



MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION DETROIT
One Lafayette Plaisance #912 Detroit, MI 48207

April 4, 2011

From: Robert Middleton
National Bylaws Chairman

To: Kenneth Crutcher
MPMA Awards Chairman

c.c. James Averhart, President
James Carr, Vice-President
Joe Geeter, Nat'l Public Relations Officer

I am especially pleased to nominate James Edward Stewart, Jr. for the prestigious *Hall of Fame Award*. James Stewart has been a dedicated member and tireless supporter of the Montford Point Marine Association for thirty one years. For eleven years, 2000-2011, he has served as President of the Montford Point Marine Association, Chapter 28. He holds a life membership in the Montford Point Marine Association. As a Marine and veteran of the Viet Nam Conflict, James Stewart also holds a life membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is a past Post Commander of his VFW Post 9619.

James Stewart has made many contributions to the mission of the Montford Point Marine Association over the years. He is on the By-Laws Committee of the National Board of MPMA. He is on the National Montford Point Marines Museum, National Board of MPMA, and the Monument Working Group. He has also served on the Ways and Means Committee of the National MPMA Board. In 2004, James Stewart received the MPMA *Man of the Year Award* in recognition of his service.

James Stewart has invested his time and financial assets in creating and maintaining a website to preserve and promote the history of the Montford Point Marines. Inspired by the fact that he is the son of one of the original Montford Point Marines, James Stewart, he has created a website that is a treasure of history for all connected to, or interested in, the proud legacy of the Montford Point Marines. At this point, this website has had over 700,000 webpage-views. There are historical photographs, copies or links to actual documents, narrative accounts and much more on this website that contribute to the preservation of the history and heritage of the Montford Point Marines. It informs them of opportunities for membership and service to the MPMA. In addition, this phenomenal website has become living history, as it provides the opportunity for other Marines and those connected to them, past and present, to connect, share, and contribute memorabilia and memories. Marines, friends, and family members from across the country have posted on the website. Even one Australian soldier has posted on the website about "the splendid men and women of the United States Marine Corps" with whom he served in Viet Nam. The website has useful educational components as well, for use with youth, ("Veterans Say Character Counts") educators, and researchers.

James E. Stewart, Jr.'s www.MPMA28.com has been selected to receive the 2011 Patriotic Website Award from the editors at the Veteran's Administration, and the VA Home Loan Division. His website was chosen as one of the top military websites on the web, and will be on a list of recommended websites sent to all veteran customers of the VA Home Loan Office.

Despite the time and resources he has committed to this endeavor, he continues to direct and oversee the business and activities of his local Chapter 28. He continues to work to make sure this chapter has a presence in its community. James Stewart is a retired secondary school teacher and secondary and college track and field coach. As an educator, he learned to give much, without expecting great rewards. James has been actively working to promote the interests and activities of the MPMA for many a decade in that same mode. His contributions have been many. His website will endure for posterity, and will likely inspire some future Marines. I believe he is most deserving of such an honor in recognition of his tireless commitment and valuable contributions, and I nominate him for the *2011 MPMA Hall of Fame*.