



**Karl R Rohde
State Commander
2002-2003**



Karl's eligibility for the Veterans of Foreign Wars is from his service in Vietnam. He served with 196th Light Infantry Brigade and the 523rd Signal Battalion of the Americal Division from June 1969 through June 1970. Among the awards that he received are the Silver Star, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross.

Karl is a life member of the Daniel J. O'Brien VFW Post 1374 in Carmel. He joined the Post in 1987. He has served on all levels of the VFW from Post to National. He was elected State Commander for 2002-2003.

Karl holds a BA and an MA degree in American History and an MA in secondary education. He is retired from Verizon and is working as a substitute teacher.

Not only a member of the VFW he belongs to the Americal Division Veterans Association, American Legion, Military Order of the Cootie, Amvets 40 and 8 and the Elks. He is an assistant scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 14 in Kent, New York and the Vice Chairman of the Putnam County Joint Veterans Council. Karl the founding Chairman of the Putnam County Joint Veterans Council. He has also been appointed to the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park Advisory Committee and he is the chairman of that committee. He was elected and served a four-year term as Town Councilman in the town of Kent.

Karl is married to the former Irene Hass. They have two children: Dori is a registered nurse and Karl W is a civil engineer. Karl and Irene have 3 grandchildren: 4-year-old twin boys living in Buffalo and a 1-year-old granddaughter living in Carmel. Irene and Dori are Auxiliary members.