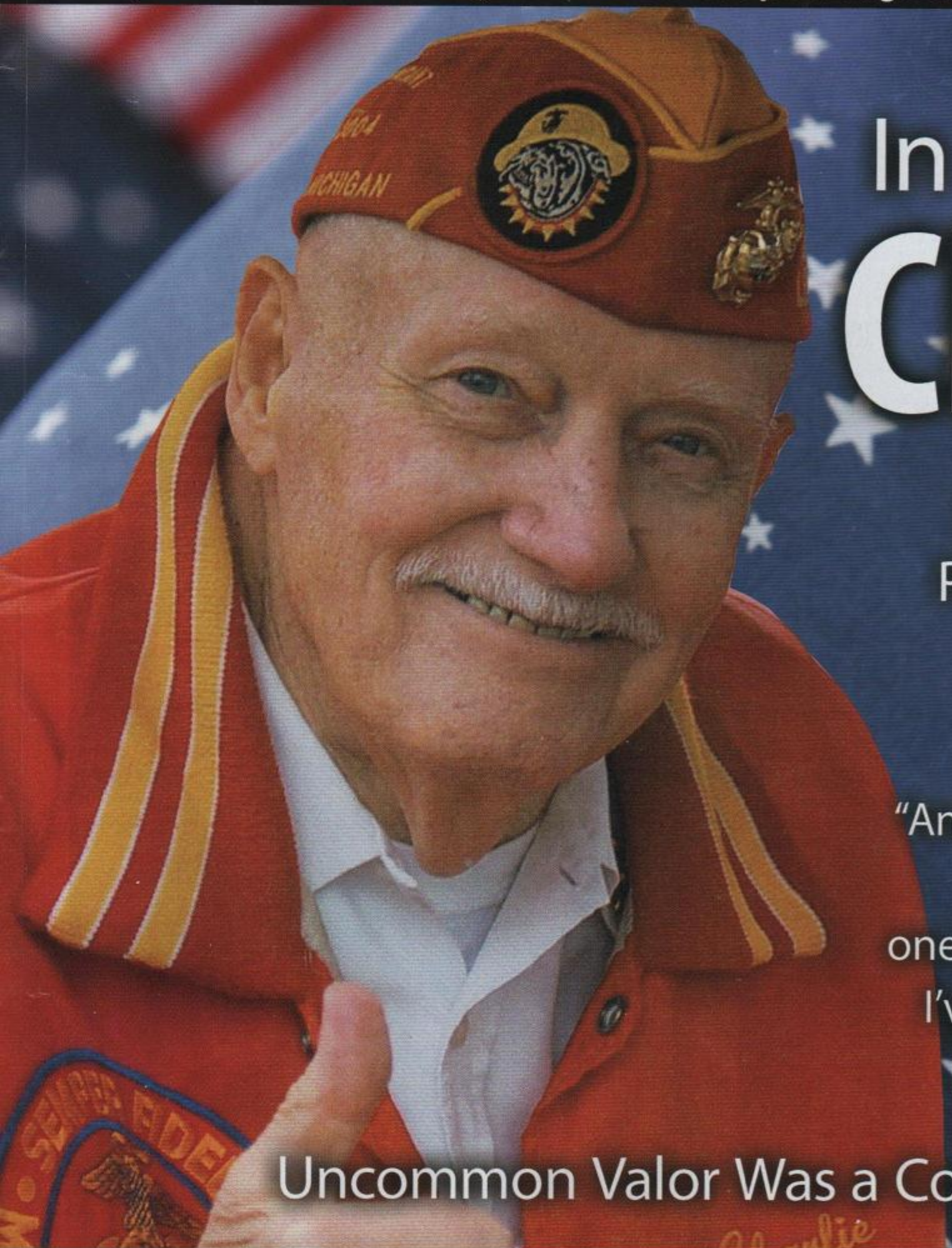


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In Memory of Charlie

CHARLES VOLKER
PAST DEPARTMENT
COMMANDANT
2002 – 2004

"And when he gets to heaven,
to St. Peter he will tell
one more Marine reporting Sir,
I've served my time in hell"
"Semper Fi"

Uncommon Valor Was a Common Virtue

A Letter to Charlie



*When you walked in a room People came to attention,
They knew you were in charge through it went without mention.
Your presence alone made us feel so much stronger,
Our doubts and our fears seemed to linger no longer.*

*You were in charge and we all felt your power,
But the smile on your face made sure we'll not cower.
For that was your strength and I hope we can learn,
To be strong and compassionate in one single turn.*

*You're Papa, Commander, and Dad rolled in one,
A feat you did perfect just ask anyone.
Papa to family, you guided with care,
A family who mirrors your traits oh, so rare.
Just knowing your family is all that one need know,
To see how you loved them, the proofs in their show.*

*You're Commander to Children, Yes, that's what they are,
Despite their appearance to those from afar.
You saw them as people who needed your care,
To become the men and women you knew they would dare.
They'll never forget you, you're a part of them now,
You'll be in their hearts, they'll sow you somehow.*

*You're Charles to the woman you cherished in life,
And she was so proud just being your wife.
Your last living moments showed all who could see,
That your love for Judy was all it could be.*

*To me you were Charlie, Commander and friend,
And our short time together has come to an end.
Thanks for taking the Army Guy in,
I learned so much from you to put in my bin.*

*What I will remember when I'm dressed in all green,
That You are the mold when God makes a Marine.
I'm going to call on you for advice or just kicks,
I know I'll be fine with you at my Six.
Semper FI*

*P.S. I'm telling you now, just between you and me,
The last order you gave me, I'll follow to a "T".
So long, Charlie...*

