Here is a Featured Veteran who was also a terrific museum volunteer. His friendship, hard work, and dedication to the museum’s mission continue to be missed by all who knew and worked with him.

Sergeant First Class Kenneth Buettner (1951-2011)

Avon, Minnesota

Ken Buettner was born in St. Cloud and raised in Avon, Minnesota.

After high school he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He later served in the Army Reserves as a member of the 205th Infantry Brigade. In the 1980s Ken became a full time Army Reserve recruiter, serving many units at Ft. Snelling and around the Twin Cities and St. Cloud areas.

In the winter of 2001, Ken started volunteering at the Minnesota Military Museum, working long and hard under very difficult conditions on the cabinets for the museum's 60th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor exhibit. In 2002 and 2003 Ken’s dedicated work was instrumental in putting together the museum’s special Airborne Exhibit. This not included new cabinets, but also the realistic aircraft door which the paratrooper stood in. In 2010, Ken worked hard on the exhibit cases for the museum's special Civil War exhibit.

Ken was an avid reader and had a great love of history. His historical knowledge, especially about WWII, was great, and he always impressed others with the depth of his knowledge.