Heroes to 1955-1975

What could be offensive about a nice gravestone with just two words "UNKNOWN SOLDIER" The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research had done a detailed study of Warren Union Cemetery in 1938 and indicated that there was a soldiers grave marked by a flag in the area where the stone had been placed that stated Unknown Soldier. Those folks were very thorough. A family donated a beautiful and expensive black granite memorial.



Two people did this secretly without just Village Commission, public hearing, They do

not own the markers, or the cemetery. They robbed Warren's unknown soldier memorial from a grave and they stole a memorial that listed Warren soldiers who are buried there. This was the only memorial showing the names of these soldiers. Nothing was found wrong with these memorials in a later public meeting And they stole the memorial to all veterans and to those who died on attacks on our country (Pearl Harbor affected many families) and 9-11 (including over 400 policemen and firemen among the 3000 killed) and they stole another that told what our flag stood for and yet another that honors those many children and pioneers buried there without markers. These memorials were causing no harm. There is lots of room for them. They posed no threat. There is nothing disrespectful or wrong about these memorials. The memorials were there to honor men who died and to educate visitors especially young people who no longer learn about history in school. We veterans saw friends die. We served our country with honor and integrity. We feel it is wrong to steal memorials showing soldiers honored service to future generations. They at least earned their name on a granite stone. Now visitors including young people will not be able to see who these soldiers were. Now many of our soldiers have no marker at all because the only one they had was stolen. This was not done by the historical society but by two persons, without a vote of the membership. Taking property that is not yours is called stealing and when it is worth several thousand dollars it is grand larceny. It has been over a year and they have not returned them. Stealing memorials that name our soldiers is worse than disgraceful. They are robbing our history left for our young people who no longer are taught history in school. No one should be allowed to steal memorials they don't own out of a cemetery they don't own. We veterans feel that they have disrespected our soldiers, our flag and those who died on attacks to our country. These memorials were donated without cost to the city possibility by out of town descendents of those buried there.

We veterans are asking that The Warren Village Commission simply acknowledge that these memorials are not a threat to anyone, harm no one, honor our Warren Soldiers many of which are buried in Warren Union Cemetery which has lots of room for them and does so without cost to the city. We also ask that the people who removed them without public notice or the vote of The Village Commission simply return them without cost to the city. This will also avoid costly and ugly legal battles supported by hundreds of veterans over the improper removal (grand larceny) and disrespecting of our soldiers. This simple and cost free action would make The Warren Village Commission heroes to thousands of Warren children, and veterans who look to them to preserve our Warren Village Historical and American Heritage to future generations.

This also fulfills the missions of The Warren Historical Commission, the society and Village Commission to preserve our history and educate future generations. But if they choose to disrespect our soldiers and veterans and those who died defending our freedom and on attacks on our country let it be known that we (and there are hundreds of us) will mount a campaign against those few disrespectors. We veterans are not going to allow men and women who died to be disrespected and their history stolen from our local cemetery. Attention attorneys we are looking for attorneys who are willing to help us fight this cause.

Heroes

Many people today have no idea of the pain and suffering that these men went through so that we may enjoy freedom. It is about remembering our heroes to future generations.

The Vietnam War was the longest war in United States History. Nearly 60,000 Americans were killed. 2,650 from Michigan died. We were asked by our president to go to war to save the world from Communism. We had to play by rules. They would not let us win. The enemy did not have to play by rules. Many of us got medals. Many of us have stated that we would rather give up the medals and have our friends back. Many of us ask why was I spared and my friend killed. Many that died should have been given medals but there is no one alive to tell their story. There are really no winners in wars. Too many are killed over nonsense. We killed people we had nothing against and they killed us and they had no grudge against us personally. Why for what?

The American public was told we lost the war but later historians have discovered that the enemy was so beaten up that they were barely hanging on by a few threads. So we won the war. I would still rather have my friends back. What did we win? And for what? Then we came home and were despised as killers for doing what our country asked us to do.

VietNam Era Needless Deaths and Suffering?

1964-1973 Almost 9 million service personnel were mobilized, at least 58,253 were killed some may still die of their wounds yet. 53,303 were physically wounded. Thousands were mentally wounded. There are 591 American POWs..

Nearly 600,000 other people died. I served during this time. If you didn't volunteer there was a good change you would be drafted. When I got home I was insulted and made fun of. Many vets had their lives wrecked. Many of us still have nightmares and flashbacks. Can you imagine what is it like having to pick up up your best friends body parts and put them into a body bag? Many have cancer and other problems related to this needless war. Did my brothers die for freedom? Were we sent to die so private companies made a profit. Rich kids often got out of serving. Later they made fun of us. A common opinion of veterans from this time is that the generals were not allowed to win the war. Is there a parallel today with Chaney's company ripping off out troops and making millions in profit from them? If the President, Vice President and members of congress so dedicated to our troops why is it that neither they or their kids are serving in Iraq? I am just asking a Historical Question.

The following information was researched by Mike Grobbel. I quote Mike Grobbel

"Paul Gordon Hazen was the son of Adelbert G. Hazen (Center Line Mayor, 1954-1960) and his wife, the former Leona Borsekowski. Paul was born on Sept. 7, 1944 and in 1965 he was drafted into the U.S. Army. On Dec. 4, 1965, SP4 Paul Hazen began a tour of duty in South Vietnam that ended on Sept. 23, 1966 when he died of multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during hostile action. He was the first Center Line soldier to die in the Vietnam war."

According to the National Archives Casualty list (<u>the source</u>) found by Mike Grobbel the following soldiers died as a result of the VietNam War.

BUTLER GERALD EUGENE PFC MARINES CENTER LINE MI 20DEC69 S.VIETNAM 11JUN50 CAHILL DANIEL FRANCIS SGT ARMY CENTER LINE MI 24FEB69 S.VIETNAM 16NOV47 GORBE VAUN ARLEN 1LT ARMY CENTER LINE MI 05OCT70 S.VIETNAM 07JAN47 HAZEN PAUL GORDON SP4 ARMY CENTER LINE MI 23SEP66 S.VIETNAM 07SEP44 BARBER RICHARD JOSEPH PFC ARMY WARREN MI 07MAY70 S.VIETNAM 10FEB49 BLANDINO HOWARD ETR2 NAVY WARREN MI 29JAN70 S.VIETNAM 17JUN48 CARRIER ALBERT JOSEPH III SP4 ARMY WARREN MI 22AUG69 S.VIETNAM 27MAY50 CHASE RUSSELL DAVID PFC ARMY WARREN MI 04FEB68 S.VIETNAM 03MAY45 CLINE ROBERT LOUIS PFC ARMY WARREN MI 04JAN68 S.VIETNAM 08JAN47 COLATRUGLIO ROBERT F WO ARMY WARREN MI 20JUN70 S.VIETNAM 10MAR48 ENOS ROBERT RAYMOND JR SP4 ARMY WARREN MI 14JAN71 S.VIETNAM 07DEC50 FALK DAVID JOHN SSGT ARMY WARREN MI 20APR70 S.VIETNAM 05MAR48 FARRO STANLEY DALE SGT ARMY WARREN MI 07FEB69 S.VIETNAM 14MAY48 GIVENS DAVID JERRY PFC ARMY WARREN MI 31AUG69 S.VIETNAM 20DEC48 GREEN KENNETH GERALD SP4 ARMY WARREN MI 03DEC68 S.VIETNAM 15AUG47 GRIGGS EDWARD LOUIS III PFC ARMY WARREN MI 23FEB69 S.VIETNAM 05FEB49 GROSS ALAN HARRY CPL ARMY WARREN MI 23MAY70 S.VIETNAM 06FEB50 GUENTHER WILLIAM RICHARD SGT ARMY WARREN MI 06SEP68 S.VIETNAM 09DEC47 GULLA DENNIS JAMES PFC MARINES WARREN MI 03FEB69 S.VIETNAM 16MAR49 HEYER WALTER EARL JR PFC ARMY WARREN MI 14SEP69 S.VIETNAM 11MAY49 HOGLUND MICHAEL AUGUST SGT ARMY WARREN MI 10NOV67 S.VIETNAM 24NOV46 HOLLINGSWORTH RICHARD LEE SGT ARMY WARREN MI 09JAN66 S.VIETNAM08AUG31 HOOVER ROGER JOSEPH PVT MARINES WARREN MI 01DEC67 S.VIETNAM 19MAY48 JACOBS RICHARD ALLEN PFC ARMY WARREN MI 27AUG67 S.VIETNAM 10DEC48 JARVIS JEREMY MICHAEL MAJ AIR FORCE WARREN MI 03APR78 N.VIETNAM 05NOV41 KELLER CHARLES HENRY II CAPT ARMY WARREN MI 23JUN69 S.VIETNAM 22JUL37 KUPIEC THOMAS MARK SP4 ARMY WARREN MI 17DEC68 S.VIETNAM 24MAY47 LANE ALAN CPL ARMY WARREN MI 13MAY67 S.VIETNAM 14APR46 LIVINGSTONE DAVID MICHAEL PFC ARMY WARREN MI 02NOV69 S.VIETNAM 23DEC50 LYDEN DENNIS M PFC ARMY WARREN MI 05MAR66 S.VIETNAM 07JAN46 MARCHLEWICZ ARNOLD M PFC ARMY WARREN MI 24OCT68 S.VIETNAM 30MAR49 MILLER EUGENE STUART CAPT ARMY WARREN MI 23MAY70 S.VIETNAM 15AUG44 NABOZNIAK MYRON RICHARD SP4 ARMY WARREN MI 24SEP70 S.VIETNAM 02APR45 O CONNOR GARRETT TIMOTHY PFC ARMY WARREN MI 09MAY68 S.VIETNAM 02JAN49

OLSEN DONALD BRYAN PFC MARINES WARREN MI 12FEB68 S.VIETNAM 02MAR49
PETELA THOMAS JOSEPH PFC ARMY WARREN MI 14MAY70 CAMBODIA 16FEB50
RADZIECKI MICHAEL ANTHONY PFC MARINES WARREN MI 21JAN69 VIETNAM 14OCT47
REYES WILLIAM LCPL MARINES WARREN MI 05JUL68 S.VIETNAM 22MAR48
RICCI GERALD CPL ARMY WARREN MI 12FEB67 S.VIETNAM 27NOV46
ROGALLA GEORGE HENRY CWO ARMY WARREN MI 02NOV70 S.VIETNAM 08DEC49
SKOVIAK RONALD FRANK CPL MARINES WARREN MI 08OCT63 S.VIETNAM 03AUG41
SOSNOSKI RONALD FRANCIS SGT ARMY WARREN MI 19JUL68 S.VIETNAM 29AUG45
THOMPSON NEIL STEWART CPL ARMY WARREN MI 02MAR68 S.VIETNAM 23APR47
UTRIAINEN GARY ALBERT SGT ARMY WARREN MI 11JUN70 CAMBODIA 07JAN51
VILLAMOR ROMAN ROZEL JR LCPL MARINES WARREN MI 31MAR67 VIETNAM 10AUG47
There were many more who died (nearly 60,000) or are missing in action (2,255) from all over our country. See the document Vietnam Casualties in this history.