



## Chosin Reservoir Detachment #968 Casket & Funeral Guard Unit Marine Corps League



In October 2008, Marines in the Chosin Reservoir Detachment, Marine Corps League, Mason, Ohio, volunteered to form a **Casket & Funeral Guard Unit** -- for Marine or Medical Corpsman only Funerals.

Presently, the **Casket & Funeral Guard Unit** is staffed to perform Casket Guard Details for Visitation Periods at Funeral Homes and Churches in Warren County; and in significant portions of Hamilton, Butler and Clermont Counties. Presently, no Marine Casket Guard honors are planned to be rendered during funeral or grave-side services.

To secure **Casket & Funeral Guard Unit** services, a funeral home representative must contact the Casket Guard Officer Walter Golladay (res: 513 - 677 - 8659 or cell: 513 - 378 - 3292); or in his absence, Commandant John Tonkin (res: 513 - 696 - 8047, cell 513 - 673 - 2914).

If possible, funeral homes should make every effort to request our services a minimum of 48 hours prior to the Visitation Period at Marine or Corpsman funerals. It is strongly suggested you contact Walter Golladay or Commandant Tonkin, and confirm Unit availability, before informing family members of the deceased Marine or Corpsman.

If the Marine Casket Guard unit does not have a pre-existing commitment, e.g. another Funeral Visitation, a parade or ceremony during the same time-frame, we will confirm your request and report for duty. For each scheduled Funeral Home Visitation period, **Casket & Funeral Guard Marines** will report approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the Visitation Period.

During the Visitation Period detail, Casket Guard Marines:

- Will appear in the Memorial Team Dress Blue Uniform of the Marine Corps League. When weather dictates, red MCL detachment jackets &/or blue sweaters will be worn.
- Will render a funeral salute at the beginning and end of the Visitation Period. Will normally stand at Parade Rest.
- Will come to Attention when a family member or guest addresses the Marine. Will hold all conversations in low, soft tone.
- Will be flexible when standing near the casket, i.e. the Marine will slowly shift left or right to allow family members and guests to view the Marine, flowers, plaques or pictures assembled around deceased Marine.
- Will normally stand repetitive Casket Guard details of 15 to 20 minutes in duration throughout a 1 or 2 hour – maximum – Visitation Period.
- Will be relieved only by a Marine; normal salutes will be rendered upon each relief.
- Will allow family members to shoot photographs or video, if they desire to do so.
- Will document Marine obituaries of all Casket Guard details in our monthly newsletter, *The Chosin News*, and on the *Taps* page of our website at: [www.chosinreservoirdet968.org](http://www.chosinreservoirdet968.org)
- Upon receipt of a family member mailing address, will send a full color keepsake copy of *The Chosin News* containing the Marine's obituary to the family.
- Will offer a prayer, and place a Gold Eagle Globe & Anchor Insignia of the U.S. Marine Corps on the deceased Marine, or the Fleet Marine Force Badge on the deceased Medical Corpsman; For a memorial service, it will be placed near the urn of the Marine or Corpsman.



There will be no charge for our services. However, a tax deductible donation to the **Chosin Reservoir Detachment #968**, c/o Paymaster Mark Johnson Sr, 242 Coyote Drive, Maineville, OH 45039, would be most welcome and would ensure continuation and possible expansion of the **Casket & Funeral Guard Program**.