

**VETERAN OF THE YEAR APPLICATION
CHET SORENSON VETERAN AWARD**

Candidate

FIRST NAME: Gary LAST NAME: Marra

ADDRESS: 5004 W. 37th Street

CITY: Sioux Falls STATE: SD ZIP: 57106

PHONE: 605-929-9047 BIRTH DATE: 09/20/1950

HIGH SCHOOL: West Central DATE: Graduated 1968
Hartford, SD

SERVICE RECORD

BRANCH OF SERVICE: Army HIGHEST RANK: E-4

DATE ENTERED: 3/30/1970 DATE DISCHARGED: 11/29/1971

BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____ HIGHEST RANK: _____

DATE ENTERED: _____ DATE DISCHARGED: _____

TOTAL SERVICE: 20 months

VETERANS PARTICIPATION

VFW 1993 (Life Member)
MOPH 2010 (Life Member)
DAU 2010 (Life Member)
UVA 2016 (Life Member)

POSITIONS ELECTED or APPOINTED

MOPH Chapt Finance Officer - 2010 - present
Member MOPH Dept. of the Dakotas

TIME SPENT HELPING VETERANS

Hundreds of Hours of promoting Patriotism, supporting necessary legislative initiatives and providing service to all veterans and their families.

Assisting in Activities Such As: Distributing Care packages to veterans staying in the VA Hospital on Christmas Day mornings. Helping with the yearly Veterans Standdown, handing out information pamphlets at the SD State Fair.

Purple Heart Fund Raising: Handing out MOPH Viola's at the Sioux Falls Hy-Vee stores. Fund raising at the Grand Falls Casino. Raising funds to host the MOPH National Convention last year (2022). Selling raffle tickets for multiple events throughout the years to help veterans.

Community Involvement: Participating in Memorial Day and Veterans Day Services, partaking in parades, and playing in veteran benefit golf tournaments. Attending Dedications of the South Dakota State Cemetery and I-90 in SD as part of the National Purple Heart Trail. Sioux Falls and other towns in SD also becoming Purple Heart Cities.

Also attending many veteran meetings now and in the past years.