



**Montford Point Marine Paul Hagan, Sr.
Biography
January 24, 2013**

Paul Hagan, Sr. was born July 3, 1928 in Carrollton, Georgia. His parents died before he was old enough to remember them. Hagan was raised by family friends on a farm in Roopville, Georgia. He worked from sun-up to sundown six days a week yet managed to complete the seventh grade. Hagan enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on August 16, 1946.

“I was crazy about Montford Point,” Hagan confessed. “I wanted to get off of the farm.”

Like the farm, Montford Point presented its challenges. “They treated us like a bunch of dogs,” Hagan said. “They used to beat on us all the time. Back in that day, they were allowed to hit on you, kick you and everything. They were rough on us. Anytime our parents would send us boxes of food and stuff, they would take it, open it up, eat it right in front of us and wouldn’t give us anything.”

After completing recruit training at Montford Point, Hagan shipped out to Hawaii. His MOS (military occupational specialty) was transportation. Hagan served in the Eighth Ammunition Company transporting ammunition to the frontlines in the South Pacific. He was stationed in Hawaii for 11 months. Hagan was discharged from the Marine Corps in 1947 and re-enlisted in the Corps the following year. He served in Guam for 11 months and returned to Hawaii where he served until the outbreak of the Korean War. In Korea, he worked to supply Marines with ammunition from the landing at Inchon to the Chosin Reservoir campaign. Retiring from the Corps June 30, 1967, Hagan obtained a civil service position in transportation management aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Hagan died January 18, 2013 in Jacksonville. He is the recipient of numerous medals and awards including the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award given by Congress. The medal was awarded to Montford Pointers on June 27, 2012 for helping to desegregate the military and nation. Hagan was a life member of the Camp Lejeune Chapter of the Montford Point Marine Association and served as its chaplain. He is inducted into the Montford Point Marine Association Hall of Fame in August 2012.

Sergeant Paul Hagan :

Born: July 3, 1928

Enlistment: August 16, 1946

Discharge: June 30, 1967

Died: January 18, 201