Jordy and Raeanna (the "Ga Gooch"), stepson Tim Brown, Sauk Rapids, sister and brother, Dr. Elaine Omann, Jacksonville, FL, and George Omann (Judy) Albertville, nieces, LTC-Select Lisa Wildman, Ret. Lt. Cmdr. Lynn Wildman, Amber Porter, and Heather Archuleta, pets, Woof e Woof, WP, Minnie P, Widdle P, and Pieschka. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his sister Barbara Porter. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:30 AM at Saint Stephen's Catholic Church in St. Stephen, Minnesota. Reverend Robert Harren officiated. Burial was in the parish cemetery. Friends came to call on Friday between 4:00-8:00 PM at the Daniel Funeral Home in Saint Cloud and on Saturday one hour prior to services at the church. The family would like to thank the wonderful staffs at the St. Cloud VA Hospital, CentraCare Dialysis Center, and the St. Cloud Hospital for great care given to Bubba.

**EDWARD WILLIAM OTT, SR.** - Died on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at the Frederick Memorial Hospital in Frederick, Maryland at the age of 59. He was a resident of Adamstown, Maryland. The cause of death was acute myocardial infarction, coronary artery disease and diabetes mellitus. He was born on August 5, 1948 in Charlestown, West Virginia to Evelyn (née Davis) Ott and the late Wilbert Ott. He was the husband of Christine "Chris" Ott. He graduated from Frederick High School in 1967. Being a pragmatic young man and faced with a decision of military service during the Vietnam-era, he decided to join the United States Navy before he was drafted into the United States Army. This turned out to be a good choice as he received his notice to report for basic training in the army while undergoing basic training at the U.S. Navy's facility in Great Lakes, Illinois. During his service, he eventually became an air-crewman, based in the Philippines and Japan. They delivered mail and parts to aircraft carriers that were stationed in the South China Sea. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1978, after spending several years in the U.S. Naval Reserves. After he returned from Southeast

Asia in 1971, he worked for the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant in Maryland. In 1974, he became a mechanic at Eastalco Aluminum plant in Frederick. He retired from Eastalco due to a medical disability in 2001. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Frederick Chapter #304*. Edward was involved in the community and participating in youth activities. He coached little league baseball, and participated with cub scouts. He enjoyed several rain filled evenings during the annual scout camping trips. He never missed any of his son's baseball games, football games, wrestling matches or band concerts. He was a life-long member of the Doubs United Methodist Church. Surviving in addition to his wife and his Mother, are his two sons, Edward W. Ott Jr. and Thomas Ott and one sister, Judy. Friends were received from 6:00 to 9:00 PM on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Keeney and Basford Funeral Home, 106 East Church Street, Frederick. A memorial service was held at noon on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Doubs United Methodist Church, 5131 Doubs Road, Adamstown. Pastor Michael Bynum officiated. The interment was private. Contributions may be made in Mr. Ott's name to the Memorial and Honor Program, American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312. Condolences may be shared with the family by going to [www.keeneybasford.com](http://www.keeneybasford.com).



**LOUIS R. "Sonny" PALMA** - Died Thursday, August 14, 2014 in his Hamburg, New York home. He was 86 years of age. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 24, 1928 in Buffalo and moved with his family to Derby as a youngster. He attended Hamburg High School but left before graduating to enlist in the United States Navy during World War II. He was a United States Navy and United States Air Force veteran who served as a Town of Evans councilman and as deputy county clerk in Erie County. When he returned to the high school to give a talk in 2007, he was presented with a diploma in a surprise ceremony, said his wife, Sharon. In 2012, Mr. Palma told The Buffalo News that he enlisted at age 15, using the birth certificate of an older brother who had died soon after birth and a forged permission slip from his father. He served in the South Pacific from 1943 to 1946, seeing action at Saipan, Okinawa, Guam and the Philippines as a rear gunner on an Avenger torpedo bomber. After returning home, he studied for two years at Canisius College toward a bachelor's degree in business administration. But his education was again interrupted when he was recalled to active duty and assigned to the carrier USS Philippine Sea off the coast of Korea until 1952. In 1953, after his discharge from the Navy, Mr. Palma enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. He received his diploma from Canisius in 1955. During his time in the Air Force, he was a flight engineer during the Vietnam War. He retired from the Air Force Reserves in 1988. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. Mr. Palma was an accounting supervisor at the General Motors Chevrolet plant in Buffalo from 1959 to 1963, and he later operated his own accounting firm. He served as an Evans councilman from 1962 to 1966 and again from 1968 to 1972. He was an Evans Republican committeeman for more than 35 years, serving as the committee chairman from 1997 to 2009. He was deputy Erie County clerk from 1969 to 1975. From 1975 to 1982 he was the administration and fiscal officer for the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act programs. In 1982, Mr. Palma became the business administrator for the Lake Shore Central school system, and in 2000 he was appointed director of Erie County Veterans Services. He was a life member of the Highland Hose Volunteer Fire Co. and a commissioner for the North Evans Fire District for 15 years. Besides his wife, Mr. Palma is survived by a son, Hank Palma; a daughter, LuAnn Palma-Smith;

and four sisters, Carmella Teichman, MaryAnn Hagarty, Elaine Chudzik and Betty Evans. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Saturday in Saint John Paul II Parish Community, 2052 Lakeview Road, Lake View, New York.

**HUGH JACKSON PARKER** - Died Wednesday, July 16, 2014 in a Knoxville, Tennessee hospital at the age of 64. He was a resident of Cleveland, Tennessee. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 2, 1949 to the late Charlie and Nira Parker. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cleveland Chapter #596**. He was of Baptist faith. His favorite hobby was woodworking and building special memories. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by brothers, Don, Ken, Ray and Chester Parker. Left to cherish the beautiful memories that Hugh leaves behind will be his wife of 45 years, Sue Parker of Cleveland; daughter, Leanne Shean and husband, Craig of Cleveland; two loving grandchildren, Megan (Lefty) and Madison (Clyde) Shean; siblings, Shelia and husband, David Beard of GA, Sharon Pierson of AL, Jeff and wife, Katie Parker of FL, Vernon and wife, Melinda Parker of GA and Lee Parker of GA with numerous nieces and nephews, extended family members and many wonderful friends. Graveside services were held at 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 20, 2014 in Sunset Memorial Gardens with Jerry Clark officiating. Tim Kabilus, Jon Clayton, David Long, Chuck Johnson, Jan McCowan, David Beard and Corey Grubbs served as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Gracen Johnson, (little buddy) Andrew Johnson and Jessica Grubbs. The family received friends from 2:00 – 4:00 PM on Sunday at Grissom-Serenity Funeral Home and Cremation Services prior to the graveside services.

**JOHN TIMOTHY “Tim” PHILLIPS** - Died Tuesday, July 15, 2014 in Ayden, North Carolina at the age of 66. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born on June 8, 1948 in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina to the late John C. and Betty (née Hall) Phillips. Tim was a member of Ayden United Methodist Church, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Greenville Chapter #272**, where he was a Veteran Service Officer, and the DAV. Mr. Phillips served in the United States Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970. He was an organ and tissue donor. Tim is survived by his wife, Margaret B. Phillips, of the home; two sons, John T. Phillips Jr. and wife, Joey Spinali Phillips, of Pinehurst and Jared B. Phillips and wife, Emilyrose Ramirez Phillips, of Raleigh; two sisters, Cheryelle P. Waters, of Willows, CA and Vickie P. Horton, of Lowell, NC. He also leaves behind seven grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and friends. A Graveside Service officiated by Dr. Milford Oxendine was held on Friday, July 18, 2014 at 11:00 AM in the Evergreen United Methodist Church Cemetery, located on Old Highway 74 in Chadbourn, NC. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tim’s memory to the Ayden Rescue Squad, 4112 West Ave, Ayden, NC 28513 or DAV Chapter 37, P.O. Box 1216, Greenville, NC 27834. Arrangements were entrusted to Farmer Funeral Service-Ayden.



**BERT MIKE** (USMC, MSG-Ret.) – Died Thursday, October 16, 2012 in Richlands, North Carolina at the age of 79. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Albany, Louisiana on November 5, 1932 to the late Albert and Barbara Ponsock. He moved to Detroit, Michigan at the age of nine. He graduated from Western High School in 1951. He joined the United States Marine Corps and left for boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina in June of 1951. After graduation he was stationed at Fort Monmouth,

New Jersey for Teletype Repair School. After serving a few years abroad, he was then transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division where he met his lovely bride, Joyce of Richlands, North Carolina in 1954. He is preceded in death by his wife Joyce Ponsock, whom he was married to for 51 years, his brothers, Albert Ponsock, Jr., Steve Ponsock, Joe Ponsock, Eugene Ponsock, and George Ponsock, he had one sister, Barbara Reed. Survivors are his children, Mike and wife Rosa Ponsock of Richlands NC, Anita and husband Frank Cativiela of Richlands NC, Charlie and wife Angie Ponsock of Holly Ridge NC, Cindi and husband Joe Laskowski of Concord NC, sister Rosa and husband Gary Wyer of Detroit MI, nine grand-children: Bert Mike Ponsock III, Donnie and wife Kim Davis, Joey Ponsock, Lynn Ponsock, Magan and husband Joe Brewer, Chase Ponsock, Chelsie Ponsock, Justin Laskowski, and Josh Laskowski; two great-grandchildren, Wyatt Davis and Bryson Ponsock. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. During his career he served in Iwakuni Japan, Camp Lejeune NC, El Toro CA, Vietnam, San Diego CA, Barstow CA, and Okinawa. He retired from the Marine Corps in December 1977. He was a member of Veterans Organizations including: Marine Corps League, Disabled American Veterans, Fleet Reserve Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Jacksonville (North Carolina) Chapter #654**, American Legion, and the Onslow County Council of Veterans Organization. Bert was a member of The Retired Enlisted Association and the Marine Corps Association. He was also a member of the D-Day Museum and the Marine Corps Heritage Museum. He was a member of the Richlands Jaycees, he volunteered to assist in tax aide in Onslow County with AARP, volunteered for the American Legion helping with Bingo and the Onslow County Fair. He donated blood quarterly to the American Red Cross for many years. He coached Little League and the Babe Ruth League and was a part of the driving force of building the ball fields in Richlands. He attended the New River PFW Baptist Church with his wife in Richlands. He loved watching the Detroit Tigers, Lions, and Red Wings. Hobbies included gardening and attending all of the grandkids sporting events. There was a Funeral Service was on Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 11:00 AM at the Johnson Funeral Home Chapel, Richlands with Chaplain Ray Randall officiating. Burial was at the Onslow Memorial Park with Full Military Honors. The family received friends from 7:00 -9:00 PM on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at the Johnson Funeral Home, Richlands. Condolences may be made at [www.johnsonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.johnsonfuneralhomes.com). Arrangements were made by the Johnson Funeral Home of Richlands.

**HARRY A. "Wizard" PUTZ** - Died Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at his home in Burlington, Wisconsin at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin on November 19, 1945 to the late Harry and Alta (née Warfield) Putz. He spent his early life in Sheboygan Falls where he graduated from Sheboygan Falls High School. He also attended the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh where he received a Bachelor's Degree in education and the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater where he received a Master's Degree in special education. In 1966 he joined the Naval Reserves and served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. On August 31, 1968, in Oshkosh, he married Marilyn Kaye Sperger. Following marriage they made their home in Oshkosh before moving to Burlington in 1970, where they raised their family. He was a teacher for 30 years in the Burlington and Mukwonago school districts. Upon retiring from teaching he became the energy manager for the Mukwonago School District until his full retirement in 2011. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Rochester**

**Chapter #921** and VFW Post 11038. He enjoyed playing Pai Gow poker, volunteering for teacher organizations and various veteran organizations in the community. Survivors include his wife; daughters, Kristin (Niles) Stenmark, Franklin, Aimee (Mark) Lusic, Amherst, Kimberly Putz, Long Beach, Calif.; grandchildren, Anja and Asher Stenmark, Maddie and Cal Lusic; his beloved service dog, Moe Harry Putz; brother-in-law, Martin (Carol) Nemitz, Sheboygan Falls; nieces and nephews, Lisa (Scott) Nemitz, Sheboygan, David (Katie) Nemitz, Plymouth, and Daniel Nemitz, Sheboygan Falls. He was further preceded in death by his sister, Joyce Nemitz. The family would like to say a very special thank you to Dr. Paul Webber and Dr. Syed Haider and their staffs, and Aurora VNA Hospice for their care, concern and compassion during this difficult time. Visitation was on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10-11:30 AM at the Polnasek-Daniels Funeral Home, 908 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Union Grove, followed by a committal service at Noon at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Union Grove.



**PAUL M. RAYMOND** - Died Tuesday, August 12, 2014 in El Paso, Texas at the age of 65. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related lung cancer. He was born in Pontiac, Michigan to the late "Gus" Myron Raymond and "Pinky" Kathleen Raymond. Paul, affectionately known as Snaggle Pus, loved his country, served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was a proud member of the Marine Corps League, VFW, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – El Paso Chapter #574**, and American Legion Post 36. In honor of his meritorious service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Purple Heart. Paul is survived by the love of his life, wife, Phyllis (née Flowers) Raymond, whom he shared 30 wonderful years with as best friends - without a dull moment! She nursed him devotedly throughout his illness right to the end. Paul will be dearly missed by his sister, Denise Navarro of Waterford, Michigan; brother, Martin Raymond (Irma) and family; and sister, Sherri Althouse (Greg) and family; also left to cherish his memory are his in-laws, Ray and Dottie Milner; his sister-in-law, Jan Johnson (Parky); his golf buddies; dog, Mickey, and cats, Sam and Starr; along with many loving friends. Paul was a graduate of Pontiac Northern of 1967 and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Park College. The family extends a special thank you to Dr. Motto, the VA Specialty Clinic, and all the fine doctors, nurses, and staff who went above and beyond to provide Paul attentive care. Graveside Service with Military Honors were held on Tuesday, August, 19, 2014 at 10:00 AM at Fort Bliss National Cemetery.



**CHRIS F. REGO** (USA, LTC-Ret.) - Died Monday, June 30, 2014 in his East Amherst, New York home at the age of 78. The cause of death was lung cancer. He was born February 23, 1936 and raised in the Appalachian mountain town of Pineville, Kentucky, where he was a high school football star. On a high school trip to Washington, DC, he attended a dance aboard a boat on the Potomac River where he met a woman from Lockport, Angela M. Ventura, who, after two years of correspondence, would become his wife. After graduating from the University of Kentucky, Mr. Rego pursued a career in the military. Over 20 years, he was stationed in Germany and several places in the United States, including Texas and North Carolina. He pursued his master's degree at Syracuse University while still in the United States Army. While serving in Vietnam, he was awarded the Purple Heart and four Bronze Stars. He also completed 79 parachute jumps and had to use his



backup parachute only once. According to his family, Mr. Rego kept the pull ring from that backup chute as a reminder of his love of life. He retired from the Army in 1980 and moved to East Amherst. He later was appointed deputy comptroller under former Erie County Comptroller Alfreda Slominski and retired from the county in the 1990s. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tonawanda Chapter #77**. He was a member of Saint Mary Catholic Church and became part of its first parish council. In addition to his wife of 56 years, he is survived by three daughters, Rhonda, Laura Bosca and Paula Kwandras; a son, Christopher J. Rego; and two grandchildren. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM on Thursday in St. Mary's Church, 6919 Transit Road, Amherst.

**ROBERT C. REINER** – Died Monday, October 3, 2011 in Mount Vernon, New York at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 4, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pleasantville Chapter #49**.

**THEODORE FLORIAN RICCUBUONO** – Died Wednesday, August 20, 2014 in Henderson, Nevada at the age of 76. The cause of death was blunt force injuries to the chest resulting from an automobile accident, death resulting. He was born May 4, 1938 in Cleveland, Ohio to the late Jack and Mary (née Carli) Riccubuno. He is survived by his son, Michael, of Richland Hills, Texas. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1964 to 1967 and service in Vietnam from 1964 to 1965. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Henderson Chapter #1076**.



**PETRILLO C. "Pat" RICHARDSON** – Died peacefully in his home at 11:50 AM on Tuesday, August 19, 2014, after losing his long battle to cancer. He had only seven more days before reaching his 69<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was born August 26, 1945 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is survived by his constant companion and wife, Sharon Sparks Richardson; nine brothers and sisters; six children; 20 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Pat was from a family of 11 children. Miguel was the brother who preceded him in death. Pat grew up in Oklahoma City, Okla., and while a young man, he joined the United States Army. He served extensively in Vietnam and was awarded numerous medals for his valor as a soldier. After the Army, Pat moved to Colorado and worked for the Department of Defense for 33 years before moving to Page in 2005. He could never just sit, so he became an active member of Page by serving on the airport board. He was on his third term. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Arizona**. He loved his country, his military and was in all of the July 4<sup>th</sup> and Veterans Day parades proudly carrying the American flag. Pat's hobbies included traveling, photography and reading. He was an accomplished published musician and enjoyed writing and producing music, along with helping others fulfill their musical "dreams." He was instrumental in starting the recording of services at the Faith Bible Chapel where he and his wife attended church. He was extremely active with the "Walking to Emmaus." Pat never met a stranger and always greeted everyone with a great big smile. He will be greatly missed. A Celebration of Life was held in his honor at 11:00 AM on August 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Faith Bible Chapel, 551 San Francisco Road, Page, Arizona. The family has

requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made at the National Bank of Arizona for Cancer Research. Please tell the counter that the donation is for Pat's Research Program.

**ROBERT RINKER** – Died in June 2014 in Orange Park, Florida at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 2, 1942. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Florida**.



**THOMAS V. "Squirrel" ROBES, SR.** - Died Thursday, July 10, 2014 in Monaca, Center Township, Pennsylvania at the age of 68. The cause of death was three different types of cancer resulting from exposure to Agent Orange in the Vietnam War. He was born October 19, 1945 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to the late Victor and Marion Robes. He was the loving husband of Georgiann; beloved father of Thomas V. Robes, Jr., Robert M. Robes (Teresa); big pappy of Nick, Anna and Rachel; brother of Ronald Robes (Jackie); and also survived by nieces and nephews and many, many friends. Thomas served in Vietnam as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps from 1963-1967. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart. He was a former officer and award winner of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**. He was an inspiration to all with an attitude of courage that never quit. Those lucky enough to have met him will always remember him. Friends were received on Sunday from 5:00-8:00 PM and on Monday 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 PM at the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home, Inc., 238 Helen Street, McKees Rocks. Parastas on Monday 7:00 PM. The Trisagion Service was held on Tuesday 9:30 AM at the funeral home, followed by a Requiem Service in Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church at 10 a.m. officiated by Rev. Thomas Soroka. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Vets for Vets/AVVA.

**EDGAR EDWARD "Frenchie" ROCHE III** – Died Sunday, October 31, 2010 in Enola, Pennsylvania at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 9, 1947 to the late Erna Roche. He is survived by his son, Michael Roche, of Lewistown, Pennsylvania; his sisters, Donna Kurtz of Florida, Michelle Saullo of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, Alma Groff of Hamburg, Pennsylvania and Robin Roche of California. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Pennsylvania**.



**RAUL RODRIGUEZ, JR.** - Died Saturday, June 21, 2014 in Merced, California at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 9, 1944 in El Paso, Texas to the late Altagracia and Raul V. Rodriguez. He married Esperanza on December 2, 1970 and they raised a family in Merced. Raul served in the United States Navy Seabees and completed two tours in Vietnam. He worked for AT&T and retired in 2002 after 30 years of service. Raul was a member of the VFW Post 4327, American Legion Post 83, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 872, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Merced Chapter #691** and Club Mercedes. Raul is survived by his wife, Esperanza; children, Vicky Bryan, Raul Rodriguez III and Rachel Rodriguez Daniele; siblings, Javier, Olga and Arturo Rodriguez, and Sara Rivas; as well as several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He will be greatly missed by his family, especially his granddaughter, Kristin. A memorial service was

held at Stratford Evans Merced Funeral Home, 1490 B Street, Merced, California on Monday, June 30, 2014, at 10:00 AM. Arrangements were under the direction of Stratford Evans Merced Funeral Home, Merced, CA.



**WILLIAM LAYTON ROLLINGER** – Died Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at Mountain Home, Arkansas at the age of 72. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 21, 1942 to the late William A. and Virginia D. (née McMullin) Rollinger. He is also predeceased by his childhood sweetheart and wife of 42 years, Norma Lucille Rollinger and by his beautiful daughter, Celeste Ann Kinney, leaving no heirs. He leaves two sisters, Sherry L. (Rollinger) Smith of Glendora, CA and Gayle L. (Rollinger) Goeders of Portland, OR and their respective families. Mr. Rollinger was a twenty-one year United States Navy veteran with three tours to Vietnam and a forward deployed tour in Guam during the Vietnam War. He retired at the rank of Senior Chief (E-8) Sonar Technician. Following his naval career, he attended Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. This was followed by a Master's in Social Work from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He subsequently became a mental health therapist and substance abuse counselor which he pursued for nearly twenty years before retiring for health reasons. Mr. Rollinger was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Ashville Chapter #124** and The Fleet Reserve Association. He was also passionate in his support of the Clan MacMillan Association and had served as convener at the highland games in Charleston, South Carolina and at Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas. Graveside Services were at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at Kirby's Tucker Memorial Cemetery with Reverend Seamus Doyle officiating. Military Honors were provided by the Ozark VFW Post #3246 and the United States Navy Honor Guards. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Hospice of the Ozarks. Arrangements are by Kirby and Family Funeral and Cremation Services.



**RONALD ROSA** - Died Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital in Bozeman, Montana at the age of 71. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related colon cancer. He was born on August 6, 1942, to the late Rudolph and Helen Rosa in Long Beach, California. Ron served his country as a United States Marine in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1967. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Bozeman Chapter #788**. Ron worked as a police officer in Missoula, Montana, was a drug and alcohol counselor and most recently drove school bus. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, camping and every Redwings hockey game. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughters, Kelly (Tim) Sears and Lori Stone; sons, Anthony Rosa and Keith (Dawn) Collins; step-children, Brandi (Erin) O'Toole and Marty (sp) (Lauren) Kimball; sister, Janice Rosa; brother, Rick (Julie) Rosa; twelve grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren and his beloved cat, Penny Ann. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased by his sister, Beverly Rosa. Military honors took place at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Vietnam Wall at Sunset Hills Cemetery. A memorial service followed at 10:00 AM at the Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service. Memorials may be made to Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 11390 Bozeman, MT 59719. Arrangements were in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.

**RICHARD D. ROSE** – Died Monday, February 6, 2012 in Goleta, California at the age of 64. The cause of death is unknown. He was born October 20, 1947. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Santa Barbara Chapter #218**.

**GLENN EDWARD RUNNELS** - Died Monday, October 6, 2014, peacefully at the home he so lovingly built for his family, after a courageous battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis. He was 71 years of age and a resident of Acton, Maine. He was born in Rochester, New Hampshire to the late Othello and Pearl (née Wilkinson) Runnels and raised in Milton Mills, New Hampshire. He attended Nute High School and served in the United States Army, in the Korean Conflict. Most of his life was spent in the Milton, NH, Wolfeboro, NH and Acton, Maine area, where he worked for Diamond National before opening Glenn's Surplus Sales Stores in Wolfeboro, NH and West Ossipee, NH, which he operated for several years. Glenn volunteered with the Wakefield, NH and Acton, ME fire and ambulance services before he returned to school, graduating from SMTC as a Respiratory Therapist, working at Frisbie Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NH and Huggins Hospital in Wolfeboro, NH. When not working, he enjoyed spending time with family and friends, camping with the grandchildren brought him his greatest pleasure. Many years were spent restoring Hudson's, military vehicles and most recently his 1960 Lincoln Continental convertible. Glenn is an honorary member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Sanford Chapter #1044**, a past member of the American Legion. Survived by his wife of forty years: Jane (Elliott) Runnels of Acton, ME, two daughters: Llanna and husband Robert Griffin of Acton, ME, Wenona and husband James Holmes of Tuftonboro, five grandchildren: Darion and Ashley Holmes of Tuftonboro, Morgan Morrow, who spent the last six months tending to his every need, Isabella Morrow and Connor Griffin of Acton, ME, also several nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by a sister, June Horn of Milton NH and a brother Robert Runnels of Acton, ME. Calling hours were on Friday, October 10, 2014 from 10:00-12:00 Noon at the Peaslee Funeral Home, 2079 Wakefield Road in Sanbornville, NH. A graveside service was at 1:00 PM at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery in Springvale, Maine, with military honors by the United States Army. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his memory to the charity of one's choice.



**PETER CHARLES "Pete" RUSHER** - Died Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at home in bed, Hidden Valley Lake, California at the age of 63. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 19, 1950 in Tillamook, Oregon. His family moved to Orick, California where his dad had a gas distributorship and served as Supervisor in Humboldt County. He graduated from McKinleyville High School in '69, and then served in the United States Army Radio Communications in Vietnam during the war. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Merced Chapter #223**. He was proud to have played on the Hall of Fame College of the Redwoods basketball team, '71-'72. He married and had two boys, living in Santa Rosa, California most of his adult life. He made a living for many years as a propane truck driver. He enjoyed playing softball earlier in life. He loved eating out at restaurants, cooking, spending time with family and friends, and being with his two boys. He will be dearly missed and forever loved. Peter is survived by his son Casey, his son Guy, daughter in law Nichole and grandchildren Conor and Alyssa, his son's mother Lory McLellan, wife Tatyana and daughter Masha and family Hal, Michael, Jon and Emily, his sister, Gail,

Nephew Jay Christensen and family, the family of the late Jon Christensen, his sister, Sandie, and her children Gary and Kelly, dear friends Don Wardrip and Don Lewis of Humbolt County. starting 3:00 PM at Daniels Chapel of the Roses, 1225 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.



**RONALD ALLEN "Ron" RUTHENBERG** - Died Friday, June 27, 2014 at his home in Cumberland, Maryland at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born June 1, 1945 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to the late Walter William and Dorothy Barbara (née Horigan) Ruthenberg. He was a Veteran of the United States Army and served during the Vietnam Conflict. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Cumberland Chapter #172** and a VVA Honor guard; a member of the Allegany County Men's Bowling league; American Legion Farraday Post Frostburg; Cumberland Country Club where he loved to golf and be with his friends. He is survived by his wife Amanda Wilson Ruthenberg; a daughter Anne Owens and husband Steve, Cumberland; three sons Jeffrey Ruthenberg, Cumberland; Steven Ruthenberg and wife Linda, Milwaukee,WI; William Kanner and wife Virginie, Greenville,SC; one sister Sandra Mueller and husband Robert, Milwaukee,WI; one brother David Ruthenberg and wife Lynn, Marathon, FL; six grandchildren Hannah Ruthenberg, Milwaukee; Madison and Jensen Ruthenberg, Pulaski,Pa; Martin and Cedric Kanner, Greenville,SC; Stryder Owens, Cumberland; and one niece Jacqueline Mueller, Milwaukee. Family and friends were received from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church (16 Washington Street, Cumberland, MD). A Funeral Service was at 3:00 PM with Bishop Martin Townsend and the Reverend John Martin co-officiating. Inurnment was private at the Rose Hill Cemetery. Military Honors were accorded by the Vietnam Veterans Honor Guard at the cemetery. In honor of Ron's memory, donations may be sent to Allegany College Walter and Dorothy Ruthenberg Memorial Scholarship (12401 Willowbrook Road, Cumberland, MD 21502; (301) 784-5000); and Robert Packard Center for ALS Research at Johns Hopkins (5801 Smith Ave/ McAuley Suite 110; Baltimore,MD 21209-3652) Scarpelli Funeral Home, PA 108 Virginia Ave. Cumberland,MD [www.scarpellifh.com](http://www.scarpellifh.com) was in charge of arrangements.

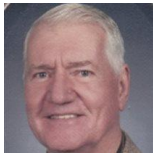
**LEE V. SANDERS** – Died recently in 2014 in Jackson, Mississippi at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 31, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Brandon Chapter # 1057**.

**ROBERT C. "Bob" SANFORD, SR.** – Died Monday, July 7, 2014 in Saint Cloud, Minnesota at the age of 75. The cause of death was cancer. He was born on February 17, 1939 in Park Rapids, Minnesota to the late Chester and Mathilda (née Knaack) Sanford. He married Kathleen Kirchberg on August 29, 1997. Bob proudly served his country in the United States Army for over 20 years until his retirement in 1976. He also worked as an irrigation contractor; owning and operating his own business. He was a member of Westwood Community Church and the Waite Park Legion Post #428. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Saint Cloud Chapter #290**. Bob loved golfing, fishing, hunting, traveling and camping. He often could be found in the hobby shops around town with his good friend Doug, as it was said to be his second home. When Bob wasn't in the hobby shops he could be found building RC planes and driving his cherished classic red Ford Ranchero. Bob loved spending time with his family;



especially supporting his grandchildren in their sporting events and he will be dearly missed. Bob is survived by his children, Bob (Sharyl) Sanford of Menhaga, Trish (Scott) Peterson of Fargo, ND, Brian (Cynthia) Kirchberg of Bradenton, FL, Julie (Chris) Laxson of Frederick, CO, Jillian (Drew Langston) Kirchberg of Inver Grove Heights; siblings, Don (Jan) Sanford of Phoenix, AZ, Carol (Larry) Crose of Hitterdal, Sharon Williams of Batesville, AK, Maureen "Reenie" Hensel of Park Rapids; 11 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. In addition to his parents he was also predeceased in death by beloved wife, Kathleen; his siblings, Betty, Dorothy and George. The Funeral Service was at 10:30 AM on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at the Westwood Community Church in Saint Cloud. Pastor Steve Schoepf officiated and burial was at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls. Visitation hours were on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Westwood Community Church in Saint Cloud and one hour prior to services on Thursday at the church. Arrangements were entrusted to the Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Saint Cloud. Memorials are preferred to The Wounded Warriors Project or the American Cancer Society.

**JAMES MICHAEL SCOLLEN** – Died Sunday, July 13, 2014 in Fort Myers, Florida at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 26, 1944. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – North Fort Myers Chapter #594**. Arrangements were made by the Hodges-Kiser Funeral Home.



**ANDREW THOMAS SHAKULA, SR.** - Died Friday, July 18, 2014 at Mid-Michigan Medical Center in Midland, Michigan at the age of 74. He was a resident of Lake, Michigan. The cause of death is unknown. He was the son of the late Rose Monarch on December 1, 1939, in Detroit, Michigan. Andrew married Lillian DeMeulenaere on October 21, 1960 in El Paso, Texas and she survives him. He had served in the United States Army during both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He had retired from the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Centerline. Lillian and Andrew moved to Lake in 1997 from Centerline. He was a member of the Brown Corners United Brethren in Christ Church, a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Roseville Chapter #154**, of Mt. Clemens, the VFW Post #5738, of Clare, Michigan and the DAV. He loved being outdoors, particularly fishing and hunting. Survivors include his wife, Lillian, his son, Andrew Jr. (Kristi Barlow) , daughter, Kimberley Shakula (Chad Ruby) all of Lake, his grandchildren, Hunter, Kristen, Tanner, and Erin, and great-granddaughter, Aleah, his brother, Ed (Carrol) Shakula of Shelby, and sister, Christine (Dennis) Marshall of Gaylord. He was preceded in death by his mother, step -fathers, Nicholas Shakula and Joseph Muszynski. Cremation has taken place and a public memorial service was held by his family on Saturday, August 2, 2014, at 1:00 PM at the Shakula family home, 10318 Ashard Road, Lake, Michigan, 48632.



**DAVID ELLIS SHIREY** - Died Wednesday, August 20, 2014 in Saint Clair Shores, Michigan at the age of 70. The cause of death is unknown. He was born August 14, 1944 in Springfield, Illinois. He was the beloved husband of Judith (née Slivik); loving father of Eric and Dayna; dear brother of the late Jeanie VanDyne, and; also survived by many nieces and nephews. He served in Vietnam in the United States Marine Corps and was a recipient of the Purple Heart. He was also a *Life Member*



of **Vietnam Veterans of America - Roseville Chapter #154** and the VFW Post #6691. Visitation was on Sunday from 3:00-8:00 PM with a Funeral service and Military Honors at 6:00 PM at the Kaul Funeral Home, 28433 Jefferson, Saint Clair Shores. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan or Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 154.



**PHILIP G. SMITH** - Died Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King, Wisconsin at the age of 65. He was a resident of Land O'Lakes, Wisconsin. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on April 8, 1948 in Appleton, Wisconsin the oldest of four children to the late Dean and Mayme (née Brum) Smith. He graduated from Appleton's Xavier High School in 1966, and spent a year at Saint Norbert Abbey in DePere, Wisconsin. Phil was affectionately called "Doc" in recognition of his decorated service as a combat medic with the First Air Cavalry Division of the United States Army in Vietnam. He was drafted by the Army in 1967, serving in Germany, then Vietnam. In Vietnam, he served with distinction. After surviving serious injury, he returned to Appleton in 1969. He found his calling helping veterans with their adjustment back into civilian life. For 20 years, he served as the veterans' employment representative in the Menasha Job Service office with the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of Wisconsin Job Service. He worked selflessly to secure employment for veterans with employers in the Fox River Valley, whose respect he gained. His enthusiasm, caring, and innovative approach to helping veterans were recognized with numerous awards, commendations, and letters of appreciation. He was an *At-Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Wisconsin*. During this period, Phil became actively involved in local Appleton and Wisconsin politics, assisting in a number of political campaigns. Phil moved to Land O'Lakes in 1994. He purchased his piece of paradise on Palmer Lake. Here he sought peace and quiet. But his service did not end as he continued to help veterans in the area and participate in numerous community activities and charities. He loved the outdoors. He photographed nature, communed with the eagles, fished and hunted. His eagle pictures adorn many desks. He will be dearly missed by his daughter, Cristina Marie Smith of Appleton; brothers, Robert (Jackie) Smith of Hortonville and Thomas F. (Mary) Smith of Greenville; sister, Mary Kay (Dan) Pennings of Cozumel, Mexico; and a special cousin and his family, Eugene M. (Susan) Clark, Jr. of Bettendorf, Iowa. Phil is also survived by nieces and nephews: Amy, Sara, Maureen, Dean, Andrea, Jamie, and Ben; other relatives and friends and his special dog, Annie. Preceding him in death include his parents; paternal grandparents, Chester and Wilhelmina Smith; and maternal grandparents, Philip and Angeline Brum. A memorial service was held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at Saint Bernard Catholic Church, 1617 West Pine Street, Appleton, with Fr. Dennis Ryan officiating. Visitation was held from 9:00 - 11:00 AM at the church. Military honors followed the service. Burial was held at Riverside Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established.



**GARRY LEE SPARKS, SR.** – Died Sunday, July 20, 2014 at his home in Corsicana, Texas at the age of 66. He was a long time resident of Euless, Texas until moving to Corsicana in 2008. The cause of death is unknown. Garry was born November 28, 1947 in Sulphur, Oklahoma to the late Lewis G and Vesta (née Guinn) Sparks. Garry attended school in Euless and joined the United States Marine Corps in 1967. He served proudly until his discharge in 1971. He served as a JetHelo Mechanic in Vietnam and received numerous

medals and badges including National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, Vietnam Service Medal, Rifle Marksman Badge, RVN Cross of Gallantry with Palm and Strike Flight Air Medal with 2-13th. Garry was a member of Vietnam Veterans Association Chapter 1009 In Corsicana and the USMC Combat Helicopter Association (popasmoke). Garry was employed as an Aero-motive Supervisor for Gulfstream until his retirement. Garry loved his spending time with his family, fishing and especially the time he spent with his fellow Veterans. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Corsicana Chapter #1009**. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of 46 years Melanie Kay Edwards Sparks and his brother Larry Sparks, Sr. He is survived by his son Garry Lee Sparks, Jr., four grandchildren Camron Sparks of Corsicana, Courtney Sparks of Corsicana, Meredith Sparks of Bedford and Michael Sparks of Bedford. Sister, Kaye Morrison and husband Dalton of Aledo; Sisters in law Johnnie Sparks of Burleson; Dinah Kohler and husband Paul of Euless; Pam Green and husband Larry of Coldspring; brother in law James Edwards and wife Adriana of Arlington, Virginia; two aunts, Beatrice Haas of Konawa, Oklahoma and Anita Sparks of Edwardsburg, Michigan; one uncle Mace Perry of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, along with numerous nieces, nephews and friends who will miss him beyond words. The family request that any one that would like to give a memorial instead of sending flowers please send to Vietnam Veterans Association at the following address: VVA, P.O. Box 1086, Corsicana, TX 75151.

**CHARLES B. SPERRY** – Died Wednesday, October 16, 2014 in Reno, Nevada at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 12, 1933. He served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Reno Chapter #989**. He was interred with full military honors in the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada.

**JAMES MORRIS STACKS** – Died Saturday, August 9, 2014 in Angola, Louisiana at the age of 79. The cause of death was congestive heart failure. He was born in Memphis, Tennessee on May 6, 1935. He served in the United States Marine Corps from October 11, 1952 to May 24, 1954 with a tour of duty in the Korean War from 1952 to 1953. He was a member of Camp F Vets and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Angola Chapter #689**.

**PAUL STALKER** – Died Wednesday, November 6, 2013 in Slidell, Louisiana at the age of 81. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on August 22, 1933. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Slidell Chapter #697**.



**FATHER LEONARD FERNANDO PETER STEGMAN** (CH, COL, US Army-Ret.) – Died Tuesday, August 12, 2014, while at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas at 11:00 PM as end of day TAPS was sounded for the facility. He died at age 97. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on May 31, 1917 in Offerle, Kansas, attended high school for two years at Plain, KS and for three years (because of Latin) at St. Lawrence Seminary, Mt. Calvary, WI. He was ordained as a Capuchin-Franciscan Priest on June 23, 1943 at St. Mary's Church, Marathon, WI. To prepare for priestly service and continue extensive post-ordination study, he attended St. Lawrence Seminary, Mt. Calvary, WI; Mary Immaculate Seminary, Garrison, NY; St. Anthony

Seminary, Marathon, WI; George Washington University and the Preacher's Institute of Catholic University, Washington, DC. Fr. Stegman achieved two Master's degrees (International Studies and Education) from George Washington University. After ordination, Father Stegman was assigned to parish and youth work in Michigan and Wisconsin. He gave retreats to the laity at Monte Alverno Retreat House in Appleton, WI and was a home missionary for almost three years. During that time, he preached parish missions and gave days of recollection and retreats to lay people and religious throughout the mid-western states. Father Stegman entered the United States Army Reserves in 1948 and later served as Chaplain of the Wisconsin Army National Guard. In April 1950, Chaplain Stegman was activated as an Army Chaplain and fulfilled assignments at several stateside Army posts and stations. He served in Japan and Korea during 1950-1951 and in Europe for six years. Chaplain Stegman served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. His duties at every level of the Army included assignments at 3rd Infantry Division; U. S. Army Air Defense Command, U. S. Army Vietnam; 3rd Army; Headquarters, Forces Command; and U. S. Army Materiel Command. He is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College and the Army War College. Chaplain Stegman retired in the grade of Colonel on May 31, 1977. His awards and decorations include two Silver Stars, Purple Heart, three Legions of Merit, Bronze Star, Korean Distinguished Unit Citation, German and Japanese occupation medals, Korean Service Medal (with four battle stars), United Nations medal for service in Korea, and two American defense ribbons. After retiring from the Army in 1977, Father Stegman remained in the Washington, DC area and ministered energetically in both civilian and military parishes. In 1988, he moved to San Antonio, Texas. There he continued a three-state supervision of World Wide Marriage Encounter as well as parish ministry in local churches. He participated extensively in local, state, and national Veterans Service Organizations, including the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). He served as National Chaplain for KWVA from Sept 2005 to June 2007 and National Chaplain for MOPH from August 2004 to August 2006. He was a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – San Antonio Chapter #366*. During his service in San Antonio, Father Stegman celebrated the Mass for the Korean community and was instrumental in obtaining a native Korean pastor for the congregation as they began to establish and build their Korean parish. Father Stegman also supported Deacon Philip Kim in his response to the call and to his ordination to priesthood. 71 Years a Priest, "Father Len" served the military community by celebrating the Mass at Randolph Air Force Base, Fort Sam Houston and Lackland Air Force Base. He served as Chaplain Emeritus of both the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Korean War Veterans Association. In the civilian community, he ministered to the local congregations at St. Monica's and St. Pius X in the diocese of San Antonio, Texas and celebrated daily Mass at the Incarnate Word Village Community. He was the recipient of the David E. White Lifetime Achievement Award from the Military Chaplains of America. The award recognized that chaplain that best personifies by spirit and acts, the concept of "Chaplain for Life". Fr. Stegman is survived by his sister Estelle Huelskamp (Leroy) of Fowler KS, and 70 nephews and nieces. Attending the funeral are Congressman Tim Huelskamp (KS), Tom Huelskamp (KS), Leonard Stegman (CO), Chuck Stegman (CA), Daniel Stegman (WA), Susan Pittman (WA), Sandy Whitlatch (AZ), Jeanne Goodwin (AZ), Linda Minnick (CO), Tony Naab (CA) and Frank Stegman (MN). All Military Chaplains attending the funeral are to be at Pius X Church no later than 10AM for Procession of Chaplains/Pastors. In lieu of flowers, contributions may

be made to Capuchin Franciscans in Detroit, 1740 Mount Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207 and to the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, Inc. 7008 Little River Turnpike PO Box 49, Annandale, VA. Visitation and Rosary was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 7:00 PM at Chapel of the Incarnate Word At 4301 Broadway San Antonio, Texas. Funeral Mass was celebrated on Thursday, August 21, 2014 At 11:00 AM at Pius X Catholic Church at 3909 Harry Wurzbach, San Antonio, Texas. Interment with full Military Honors was on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at 1:30 PM at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, 1520 Harry Wurzbach Road, San Antonio, Texas.



**BERNARD MARSHALL STRAUSS** - Died peacefully on Sunday, July 6, 2014 at Allegheny General Hospital surrounded by his loving family. He was 72 years of age and a resident of Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania to the late Gerald and Marie Strauss on July 17, 1941. He is a graduate of Monaca High School and Geneva College. In 1966 Bernard was drafted into the United States Army where he served in the 66th Finance Section at Fort Campbell, KY. He spoke fondly of his time in the Army where he was named Soldier-of-the-Month and received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and Sharpshooter Badge. Following his military service, he began his career at Firestone in sales management before starting a life-long career in the home improvement industry, first at Busy Beaver then as Co-Owner of Jordan Home Improvement and finally as Owner of Built-Rite Construction. He also served for a time as President of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Association of The Remodeling Industry. For many years, Bernie, as he was known to family and friends, was a member of the Agudith Achim Jewish Community Center in Beaver Falls, PA where he was very involved with the Board and also served a term as President. Bernie strongly believed in community service and was one of the principals responsible for the development of the Beaver County Flag Plaza in Rochester, PA. He was also deeply committed to his work with the Vietnam Veterans and enjoyed membership in various service and social organizations including the Aliquippa Elks, Eagles and Ukrainian Club. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Freedom Chapter #862**. Bernie was most comfortable in a suit and tie, although he loved 'roughing it' at Father-Daughter Girl Scout Camp during the summers when his girls were young. He enjoyed dancing to the 'oldies' and was a wonderful cook. Bernie will be greatly missed. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Patti Rosen and brothers, Howard Strauss and Jerry Strauss. Left to cherish many good memories are his wife, Phyllis R. Strauss, Beaver Falls, PA; daughter, Wendy B. Strauss, New York, NY; daughter and son-in-law, Dana and Michael Brieck and granddaughter, Alayna Rose Brieck, Darlington, PA; sisters, Barbara Heyman, Conway, PA; Dennese and Joel Kirschner, Englishtown, NJ; brothers, Jay and Dana Strauss, Hermitage, PA; Allen and Bette Strauss, Mays Landing, NJ; sister-in-law, Shirley Strauss, Monaca, PA; numerous nieces and nephews, and very special friends, Jerry Gagne and Cameron Adamson. A Memorial Service was held on Sunday, August 3, 2014 at 11:30 AM at the Beaver Valley Golf Club, 725 Sixth Avenue, Patterson Heights, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Memorial donations may be made, in Bernie's name, to Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #862, 140 Knobvue Drive, Freedom, PA 15042.



**RALPH STEPHEN "Steve" TAYLOR** - Died Thursday, August 21, 2014 in La Grange, Texas at the age of 73. The cause of death was cancer. He was born in Lubbock, Texas on June 27, 1941 to the late Raymond "Bill" Oscar Taylor and Mildred Monnell (née Thompson) Taylor. He married Barbara Louise Chamlee on June 24, 1978 in Pasadena, Texas. Steve served in the United States Marine Corps from 1960-1969. He was a humble leader in the Vietnam War and is looked up to by many of his troops all over the U.S. for his fearlessness, courage and leadership. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Schulenburg Chapter #870**. He worked as a Pipefitter for 26 years. He enjoyed reading and keeping busy working with his wood projects. He was a loyal husband, loving father and would lend a helping hand to anyone that needed it. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, of 36 years; daughter, Stephanie Taylor and boyfriend, Josh Zimmerman, of Houston, TX; sister, Sharon Self of Conroe, TX; brother, Phil Taylor and wife, Francis, of Pearland, TX; two nieces: Jaynie Self Hutchison and husband, Rick, and their daughter LeighAnna of Taylor Lake Village, TX; Karla Self Butler and husband, Pat, and their children, Meganne, Josh, Morgan and Dori, of Georgia; nephew, Flint Taylor Self and wife, Michelle, and their daughter Jayden and son Chance, of Houston, TX. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his brother-in-law, Ron Self. Visitation was held on Friday, August 29, 2014 from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home. Family received friends from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Funeral Services were held at the Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home, 208 West Pearl Street, La Grange, Texas at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 30, 2014. The Pallbearers were: Burt Blaha, Roger Blaschke, David Janda, Bob Ashlock, Calvin Noland, and John Bray. Honorary Pallbearers are: Rick Hutchinson, Flint Self, Andy Kruppa, Preston and Eric Lange. Burial was at the La Grange City Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.



**MARION RAMSEY THURMOND, JR.** - Died Wednesday, June 4, 2014 in Dunn, North Carolina at the age of 69. The cause of death is unknown. He was born April 21, 1945 in Augusta, Georgia, the second oldest child of Marion and Nora Thurmond. When Marion was one year old, the family moved from Augusta, Georgia to Buffalo, New York. He accepted Christ at a young age, and was baptized at St. John Baptist Church in 1952. He was also a faithful member of Hood Memorial Christian Church in Dunn, NC. He attended Buffalo Public Schools #17 & 74, and graduated from Bennett High School, where he excelled in sports. He played football, basketball, and was a star on the Bennett Track and Field Team. He became affectionately known as "Sway Bop" during this time; because of the way his head would sway and bop as he ran. He graduated from Bennett in 1963, and went on to further his education at Paine College in Augusta, GA. While attending Paine, he was also a standout runner. During a historic meet at Florida A&M, he came in 2nd place in the 100yrd Dash against Bob Hayes, who was then the fastest man in the world. In 1967 Marion was drafted into the United States Army. After boot camp in the same year, he was deployed to Vietnam where he served on the front line. He was critically wounded on two occasions, and returned home to Walter Reed Hospital for treatment and rehabilitation. He spent eight months there, where he was awarded two Purple Hearts, and numerous medals for bravery, combat, and service to his country during the war. After an honorable discharge from the Army, Marion was employed by RP Adams and American Precision until his retirement. The

major highlight in Marion's life was his family. He loved fishing and having family fish fries, where he could brag about his latest "Big Catch". He was a big prankster, and always made you laugh. One of his favorite past times, was spoiling and spending time with his children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He also loved to sing, and would challenge anyone who would accept. While in Buffalo Marion was an active member of the American Legion Bennett Wells Post #1780; and after moving to Dunn, he became involved with as a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Johnston County Chapter #990**. His memory will live on in the hearts of all that knew him; especially for his funny, kind and generous heart. Marion was preceded in death by his brother James Nathaniel Thurmond, and wife Linda E. Thurmond. He leaves to cherish his memory: his parents; Marion Sr. and Nora Thurmond two sisters; Cynthia White (Clinton), Gwendolyn Lambert, Four brothers: Laverne (Sharon), Dennis, Michael (Davitta), and Bradford, one son: Adrian P. Thurmond, two daughters: Diondrea R. Thurmond, Faith B. Thurmond, and seven grandchildren: Kristin, Christopher, Ashley, A'kyah, T'eryn, J'anah, Ryan, and Olivia, as well as a host of other family and friends. Family received friends on Saturday, June 21, 2013, 10:00 AM at Saint John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell Street, Buffalo, NY. The funeral was at 11:00 AM.

**RONALD E. TIPPLE** – Died Wednesday, September 3, 2014 in Lancaster, Ohio after a short battle with cancer at the age of 73. He was born on April 16, 1941 in Lancaster to the late Isabel and Herman Tipple who predeceased him. He is also preceded in death by his infant son, Jason; brother; sister and stepbrother. He is survived by his wife, Carol (née Vickroy) Tipple; stepchildren, Susan and Krys Sargent; granddaughters and Ron's pride and joy, Carolina and Morgan Sargent; stepdaughter, Stephanie Freeman; sister, Shirley Mosier; Ron's five children and their children. Ron was a veteran of the United States Army, belonged to the American Legion Post #11, Amvets Post #1985, VFW #1516 and the 40 et 8. He was also a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Lancaster Chapter #1045**. He is retired from security at Hide-A-Way Hills Club. He enjoyed sitting on his deck with his best friend, AJ his dog, drinking a beer and watching traffic and nature. Per Ron's request, there were no calling hours and cremation has taken place. Burial was at Saint Mary Cemetery. Thank you to Rebekah from Day & Manofsky Funeral Service, all of the caring health care staff at FMC, a special thank you to Dr. Joseph Ginty, nurse Melissa (Go Browns!) and the staff. Memorial contributions can be made to FairHoPe Hospice, 282 Sells Road, Lancaster, OH 43130.

**BRIAN PATRICK TORPPEY** – Died Sunday, April 6, 2014 in Orlando, Florida at the age of 67. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 15, 1947. He is survived by his wife, Susan, of the home. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Elizabeth (New Jersey) Chapter #779**.



**WALTER G. TUTTLE, SR.** - Died Monday, April 5, 2010 in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania with his son by his side after a long battle with cancer. He was 63 years of age. He was born on June 9, 1946 in Binghamton, New York to the late Walter and Myrtle Tuttle. He was a graduate of Syracuse University and was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps who served in the Vietnam War. He was an allowance specialist at the Mechanicsburg Naval Inventory Control Point, with almost 30 years of employment. He was a



member of Lower Allen VFW Post 7530, Chambersburg Marine Corps League, a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Harrisburg Chapter #542* and several other clubs and organizations. Surviving are his son, Walter G. Tuttle, Jr. and his wife Shawn of Camp Hill; and a grandson, Alexander Tuttle, and a granddaughter, Morgan Tuttle, both of Camp Hill. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday at Myers-Harner Funeral Home, 1903 Market Street, Camp Hill, with the Reverend George Spangler officiating. A viewing was held on Friday from 9:00 AM until the time of the service in the funeral home. Burial with military honors was in the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery in Annville, Pennsylvania.

**GARY FRANKLIN VANCENA** – Died suddenly at his home in Adrian, Michigan on Sunday, August 10, 2014 at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born in Monroe, Michigan on April 25, 1943. He graduated from Monroe High School in 1961. Gary served in the United States Army in Vietnam (1967-68), where he earned the Purple Heart. He retired from the Delphi Corporation in Adrian, Michigan in 2001. Gary was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Monroe Chapter #142** and a life-long member of VFW Post 1138 in Monroe, Michigan. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Adrian, where he served as a deacon. Gary was well known in the Adrian and Monroe areas as disc jockey “Daddy G Knight.” His energetic style of entertainment added joy to many an occasion. He also donated his talents and countless hours to charity events in the area. Gary is survived by his wife, Cindy; sons Mitchell (Kristin Goetz), Jeffrey of Adrian, Rev. Aaron (Amy) Jeffrey of Dallas, Texas, and Brian (Alyse) Jeffrey of Atlanta, Ga.; daughter Tina Szczepanski of Adrian, and seven grandchildren: Keith, Isabelle, Griffin, Grahm, Payton, Sarah, and Caitlyn Jeffrey. He is also survived by his brothers, Ronald (Diane) Vancena of Walbridge, Ohio and Raymond Rose of Erie, and sister Kathy Rose of Erie. He was preceded in death by his brother, Roger Vancena, and his parents. Cremation has taken place. A celebration of Gary’s life was held at Noon on Friday, August 15, 2014, at the post home of Monroe Post #1138, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 400 Jones Avenue, Monroe, Michigan.



**BRUCE FRANCIS VIGUE** – Died Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014 in Redlands, California at the age of 79. The cause of death was Parkinson’s Disease. He was born in Skowhegan, Maine on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 1934 to the late Francis C. and Marion E. (née Raynes) Vigue. Bruce was a graduate of Skowhegan High School, class of 1952. He has been a resident in Riverside County in California since 1971. Tech. Sgt. Vigue served in the Korean and Vietnam War with the United States Air Force. He was stationed at various bases in Colorado, Alaska, Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Texas, California, Guam, Okinawa, Thailand, ending his Air Force career at Kincheloe Air Force Base in Michigan with 21 years eight months and 24 days of service. Tech. Sgt. Vigue was a recipient of the Bombardier Award and the Air Medal with 13 Oak Leaf clusters for Meritorious Flight Achievements. Tech. Sgt. Vigue is a member of the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots association for successfully striking targets located in Red River Valley of North Vietnam facing MIGs, Sams & Guns defending those targets. Because of Tech. Sgt. Vigue's professional actions as a B-52 Tail Gunner, while at U-Tapao Thailand, Tech Sgt. Vigue shall forever be known as a "Bonus Dealer," having dealt "Charlie" a bad hand!!! During TDY assignments to Guam, Okinawa and Thailand, Tech. Sgt. Vigue completed 297 Southeast Asia B-52 combat missions. Upon retiring from the Air Force,

Bruce was employed by the U.S. Postal Service at the San Bernardino service center as a dock supervisor for 22 years. He was very proud to refer to himself as a "Double Dipper." Bruce had many hobbies that included deep sea fishing, target shooting (making special reloads for himself and his "shooting buddies"), prairie dog and wild pig hunting, and Harley riding with his son, Rodney, to Missouri, Death Valley and Arizona. He also went on several vacations where he would walk down to the bottom of the Grand Canyon to camp for a week. Most of all Pops enjoyed his camp and cruising Lake Wesserunsett on his Pontoon Boat. From his cabin he would sit in his chair and watch the fish jump while he waited for Louie and Madelyn (Loons) to paddle around and dive in the rain or shine. Bruce is a member of the American Legion Post 0426 in Yucaipa, Calif., Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #7865 in Madison, Maine, and **Vietnam Veterans of America – Riverside Chapter #47**. Bruce "Pops" is preceded in death by his sister, Barbara, in 2006. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou, of 52 years; son Rodney K. (wife Pamela), of Bermuda Dunes, Calif.; daughter Tina L. (husband Alan Meservey), of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; four grandchildren, Cody, Bret, Kala Meservey and Chase Vigue; one great-granddaughter; brother Joel Vigue, of Pennsylvania; and a very special brother-in-law, Everett Salsbury, of Canaan, Maine. A graveside service was observed at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, Riverside, Calif.

**DANIEL P. VOLPE** – Died Wednesday, January 9, 2013 in Coram, New York at the age of 65. The cause of death is unknown. He was born on January 29, 1948. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hicksville Chapter #82**.



**ALAN C. WADE** - Died Wednesday August 6, 2014 at the Chestatee Regional Hospital at the age of 68. He was a resident of Dawsonville, Georgia. The cause of death was heart failure. He was born December 14, 1945 in Gainesville, Hall County, Georgia to the late Marvin and Ruby Wade. He had lived in Lumpkin County for the past 10 years having moved from Cumming, Georgia. Mr. Wade worked for many years in the pricing machine industry and retired from Belt, Inc. Alan was a United States Marine Corps veteran of Vietnam. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Dawsonville Chapter #970**. He was a member of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church and formerly Midway United Methodist Church. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing. Surviving are his wife of 47 years, Jean Wade, Dawsonville; daughter and son in law, Lauren and Chas Brooks, Bluffton, SC; grandsons, Britton Brooks, Braiden Brooks, Benjamin Brooks; sister and brother in law, Carolyn and Lamar Rice, Gainesville. Memorial services were held Saturday August 16, 2014 at 3:00 PM at the Bearden Funeral Home Chapel. Reverend Andrew Harwood officiated. The family received friends beginning at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Veterans Alliance, 2286 Seven Mile Hill Road, Dahlonga, GA 30533. Condolences may be expressed at [www.beardenfuneralhome.com](http://www.beardenfuneralhome.com). Bearden Funeral Home in Dawsonville, Georgia was in charge of arrangements.

**ROBERT MADISON WEATHERSBY** – Died recently in 2014 in Cantonment, Florida at the age 76. The cause of death is unknown. He was born January 1, 1938. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Tampa Chapter #787**.

**PATRICK M. WHITTY** – Died Saturday, July 13, 2013 in Tualatin, Oregon at the age of 68. The cause of death is unknown. He was born March 30, 1944. He served in the United States Navy. He was an *At-Large Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Oregon**. He was interred in the Willamette National Cemetery in Oregon.



**ROBERT O. WILLIAMS** – Died Thursday, December 12, 2013 at the CVPH Medical Center in Plattsburgh, New York at the age of 79. He was a resident of West Chazy, New York. The cause of death was Agent Orange-related Ischemic Heart Disease. He was born in Carthage, New York on January 30, 1934 to the late Langford and Marian (née Huse) Williams. Robert attended Western High School in Washington, D.C. He married the former Irene C. Bedard on February 5, 1959, at Saint Joseph's Church in West Chazy. Robert served our country for 20 years as a member of the United States Air Force from 1954 to 1974, retiring as Master Sergeant. During this time he served two tours in Southeast Asia, including Vietnam and Thailand. He loaded bombs on fighters and bombers (B-52's) at sea. He was very proud of his service in the Air Force and received many Medals of Honor. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Hudson Falls Chapter #79**. After retiring from the service, Robert worked for 20 years as a machine operator at Imperial Wallcovering in Plattsburgh. He was a member of the VFW American Legion, the B-52 Association, the Air Commando Association, and the Thailand, Laos, Cambodia Association. Robert loved being with his family and friends and enjoyed sharing stories of his time in the military. He also enjoyed collecting Vietnam and Thailand memorabilia. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Irene Williams of West Chazy; a son, Robert Williams, Jr. of Burlington, VT; a daughter, Mary Anne Bizga-Williams and Robert Bizga of West Chazy; and one grandson, Andrew Bizga. Calling hours and funeral services were private and held at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations may be made to the West Chazy Volunteer Fire Department.



**DONALD WILLIAM WOLGAST, JR.** - Died Thursday, September 4, 2014 at UnityPoint Health-Trinity, Rock Island Illinois at the age of 67. He was a resident of Rock Island. He was born April 8, 1947, in Aurora, Illinois to the late Donald William Wolgast and Mildred Naomi (née Haight) Cooper Wolgast. He married Janet Louise Jeffery on March 7, 1966 in Naperville, Illinois. One daughter was born from this marriage. They divorced on February 28, 1967. He married Deborah Lee Miller on August 23, 1969 in San Jose, California. Don enlisted in the United States Navy on September 24, 1964, with a deferred active duty date to be after high school graduation. He graduated from Naperville Community High School, class of 1965. He was called to active service on March 7, 1966. In June of 1966 he received orders to U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FOUR (SeaBees) and spent most of his time with them until mid-1969 in the Northern I-Corp of Vietnam in many different locations. After his last tour in Vietnam, Don was selected as NESEP Staff at the NROTC Center at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. He completed his BA in Mathematics during the next three years cum laude with memberships in Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies. On graduation he accepted a commission as a Naval Officer. He then served as a Deck Officer on

the USS Elmer Montgomery and the USS Guadalcanal until his discharge on May 24, 1974 with an honorable discharge when medical problems started to surface. These medical problems were considered by the Navy as due to pre-existing conditions. During his tours in Vietnam, Don was heavily exposed to dioxins (Agent Orange) and many of the maladies associated with that until his death. Very few people knew what he was dealing with because he hid it very well until close to the end when he started to deteriorate rapidly. Don had an interesting career with jobs as a secondary level Math teacher at an inner city school in Portsmouth, Virginia, as a contractor to NASA twice (at Langley and at Kennedy), Idaho National Engineering Labs in Idaho Falls, Idaho during which time he did graduate work in Computer Science, ten months as an agent of a foreign government with PEMEX, and various positions on the Rock Island Arsenal as a contractor, then a federal employee, and a contractor again. Don was a Golden Eagle member of the NRA, a life member of the Seabee Veterans of America, the VFW, and a *Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America – Rock Island Chapter #299*. What meant more to him than anything else, however, was his wife and family. He cooked Sunday lunch for the whole family and many friends every Sunday until he could no longer do that. Then the task was taken up by rotating other family members. This tradition will be continued. In addition to his parents, he also predeceased by his two younger sisters, Mary and Judy. He is survived by his loving wife, by daughters Amy Rae Moser of Bay St Louis, Mississippi, Mary Elizabeth (Tom) Gambucci of Davenport, Iowa, Connie (Lisa) Wolgast of Anna Maria Island, Florida, Theresa Schulz of Bettendorf, Iowa, and Margaret Wolgast of Bettendorf, Iowa, his brother James Bruce Cooper of East Moline, and foster son Bill (Andrea) Kleckner of East Moline and six grandchildren, Anna Gambucci, Catherine Gambucci, Anthony Gambucci, Victoria Gambucci, Madeline Schulz, and Selene Schulz, and finally his dog, "Bernard". Services for Don were at 10:00 AM on Monday at the Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home, 3030-7th Avenue, Rock Island. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial was in the Rock Island National Cemetery, where military honors were conducted by the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #299.

**JAMES T. YANCY** – Died recently in 2014 in Graterford, Pennsylvania at the age of 71. The cause of death is unknown. He was born February 3, 1943. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a member of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Graterford Chapter #466**.

**JAMES W. YOUNG, JR.** – Died Thursday, February 13, 2014 in Hardy, Kentucky at the age of 75. The cause of death is unknown. He was born November 26, 1938. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He was a *Life Member* of **Vietnam Veterans of America – Henlawson (West Virginia) Chapter #308**.

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

FATHER PHILIP G. SALOIS, M.S.

National Chaplain