

THE GREATEST SPECTACLE IN EXPEDITING AND SMALL LOAD TRUCKING



DRIVER IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Remembering **one** of the
StoneBridge Originals
2018 Legacy Award Winner
Louie Kinker

A STORY OF SERVICE
A MARINE TRIBUTE:
STEVE
GREEN



Driver in the Spotlight

*Behind the company are people.
Remember the people - Remember the person.*



During the 2018 Christmas Party, Louie Kinker was recognized with the Legacy Award for his 13 years in Cargo Van Operations.

Louie Kinker, first and foremost, was a good man. He always had a great attitude for driving, was good with customers, dependable on the road, and proud of his service in the US Army. I always smiled when he walked through the door, because he always had something nice to say to anyone he was around. He was a big part of our early years growing the company.

~ Butch Kennedy, StoneBridge Founder

In 1999, StoneBridge Trucking was a brand new company, new to the trucking scene, and rolling one load at a time. At first it was Butch Kennedy running the operation solo. After getting some traction with local companies, Butch was looking for help. He needed solid trustworthy people who knew how to conduct themselves on the road, behind the wheel, and in front of the customer.

On November 21st, 2000, Louie Kinker started up a Ford Cargo Van, picked up at Trane in Rushville, and was in-route to LaCrosse Wisconsin. From the point on, Louie was a staple at StoneBridge Trucking over the next 13 years.



Driver in the Spotlight



Louie's name is etched in Stone-Bridge History as the 2018 Legacy Award Winner with his friend Bill Fields.

“Louie Kinker was a husband, father, grandfather, and veteran. He was loved in the community by many.

~ Shane Kennedy

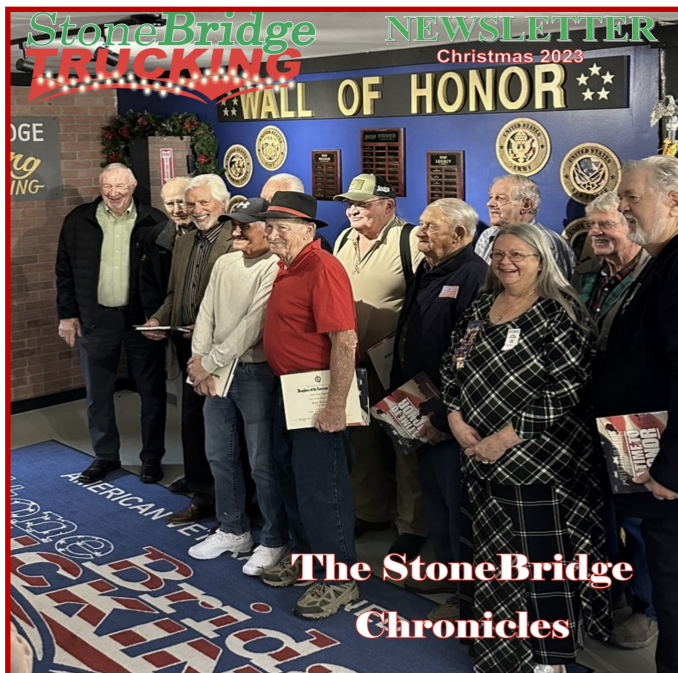
Louie Passed Away on on Sunday April 28th. His family gave us permission to share his obituary starting on the next page. He will always be remembered at StoneBridge Trucking.

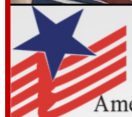


Driver in the Spotlight

Louis A. Kinker, known to many as Louie, age 88 of Greensburg, Indiana, passed away on Sunday, April 28, 2024, at his home. Born February 23, 1936, in Greensburg, he is the son of Harry and Anna (Nee: Duvelius) Kinker. He married Theresa Ollier of Batesville, Indiana on March 3, 1962, in Enochsburg, Indiana. This union brought forth three children Kirt, Kimberly, and Kristine. He attended the New Point School in New Point, Indiana. Louis joined his late wife Theresa, who preceded him in death just two months and two days earlier on February 26, 2024, and after almost 62 years together he needed to be with her again.

Louis served his country in the US Army, and he received an honorable discharge early, in order to help his father on the homestead. Louie grew up on the homestead farm near Enochsburg helping with the daily chores including feeding the livestock which in return fed the family and helped with the planting and harvesting of the crops. All of this hard work at a young age instilled a great work ethic that he would pass onto his children, something that is very rare at this present time. "Thanks Dad"! Louie delivered milk around to the local counties before working for several years at the Fernald plant. He then went on to work for the City of Batesville at the Batesville Water and Gas Utility Company until his retirement all while continuing to crop farming. After retiring, Louis and Theresa spent several years as a snowbird in Zephyrhills, Florida, where you could witness several rounds of dominos.



 **DAR**
Daughters of the
American Revolution

**Honoring StoneBridge
Vietnam Veterans**

During the 2023 Christmas Party, Louie Kinker was Honored with many StoneBridge Vietnam Era Veterans by the Daughters of the Revolution.

When Louie was not working, you could find him with a fishing rod in his hands, bird hunting with his dog Buddy (one of the best bird dogs in this region), bowling at Huser's in Batesville, playing cards at Chippy's (what is now the Midtown Diner in New Point). Louie would eat breakfast several times a week at that diner and if one would have asked him, he probably played cards at the same table that he ate breakfast at ("a man of little change"). watching his own children play at their sporting events.

Driver in the Spotlight

He took up the game of golf and was a member of the North Branch Golf Course and its men's league for many years. Louie enjoyed his sports, and you could say that his favorite sporting color was RED. He loved his IU basketball, as well as his Cincinnati Reds. He would lie in bed with his 3x5 inch transistor radio and listen to the play-by-play action until you would hear the words "and this one belongs to the Reds". He also enjoyed

Louie had another color that he was passionate about and that was John Deere Green. All of his farming equipment and his lawn mowers sported that beautiful color. Louie took pride in his yard and had an obsession with dead leaves and dandelions. He would often say "NO LEAVES IN MY YARD", but someone should have told him that he lived by a woods. Louie had a passion for gardening, which was something he had as a child as well. His gardening and Theresa's canning and freezing of the veggies fed the family until the next summer's harvest. He also enjoyed spending time in the woods mushroom hunting, digging horseradish, and cutting wood.

He is survived by his son Kirt (Doris Gumino – fiancé') Kinker of Durango, Colorado; daughters Kimberly Kinker and Kristine (Greg) Brown, all of Batesville; grandchildren Danielle, Cody, and Brian, all of Durango, Colorado and Kyle who is serving his country in the US Navy stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; great grandchildren Gavin and Jakob of Durango, Colorado, and sister Rosemary Cook of Batesville. In addition to his parents and his wife Theresa, he was preceded in death by his brother Omer Kinker and sisters Loretta Kinker,



A STORY OF SERVICE

American
Veteran
Owned



American
Veteran
Driven

StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country.



A TRIBUTE TO MY UNCLE STEVE

A MARINE'S JOURNEY OF SERVICE:

StoneBridge Trucking is a proud Veteran Owned and Driven Company. It's Founder Butch Kennedy is a proud Navy Veteran. I myself have been thankful and privileged to serve our country for the last 25 years, and still enjoy serving today. Today, I get to the honor of writing the article that StoneBridge sponsors. In doing so, I get to tell my Uncle Steve's Story of Service by paying tribute to the life and service of Steve Green, a proud Marine who dedicated his youth to serving his country.

From his humble beginnings in Indiana to his various assignments across the globe, Steve's story is one of sacrifice, duty, and pride in his service. Steve lives in Osgood Indiana but grew up in Napoleon. With 4 sisters, Steve grew up understanding responsibility and in 1971, at the age of 17 dropped out of high school took an oath to join the United States Marine Corps and serve his country wanting "to make his own way". He attended boot camp in San Diego. Afterwards, he took the test and qualified to be a Cryptographer and Radio Operator.



Steve enlisted and became a Marine in 1971.

After completing boot camp, he attended Infantry Training at Camp Pendleton and then went on to school. For his first duty station, he arrived at Camp LeJune North Carolina in September 1971.

When I joined the Army in 1999, my mom still told me a story of my Uncle Steve coming home and surprising her mom for Thanksgiving in his Marine Dress Blues. She was proud of her brother, and I wanted to make her proud of me.

~ Shane Kennedy

A STORY OF SERVICE

Certificate of Senatorial Recognition

United States Senator Mike Braun
Senator for Indiana

In recognition of Mr. Steve Green serving his country in the United States Marines, I proudly present this United States flag and Certificate of Senatorial Recognition.

As we reflect on Mr. Green's years of dutiful service, we are reminded of the immense sacrifices made by all of our servicemen and women throughout history. Their sacrifice has guaranteed the survival of the United States and protected humanity's natural rights across the world. For that we are forever in their debt.

Once again, in recognition of Mr. Green's service in the United States Marines, I proudly present this Certificate of Senatorial Recognition.

Mike Braun



Mike Braun
United States Senator

MIKE BRAUN
INDIANA

SUITE 404
RUSSELL BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

United States Senate

November 23, 2023

Mr. Steve Green

Dear Mr. Green,

I am writing to thank you for your service to our country as a United States Marines cryptographer and radio operator from 1971 to 1976. As we reflect on your years of dutiful service, we are reminded of the immense sacrifices made by all of our servicemen and women throughout history. Their sacrifice, and yours, has guaranteed the survival of the United States and protected humanity's natural rights across the world.

Once more, thank you for your service to our country. I am honored to represent you and all Hoosier service members and veterans. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is ever anything I can do to assist you. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in the United States Senate.

Sincerely,

Mike Braun

Mike Braun
U.S. Senator

A recent Republican Party Nominee for Governor, US Senator Mike Braun recognized Steve for his Distinguished Service to his country in the US Marine Corps.

Steve's decision to join the Marine Corps at a young age reflects his strong sense of duty and sacrifice. By leaving behind his family and hometown, Steve embraced the challenges of military life with determination and courage. His willingness to serve his country, even in the face of danger and uncertainty, showcases his selflessness and commitment to a greater cause.

After 3 months on the ground, he was sent to Okinawa as part of the 2nd Battalion 9th Marine Regiment where he was able to serve as a radio operator for the ground troops. He spent 1 day in Okinawa when he was immediately put on a ship to join his parent unit in Japan for Cold Weather Training on Mount Fuji. He joked that ***“as an Indiana Boy, that Cold Weather training was nothing compared to what I was already used to”***.

A STORY OF SERVICE

After 2 weeks of cold weather training, he spent 1 month back in Okinawa before he once again boarded a Naval Vessel with a different destination. This time he stepped on a helicopter carrier, USS Guadalcanal enroute to the Philippines where he spent a week with the ship refueling at Subic Bay Naval Base. ***“Marines in the Philippines on liberty for a week was a very good time”***. We didn’t delve into the details of that week. I will let your mind ponder.

Upon departure, he was sent to sea towards Vietnam in which they had a setback. ***“After 1 hour at sea, the ship died and we needed towed back and we spent another 30 days in port”***; he said with a smile. ***“30 days was too much. The Marines started getting restless”***. Once back at sea, they spent 2 weeks off the north coast of the DMZ and was then sent to Hong Kong and another 2 days of young Marines being in port.

He then served 6 months in a training operation with the South Vietnamese setting up communications operations before he went back to Vietnam on the USS Okinawa north of the DMZ to cross train with the Vietnamese.

“In the distance, we could see the saturation bombing and lights of the B52’s. It was very disturbing because we knew there were so many people dying at that time. I was very sad to see this.”



Steve poses for a picture with his wife Cathy.



A STORY OF SERVICE

USS OKINAWA



Steve poses for a picture with his nephew Shane.



In December of 72, Corporal Steve Green flew back to the US with orders to Camp Lejune and spent 6 months with the 1st Battalion 8th Marines. It was here he signed up for 2nd Battalion 6th Marines aboard the USS Okinawa for a Mediterranean Cruise. This was a very good experience as he ported in Spain, Italy, Turkey, Greece, and Crete. In December of 73, he recalls coming back across the Atlantic and the extreme bad weather. ***“We had green water breaking across our flight deck.”*** He would then receive an Honorable Discharge, but after 6 months back home, he knew the best thing was to reenlist in November of 74. He went to Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, CA where he worked in his actual communications job because he “wasn’t on a ship with a combat unit and actually got to work as a cryptographer and with computers until November of 76 when he decided his time serving his country was over. ***“I loved the travel and am proud of my service and am proud to be a Marine”.*** “

It was a different time, when I got off the plane in San Francisco, people wouldn’t want to be next to me. They would walk as far away from me as they could”. His son would follow in his footsteps of service and join the US Army. ***“I am thankful appreciate people who serve today, it wasn’t that way when I served”.***

Steve Green's journey as a Marine is a testament to the values of duty, sacrifice, and service. His unwavering commitment to his country and fellow Marines exemplifies the true spirit of patriotism and honor. Through his experiences in the military, Steve not only found purpose and camaraderie but also left a lasting legacy of pride and respect for those who serve. As we honor his service and sacrifice, we express our gratitude to Steve and all those who have dedicated their lives to defending our freedom.

We appreciate you Uncle Steve. Once a Marine, Always a Marine!

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PREMIUM LOGISTICS - LTL - CUSTOM COURIER SERVICE -
LIFTGATE SERVICE - OVERNIGHT TRUCKING

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