

310 Dispatch

**Never again shall
a veteran coming
home from battle
be made to feel
alone and
unappreciated!**



*Together We Make
A Difference*

*Charles S. Kettles
Chapter 310*



January 2022

Washtenaw County,
Michigan



Editor's Note

From the Dispatch Team: Reasons to Be Joyful.

1. That we live in the greatest country in the world
 2. That we can support Veterans in need.
 3. That we are associated with the people of VVA310/AVVA.
 4. That we can be good and do good--and that's all we need to do.
 5. That we have family and friends to share and support our joy for life.
- Happy New Year!

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**Happy New Year -- 2022
May we live with good health and joy!**

President's Message

By Stan Harrison

In December, as always, your Chapter donated thousands of dollars' worth of undergarments to the VA hospital in Ann Arbor. It is a need that they have come to count on us to fill. We also dropped off some neat, embroidered shirts as presents for the patients there. In past years, we have distributed them in person in a party-like atmo-



sphere; but, due to Covid-19, we had to rely on the staff to pass them out.

We can do this and more thanks to the generous support of our donors, who responded to our annual appeal. Because of their gifts, we will do even more next year. Next month, we will be furnishing a brand-new apartment for a homeless veteran, in cooperation with Dexter Faith In Action. Joe Palazzolo is leading our efforts on this project. He was still looking for bedroom furniture and area rugs, the last I knew.

We do for veterans because of who we are. We are who we are because we were who we were and did what we did. If you know someone else who did what we did (answered the call) and served in the US military between 1964 and 1975, ask them to join us. They can go to our website at www.vva310.org for all of the information they will need. We have been doing well at attracting new members; and, with your help, we can continue to

grow.

Until next time, stay safe, and stay proud.

Chaplain's Corner — January 2022

By Gordon Moore



We are about to start a new year after nearly two years of Covid-19 and no immediate end in sight. This can lead to uncertainty and unrest if we focus on what

is happening instead of what God has promised. To bridge this gap, we look upward through the eyes of Scripture and His Spirit.

Psalm 130:

Out of the depths have I cried unto you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If you, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with You that You may be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait, and in His word do I hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous

redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Psalm 133:

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.

Psalm 136:

O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for His mercy endures forever. O give thanks to the Lord of Lords: for His mercy endures forever. To Him who alone does great wonders: for His mercy endures forever. To Him, that by wisdom made the heavens: for His mercy endures forever. To Him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for His mercy endures forever. To Him that made great lights: for His mercy endures forever. The sun to rule by day: for His mercy endures forever. The

moon and stars to rule
by night: for His mercy
endures forever.

Life is peaceful when we look
to the author of life amid our
circumstances and remember his
promises are filled with mercy. And
His mercy endures forever, unlike
creation that fades away and
grows old and must be replenished
with regularity.

Let us give thanks to the Lord this
New Year and bring Him glory
through our words and actions.

Peace and blessings.

VVA 310 Chapter Meeting Minutes

By Jon Luker, Secretary

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310
Regular Membership Meeting
Minutes**

9 December 2021

Call to Order by Secretary Luker at
1905 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer: Berry Bourne

Moment of Silence for POW/MIA'S,
their families, and those serving in
hazardous places worldwide.

Roll Call: A quorum was
established. Welcome Home,
Everyone!

New Members: None.

Guests: None.

Motion by Throneberry/Wilson to
approve the November Minutes

as published in the Dispatch.
Approved.

Officer Reports:

President's Report:

No Report (Excused)

Treasurer's Report:

Berry Bourne. Reports were
emailed to the Board. Reports are
also available to members and
others via email on request. This
month, we had many transactions
due to donations and purchases
for the Charles S. Kettles VA
Hospital Christmas giveaway.
Merchandise sold more coins. I
still believe we will end the year
with \$11,000 + net revenue more
than the \$2,100 deficit our budget
projected. No questions.

AVVA Report:

Driscoll. Please see the report in
the Dispatch. We have 120 new
wrist bracelets for our fundraiser.
They come in two sizes. Again, we
are collecting toys for the Toys for
Tots drive this year.

Committee Reports:

Merchandise: Bourne. We
conducted a physical inventory
and made a few adjustments as
a result. The committee has a
complete list of items to prepare
their purchases for next year.

**Washtenaw County Council of
Veterans:** The Council's next
meeting will be in January. The
location has not been decided yet.

Michigan State Council: Luker. The
next meeting will be on 7 March in
Plymouth, sponsored by Chapter
528. The annual meeting will be
held in Dearborn on 21-22 May.
The State Council would like our
Chapter to contribute articles to

the State website. AVVA has more
members now than VVA. VVA is at
88,903. 18 December is Wreaths
Across America at Great Lakes.
Talk to Fredo if you want to go. If
enough want to go, we may use
my bus. The National Convention
will be in Orlando in 2023, and the
leadership conference will be from
9 – 13 August in Greenville, SC.
VVA benefits section is looking
to place a VSO in the Ann Arbor
area. We discussed our resolution
to amend our membership
requirements, but the issue was
not voted on. It will be addressed in
January, and then a more effective
strategy will be put in place to shop
it around before submitting it to
the Constitution Committee.

Memorial Maintenance: Luker.
We have been unable to find a
builder – not even for pay. If you
have suggestions, please let me
know. If you know people in the
construction business who might
be willing to help us, please ask
them and, if interested, have them
contact me (or let me know so I
can get them). We will also send
out requests for bids for weed, bug,
slug control and fertilizer, and other
treatments. A suggestion was to
consider using sustainable, low-
maintenance native plants instead
of grass.

Website: McCrumb. No report.

Membership: No report.

Newsletter: Kinzinger said that
we got the electronic version out
today and will have the printed
version ready to pick up so George
Perrault can do his mailing task
late tomorrow. Technical issues
were causing the delay.

Healthcare: Wilson. The U of M has

already begun to postpone serious medical services because of the demands of Covid-19 patients. Expect the same to happen at the VA. To protect others, you should get your shots and your booster as soon as you can. If you get Covid-19, take vitamin C and D.

Several of us from the National Agent Orange Committee met with the Air Force and the VA representatives. It looks like the specimens will be moved either to the U of M or to Wayne State.

A researcher is sure he can prove male-mediated congenital disabilities from toxic exposure from military service. The study will cost about \$300,000. He will not take government money to preserve the integrity of the research. Therefore, we should consider how to help raise funds for this project.

Finally, the VFW building has been closed for one month due to the significant number of people who have been in the building who tested positive for Covid-19. The building will be allowed to settle, get a professional deep cleaning, and settle before reopening.

LTCCSKMC: Kinzinger. It's Christmas time. We have two drop-offs planned. We are dropping five thousand dollars worth of underwear. A week later, we plan to drop off the embroidered shirts. The plan is that the VA will have a cart at the door. We'll load the carts, and VA people will take the gifts to Voluntary Services. Then nurses will come down from each floor and get what they need. The VA has agreed that the nurses will take pictures when they distribute the clothing on their floor.

Also, Bob Bull was hospitalized for Covid-19. He will be released to home tomorrow but quarantined because his wife also has Covid-19. Both are expected to recover.

WACU will hold its annual Christmas party this weekend. They will be giving gifts to about 60 children.

Old Business:

Motion by Sandie Wilson, seconded by Dale Throneberry, to furnish one apartment unit at Hilltop in Dexter, not to exceed \$1,500. Approved.

A shout-out to Joe Palazzolo, who already has most of the work done.

New Business:

Motion by Berry Bourne, seconded by John Kinzinger, to hold the annual Recognition Dinner in late April or early May, when the Union Hall is available. Approved.

A shout-out to Wendy Hibbits, who agreed to chair the Recognition Dinner committee with Stan Harrison as co-chair.

Motion by Sandie Wilson, seconded by John Kinzinger, to arrange a Pig Roast fundraiser in coordination with, and held at, the Saline American Legion. Approved.

Good of the Order:

Luker (for Merritt). Breakfast on 11 January 2022: TBD.

Closing Prayer: John Kinzinger

Flag Salute

Meeting Adjourned at 1953 hrs.

**From Dispatch Team:
Happy New Year!**

AVVA Report -- January 2022

By Kathy Driscoll,
AVVA President

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and all our members infected with Covid-19 recover quickly without long-term side effects.

Please encourage all your family and friends to get their vaccines!

Covid-19 Update from Health Department Washtenaw County Michigan

There is still evidence of community spread locally. Residents can assume there is a possibility that the virus may be present when they are in public places in the community. Everyone should be using all recommended prevention measures when out in public or gathering with others not living in the same house (face coverings, distance, hand cleaning).

Updated: December 21, 2021, at 3:45 pm

This page on a mobile device is best viewed in horizontal or landscape mode if you view this page.

Case total table and charts are updated on **Monday and Thursday**. Probable case counts and demographic tables are updated on **Thursday only**. The past 24-hour case count will be updated daily, **Monday – Friday**. The "Weekly Summary of Key Covid-19 Indicators in Washtenaw County" is updated weekly on **Fridays**.

State and local data is also updated on the [Michigan coronavirus website](#) on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.**

Please note that these charts' information is provisional and subject to change. Use care interpreting.

Total cases include Outpatient, Hospitalized, Deceased, and Recovered individuals.

Confirmed cases: Tested individuals with a laboratory-confirmed positive result.

Probable cases: Individuals directly linked or in close contact with a confirmed case and have symptoms consistent with Covid-19 but did not have confirmatory testing.

Students: College students living locally are included in Washtenaw County case counts.

Boosters and Additional Doses

The Washtenaw County Health Department is now offering Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson booster doses at our 555 Towner clinics in Ypsilanti. Please bring your vaccination card and identification, if possible. See pop-up clinic details to see which vaccines are available at specific pop-ups.

Covid-19 vaccines continue to be widely available from local [providers and pharmacies](#). See the CDC's statement on vaccine boosters [here](#).

For those who received an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) Covid-19 vaccine: [The following groups are eligible](#) for a booster shot at six months or more after their initial series: adults 65+, adults 18+ who

live in long-term care settings, adults 18+ who have underlying medical conditions, and adults 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings.

Individuals who received a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine should get a Covid-19 booster dose at least two months after their initial dose.

For those with moderately to severely compromised immune systems who received Pfizer or Moderna initially: [As previously recommended](#), people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems should receive an additional dose of mRNA Covid-19 vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) at least 28 days after the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. This additional dose is intended to improve the response of immunocompromised people to their initial vaccine series.

Those eligible for a booster may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose from the Health Department. We recommend speaking with your health care provider for advice for questions about which booster to receive. As stated above, pop-up clinics may not have all three boosters available.

Here are the websites to request a vaccination:

<https://www.washtenaw.org/3269/COVID-19-Vaccination>

<https://www.uofmhealth.org/coronavirus/vaccine-info-update>

<https://www.stjoeshealth.org/health-and-wellness/covid-19/vaccine>

<https://ihacares.com/resources/covid19/covid-19-vaccine>

Meijer, CVS, and Kroger Pharmacies are taking vaccine registrations. If you shop at Meijer, CVS, or Kroger, please check the pharmacies for more information.

Please let me know if you need anything. AVVA and VVA 310 have resources available to assist you.

Chapter Happenings!

Thanks to all who supported our Wrist Story Bracelet and Raffle at the Recognition Dinner, AVVA 310 donated \$500 to Fisher House Michigan Patriot Fundraiser in November 2021. This brings our total donations to Fisher House Michigan to \$12,200.00.

We have received 120 donated Wrist Story Bracelets. Contact Kathy Driscoll if you would like one. All proceeds will go to Fisher House, Michigan. We received 20 Christmas ornaments with the bracelets.

We donated an additional \$100 to Fisher House Michigan from donations received on December 1st at the VRC for Christmas ornaments. This brings our total donation to Fisher House Michigan to \$12,300.00.

Our December meeting was a Zoom meeting. Our January 13, 2022, meeting will be on Zoom. I will send out the link in January.

Members are making stress balls for Fisher House Michigan. Email me if you need the pattern.

We are collecting trial-size shampoo, soap, tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc., for Fisher House Michigan. You can drop off your donations to me or

directly at the Fisher House.

Fundraising Projects

Agent Orange Masks \$10 donation, please make your check payable to "Birth Defects Research for Children." I have a few, but Sandie Wilson is the main contact for this fundraiser for Birth Defects Research for Children. <https://birthdefects.org/>. Please get in touch with me for a mask.

Paper Safes

We have AVVA Paper Safes from Nancy Switzer. Please let me know if anyone would like a Paper Safe.

Service Projects

Fisher House Michigan would like volunteers to make stress balls using large loop yarn. If you need a copy of the pattern, please email Kathy at dkathyr16@gmail.com. Please drop off your donation directly to Fisher House Michigan or Kathy Driscoll. I will be happy to drop them off for you.

For information on volunteering at the Veteran Resource Center, please contact Rev. Bob Bull at 734-664-7878.

Please consider donating food to your local community food banks. Our communities still have families who are food insecure due to Covid-19.

Links to local Food Banks

Saline Social Services:

<https://www.salinesocialservice.com/ways-to-give/donate/>

Food Gatherers of Ann Arbor:

<https://www.foodgatherers.org/>

SOS Community Services Ypsilanti, MI:

<https://soscs.org/ways-to-give/>

Catholic Social Services

<https://csswashtenaw.org/family-children/cssw-food-pantry/>

Google Search for Food Banks in Washtenaw County:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=washtenaw+county+food+banks>

Legislation Action!

H.R. 2568 Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act

The last movement of this bill was on May 29, 2019. This bill was referred to the Subcommittee of Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Our AVVA 310 has widows whose Veteran husbands suffered and died from liver cancer. Please consider writing your US Congressional Representative to support this bill in honor and memory of them.

AVVA Chapter 310 Fundraising Report

When I toured the Ann Arbor Fisher House in October 2021, their staff mentioned that they needed gift cards for Kroger or Sam's Club for weekly food shopping; we would like to take up a collection to purchase a \$250.00 gift card to be sent to April LaRock, manager of FHM Ann Arbor, in February 2022. Please consider a \$5 or \$10 donation at our January 2022 meeting; I will purchase the gift card. Please mail your donation directly to me as our January 2022 meeting will be on Zoom. Please make your check payable to VVA 310 with AVVA FHM Gift Card on

the memo line.

Kathy Driscoll, 172 Oakwood, Saline, MI 48176

Excerpt from an email from April LaRock:

"Highest need for gift cards is for groceries: Kroger and Sam's Club (they accept Walmart gift cards, too). That's where we shop the most. The larger the quantities (each trip runs us about \$250-300), and we go at least twice a week. It takes much time to process multiple \$25 gift cards for one trip (if that makes sense just from a donation tracking system)."

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2022 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$2,128.25. We sponsored four delegates to the Girl State 2022. We have three dedicated delegates. I mailed the applications to our dedicated delegates' home addresses in December.

Ella Racetti, Joe Palazzolo's granddaughter from Milan High School

Carmen Lanchau from Saline High School

Caroline Pangilinan from Saline High School. Our fourth delegate will be selected by the Saline American Legion Auxiliary Post 322.

AVVA National and AVVA Michigan State Association News

I have not received any communication from the AVVA Michigan State Association. Their next meeting should be in February 2022, and the Annual Michigan State Convention should be in May 2022. Hopefully, I will receive the

information in January 2022.

2022 Leadership Conference –
Hyatt Hotel, Greenville, SC

2023 National Convention –
Orlando, FL

WCCV

The next WCCV meeting is January 17, 2022, at the Saline American Legion Post 322. I plan to attend either in person or via Zoom.

Upcoming Events!

The next meeting is at 6:00 pm on January 13th on Zoom.

Keep up to date with our Chapter: All AVVA and VVA 310 events are posted on our chapter's webpage, www.vva310.org, in the VVA News Flash section on the right column on the homepage.

AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 proudly supports the AVVA Mission and Vision Statements.

AVVA Mission Statement:

To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education.

AVVA Vision Statement:

To create a better everyday life for Veterans and their families.

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310

Past President, AVVA Michigan Association

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897

"The highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." -- John F. Kennedy

Honoring January Anniversaries on the Wall

Private First Class Walter Edwin McIntire, Jr. was born on October 2, 1943, in Laredo, Texas, to Mr.



and Mrs. Walter E. McIntire of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Walter graduated in January of 1964 from Ann Arbor High School,

where he was active in Junior Achievement and was the Vice-President of his JA company. He was also active in the Cooperative Occupational Training Program at Ann Arbor High School and worked part-time for S. S. Kresge Company.

Private First Class Walter Edwin McIntire, Jr. began his tour of duty in Hau Nghia Province, South Vietnam, on August 21, 1965, serving as an infantryman with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade.

On September 18, 1965, Walter earned a Purple Heart when he was wounded by shrapnel in his leg. He recovered from those wounds and returned to his unit four weeks later. On January 2, 1966, Walter was killed by small-arms fire in action near Bien Hoa Air Base.

Walter Edwin McIntire, Jr. is survived by his parents, three brothers, and two sisters. He lived

22 years and three months. He is resting in Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Walter's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, on Panel 04E Line 051.

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Warrant Officer John David Eddy was born on March 1, 1950, to Mr. and Mrs. Delvord Eddy of Ann Arbor, Michigan. John is a 1968 graduate of Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor. He loved team sports, the out-of-doors, and camping trips to Lake Huron when he was young. John's ambition was to fly.

Warrant Officer Eddy enlisted in the Army in 1970. He completed helicopter flight training at Fort Wolters, Texas. He went through



advanced flight training at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Warrant Officer John David Eddy began his tour in An Xugen Province, South Vietnam,

on June 16, 1971. John was the co-pilot of a helicopter gunship when it was struck by enemy gunfire and crashed. Warrant Officer Eddy died with three other crew members on January 11, 1972. Warrant Officer John David Eddy earned the Air Medal for heroism, the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, Air Medal, National Defense and Vietnam Service Medals, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. The South Vietnamese Government

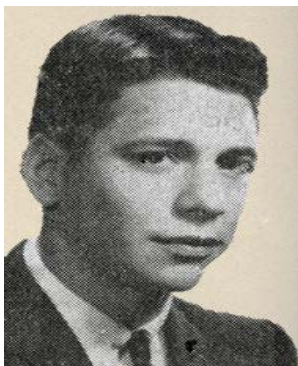
presented him with the Military Merit Medal and Gallantry Cross with Palm.

John David Eddy is survived by his parents, a wife, two daughters and a son, and two sisters. He lived 21 years, ten months, and ten days. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. He is also listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 02W Line 096.

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Warrant Officer Michael Woodrow Hunter was born on January 23, 1944, in Durham, North Carolina, to Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow W. Hunter of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Michael is a 1962 graduate of Ann Arbor High School. He also attended Western Michigan University.

Warrant Officer Hunter entered the Army in 1967 going through Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was trained as a paratrooper and a helicopter pilot. Michael received his Wings as an Army Aviator in April of 1968, graduating tenth in his class. He began his tour of duty in Phuoc Long Province, South Vietnam, on July 14, 1969, serving as a helicopter



co-pilot on an AH-1G with C Troop, First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry, First Air Cavalry Division.

On January 28, 1970, Michael was

killed when the helicopter he was co-piloting was struck by enemy anti-aircraft fire during a gun run. The aircraft was struck by a 50-cal. round causing the main rotor to separate. He received the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and Air Medal.

Michael Woodrow Hunter is survived by his parents, two sisters, and a son. He lived 26 years and five days. He is resting in the Swedish Mission Cemetery located in Centerville Township, Leelanau County, Michigan. Michael's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, on Panel 14W Line 075.

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Major George Frederick Vlisides was born on December 31, 1924, in Detroit, Michigan, to Mrs. Elena Vlisides of Ann Arbor, Michigan. George is a 1943 graduate of Ann Arbor High School. George enlisted in the Army Air Corps and received his Second Lieutenant's commission and Bombardier Wings in 1944. He flew heavy bombers but never made it overseas. He graduated from the Military Academy at West Point near



the top of his class in 1950, where his classmates called him "Gorgeous One." George enlisted in the Air Force after graduation

from West Point. He earned a Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Air Medal with two clusters flying 84 missions in the F-84 during the Korean War. He graduated from the Air Command and Staff College in 1961.

Major Vlisides began his tour of duty in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam, on November 5, 1964, serving with the 1st Air Commando Squadron, 34th Tactical Group, 13th Air Force. George earned another Air Medal in Vietnam. He also was shot down twice, with the last time occurring on December 29, 1964. He celebrated his 40th birthday on December 31, 1964. On January 27, 1965, George died when his A-1E Skyraider crashed in a landing attempt at Bien Hoa Airfield. He earned another Distinguished Flying Cross and two more Air Medals during his tour.

George Frederick Vlisides is survived by his mother, a brother, and a sister. He lived 40 years and 26 days. He is resting in the Greek Orthodox Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. George's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 01E Line 084.

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Corporal Eddie Wallace was born on January 12, 1949, in Birmingham, Alabama, to Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Lee of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Eddie graduated from Ypsilanti High School in 1968. He worked for Gar Wood Industries



before enlisting in the Army in 1968.

Corporal Wallace began his tour of duty in Phong Dinh Province, South Vietnam, on

December 20, 1968, serving as a Petroleum Supply Specialist with the 271st Assault Support Helicopter Company, 307th Aviation Battalion, 164th Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade. Eddie was killed on January 13, 1969, when a hand grenade was thrown at him on guard duty. Eddie had been "In-Country" for only 23 days.

Eddie Wallace is survived by his parents, four brothers, and a sister. He lived 20 years and one day. Eddie is resting in Westlawn Cemetery in Inkster, Michigan. Eddie's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, on Panel 35W Line 086.

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Private First Class Michael Dean Cribelar was born on June 27, 1949, to Mr. Woodrow Dean Cribelar and Mrs. Virginia Cribelar. Michael attended Willow Run High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan. He worked for Ford Motor Company at the Ypsilanti Plant before entering the Army on June 9, 1967.

Private First Class Cribelar completed Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He began his tour of duty in Pleiku Province, South



Vietnam as an infantryman with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry,

4th Infantry Division on November 22, 1967. On January 11, 1968, Michael was killed from small-arms fire after being "In-Country" for one month and eleven days.

Michael Dean Cribelar is survived by his parents, wife, two-year-old son, and two sisters. He lived 18 years, 6 months, and 14 days. He is resting in Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Michael's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, on Panel 34E Line 028.

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Private First Class Larry Gene Gray was born on March 19, 1945, in Missouri to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gray. Larry is a 1963 graduate of Dundee High School located in Dundee, Michigan.

Private First Class Gray entered the Army on July 18, 1966, receiving his Basic Training and Cook's School at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Larry began his tour of duty in Hau Nghia Province, South Vietnam, on January 5, 1967, serving as a Food Service Specialist with Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. On



January 17, 1967, he was killed when the helicopter he was riding on during a combat support

mission disintegrated in flight. He was "In-Country" for only 12 days.

Larry Gene Gray is survived by his wife, parents, a brother, and three sisters. He lived 21 years, nine months, and 28 days. He is resting in the London Township Cemetery located near Milan, Michigan. Larry's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Milan. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, on Panel 14E Line 044.



Dispatch Recipients

VVA 310 award-winning newsletter reaches approximately 516 people each month with 115 mailed USPS, 52 hits off the website (www.vva310.org), and 349 emailed. With good stewardship and networking, the cost to print the Dispatch approximates \$1,380 per year.

If a VVA 310 member or others

receiving the Dispatch via USPS desire to assist with the printing cost, a suggested donation would be: one year at \$12.00, two years at \$22.00, and three years at \$30.00. Payment can be made payable to VVA 310 and mailed to P.O. Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221, indicating Dispatch on the memo line.

All other donations may be made payable to VVA 310 at the same mailing address by indicating Donation on the memo line.

RECIPIENTS

Berryman Bourne ~ August 2023

Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2023

Tim Clarke ~ March 2022

Joseph Flint ~ January 2022

Edward Fuller ~ September 2023

Sarah and Brent Gephart, Sr. ~ March 2031

Corrine Gignac, in memory of her uncle Neil R. Gignac, CMSAF ~ April 2024

Ralph Henry ~ November 2023

Steve and Shirley Hitte ~ June 2024

Darlene Imus ~ January 2027

Jane and John Kinzinger ~ June 2024

Mary Kirkpatrick ~ December 2023

Rudy and Jane Kozal ~ May 2022

Linda Lamey-Leonard, in memory of Lavern Lamey ~ July 2024

This KIA person is listed on our Memorial Wall.

Lloyd Lee ~ March 2031

David Marshall ~ June 2022

Sandra Martinez ~ November 2024

Del Mayes ~ March 2022

Alfred (Fredo) Merritt ~ January 2023

Paulo and Ann Dempsey Pereira ~ October 2024

George Perrault ~ October 2022

Helena Prince, in memory of deceased member Tom Prince ~ April 2023

Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026

Edith L. Semark ~ September 2023

Jim Sharp ~ April 2031

Larry St. Antoine ~ March 2022

Chris Wetzler ~ July 2023

Elizabeth Wong ~ September 2023

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira

01 Jan: Happy New Year

13 Jan: Chapter Monthly Board Meeting, 1730 hrs; Monthly Membership Meeting, 1900 Hrs
To attend by Zoom, please check vva310.org.

14 Jan: Chapter Monthly Breakfast: TBD

17 Jan: WCCV Meeting

27 Jan: Vietnam Cease Fire (1973)
Team Red, White & Blue: Saturdays @ 0930 meet at the Southeast parking lot of Gallup Park for their walk and run.

Visit Veterans Radio online (veteransradio.net) and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

A smile is a curve that sets everything straight. — Phyllis Diller



Jocosity

By Ken Rogge

A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce and asked, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replied, "About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by."

"No," he said, "I mean, what is the foundation of this case?"

"It is made of concrete, brick, and mortar," she responded.

"I mean," he continued, "What are your relations like?"

"I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents."

He said, "Do you have a real grudge?"

"No," she replied, "We have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Please," he tried again, "is there any infidelity in your marriage?"

"Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don't necessarily like the music, but the

answer to your questions is yes.”

“Ma’am, does your husband ever beat you up?”

“Yes,” she responded, “about twice a week, he gets up earlier than I do.”

Finally, in frustration, the judge asked, “Lady, why do you want a divorce?”

“Oh, I don’t want a divorce,” she replied. “I’ve never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He said he can’t communicate with me!”

Good Story Ending

Submitted by John Kinzinger

My recent *1st Cavalry Saber* newsletter had the following nice story I would like to share. This was in the July/August 2021 issue and written by Karl Swenson, writing for the 7th Cav Regiment. The story is reprinted with the



author’s permission—and here it goes:

This is the story of a ring, a keepsake, that belonged to a fallen comrade.

Somehow it made its way full circle and back into the hands of the Sky Trooper’s loved ones. It all started when SP4 George Wilson found that he was being assigned to A Co, 2-7 Cavalry. George bought a ring and had it engraved with his initials and his service number. He was immensely

proud of that ring and told his dad that he would always wear it. George arrived in Vietnam on 9 May 1967 and began his 1-year tour of duty with A 2/7. Some 11 months later into his tour, George was killed in Quang Tri Province during heavy fighting on 6 April 1968. If you look closely, you can see the ring on George’s right hand in this picture. His personal effects went with him when George’s body was shipped home, including the ring. George’s father put the ring away in a safe place, along with George’s medals, including a Combat Infantryman Badge, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart. There they stayed until 1996, when the father died.

And then the ring and medals disappeared; they were possibly stolen along with other belongings of the father. About a year later, a gold dealer in southern Illinois bought some scrap gold and discovered the ring there, all covered with mud. The gold dealer was a Vietnam Vet and knew that the ring carried not only a story but certainly great sentimental value for George’s family.

The dealer contacted the VA with the initials and service number he found on the ring. The VA notified the gold dealer they had attempted to contact the next of kin and that their letter was returned “undeliverable.” The dealer then put the ring away, where it stayed until recently. The dealer told the story to his sister-in-law, an expert in finding people. Karen could not let this mystery rest; she was determined to find out what she could.

Using her sources, she located George’s sister and nephew. She called to tell them she had the ring

and wanted to get it back to the family. They were ecstatic! They couldn’t believe the ring—first purchased in 1967, then sent home with George’s body, then lost in 1996, and then found in 1997—was finally back with the family in 2021. That happened thanks to a Vietnam Vet gold dealer, who knew the importance of the ring.

Why did this story affect me? George served in my battalion during my tour.

Chapter Members - Christmas Wishes

By John Kinzinger

Each year we mail cards to many relatives of our Memorial KIAs. This year they will also receive a 30th Anniversary Memorial challenge coin. We often receive cards addressed to Chapter members.

From the Fulton family – “Dear Col. Charles Kettles & Family, May your family be blessed with the love and peace that is Christmas. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, Jonathan Fulton & Family.”

From Ronald Koch’s Sister & Family – “Everyone at Chapter 310, Thank you for all the love and kindness, and for all that you do. We are blessed. Wishing you all the blessings of the season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Love, Jeff, Lynda, and Braden.”

Our KIA families are so very proud of how we have not forgotten their loved ones listed on our Memorial. And we do not forget them.

All About VVA 310

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310
National Chapter of the Year:
1999 & 2007
Newsletter of the Year:
2007, 09, 11, & 15
E-Newsletter of the Year 2017

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Vice President: Vance McCrumb
Secretary: Jon Luker
Treasurer: Berry Bourne
Chapter Membership: Vance McCrumb
Sergeant at Arms: Tim Clarke
Chaplain: Rev. Gordon Moore
Dispatch Editor: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

Website: <https://www.vva310.org/>
Email: membership@vva310.org
Follow us on 310 [Facebook page](#)
VVA 310 Chapter Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3221
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

VVA 310 Dispatch
January 2022

Vietnam Veterans of America
Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310
P.O. Box 3221
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221
Please forward. Thank you!

