



The BULLETIN BRAVO is a publication for the members of Company B, 2nd Bn, Michigan Volunteer Defense Force and is intended to convey information relative to the development of the company and its members. Information that may be of interest and value to the members of the unit is to be submitted through either CPT Trublowski, or 1SG Kasprzak, for their approval prior to inclusion by the Company Clerk in the BULLETIN BRAVO.

Volume 2

Special Edition

MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER DEFENSE FORCE - 2ND BN - B CO

BULLETIN BRAVO

The funeral of Mr. Sanderious Crocker

Good Friday is a day when many of us reflect on what it means to serve.

Christians are reminded of Jesus' willingness to serve his Father even as it meant dying a lonely and difficult death. That kind of lonely death is especially hard to witness in a veteran, as Mitch Albom of the Detroit Free Press wrote in his March 24th column. He described the challenging life and lonely death of the Vietnam War Marine Corps veteran Sanderious Crocker, a Detroit native and Chadsey High School honors graduate. He entered the Corps the summer of his high school graduation and served four years straight in Vietnam. He was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation and the Good Conduct Medal. Mr. Crocker returned with a bullet lodged in his spine and the emotional ravages of war we now know to be PTSD. He spent the rest of his sixty seven years battling internal and external pain with alcohol and intermittent homelessness. He became estranged from family and friends. He was fortunate to connect with the loving people at I Am My Brother's Keeper Ministries in Detroit. It was the staff at the Ministries who turned to Mr. Albom for help in locating Mr. Crocker's family upon his death. During this process Mr. Crocker's body waited in the county morgue.

Mr. Albom's column details the finding of Mr. Crocker's sister, and goes on to invite members of the community to join in bidding an honorable farewell to an honorable Marine. Captain Trublowski and Private Seymour joined more than two hundred veterans and community members in attending his funeral on Good Friday afternoon, complete with military honors, at the church at Brainard and Trumbull. The sky was bright, the air was brisk and the mood was one of gratitude for his life, sadness at his many struggles and pride in a good and faithful servant's job well done.

PV2 Julie Seymour
Staff Writer – Bulletin Bravo





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Comments from CPT Trublowski:

“My thanks to PV2 Seymour for her fine article. I was honored to be able to pay my respects in memory of Mr. Crocker and his service to our country. I was also privileged to be in the presence of the ‘Patriot Guard Riders’, the ‘Buffalo Soldiers’ and the representatives from the various branches of military service. If any of you are not familiar with the two organizations I mentioned above, I am sure that you would find it well worth your time to research them on the Internet.”

