



Together We
Make A Difference



Charles S. Kettles
Michigan Chapter 310

310 Dispatch

Newsletter

January 2020

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



Editor's Note: Happy New Year, All! I would like to thank all of our newsletter contributors for writing excellent materials and submitting them on time. Again, you are the ones who make the 310 *Dispatch* great. For this issue, Pres. Tim Driscoll has an article, and that's great. Also, I highlight the Mystery Member feature, which Vance McCrumb suggested. If you wish, please send suggestions to Vance, with pictures. Let's make 2020 a great year!
-- Paulo-Juarez Pereira, Editor

What's New . . .

President's Message.....	2
Chaplain's Corner.....	2
Remember Our Supporters.....	3
VVA310 Chapter Meeting Minutes.....	3
Current Events.....	5
AVVA Report.....	6
VVA Making a Difference for VA Patients.....	7
Mystery Member.....	7
Honoring January Anniversaries on the Wall.....	8
Our KIA Family Responses.....	10
Wreaths Across America.....	10
Dispatch Patrons.....	11
Memorial Book Impacted Others.....	11

President's Message

By Tim Driscoll

This is the time of the year when we go out into the holiday crowds to go shopping, wearing our veteran hats and jackets. Everywhere we go, people want to know who we are. So, we tell them: "We are the mighty Charles S. Kettles Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 310." Well, maybe not all that, but I'm sure it's an enthusiastic conversation. Very often they start telling us about themselves or their loved ones, who are standing with them chatting up a storm, and the great conversation begins.



If it is another vet, the conversation has each other's name, rank, and MOS. They may list the occupations they did in the service. This conversation can go on for quite a few minutes, but almost never about horror stories of loss of life or limb.

Usually there is a pause in the conversation, where we step up to the great part, where we ask, "Would like to come to our next meeting?" "Yes, you can bring your wife, and there is no swearing, drinking, smoking, or any rudeness at all at our VVA 310 meetings. We meet at the VFW Post 423 on Wagner Rd across from the junk yard at 7 pm on the second Thursday of each month. We have potluck, and our Associates meet at 6 pm."

"We salute our flag, say our prayers for our servicemen and women in harm's way around the world. We pray for those who have come to harm because of war wounds or had gone to meet their Maker in heaven, who will be in our veteran hearts forever."

I always tell them that, if they cannot make a meeting, some members meet for coffee and such on Wednesday mornings at Brewed Awakenings in Saline. There they can meet us and join the fun of the Liars' Club members, sharing some fun stories and always good cheer. If they give me another minute or two, I tell them about our "Support the Troops" packages, our Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial, and our merchandise kiosk at the Ann Arbor VA on the second Tuesday of each month 8 am to 2 pm. I also mention that there will be the first Fisher House in Michigan at the Ann Arbor VA opening in June 2020.

I also ask if they are registered at the VA Hospital, and I remind them that our VA hospital works side by side with the U of M Hospital. Our VA has the brightest and youngest doctors and nurses with the latest medical equipment in our State.

So, who are we? We are each other, sharing a brotherhood and sisterhood. We have never turned our backs on our country's people and have always given whatever is needed to keep our country and the wonderful caring people of this world, who only want peace on earth and good will to men.

Bless us all and to all a blessed night.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Gordon Moore

Two Scriptures come to mind as we continue to live through political chaos and the approaching 2020 election with its importance for us all. The first is found in Psalm 51 and forms a challenge for all people of



faith. This Scripture tells us that we must be clean to approach God and call upon Him for direction so that we might receive his forgiveness and blessing.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, and You only have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight: that You might be justified when You speak, and be clear when You judge. Behold, I was shaped in iniquity, and in sin did my mother

conceive me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You shall make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness, that the bones which You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence; and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted unto You.

The next Scripture pertains to the children of God and their responsibility to the nation, so that God will continue to bless the nation. It is found in 2 Chronicles 7:12-15:

Then the Lord appeared to Solomon at night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their

sin, and will heal their land. Now My eyes will be open, and My ears will be attentive to the prayer offered in this place.

We people of faith have a tremendous work in front of us to stop the flow of political insanity and the sin that has infected our nation. Let us pray and cleanse ourselves for the task before us, that God may hear us and heal our much-divided land.

Peace be upon us all!

Remember Our Supporters

By Vance McCrumb

Mullins Auto Supply & Service, NAPA AutoCare Center, is a family-owned business in Milan. Dave Mullins and his father, Lowell, started the business in 1988, and they have been providing auto care and parts for the Milan and surrounding communities. Dave's son is a captain in the U. S. Army with several tours in the Middle East.

Mullins Auto has been a huge supporter of our Chapter for several years, specifically our pig roast, with certificates for two- and four-wheel alignments, tire rotations, and oil changes. They make monetary donations also. Mullins Auto recently made a donation to help cover the cost of our new fundraiser brochure.

Mullins have been servicing our family vehicles for the better part of twenty years. If you need service or parts, visit them at 630 County Street, Milan, MI 48160 -- Ph.: 734.439.7270.

VVA310 Chapter Meeting Minutes

By Jon Luker, Secretary

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

12 December 2019

Call to order by President Driscoll at 1911

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer: Tim Driscoll

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

Rollcall: A quorum was established. Welcome Home Everyone!

New Members: Ken Bridges

Guests: None

Motion to Approve the November Minutes by Wilson/St Antoine.

Approved.

President's Report:

- Dell is doing better at Wellbridge on North Territorial Road
- Paulo's brother passed away.
- John Kinzinger is home from surgery.
- Kathy and I were in the hospital today also.
- 20 Dec is the Christmas party at hospital. Meet in lobby at 1730. If you can't make that, you can join VVA Chapter 528 at the VA on 17 Dec. Stacey Mason will be there on the 17th and the Saline Fiddlers will be there on the 20th.
- We still need volunteers for Pig Roast and Merchandise.
- We could also do new projects for community outreach and to raise a few dollars.

Treasure's Report: Bourne. Printed report circulated. Proposed budget outlined. If we don't get volunteers to do the fundraising activities, we

will need significant budget cuts. No questions.

AVVA Report: Kathy Driscoll. Please see attached report.

Food Pantry: Miller. No Report.

Merchandise Report: St Antoine/Rivers/Clark. We got snowed out at the VA last month. Last Tuesday was our last day at the VA and our last event. Things were a bit slow this week. Thanks to all who volunteered over the past two years, especially Marv, Steve, Shirley, Kathy, Wendy & Too Tall. Thanks to the two Stan's for agreeing to pick up where we left off. We got two more volunteers. Stan Harrison is going to haul the trailer. We still need somebody to do the internet ordering and to receive and tag the items when they come in. That person doesn't need to leave home. We might do things other than the VA, but only if we get more volunteers for those events.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Report: Luker. We will be doing Bingo before our regular meeting on 20 January at the VA and then meeting in the auditorium for our meeting.

Michigan State Council: Luker.

- There is a debate about whether MOPH is getting out of the VSO business. If they do, there is a good chance that VVA will pick up the new business and get a better share of the Coalition budget as well.
- VVAMSC.org is up and running. If you want to see what is happening around the state, that's the place to go.
- 29 March is Vietnam Veterans Day. It is also the date of the next State Council meeting in Standish.
- HR 2200 would add four diseases to those that are

presumptively caused by toxic exposure during service in Vietnam. The bill was introduced in April and referred to two committees. VVA is being told the bill is expected to start moving soon. Please ask your representatives to support this bill. It is beyond past due.

- The State Council is trying to put together an event specifically to bring younger veterans and Vietnam Veterans together. Part of the goal is to let them know that we will be opening our ranks to them as soon as possible. Another part of the goal is to find out what they want or need from an organization like VVA. To that end, the State Council would like me to collect contact information for younger veterans you might know. If you know veteran students, Team RWB members, young veterans in church, or other young veterans, please ask them if you can give me their contact information. Please forward the information to our Secretary, Jon Luker, at jonluker9@outlook.com.
- The VVA VSO office in Detroit moved to room 1226. This is a "permanent" move. They are still having phone trouble. When you call you might get a ring with no routing to voicemail or you might get a busy signal. In that case, please just try again in 10 minutes or so.
- The Leadership Conference will be 14 through 18 July 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio. All chapter officers may attend. The main topic is expected to be about the name change process and about expanding our membership.

- Blue Water Navy claims will be worked on starting on 1 Jan, but you can submit yours now.

Memorial Committee Report: Merritt. Thank you to all team members. We received many good compliments throughout the season. Send me an email if you'd like to be on the committee next year. Animal (Jim Sharp) gave us a six-foot-tall metal silhouette of a soldier kneeling. The committee will determine where it will be placed. The bench and the repairs will take place in spring. Kate and her husband put up two wreaths. The shed project is still in progress.

Website Committee Report: McCrumb. The website works, but it is not mobile friendly – meaning that it does not look right when viewed on mobile devices. We have asked for an estimate to upgrade the website to make it mobile-friendly and to make it more secure. Estimate to come.

Membership Report: McCrumb. Officially, National shows us at 208, including Gerald Martin, who transferred to us from Plymouth-Canton 528. Bourne gave us a donation to cover the dues of a lapsed member.

Newsletter: Pereira. No report.

Health Care: Wilson. Senior Citizens Flu shots are in. Shingles shots are in also.

VAAHS Report: Wilson for Kinzinger. Things are changing at the VA. More people coming in for care. The director has been instructed to help shape up the Detroit VA. There is a new VISN director from Arizona. Bull added that they have two new people at Volunteer Services but haven't replaced Bev yet. The biggest things on the VAVS needs list are sweat pants and hooded sweat

shirts.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Motion McCrumb/Fife to donate \$1,000 to Veterans Radio as a sponsorship. By consent, the motion was not considered because the issue will be included in Board budget discussions before the budget is presented to membership.

Bylaws Amendment: As required by our bylaws, a printed copy of proposed bylaws was presented to the membership by the Board, subject to further review and editing to be voted on by membership at the January regular membership meeting.

Good of the Order:

Bob Bull: I have a project underway to provide additional housing for homeless veterans. We have identified a property we might be able to use and are negotiating with the City of Ypsilanti to make it available. On 9 February, I will be conducting a fundraising auction event at VFW Post 423. I could use volunteers on the 8th to help setup the event and volunteers on the 9th to work the event and cleanup. There will also be a \$10 breakfast at the VFW on the day of the event. I am also talking with the VFW to see if they will allow this facility to become a Vet Center.

Finally, I have talked with several legislators who agree that the Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System should be renamed in honor of LTC Charles S. Kettles. I will continue to help make this happen.

Larry St. Antoine: Please come to the Welcome Center at the VA by 1730 on 18 December 2019 for the next Veterans Radio Open Mic Night. The topic will be "There I was on Christmas Day."

Official business ceased by operation of Standing Rule Three at 2030.

Good of the Order Continued Informally:

- John Kinzinger: VVA 310 is being given credit for hosting a fundraiser for Warriors and Caregivers United (WACU) that will be held at Frenchie's, next to the Sidetrack bar in Ypsilanti from 1700 to 2100 on Tuesday, 7 January. Stacey Mason and Phil Kelly will provide musical entertainment. For more information, go to www.wacu.org or visit their facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/wacu.org/>

Coming Events—December:

Today A good day to get your flu shot and your shingles shot

14 December: Wreaths Across America;

17 December: VVA 528 Christmas Party at the VA;

18 December: Vet's Radio Open Mic night at the VA;

20 December: VVA 310 Christmas Party at the VA

January Events: See "Current Events" below.

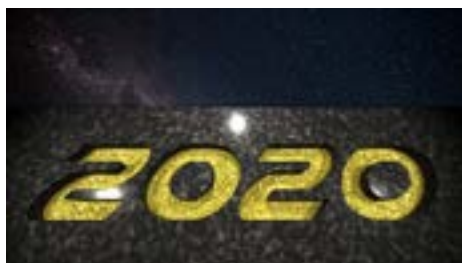
Closing Prayer: Bob Bull

Salute the Flag

Respectfully Submitted, Jon Luker

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira



Happy New Year, All!

Notable Events:

07 Jan, 5-9 pm: Fundraiser for WACU at Ypsilanti's Frenchies.

09 Jan: Monthly VVA/AVVA 310 Meetings: VVA Board 1730 hrs; AVVA 1800 hrs; VVA Member Meeting 1900 hrs

10 Jan, 9 am: Chapter breakfast: Holiday's Restaurant, 2080 W. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor.

14 Jan: Merchandising at the VAMC, 3rd Flr. 0800- 1400 hrs

20 Jan: Washtenaw County Council Meeting and Bingo at the VA, 1930 hrs

29 Jan: Veterans Radio Open Mic, VFW Post 423, 1830 hrs

Upcoming

9 Feb: Breakfast and Auction Fundraiser at the VFW

29 Mar: Vietnam Veterans Day

29 Mar: Michigan State Council meeting in Standish

6-7 Jun: Selfridge Air Show honoring Vietnam Veterans

14-18 Jul: Leadership Conference @ Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dayton, OH
July 2021 VVA National Convention, Greensboro, NC

NEED TO KNOW

Saturdays @ 0930: Southeast parking lot, Gallup Park, walk/run. with Team Red White & Blue

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

View Our Calendar by Clicking [HERE](#)



AVVA Report

By Kathy Driscoll
January 2020

I wish everyone a Blessed Healthy and Happy New Year! I am recuperating from my surgery.

I thank everyone for their prayers for a quick recovery. I am slowly getting my strength back and was able to attend our December membership meeting.

Eight members attended our December membership meeting. We collected over 100 "Toys for Tots". Thank you, Sarah Caswell Angell NDAR Chapter, Ann Arbor, for donating 26 toys and Bob Bull, VVA 310 members for the 30 plus toy donation from his Ypsilanti church members. Tim delivered the toys to Pat at Mancino's Pizza on Zeeb Rd for distribution to the USMC Toys



for Tots Campaign.

(Corrine, Shirley, Kathy, Sandy, Kate, Bonnie, Jane, and Carol)

H.R. 2568 Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act As of today, Friday, December 20, 2019, there are 15 co-signers to this bill. Tim Walberg (R-17) is the only Michigan US Congressman to co-sign this bill. If you live in another congressional district, please contact your representative to have him or her co-sign this bill.

You can use this link to send your congressional representative a letter to support this bill:

<https://cqrcengage.com/dav/>

H.R. 2333 Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act passed the US House of Representatives on May 21, 2019. I am happy to report that yesterday, December 19, 2019 this Bill was presented to President Trump for his approval. Thank you to everyone, who contacted their representatives in Congress and Senate. Together we make a difference to all Veterans.

- AVVA 310 Members were busy volunteering and supporting AVVA and VVA projects in November.
- Shirley Hitte and Wendy St. Antoine supported VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

How can AVVA 310 members support VVA 310 and AVVA 310 in January?

- Volunteer one or two hours on Tuesday, January 14th supporting VVA 310 Merchandise sales team at the Ann Arbor VA 3rd floor. Please volunteer an hour or two.
- The Washtenaw County Council of Veterans January meeting will be at 07:30 Monday, January 20th at the Ann Arbor VA Auditorium following Bingo in the CLC. If you would like to assist at Bingo, please arrive at 6:00 pm in the CLC Activity room.
- If you haven't already donated, please send Kathy your donation to our No Bake sale fundraiser. This is our main fundraiser that supports the operating and special projects.

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,

We have two ongoing and future fundraisers! Please consider supporting our fundraisers in January. We donated \$550 to Fisher House Michigan for their 2019 Patriot Match Fundraiser: September 11, 2019 through November 30, 2019. Thank you for helping us surpass our goal of \$500. Meni presented our donation



to Kate Melcher on November 21st.

Veteran Wrist Story Bracelets

AVVA 310 has Veteran Wrist Story Bracelets for a \$5 donation. Please contact Kathy Driscoll if you would



like one. We have 58 bracelets left.

No Bake Bakeless Bake Sale:

- Our 2019 "No Bake Bakeless Bake Sale" fundraiser letters were emailed to our members with email addresses. Please consider making a donation. All proceeds go to our General Funds specified treasury lines. To date we have raised \$208.00.

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2020 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$2,083.25. We donated \$1,200 to the American Legion Auxiliary Post 322 to sponsor three delegates to the 2020 Girls State. Girls State will be held June 14 – 20 at Michigan State University.

Eligibility for Girls State 2020:

- At American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, high school female students who have completed their junior year are competitively selected to participate in a seven-day mock government program where they learn about civics and American government in a fast-paced, interactive program of campaigning, debating, voting, and electing mock local and state leaders.
- Please let Kathy know of any high school girl, who will complete their Junior Year this June 2020. Our three sponsored delegates do not have to be from Saline High School. They can be students in any Michigan high school.
- Applications can be downloaded from <https://michalaux.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/2020-Delegate-Application.pdf>.
- AVVA Michigan State Association News
- Due to my surgery and recuperation, I resigned as President of AVVA Michigan Association. Penny Meinhardt is the new President. 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.

- You can view the AVVA Strategic Plan at <http://vvamsc.org/associate/>.

• AVVA Michigan Association next meeting will be Sunday, February 16th

AVVA Michigan Association Fundraising Report:

- AVVA MI Association is looking for fundraising ideas for 2020.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage is launched! Check out the AVVA Michigan Association tab! <http://vvamsc.org/associate/>

The next meeting will be Sunday, February 16th.

AVVA National

The next AVVA board meeting is January 18-20, 2020 in Silver Spring, MD.

Upcoming Events!

20 January WCCV meeting following Bingo at the Ann Arbor VA CLC.

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.



VVA Making a Difference for VA Patients

By John Kinzinger

On Tuesday, December 17, VVA 528 Plymouth-Canton Chapter members, Stacey Mason and the Saline Fiddlers entertained the Ann Arbor VA patients as part of our annual Christmas program.

December 20th, VVA 310 members visited all the patients in their rooms and presented them with the special embroidered shirts. We brought smiles to their faces with our Christmas cheers, as we wore our Santa hats. And check out Fredo's outfit. Those from our Chapter 310 who gave their time for the hospitalized Veterans were Vance McCrumb, Corrine Gignac, Stan Harrison, Berry Bourne, Steve and Shirley Hitte, Al Merritt, Roy and Bonnie Hall, Tim Driscoll, Jim Sharp, Jane and John Kinzinger, and Chapter friends Dave, Pete, Norma and Gordon.

Mystery Member Who Am I?

By Vance McCrumb

[Editor's Note: Over the years, all of us grow in wisdom, sense of humor, and charm—to the point where we cannot be identified in pictures taken decades ago. But those early pictures are always special.

So, Vance McCrumb suggested the "Mystery Man" item for the Dispatch. The answer will be in next month's newsletter.

Please take a look at the picture below and find out if you can figure out who this VVA310 member is. If you wish, send your answers



to Vance. See page 12 for contact information. Meanwhile, you might wish to submit one of your pictures also.

Good luck!]

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. Mc Intire 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 Mc Intire, 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 the Bien Hoa Air Base.

Walter Edwin Mc Intire, Jr. is survived by his parents, three brothers and two sisters. He lived 22 years and 3 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.

__+__

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 copilot of a helicopter gunship when it was struck by enemy gunfire and crashed.



Warrant Officer Eddy died with three of crew-members on January 11, 1972. Warrant Officer John David Eddy earned the Air Medal for herosim,

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, 10 months and 10 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.

__+__

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. Michael was killed on January 28,

1970 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 his son. He lived 26 years and 5 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.

__++__

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 Bombadier 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. George died on January 27, 1965 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.

__++__

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 while he was 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 1 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.

__++__

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 prior to 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. Michael was killed on January 11, 1968 from small arms fire after being "In-Country" for one month and eleven days.

Michael Dean Cribelar is survived by his parents, his wife and 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.

__++__

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. He

was killed on January 17, 1967 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, his parents, a brother and three sisters. He lived 21 years, 9 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.



Our KIA Family Responses

By John Kinzinger

Each year, we mail Christmas cards to family members of those listed on our Memorial. At one of our meetings, we all signed 75 cards, which Vance McCrumb had designed and had sent for printing.



--> (Memorial: Drone view)

We have received responses from some of the recipients: the Fulton Family, the Koch Family, and Beverly Wagener, who is David Wagener's widow.

The latter two left personal notes in their cards for us. Beverly wrote,

"Peace, good will, and happiness. Thank you for the beautiful Chapter 310 holiday card. It warms my heart! Beverly Wagener"

Ronald Koch's sister Lynda Gladstone wrote,

"To all the members of Chapter 310: Goodwill and gladness to you at the holidays and always. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! With our love and sincere gratitude, we thank you for thinking of us and the other families of the fallen with all your kind attention, compassionate efforts, and heartfelt devotion. The monument and books are beautiful! Love, Jeff, Lynda, and Braden Gladstone."

We do make a special difference for so many.

Wreaths Across America

By Dave Draper

On December 14, I attended the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. There were hundreds of relatives, volunteers, veterans, and veteran's organizations laying wreaths. Four semitrucks were dispensing the wreaths, and more trucks were arriving. Participants included representatives of state, county, and local police and fire. On behalf of my American Legion Post 46 I laid a wreath at the gravesite of a



WWII veteran. It was a rewarding experience. Although I had been there as part of the Washtenaw County Honor Guard,

that was my first time being a part of this national campaign. I plan to make this an annual event and hope more of my veteran friends will join me.

Dispatch Patrons

[Editor's Note: Please check dates to ensure you are current.

If you wish to receive a printed copy of the 310 Dispatch, please make a donation to cover \$1.50 per month. A \$30 donation will send you printed newsletters for 20 months. Please mark your donation as "Dispatch Patrons."

You can also make donation "In Memory of."

Please see page 12 for "Contact Us" information.

Thank you for your patronage!]

List of Patrons

George F Boone ~ October 2021
 Berryman Bourne ~ August 2020
 Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2020
 William Christophersen ~ October 2019
 Stan and Dawn Clark ~ October 2020
 Edward Fuller ~ March 2020
 Gary Couture ~ July 2019
 Joseph Flint ~ January 2021
 James Graham ~ February 2019
 Phil and Gena Hecker ~ Feb 2021

Ralph Henry ~ November 2020
 Steve and Shirley Hitte ~ June 2024
 Darlene Imus ~ January 2021
 Dorothy & Donald Kepler ~ June 2020
 Jane and John Kinzinger ~ June 2021
 Kate Kirkpatrick ~ January 2020
 Rudy and Jane Kozal ~ May 2022
 Sandy Martinez ~ September 2021
 Dell Mayes ~ December 2019
 Al (Fredo) Merritt ~ May 2018
 Ronald Oliver ~ November 2021
 Paulo and Ann Dempsey Pereira ~ January 2020
 George Perrault ~ October 2022
 Mira and Bob Pierson ~ October 2021
 Ken Rogge ~ May 2019
 Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026
 Ron and Marina Silverberg ~ March 2019
 Chris Wetzler ~ February 2021
 Elizabeth Wong ~ September 2020
 Bob Kurtz ~ December 2019
 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



Memorial Book Impacted Others

By John Kinzinger

I would like to share with you yet another example of how my book *Sacrifices Not Forgotten* has impacted others. This was written by Bill Bailey, a local Vietnam veteran.

At 20 years old, I was a Senior Medic on patrol in Vietnam, when our Point Man found two booby trap markers. He radioed back to another platoon, and we exited down the mountain by way of a surging creek. The other platoon came to the same spot and disregarded the advice. They lost two men from a land mine. Some of us cried for not being able to save the two men, a captain and a radio operator. (45 years later ...)

A few years later, John Kinzinger gave me a book about area Veterans killed in Vietnam. While reading it, I saw the name Doug Atkins, and I read about a Colonel Richard Hilburn. The only Hilburn I knew was an E-4 not an officer. I inquired from John Kinzinger again, and he said Richard Hilburn is now a medical doctor. We connected by phone, and indeed it was my friend from Vietnam. We are reconnecting.

(The above is one of several things that developed from readers of my book. I am happy to share them. I hope Bill and Ric reunite.)

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

Chapter President: Tim Driscoll
Vice President: Stan Harrison
Secretary: Jon Luker
Treasurer: Berry Bourne
Chapter Membership: Vance McCrumb
310 Dispatch Editor: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

Website: <https://www.vva310.org/>
Email address: membership@vva310.org
VVA310 Facebook Page: [Click here.](#)
VVA 310 Chapter Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3221
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

**VVA 310 Dispatch
January 2020**

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