

# DELIVERING PERSONAL CARE GOODS TO VETERAN

MEMBERS TAKE TIME OUT TO SHARE THEIR STORIES AND CONTINUE A COMMITMENT

Chapter 8 Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) and Unit 8 Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart (LAMOPH) members Joe and Sis Kovar deliver yet another load of personal care items to veterans at the Minneapolis Veterans Home.

Due to the efforts of Joe Kovar and his wife Sis, thousands of dollars have been raised through individual donations. The funds collected go towards the purchase of various personal care items for veterans. Kovar raises the money by speaking at various locations around the Twin Cities. Keeping none of the funds for himself, Jim tells his stories about WWII experiences in Europe. The

many in attendance make cash donations to Chapter 8 of the MOPH for the expressed purpose that the money will be used to support military veterans who call the Minneapolis and Hastings facilities their home.

In September, over \$900.00 in personal care were delivered to the Minneapolis Veterans Home by Joe and Sis Kovar on behalf of Chapter 8 MOPH. They continue on the commitment Chapter 8 had made to the Minneapolis and Hastings Veterans Homes for over 50 years.

Bill Bull  
Adjutant and Finance Officer  
Chapter 8 M.O.P.H. Minnesota



Chapter 8 MOPH and Unit 8 LAMOPH members Joe and Sis Kovar



## REFLECTIONS OF A COMBAT SOLDIER: A PAINFUL HOMECOMING

by: Richard Jenkins, Sr. MOPH Department Chaplin

I was one of thousands of soldiers sent to Vietnam in the early 60's to fight against the Communist insurgents. My training was key to my survival, yet it became a central source of struggle upon my return home. For those of us who were at war in Nam, we were trained to bury our grief and feelings of isolation.

We came home changed men, with different mind-sets and attitudes which were hard for our families and friends to understand. We all wept survivor's tears, wondering why God brought us back and not others we fought alongside.

These unresolved feelings multiplied as we returned home to large anti-war demonstrations that scapegoated us as murderers. We faced



Richard Jenkins

hate and indifference. We were made to feel like soldiers without a count inside a society that tried to distance itself from us after an unpopular war.

Our loved ones suffered too. Our wives, children, and significant others were our safety nets, and had it not been for them, many of us would not have made it.

They prayed for our protection (Psalm 91) and deliverance from anything that would come against us during the day and night. They prayed, as the psalmist says, that God would send his holy angels to guard us. There is no doubt in my mind that had it not been for my wife's prayers, we would never have made it.