

# JOSEPH MICHAEL THIMM

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CPL - E4 - Marine Corps - Regular  
20 year old Single, Caucasian, Male  
Born on Mar 27, 1945  
From ARMADA, MICHIGAN  
Length of service 2 years.  
Casualty was on Dec 18, 1965  
in QUANG NAM, SOUTH VIETNAM  
Hostile, died of wounds  
GROUND CASUALTY  
MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS  
Body was recovered  
Religion  
ROMAN CATHOLIC  
Panel 04E - - Line 26

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Joseph is buried at St. Michael's Cem.



# “God Put me Here”

## **Armada Marine Dies in Viet Nam**

By Edwin Spetman

Staff Writer

Armada – Marine Cpl. Joseph M. Thimm will be coming home for Christmas.

He will return in a flag draped casket with a Marine escort.

He died Saturday of wounds received while battling the Viet Cong in the vicinity of Que Son, South Viet Nam.

Born on March 27, 1945, in Mount Clemens. Cpl. Thimm was an average student, who loved to hunt, fish and live in the out-of-doors. One week after graduating from Armada high school in 1963, he joined the United States Marine Corps.

He was shipped to Viet Nam last summer.

Thimm was wounded Thursday and was taken to Clark Air Force Base Hospital, the Philippines, where he died.

“When I hear the Marine Hymn, it makes my heart swell with pride for my country,” said Cpl. Thimm in a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thimm of 23606 E. Main, Armada.

“I miss being home very much, Mom, but Godput me here to help my country.”

“The boys in town used to call him ‘Nature Boy’ because of his love for the outdoors,” said his mother tearfully. It’s so hard over there for the boys, so hard. . .

“He wasn’t planning on being a career soldier, he just felt it was his duty,” she continued, her eyes red from days of crying.

In other letters, Cpl. Thimm told his parents, “These demonstrations against the Viet Nam fight are so senseless, Mom. If those guys only knew what was going on here.”

And now, his parents will have nothing but memories of their son and a telegram from a Marine commandant which begins . . .

“I deeply regret to inform you that your son, Cpl. Joseph M. Thimm . . . “

*Macomb Daily, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1965, front page*

## **Cpl. Joseph Thimm**

Armada – Funeral services will beheld Friday for Cpl. Joseph Michael Thimm, 20, United States Marine Corps, who was wounded on Dec. 16 in Viet Nam and died in the Philippines on /dec. 18.

He enlisted in the Marines in 1963 upon graduation from Armada high school and was with G Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, First Marines.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thimm, 23606 East Main, Armada, he is survived by his parents, two brothers, Mark and Harry, both at home, and by his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Catherine Lupan of Richmond.

Brief prayer will be said at 9:30 a.m. Friday at Tiffany-Young Funeral Home, Armada, Followed by a requiem mass at St. Mary’s Mystical Rose Church, Armada. The Rev. Father Martin Erpelding, pastor, will officiate.

A rosary will be recited at 8 p.m.

Thursday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in St. Michael Cemetery, Richmond.

*Macomb Daily, Wednesday, December 29, 1965, page 3-A*

