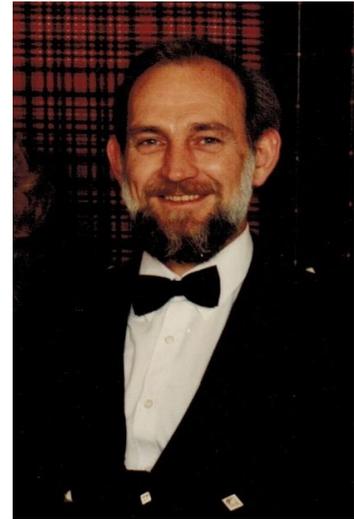




## NEIL BOWES KEMP MARINE CORPSMAN VIETNAM WAR



“Kemp, Neil B., loving husband of Kimberly (nee Bonfield) Kemp. Devoted brother of Merv (Lisa) Kemp. Brother-In-Law of Karen Bonfield, Kathy(Bill) Ruch, Jim (Fran) Wesseling. Fun uncle of Ryan (Jen) Wesseling and Spencer Ruch, Kevin Ruch preceded him in death. Best Great Uncle to Owen, Jack, Michael, Malachi and Schylar. Loyal friend to Jim Kendall, Jack Pretty, Carl Owens and Tracey Ruch.

Neil died peacefully surrounded by loving family Thursday, February 21st. Neil was born in Greenock, Inverclyde, Scotland and at the age of 16 became a citizen of the United States.

He was proud to have served his country as a U.S. Marine Corpsman during the Vietnam War. Neil was a very talented bagpiper, starting at the age of 4. He was a member of the Shriners Pipe Band, Caledonian Pipe and Drum Band, Hamilton County Sheriffs Band. After winning Best National he shared his talents with many students from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

As a Supervisor Foreman at the Ford Motor Company in Canton and Sharonville, he was proud "his hourly guys" called him a friend as well as a boss. Neil loved Dollar Beer Mondays at the Aurora Legion Post #231 and having his wife as his designated driver. He was a loyal volunteer for many positions and projects, also enjoyed the friendships made there. Neil enjoyed "building cars" with his gearhead buddies. Also loved participating in local car shows, both entering his cars and judging.

He enjoyed boating, and loved surprising his wife "Kim, we bought a boat!" Annual Guy Trips to Florida led him to purchasing a home there. Neil will be missed by his family and many friends.

All are welcomed to a Celebration of Life at Radel Funeral Home 650 Neeb Road Delhi 513-451-8800 WEDNESDAY, February 27 from the 5:00 P.M. until the time of the funeral at 7:00 P.M. All are welcome but not expected to come and share a memory or just a moment.“

Neil Kemp enlisted in the U.S. Navy on 25 July 1967 and served for 3 years, 11 months and 29 days before being released from active duty on 23 July 1971. Neil served 11 months and 15 days in foreign and / or sea service. He achieved the rank of Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class prior to his release from active duty. In 2005, Neil joined the **Chosin Reservoir Detachment 968**, Mason, Ohio, Marine Corps League.



Neil Kemp’s Medals and Ribbons received for his honorable U.S. Naval service as a Vietnam Combat Marine Corpsman include: Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with FMF Combat Insignia (with 1 Bronze Star), RVN Gallantry Cross Unit Citation With Palm, RVN Civic Action Honor Unit Citation With Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with device (1960-).



Marines from **The Chosin Reservoir Detachment 968** were honored to serve during the Funeral Visitation Period. The Marines in the detail consisted of Junior Vice Commandant Paul Plominski and Webmaster Gerry Haas.



“Gerry and I wore the official MCL uniform for wakes and funerals which consisted of: red cover, white shirt with black tie and tie clip (No Sunburst devices ), red jacket with pocket patch and 1 lapel pin (optional), black trousers with a non-ostentatious belt buckle, black socks and black shoes.

Gerry and I both arrived separately and early to Radel Funeral Home. At 1700 we went inside and introduced ourselves as representatives of the Neil's MCL Detachment to the widow, Kimberly. She was very happy to see us – Marines – and told us so. We talked for a few minutes until other family and friends began arriving but she made sure to tell us that Neil was happy that Marines had come to visit him here. I asked her if the Navy was still sending a detachment for the funeral and she said yes. She then told us "Neil always considered himself to be a US Marine, and not in the Navy".

Gerry and I then went to the table holding Neil's urn and static display on either side of the table, and we each prayed solemn prayers in silence. We then went into the seating area where more people were arriving and visiting each other. I stopped and asked Kimberly if it would be alright to place the Eagle, Globe and Anchor next to the urn... she was most grateful, and I walked back to the table/urn saluted and then removed the EGA from my cover and placed it on the table adjacent to Neils urn, rendered another salute and then Gerry and I went to sit in the visitation seating area.

We did meet and speak with a member of Neil's Aurora American Legion Post, who also confirmed that Neil always considered himself a US Marine. About 1750 Gerry and I went back to the urn came to attention, rendered a proper salute did a right facing movement and proceeded out to our vehicles and departed Radel Funeral Home."