



# Parkman Paragraphs

## Memorial Day 2016 Edition

### Salute to Paul Wayne Komandt

## 2016 Memorial Day Special Edition

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Created by Cory Anderson

Parkman Paragraphs is published in Spring and Fall of each year.  
This limited edition issue is printed specifically for the 2016 Memorial Day Parade.

We wish to thank all of our Active Duty and Veterans throughout all eras of our country's existence for all of the sacrifices that they have made to give us our freedoms and continue to make our country a safe place to live. May our future generations understand these sacrifices from our Veterans and appreciate the quality of life created for them.

**On behalf of the Parkman Trustees  
and the Parkman Chamber of Commerce**

**Special Thanks** for the continued support of the:  
**Geauga County Sheriff Department**  
**Middlefield VFW Post 9678**

**Parkman Volunteer Fire and Rescue Team**  
**Parkman Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops #76**  
**Cardinal Marching Band**  
**Parkman Congregational Church**  
**SS Edward Lucy Catholic Parish**

and the various participants who helped to make our  
2016 Parkman Memorial Day Celebration a success.

**Betty Komandt (thanks for the photos and story of Chief Wayne)**  
**Pastor William Coley, Parkman Congregational Church.**  
**Jeff Gardner, Commander, V.F.W. Post 9678**  
**Monique Hornsby, Parkman Cub Scout Den Master**  
**Tim Florjancic, Director, Cardinal High School Marching Band.**  
**Jon Ferguson, Parkman Trustee**  
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**Dennis Ikeler, Parkman Trustee**  
**Nina Reed, Parkman Fiscal Officer**  
**Don Bryant, Chief, Parkman Volunteer Fire Department**  
**Scott Villers, Parkman Boy Scout Liaison**

**Best wishes to everyone for a fun and safe summer and don't forget to give  
THANKS to a Veteran.**



Community Website: <http://www.ParkmanOhio.com>

Newsletter E-mail: [ParkmanOhio@gmail.com](mailto:ParkmanOhio@gmail.com)



Paul Wayne Komandt was a lifelong resident of Parkman Township was born to Albert (June) and Rebecca (Mary) McConnell Komandt on January 26, 1949.

Wayne grew up the youngest of three sons. His brothers are Albert (Dale) Komandt and Gerald (Gene) Komandt. He attended Parkman elementary school then Cardinal High School and graduated in June of 1967. During his high school years he was a life guard at Moss Beach now Shangri La Ski Club, worked as a gas station attendant at Parkman Sohio and loved tinkering with his 1955 Chevy. He also enjoyed playing base guitar with a band called "The Remains."

Wayne attended Kent State University and then worked at Service Manager of Polymer Machinery Corp. (formerly Barwell, Inc.) for 49 years until the time of his death. He traveled extensively for work, visiting countries such as Japan, Taiwan, Mexico, England, Canada, Puerto Rico, Chile and many states in the USA.

He was a member of Parkman Congregational church and a former member of the Western Phoenix Masonic Lodge.

He met his wife Elizabeth in 1968 and married in 1969. He was married for 46 years and three months and has three children; Shannon (Mike) Cook, David (Teresa) Komandt and Mike (Krista) Komandt and four grandchildren: Courtney & Cade Cook, Joe and Connor Komandt. When they were first married they resided in Ft.

Hood Texas then after Wayne was honorably discharged from the US Army they resided on Church Street in Parkman and lived there for 35 years before moving to their home on Nelson road in Parkman.



He was drafted in the United States Army in February 1969 and served his country until December 1971. He was an aerial photo interpreter in support of the Vietnam War, training at Fort Holabird, MD and Fort Hood, Texas. He earned a National Defense service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, Republic of Vietnam campaign Medal and Sharpshooter (M-14).

Wayne was good at everything he put his hand too. He loved gardening, picking berries and making jellies and jams. He enjoyed canning with his wife and for years helped his wife make candy for the Holidays. He was good at fixing machinery, and repaired many a lawn mower in his day. He was also a connoisseur of restaurants, his favorite was Texas barbeques.

Wayne joined the Parkman Fire Department in 1972 as a Firefighter and became an EMT in 1985. After rising through the ranks, he was appointed Chief in January 1987 and served the township in that capacity for 29 years until his passing. During his service with the Parkman Fire Department he was also a member of the Geauga County Fire Chiefs Association and the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association. He was essential in forming the Geauga Portage Water Shuttle Association.

In January of 2015 Wayne was diagnosed with AML Acute Leukemia. He fought a valiant battle through the year receiving chemo, radiation and a stem cell transplant on May 15, 2015 and through it all he remained vigilant and worked at overcoming his diagnosis. From the time he was diagnosed until his death in January 2016 he continued working for Polymer using the phone and his computer, talking and helping customers solve their problems and tried being strong for his family. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Ann Komandt who resides with her youngest son and his family at the home on Nelson road.

**Thank you Chief Wayne for a life long commitment of service to our country and our Parkman Ohio community!**

