

Paul Ladd, 59

Sept. 3, 1953 - June 24, 2013

BOONE — Paul L. Ladd, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (Retired), age 59, of Boone, passed away on Monday, June 24, 2013.

Following cremation, a Memorial Service was held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2013 at the First Evangelical Free Church, 1407 Kate Shelley Drive in Boone with Pastor Lee Hotchkiss officiating. Full Military Honors were conducted by the Boone Veterans Council and the United States Marine Honor Guard at the Veterans Monument and United States Flag in Linwood Park Cemetery of Boone. Burial will be at a later date.

Visitation was held on Thursday, June 27, at the First Evangelical Free Church, 1407 Kate Shelley Drive in Boone from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with family present to greet friends at this time.

Paul Lewis Ladd, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (retired) was born September 3, 1953 to Warren Virgil and Irene Rosalie (Petersen) Ladd in Harlan. He grew up on a farm near Jacksonville. Paul graduated from Harlan Community Schools in 1972. Paul graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in Business Management in 1976. He held a Master of Business Administrations (Logistics) degree from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1976, he completed The Basic School in March 1977. Paul served 28 years in the Marine Corps and attained the rank of Colonel. He held all levels of command and also served on NATO staff. He spearheaded the task force for the Navy's Second Fleet security after the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole earning one of his Legion of Merit awards. Throughout his career, he was stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC; Detroit, MI; Quantico, VA; Virginia Beach, VA; Okinawa, Japan; Camp Pendleton, CA; and Newport, RI. Paul's final active duty position was Naval ROTC Commander at Iowa State University. Col. Ladd retired on April 30, 2004. Colonel Ladd's personal decorations included the Legion of Merit (two awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

August 22, 1982, Paul married Debra Kay Lansman at Calvary Baptist Church in Walnut. To this union two children were born, Joshua Warren and Allyson Marie. Paul loved spending time with his family and supported them in all of their endeavors. After retirement from the Marine Corps, Paul accepted the position of Director of Veterans Affairs for Boone County in 2005. He thoroughly enjoyed helping his community and would go out of his way to advocate for and help veterans whenever he could. Paul was also active at the state level of county Veterans Affairs organization. Paul was sustained by his faith in the Lord and was an active member of the First Evangelical Free Church of Boone. He was also an active member with the Boone County Re-



publicans, the Heartland Chapter of Leathernecks, Marine Corps League, VFW, American Legion, The Gideons and was involved with the ESGR (Employers Support of the Guard and Reserves). He truly loved his community and participated in any way that he could. Paul enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and often made cross-country trips to visit family and friends. During the summer, he enjoyed training for RAGBRAI and participating in the week-long event with "Team Navy". Additionally, Paul enjoyed practicing Tae-Kwan-Do, collecting guns and hunting; however, what he enjoyed most was helping his neighbors and dear friends, Jon and Brandon King of King Farms, with fall harvest.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law James Bodensteiner. He is survived by his wife, Debra of Boone; his son, Josh Ladd of Minneapolis, MN; his daughter, Allyson Ladd of Boone; his sister, Roberta Bodensteiner of Cedar Falls; his sister, Kathy Cox of Palm Desert, CA; his in-laws James Cox, Howard and Tara Lansman, Jonathan and Diane Darling, nieces and nephews, friends, neighbors and fellow veterans.

In memory of Paul, memorials may be directed to his family. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.walter-schroederfuneral-home.com. Walter - Schroeder Funeral Home at Fifth & Story Streets in Boone is in charge of arrangements.