

THE BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICAN WARRIORS HAS LOST ANOTHER BROTHER. REST IN PEACE, GOD IN NIGH.



WILLIAM R. CHARETTE

March 18, 2012

Rank and organization: Hospital Corpsman Third Class, U.S. Navy Medical Corpsman serving with a US Marine Rifle Company

Place and date: Korea, 27 March 1953.

Entered service at: Ludington, Michigan.

Birth: Ludington, Mich.

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against enemy aggressor forces during the early morning hours. Participating in a fierce encounter with a cleverly concealed and well-entrenched enemy force occupying positions on a vital and bitterly contested outpost far in advance of the main line of resistance, HC3c. Charette repeatedly and unhesitatingly moved about through a murderous barrage of hostile small-arms and mortar fire to render assistance to his wounded comrades. When an enemy grenade landed within a few feet of a marine he was attending, he immediately threw himself upon the stricken man and absorbed the entire concussion of the deadly missile with his body. Although sustaining painful facial wounds, and undergoing shock from the intensity of the blast which ripped the helmet and medical aid kit from his person, HC3c. Charette resourcefully improvised emergency bandages by tearing off part of his clothing, and gallantly continued to administer medical aid to the wounded in his own unit and to those in adjacent platoon areas as well. Observing a seriously wounded comrade whose armored vest had been torn from his body by the blast from an exploding shell, he selflessly removed his own battle vest and placed it upon the helpless man although

fully aware of the added jeopardy to himself. Moving to the side of another casualty who was suffering excruciating pain from a serious leg wound, HC3c. Charette stood upright in the trench line and exposed himself to a deadly hail of enemy fire in order to lend more effective aid to the victim and to alleviate his anguish while being removed to a position of safety. By his indomitable courage and inspiring efforts in behalf of his wounded comrades, HC3c. Charette was directly responsible for saving many lives. His great personal valor reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.



ALMIGHTY GOD, we thank You for the opportunity of association and memories. We pray that You will incline our hearts to entertain a brotherly affection for one another and for all fellow citizens. We pray You dispose us all to justice, kindly impulse, and mercy. As we declare our loyalty to our Country, help us to keep in mind the need of faith in God and Immortality, without which life is meaningless and vain. In that faith and conviction we can and do say to one another “farewell until we meet again.” Amen.



Louis T Dechert

Chairman, Combined KORUS Veterans
Association

