



*Together We
Make A Difference*



*Charles S. Kettles
Michigan Chapter 310*



Medal of Honor

Awarded to LTC Charles S. Kettles

Please see tribute to LTC Kettles and other veterans who passed away the past few months.



Passed away on January 21, 2019, U.S. Army LTC Charles S. Kettles served in the Korean War and was a helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War. For heroism in Vietnam, LTC Kettles received the Medal of Honor. He lived a life of honor and service, in simple dignity. To the last, LTC Kettles made himself available to friends and associates, generous with his time. He enjoyed talking to high school students and encouraging them. May he Rest in Peace.

Dispatch Newsletter — February 2019 — Happy Valentine's Day!

Everyone loves to share their "Colonel Kettles moment." So, here is mine: A few weeks before LTC Charles S. Kettles passed, he invited friends and associates for a reception at Haab's Restaurant in Ypsilanti. Someone called me and said, "Colonel Kettles wants to make sure you get this invitation." So, Annie and I arrived early and went into the restaurant. LTC Kettles was greeting guests. I waited my turn, and when I approached him, I gave him a gentle hug. He turned to me and gave me a strong bear hug, which surprised me. Then I whispered in his ear: "This is the closest I'll ever get to a Medal of Honor." He responded with a belly laugh. Then he took the medal in his hand and placed it in mine, with a smile. I looked at it, caressed it for a moment, and gently placed it back on his chest. Then I thanked him and walked away. That was the last time I saw the Colonel. — Paulo--Juarez Pereira, Editor.



What a Way to Start a New Year!

By Jon Luker

Our name sake, Charles S. Kettles, passed away. I would devote this President's message to him, but there is nothing I could say that hasn't been said several times by better writers than me. Although we will miss the man, we will be seeing his impact on us for years to come. In that way, he remains with us.

But we just came through a year where we lost more members than ever before. So, his loss just adds to our burden. We lost Pete Belaire, David Foerster, Henry Koski, John Kuclo, Willie Lee, and Waldomar



Roeser. I met Willie Lee once. Pete Belaire is the only one I got to know. He had been very active not only with our Chapter but

also with the Marine Corps League. His loss also brings to mind the loss of his good friend and ours, Doc Martinez (2016). Now the three amigos are down to Marv Rivers. That is not fun. (Pete's brother Dave, also Chapter member, passed in 2017.)

Add to that being set upon by a winter-cold blast that has killed people, closed businesses and schools, and increased the need for services at a time government shutdown. Getting things done has become so difficult that, even the US Postal Service shut down mail service in 10 states for a time. But veterans recognize the

obligation to carry on for those who no longer can. After each death, we pick up where they left off. We continue the mission.

But the tough start this year need not be any kind of omen. The sun is shining. We have endured the cold and the sorrow. Even those of us who are dealing with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) still keep moving.

Let's remember that an important part of staying operational is staying healthy. Drink lots of water. Keep active. Sleep when you can. Always take the next step. It is in the Bible somewhere that, if we were to see the path our life would take, we probably would not have the courage to even begin. But we can see that our path has covered amazing places, and we can do more than we thought. That may be why the path is revealed to us only one or two steps at a time.

Charlie knew that one day his helicopter would no longer leave the earth. But he did his preflight check, and he put his hand on the cyclic and collective every day. Like him, we need to keep moving, with the certainty that there is a next step as long as we are breathing.

And, like Charlie, we need to remember we are not alone. In addition to getting spiritual guidance and support, we humans are social creatures. We rely upon others and are relied upon by others, especially among veterans, including AVVA and loved ones who share the burden of a military servicemember's service—past or present. Thank God we are in this together and can distribute the burden and share the benefits of our mutual adventure.

We look forward to many things this year: April election, picnic, May

Recognition Dinner, Watchfire, Memorial Observation, and more. A new capital improvement at the Memorial is being planned as well..

Speaking of the election, our election committee may be contacting you about serving in an officer or board position. Please give the idea considerable thought. Nobody does any of those jobs without copious help from others in the Chapter. As Chief says, "The Team, The Team, The Team!"

I look forward to working with you and being with you as we continue to grow our membership and pursue our mission.

De Oppresso Liber

February 2019 Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Gordon Moore

For many, February is the month of love, with Valentine's Day, where people have the opportunity to give gifts and expressions of love and gratitude to those they appreciate.



For me, it is a reminder of God's love, which is expressed all year long. But February is the time to express my love and gratitude to Him in different ways. I look for others who may need special attention and find creative ways to help. Scripture reminds us that, when we do things to help others, we are doing it for God.

Recently we lost a man in our chapter, LTC Charles Kettles, who

demonstrated what sacrifice means, in his willingness to lay down his life for others. Thus, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. Those actions saved lives and allowed people to return home to families and start families, thus perpetuating his actions to another generation. For many more of us, we were struck by his genuine humility and love of people.

I would like us to remember his legacy and that of the God he served by looking for different ways to express our love and concern for others that take us out of the ordinary and into the stratosphere of the extraordinary. Things like making amends with someone we may have hurt, going the extra mile to assist someone, doing a random act of kindness with a service to God in mind by asking God to bring someone to mind or someone into our lives (like along the freeway or in a store) to whom we can reflect God's love by our acts of service.

We need more acts of love and less acts of self-righteous talk to bring the world of God's creation back to civility. Thus, Christ said, "Greater love has no man than this, that he/she lay down their life for a friend, and you are my friends when you do what I command . . . to love one another" (John 15:13-17). I believe Christ was talking about more than an actual dying, although that may be included, but laying down our lives in humility and sacrificing what we would ordinarily do to help others.

Blessings and honor for your service and acts of love.

Here Today . . .

By John Kinzinger

Chapter Members, Spouses, and Friends, it is a sad time for our Chapter. We had our seventh member pass since last Memorial Day. I knew them all, and not like the poem. I knew them all as members of our Chapter. Each and every one brought something to our Chapter over the years.

Wally Roeser was one of the oldest men drafted during the Vietnam War: 35 years old. He was an orthopedic surgeon, which was needed in Vietnam. Wally would faithfully show up for our April



voting day. He was also the EMU football physician, which, along with his practice, kept him busy.

Willie Lee, Jr. was a quiet, older member. He had a smile that did not quit. He was a likable person.

John Kucllo was active in the Chapter. I went fishing on Lake Erie with him and his son. We had great fun. He moved, and just a few months before passing he moved back in the area; and then he transferred back into 310.

David Forester, from Milan, was a big, happy-go-lucky guy, who worked as a security guard at a local theater. He used to share stories of experiences on that job. We had not seen him at a meeting in perhaps ten years.

Then there is Hank Koski, who in

our early years was quite active. He and his wife, Toni, were fun members. Hank was a member of the Flag team who raised the flags at our Memorial at the dedication ceremony. He was active in the Yankee Air Force. He loaded bombs on B-52s on Guam during the war.

Pete Belaire, past Chapter President, was a key member in the history of our Chapter. He did extensive work in researching detailed obituary information on the 76 men listed on our Memorial, which is found on our website and in my book being finished. What a proud Marine he was! As Chapter President, he led the Chapter in most every event we did. His many years' battle with cancer kept him from being active for several years before his passing. Pete was a great bird photographer, and I am proud to own one of his signed bird images.

And our latest, LTC Charles S. Kettles, what a gentle gentleman. It was 2004 when we were doing 'Support The Troops' rallies all around the county. We did one in the Ypsilanti High School parking lot, down W. Cross Street from their home. As I spoke and looked out over the crowd, I saw this distinguished looking older gentleman with a woman, his wife Ann, in a wheelchair. They had Flags on her wheelchair. I believe he pushed her all the way to the high school to be there supporting our troops. After the rally, I made my way to them, and that was the beginning of a nice, long friendship. That man was always ready to help out. I cannot list all that he did for our Chapter, and he would do it anonymously if he could. Often, I would be the only one who knew it was him. For instance, one time he asked what we needed early during our Care

package program. I mentioned the need for boxes. Within about a week, I was informed a semi-truck would be arriving at the VFW to drop off boxes. I went over there only to find that the semi had two pallets of appropriate size boxes. Two thousand in total and he would never admit it was him who had made that happen. He was terrific doing classroom talks on Vietnam with others from our Chapter. We would get a kick out of how he would simulate flying his ship while sitting in a chair, explaining how he was able to skip his overloaded ship down that riverbed.

Chapter AVVA member and Veteran



Bill Vollano interviewed the Colonel for the Veterans History Project, which he has been doing for several years. When he heard the Colonel's story of that day in 1967, he thought it was worthy of the Medal of Honor, and Bill initiated the four-year effort to elevate his DSC to the MoH. Colonel Kettles played down what he did that day in 1967 as just doing his job not to leave anyone behind. He would say, "I do not know what all the hub-bub is about." I warned

him his life would take a big turn if he was to receive the MoH, and it surely did. He would not turn down any request to speak, as he thought it was his duty. Still the professional soldier, but an older one who was dealing with cancer at the time.

The Colonel invited Vance and me, with our wives, to go to Washington, DC to attend the MoH presentation. That two days of events in the White House and Pentagon were extremely memorable and definitely a highlight in my life.

Then there was his battle with cancer, which he did not share for years. When he did, he was getting regular chemo treatments. Then one day he shared that the chemo treatments were no longer working, so they would stop treatment, giving him 60-90 days. A few others and I would stop by his home and visit with him and Ann. I made it a few times during those last few weeks. As a friend, I felt comfortable enough to ask him how he was really doing. He said something to the effect, "I can see the LZ, I have my flight path set. I just do not know when I will land." That was so very moving and Soldier-Colonel like from a down-to-earth MoH recipient who was just dealing with the facts of the situation.

I and Larry St. Antoine, visited with the Colonel on January 9th, the day before I left for Florida. Unknown to us, it was his 89th birthday. He was one of us and never seemed his age. Larry brought his VN Seabee photo album, and the Colonel loved the photos, as we talked and shared VN experiences. In fact, then a Hospice person came that afternoon. The lady came; he got up from the table and went into the living room without saying a word to us. Larry and I understood, and we left. That

was the last time I saw him.

Many Chapter and AVVA members showed up at the visitation at Janowiak Funeral Home. We made smart, heartfelt salutes, as we showed our respect.

All seven of you Vietnam Veterans have completed your mission. Thank you for your military service. Rest in peace, friends!

None of us are promised another day and could be . . . gone tomorrow.

"I Was a Guntrucker"

By Al "Fredo" Merritt

The government didn't build guntrucks. We, the regular soldiers, did that. We would scrounge, buy, borrow, or steal whatever we needed to build them. But it is worth recalling how the guntrucks came about.

Protecting Convoys

Guntrucks were all about protecting transportation convoys from enemy attacks. Those convoys were the lifeblood of military operations in Vietnam. Without them, there would be no fuel for the choppers, no sorties for the Air Force, no food for the troops, and so on. So the guntrucks would make sure the convoys were protected against attacks.

I drove a guntruck named "The Boss," built from a 5-ton chassis, steel armor 1/4" thick. The back of the truck was known as the pill box and had a double-steel wall. The wall next to the cab was cut down so one could easily go from the cab to the pillbox. Also, the floor had double-steel protection. Also, 60-cal and 50-cal ammo boxes were stacked on the floor.

Each guntruck had different weapons. It was up to the NCOIC (Non-Commissioned Officer in

Charge) to determine how to position the weapons.

"The Boss" had one 50, one 60, one Automatic Grenade Launcher, and several LAW Rockets (Light Anti-tank Weapons).

The word you did not want to hear coming across the Prick 25 radio (PRC-25, Portable Radio



Communication) was "Contact." That was the code word for "ambush." The first guntruck at the ambush would get between the enemy fire and the downed vehicle. That was called the "kill zone." The other armored vehicles would make passes through the kill zone, back and forth, until the enemy withdrew or was eliminated. Otherwise, we would call air support in.

I have to say that, when I got the word "contact" over the radio, the anxiety was at a level so high that it was like we were 10-foot tall and bullet proof. As a driver, my job was to drive through the gates of hell and back, getting my crew safely returned. That mission I completed with honor. Guntruck crews had a special bond. It took a special kind of guy to be a guntrucker. I was with the 1st Log. 8th group 54th Trans Battalion 545 Trans Co. 1969-1970, at Phu Hep, Central Highlands.

MINUTES

Vietnam Veterans of America Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 General Membership Meeting 10 Jan 2019

By *Berryman L. Bourne,*
Acting Secretary

Call to Order by President Jon Luker at 1900.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for POW/MIA's, their families, and those who are serving in hazardous places around the world.

Opening Prayer: Chaplain Driscoll gave the opening prayer.

Roll Call: A quorum was established.

Welcome Home Everyone!

New Member: Barry Harrand

Guests: None

50th Anniversary Pins: Kate Kirkpatrick from AVVA, but as a representative of the Washtenaw Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, presented pins to those that had not previously received them.

December Meeting Minutes: A **motion** was made by Tim Driscoll to accept the 13 Dec 18 meeting minutes as posted in the Dispatch. Seconded by Lloyd Lee. **Motion passed.**

President's Report:

Jon Luker stated that Chris Wetzler, appointed as Secretary at last month's meeting, has resigned. Because of the resignation, Jon further stated that the Chapter is in violation of its by-laws and the National VVA by-laws. He also stated that the Chapter is in violation of the state by-laws. He requested a volunteer to be Secretary. There being no volunteers, he explained that the job could be split with a named individual as Secretary and another person responsible for

taking minutes at the Board and General Membership meetings. Larry St. Antoine volunteered to be Secretary and Lloyd Lee volunteered to take meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Berry Bourne reviewed the salient points on the Financial Report handout. He stated no unusual activity occurred in the revenue and expense accounts during the month. He stated the large event for the year was the pig roast that was budgeted to return a \$7.5k profit and it realized a \$12.4k profit. At month-end the chapter had \$87k cash and certificates of deposits with a \$64k unrestricted fund balance. He further stated that the Board has approved the early termination of the current \$52k certificates of deposit and invest \$20k each for three-, four- and five-year periods.

AVVA Report: Kathy Driscoll, President, stated that they have received a Thank You letter from Fisher House Michigan for their recent \$2,000 contribution. That makes a \$10k total contribution to Fisher House Michigan. See Kathy Driscoll's full report on AVVA activities as part of the monthly Dispatch newsletter.

Food Pantry: Don Miller reported that two lady veterans were in need of food last month and the Chapter fulfilled their needs.

Calendar Committee: David Draper is chairperson of this committee. He has posted certain event dates on the website. He believes the calendar is up-to-date for all events that has been communicated to him.

Merchandise Report: Larry St. Antoine stated that December merchandise sales were \$1,440 with a reported \$841 profit after considering cost of sales, operating

expenses, and donations. He further stated that this past Tuesday sales at VA were good with much good help from volunteers.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Report: Jon Luker reported that Senate Bill 1042 has been canceled.

Michigan State Council Report: President Jon Luker stated that the next meeting is in March. The National VVA Convention is in Spokane, WA this year whereby the delegates will vote on a strategic plan. Ken Rogge then commented that Vietnam Veterans of America will continue to exist in a different format if VVA National liquidates. A five-state consortium (IL, IN, MI, OH, and WI) is discussing a joint organization whereby younger veterans would be allowed membership.

Memorial Maintenance Report: Jon Luker reported that there is consideration of adding a shed to the site and investigating the possibility of bringing water to the site. Project magnitude depends on funding. Chapter can anticipate \$4,000 from Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. Total project costs are estimated between \$15k - \$20k.

Website Report: Vance McCrumb stated that website is working well.

Membership Report: Vance McCrumb stated that we have 204 members. Considering new member, Barry Harrant, and two additional potential members that would increase the total membership to 207.

Newsletter: No report. Comment was made that certain veterans with their names on our Chapter Memorial Wall and the National Memorial Wall in Washington, DC, are not listed on the Michigan State Memorial Wall in Lansing.

VAAHS Report: In John Kinzinger's absence, Larry St. Antoine commented that the Christmas Party was held 21 Dec 18 and most recently the underwear and t-shirts event was held last Sunday, 6 Jan 19.

Warriors and Caregivers United (WACU): A special fundraiser evening sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 was held on 8 Jan 19 at Frenchie's Restaurant in Ypsilanti. Chapter 310 donated \$3k from the VAAHS Restricted Fund.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A **motion** was made by Berry Bourne to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget as distributed. Seconded by Larry St. Antoine.

Motion passed.

Vance McCrumb presented a new formatted VVA 310 cap for consideration. He will review additional designs and pricing at the February meeting.

Good of the Order:

Dell Mayes contributed a General Westmoreland autographed photo of the Chapter's Memorial Wall and site purchased at the WACU event. The Memorial Wall was dedicated in November 1991 with General Westmoreland in attendance.

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Driscoll led the closing prayer and Jon Luker led the salute to the flag and adjourned the meeting at 2000.

Chapter breakfast: Bomber Restaurant, 306 East Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, 15 Feb at 0900.

Closing prayer by Tim Driscoll
Salute to the flag led by Jon Luker
Jon Luker adjourned the meeting at 1958.

Current Events – February 2019

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira

LTC Charles S. Kettles passed away on January 21, 2019. LTC Kettles was an Army Huey helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War and a recent MOH Recipient. Please see his [obituary](#) from Janowiak Funeral Home. The Kettles family has requested that donations be made to the Vietnam Veterans, Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310. That can be done by pressing the Chapter's "[Donate](#)" button and notating "in memory of LTC Kettles." His interment took place Wednesday, January 30, at 10:00 am at Highland Cemetery, 943 N. River St, Ypsilanti.

Upcoming Events

12 Feb: VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at Ann Arbor VA.

14 Feb: Serve Lunch to Patients at VAMC in the CLC, 1200 hrs.

14 Feb: VVA 310 Board Meeting, 1730 hrs, VFW Post 423.

14 Feb: AVVA Meeting, VVA 310 Board Meeting, 1800 hrs, VFW Post 423.

14 Feb: VVA 310 General Membership Meeting, 1900 hrs VFW Post 423.

15 Feb: VVA 310 Chapter Breakfast, Location TBD, 0900 hrs

21 Feb: WCCV Meeting

25 Feb: VAVS Meeting, VA Medical Center's Auditorium, 1400 hrs

Kokomo registration: Now through June 1

Need to Know

Feb 18: President's Day (1885)

Feb 19: Coast Guard Reserve Birthday (1941)

Sept 19- 21: Kokomo

Saturdays @ 0930: Meet at Southeast parking lot of Gallup Park for walk or run with Team Red White & Blue

--> Visit [Veterans Radio](#) online and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

AVVA Newsletter February 2019

By Kathy Driscoll

All of our prayers and thoughts are with the family of LTC Charles S. Kettles. May his soul rest in peace. AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 sent a Mass Card for March 22nd at 0900 at St. Andrew Church, Saline, MI.

If you are on Facebook, you can join the AVVA Michigan closed group. Just send a Join Group request and the admin will accept you as a member of the AVVA Michigan closed group. This is how our AVVA Michigan State Association communicates between the bi-monthly meetings.

AVVA Members were busy volunteering and supporting AVVA and VVA projects in January.

Members supported VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

Members supported the WACU fundraiser at Frenchies in Depot Town.

Next VVA 310 VA Merchandising sales is Tuesday, February 12th. VVA 310 needs our help. Please consider volunteering one or two hours assisting VVA 310 merchandise team at the Ann Arbor VA.

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 Chapter 310 Fundraising Report

AVVA 310 Chapter Special Projects & Operating Funds

Please email or call me with fundraising ideas for 2019.

We will have a raffle table at the May 4th Recognition Dinner. All proceeds will benefit our Operating and Special Project Funds.

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2019 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$2,283.25. We are sponsoring three delegates this year. Girl State 2019 is June 16 through June 22, 2019 at Michigan State University.

AVVA Michigan State Association News

Next meeting is Sunday, March 17 in Detroit MI. VVA / AVVA Chapter 9 is hosting this meeting. If you would like to attend, please contact Kathy Driscoll.

AVVA Michigan Association Fundraising Report

AVVA MI Association is looking for fundraising ideas for 2019. One idea submitted by a member of AVVA Chapter 1083 is to have AVVA Michigan Association Statewide Raffle for a Yeti cooler. Suggested ticket price is \$5 or \$10. Please let me know if you would be able to sell 1 – 5 tickets and the price point for each ticket. I hopefully will have more information at our February 14th meeting. AVVA Michigan Association will need each of our chapters to sell a minimum of 75 tickets to make this a successful raffle. Cost of a Yeti Cooler is \$199.00.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage is launched! The Association has a tab on the new VVA Michigan State Council webpage: <http://vvamsc.org/associates/>. It is still being updated. The About Us, Contacts, Events, Chapter Locator has current content. More to be

uploaded in the near future!

Upcoming Events!

12 February VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at Ann Arbor VA

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310

AVVA Michigan State Association President

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897

WACU Thanks the Chapter

By John Kinzinger

January 8th at Frenchies/Sidetrack in Ypsilanti Depot Town, VVA 310 sponsored its 5th ig fundraiser for Warriors And Caregivers United (WACU). Our Chapter continues to live its motto as it supports the work of WACU – website <https://www.wacu.org/>.

Linda and Jessica French have been helping VVA 310 for over twenty years with projects we have been doing. The first major one was the ten years we raised funds for the perpetual care fund of our Memorial. Linda has donated to other Chapter functions and has been one of our greatest supporters for decades. Thank you, Linda, daughter Jessica and staff.

On January 8th at Frenchies, WACU raised enough to cover over half of our 2019 WACU budget needs. We sincerely thank VVA 310, Linda, Jessica, Stacey Mason, all who attended and made donations and auction purchases. You all helped us "Save One More," which is the unwritten motto of our non-profit organization. That 'One' may be a PTS tormented Veteran's marriage or suicide. Thank you all.

Honoring February Anniversaries on the Wall

Specialist 4 Stanley James Thompson

was born on December 2, 1942 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Mr. James B. and Mrs. Mildred Thompson. Stanley is a graduate of Ann Arbor High School and the



Alexandra School of Cosmetology. He was also a former Washtenaw County Junior Deputy. He entered the Army and spent two years in

Germany before re-enlisting in 1962. Specialist 4 Thompson began his tour of duty in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam on September 21, 1965 serving as an infantryman with 3rd Platoon, A Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Stanley was killed on February 4, 1966 when he stepped on a Viet Cong land mine.

Stanley James Thompson is survived by his parents and wife. He lived 23 years 2 months and 2 days. Stanley'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 05E Line 001.

Warrant Officer James Eugene Kirby

was born on October 27, 1941 to Mr. and Mrs. Grover P. Kirby of Ann Arbor, Michigan. James graduated from Ann Arbor High School in 1958. James Kirby was a professional serviceman serving in the Marine

Corps for four years before enlisting in the Army in November of 1964. He attended jump school at Fort Benning, Georgia, and later attended Air Force Flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Warrant Officer Kirby was assigned to the 203rd Aviation Company, 223rd Aviation Battalion, 17th Aviation Group of the First Aviation Brigade in Phu Hiep, Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam. Warrant Officer James Eugene Kirby began his tour of duty in Vietnam on November 2, 1968. James was flying a mission on February 11, 1969 when his aircraft was hit by enemy antiaircraft fire and the aircraft crashed killing James instantly.



James Eugene Kirby is survived by his parents, his wife, a son, and a daughter. He lived 27 years,

3 months and 14 days. James is resting in the Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial located at the Ypsilanti Township Hall under Ann Arbor. He is also listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 32W Line 013.

Captain Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr.

was born on September 19, 1934 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Clark and Rose Woodworth, Sr. Clark graduated from Ann Arbor High School in 1952, and from Michigan State University in 1958.

Captain Woodworth, Jr. began his career in the United States Army on January 2, 1959. He was assigned

as the Drone Section Commander in the 503rd Aviation Company of the Third Armored Division, United States Army, Europe (Germany). He was based at Fliegerhorst Airfield, Hanau, Germany from September, 1961 to January, 1964.

He also commanded C Company Seventh Battalion, Third Training Brigade at Fort Gordon, Georgia from December, 1964 to December of 1965.

Clark began his tour in Vietnam on January 3, 1966 serving as an advisor with the 10th ARVN Infantry Division, Advisory Team 87, HQ, MACV Advisors, MACV. Captain Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr. was killed on February 28, 1966 (killed on the same day as Woodworth) as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds in Binh Thuy Province, South Vietnam.

Captain Woodworth, Jr. is survived by his wife and a sister. He lived 31 years, 5 months and 9 days. A memorial fund was set up in Clark's



honor. The Woodworth Library is a 40,000 volume library located inside the entrance at Fort

Gordon, Georgia which is named in honor of Clark. There is a portrait of Clark that is hung in the library that was painted by Norman Adams.

Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr. is at rest in Arlington National Cemetery. His name is located under Ann Arbor on the Vietnam Memorial located at the Ypsilanti Township Hall, and is located on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 05E Line 092.

Specialist 4 Larry Adams was born on May 3, 1949 in Detroit, Michigan to Foster Adams and Merlin King. Larry attended Ypsilanti High School prior to enlisting in the Army on January 29, 1967.

Specialist 4 Adams went through Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood before attending a ten week long helicopter maintenance course at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Larry started his tour of duty in An Kye, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam on August 13, 1967. He served with B Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 11th Aviation Group, 1st Cavalry Division. Although trained as a helicopter mechanic, Larry was flying a mission on a helicopter as a gunner when the aircraft was struck by enemy small arms fire killing him



instantly on February 23, 1968. Specialist 4 Larry Adams lived 18 years, 9 months

and 20 days. He left behind his parents, a brother and a sister. Larry is resting in United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth, Michigan. His name is located on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 40E Line 072.

Private Keith Arthur Stoddard was born on September 20, 1950 to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Stoddard of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Keith is a 1968 graduate of Ypsilanti High School. After graduation, he worked in the

laboratory of the State Highway Department. He entered the Army in March of 1970.



Private Stoddard began his tour of duty in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam serving as an Armor Crewman with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Keith was killed on February 1, 1971 due to the accidental self-detonation of an explosive device.

Keith Arthur Stoddard is survived by his parents, one brother and five sisters. He lived 20 years, 4 months and 11 days. He is resting in Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Keith'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 05W Line 073.

Private First Class Roger Dean Bulifant was born on April 6, 1947 to Mr. and Mrs. Forrest L. Bulifant, Jr. Roger attended Belleville High School in Belleville, Michigan.



Private First Class Bulifant enlisted in the Marine Corps in July of 1965. Roger was serving with F Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Division in the Hue - Phu Bai area of Thua Thien Province, South

Vietnam as a rifleman. He died as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds on February 28, 1966.

Roger Dean Bulifant is survived by his parents and one sister. He lived 18 years, 10 months and 22 days. Roger'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 05E Line 084.

Specialist 5 Kenneth Lige Fulton was born on September 7, 1946 to Mr. and Mrs. Lige Fulton, Jr. of Willis, Michigan.



Kenneth is a 1964 graduate of Lincoln High School where he was the

senior class president and recipient of the Willie Heston Sports Hall of Fame Award as the school's outstanding scholar-athlete. He played football, basketball and track. He attended Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan prior to entering the Army in 1966. Specialist 5 Fulton began his tour of duty in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam on February 28, 1967 serving as a Medical Non-commissioned Officer with B Company, 588th Engineering Battalion, 79th Engineering Group, 20th Engineering Brigade. Kenneth was on a convoy in the Mekong Delta when it was ambushed. He was killed on February 15, 1968 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds. According to a posting from Jack Engle, ". . . a plea for help was made and SP5 Fulton

answered the call without concern for himself, as he always had for the last year. 'Doc' did not have to be in the position he was in, he could and should have been in the rear until the area was secured. He had less than 15 days before going back to his earthly home, but yet chose to be where his 'duty' was. Instead, he went to his heavenly home. Going to the aid of a fellow soldier in need, he was killed in action."

Kenneth Lige Fulton is survived by his wife, a daughter and his parents. He lived 21 years, 5 months and 8 days. He is resting in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan. Kenneth'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 39E Line 047.

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Private First Class Ronald Lee Koch

was born on December 17, 1947 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Koch of Lima Township, Michigan. Ronald is a 1966 graduate of Chelsea High School in Chelsea, Michigan. He worked for the Larowe Feed Company in Chelsea before entering the Army on March 2, 1967. He received his Basic Training at



Fort Knox, Kentucky and Advanced Training at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Private First Class Koch began his tour of duty in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam on July 27, 1967 serving as an infantryman with A Company, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st

Infantry Division. Ronald was killed on February 6, 1968 from shrapnel wounds sustained in an explosion. Ronald Lee Koch is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister. He lived 20 years 1 month and 19 days. He is resting in Oak Grove Cemetery in Chelsea, Michigan. Ronald's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Chelsea. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 37E Line 060.

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Lieutenant Robert Clarence Marvin

was born on February 10, 1940 in Boone, Iowa to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Marvin of Dexter, Michigan. Robert is a 1958 graduate of



Greenville High School in Boone, Iowa. Bob earned a Navy Scholarship and attended the University

of Michigan where he was a member of the Naval ROTC program. He was commissioned upon graduating in 1962.

Lieutenant Marvin flew 111 missions from the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk before going to the U.S.S. Hancock with VA-115, Task Force 77, 7th Fleet operating in the Gulf of Tonkin, North Vietnam. According to a synopsis written on the POW Network, "On February 14, 1967, Marvin flew an A1H (Skyraider) from the Hancock on a mission. His plane developed trouble shortly after takeoff. He and his wingman turned to return to the carrier, but Bob's engine stalled and cut off all electrical power, so no radio messages were received from

him. His wingman tried to set a glide path to conform to the powerless glide Marvin's plane would be in, but never caught sight of Marvin's plane. The day was overcast. The Navy searched the area for two days but did not find any debris or sign of Marvin or his plane."

Robert Clarence Marvin is survived by his parents, wife, a son, and a brother. He lived 27 years, 3 months and 14 days. He was awarded 10 Air Medals, the National Defense Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and the South Vietnamese Government's Armed Services Expeditionary Medal. Robert's body was never recovered, but his name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial as "Missing In Action (MIA). His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 15E Line 028.

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Specialist 4 Jimmie Sherrill Warren

was born on December 30, 1948 to Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill Warren of Milan, Michigan. Jimmie is a 1967 graduate of Dundee High School in Dundee, Michigan. He entered the Army in January of 1968 completing his Basic Training at Fort Knox,



Kentucky. Specialist 4 Warren began his tour of duty in Cu Chi, Tay Ninh Province on August 16, 1968

serving as a Radio Operator with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Jimmie was killed on February 23, 1969 as a result of enemy small

arms fire.

Jimmie Sherrill Warren is survived by his parents. He lived 20 years, 1 month and 23 days. He is resting in Shephard Memorial Park in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Jimmie'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 31W Line 029.

Specialist 4 William David Gouger, Jr. was born on May 3, 1949 to Mr. and Mrs. William D. Gouger, Sr. of Ypsilanti, Michigan. William is a 1967 graduate of Lincoln High School. He attended Eastern Michigan University before entering the Army.

Specialist 4 Gouger began his tour of duty in Long An Province, South



Vietnam on October 26, 1968 serving as an infantryman with E Company, 2nd Battalion,

60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. William was killed on February 11, 1969 from enemy small arms fire. According to a posting by Joseph Bogucki, "I served in Nam with Bill Gouger with Recon 2nd/60th Inf. 9th Inf Div. We called him 'Big G'. An avid hunter and outdoorsman, Bill was our platoon's unofficial armorer. 'G' was a big man, but as kind and gentle as any you would ever meet. Rest in Peace, Big G."

William David Gouger, Jr. is survived by his parents and a brother. He lived 19 years, 9 months and 8 days. He is resting in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan. William'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 32W Line 012.

Chapter Dispatch Patrons

Please check your dates to see if you are current

*NAME LISTED ON THE WASHTENAW COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

The above have made a contribution in a continuing effort to support our Chapter by offsetting the cost of printing and postage. The month and year are when the patron subscription expires. You may also consider a "In memory Of." If you would like to support your newsletter, please make a check payable to VVA 310. We will credit 1 month for every \$1.50 donated. Note on the Memo Line Dispatch Patron. Please mail your check to: VVA 310, P.O. Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

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Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2019
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Larry St. Antoine ~ March 2020
Linda Lamey-Leonard in memory of **Lavern Lamey*** ~ July 2021
Patricia Beechem in memory of her brother, **David S. Palmer** ~ October 2018
Helena Prince in Memory of deceased member **Tom Prince,** ~ April 2023
Corrine Gignac in Memory of Vietnam Vet Marine **Gary L West** ~ January 2020
Bonnie Woods in memory of her VN vet husband **Gary Woods,** ~ December 2018.

National Caregivers Day

Invitation from Warriors And Caregivers United.

Please join us for lunch, as follows:
February 16, 2019, 12pm-3pm
The Quarter Bistro & Tavern –
300 S Maple Rd
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Red Room
Seating is limited. Make reservations or get more information by Feb 9, as follows:
Please email stephanie@wacu.org, Warriors and Caregivers, for information and reservations. Hope to see you there.

If You Wish to Contact Us

Website: <http://vva310.org/>

General Information

President: Jon Luker

Vice President: Al (Fredo) Merritt

Secretary: Larry St. Antoine

Treasurer: Berry Bourne

Membership: Vance McCrumb

Dispatch Editor: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

Chapter Mailing Address:

VVA 310, PO Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday of the Month, 1900 hours.

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