

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF 2000-2001

EDWARD J. KRIESER

Member Phelps Camp – Springfield, MO

At the 119th National Encampment in Lansing, Michigan on August 19, 2000, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War elected Edward J. Krieser of Valparaiso, Indiana as their 114th Commander-in-Chief. He is the eighth Commander-in-Chief from the Department of Indiana.

Edward James Krieser was born February 4th 1948 to Edward H. and Shirley M. (Langnes) Krieser in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He grew up on Milwaukee's South Side where he was the eldest of nine children. Graduated from Boys' Trade And Technical High School in 1966 and entered the United States Marine Corps. After Boot Camp in San Diego, California and Infantry training at Camp Pendleton, Ed was sent to Viet Nam.

Upon arrival in Viet Nam, the shortage of infantry platoon and squad radio operators caused Ed's Company Commanding Officer to send him for a crash course in the subject. After being wounded on two separate occasions and receiving the Purple Heart Medal, Ed received an Honorable Discharge for medical reasons at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital.

In addition to the Purple Heart Ed has the Vietnam Campaign, Vietnam Service with a bronze star, Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, and Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon.

After discharge from the Marine Corps, Ed married Linda Hagen, his childhood sweetheart since they were thirteen years old. He used his GI Bill benefits to go to Electronics school and went to work for a Northwest Indiana Steel Mill as an



Electrical Technician and retired after over 41 years. Linda retired from teaching Middle School Special Education.

While working at the steel mill, Ed's other activities included a graphic arts business and has co-produced two musical reviews to earn funds for the maintenance of the G.A.R. Memorial Opera House in Valparaiso, Indiana. He chaired the committee for the 1999 SUVCW National Encampment in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ed is a 32nd Degree Mason in Scottish Rite, a York Rite Knight Templar, and a Shriner. A member of the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment Vietnam Veterans Association.

Ed is a Life Member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Life Member of the Marine Corps League, Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, Life Member of the American Legion, and Life Member of Military Order of Purple Heart. Ed is also a Life Member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and has served as its Commander-in-Chief and National Secretary, and, retired as Commanding Officer of the Fourth Military District of the Sons of Veterans Reserve holding the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Ed joined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, David D. Porter Camp #116 in 1981. He also started Civil War reenacting with the 9th Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry at the same time. Ed's ancestral lineage to the Sons is from his Great Great Grandfather, August Bruss of Company A, in the 9th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment. Ed has served the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War on all levels; Camp, Department and National. After serving as Commander-in-Chief, Ed was elected and served a full term as National Secretary.

After retirement Ed and his wife, Linda decided to move to the area of Branson Missouri in 2014. He immediately started the Abraham Lincoln Camp #2 which folded in 2018. Ed transferred to the Phelps Camp #66 in Springfield, Missouri and is serving as the Missouri Department Secretary/Treasurer.

Ed in 2000/2001

