

Gents and Ladies,

A special VSPA friend needs our letter-writing help—*now*.

- Read the below Background — *James Windham's support in locating an unknown LOD SP*.
- Read What Happened — *No Good Deed Goes Unpunished*.
- Read What You Can Do to Help — *Your Letter Can make a difference*.

Background — *James Windham's stellar VSPA support in locating an unknown LOD SP:*

At the 2012 VSPA Florida Reunion, an unknown SP (LOD) was discovered. A local Veteran in Alabama, James Windham was vital to helping identify James Bruce Jones, who died in an accidental weapons discharge while turning in his M-16 at the Tan Son Nhut AB SP Armory. Furthermore, James Windham drove to an isolated country cemetery, and located the gravestone for Sgt. Bruce Dale Jones.

Although the 2012 VSPA reunion agenda was set in stone and many of our members committed to events, a last-minute memorial ceremony was put together that included 57 members and a convoy bus and several cars. James Windham tracked down relatives of Sgt. Jones living in Los Angeles, CA and in the state of Alabama, and his Aunt was able to attend the memorial ceremony. James also arranged local radio, television and newspaper media to publicize the memorial and invite the town and county where Sgt. Jones lived before enlisting. Local and State dignitaries attend, as well as high school teachers, current students, a color guard, and about 300 citizens. He arranged for a local southern-food restaurant to accommodate all who wished to gather after the memorial.

VSPA's memorial and wreath laying ceremony would not have been possible without James Windham's efforts for VSPA and Sgt. Jones memory. Incidentally, James Windham has contacted me regularly regarding his pledge to personally maintain Sgt. Jones' country gravesites, and he also arranged for the local high school ROTC to help. James has kept his word in everything promised; this man wears his veteran's-heart on his sleeve, and would do anything to help someone in need.

James Windham went above and beyond for VSPA, and James and his wife Tess were our special guests at the Awards Banquet in 2012, and awarded the Native American Warriors Medal for his service actions on our behalf. James service in the US Navy as an air crewman in an EC-121 Super Constellation flying off shore Vietnam and Thailand, and landed at several of our Airbases during his tour in SEA. Flight duties included early-warning storm warnings and *other tasks* as required.

What Happened – *No Good Deed Goes Unpunished*. James Windham's letter to Dennis Evans.

To: Dennis Evans

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2014

So good to hear from you. I was by Sgt. Bruce Dale Jones' gravesite the other day and thought of you when I looked at that beautiful foot-piece you designed for the tombstone.

As to me, I guess I'm in a *world of crap*. In April of 2013, my wife Tess and I were driving and noticed two children were dropped off by the school bus at the County Animal Shelter, where my wife worked at that time, and they were the children of her co-worker.

Long- story short:

After Tess and I made several phone calls to the County Administrator and the Chairman of the Commission trying to find out where the children's father was, and as we needed to get out of there and take care of some business, we determined we would take the children to their mother's work place where we knew her to be. It was a short trip of two miles, and so far it's cost me in excess of \$20,000.00 to defend myself against charges of *Interfering with Child Custody*. We had apparently stepped right in the middle of a Child Custody battle.

My intentions were totally for the welfare of the children, and I am just sick about how this is affecting my family. I never in my life thought I would ever be charged with a crime and in the position where I now have to plead for help to see justice set right.

Funny thing is, Tess was with me during the entire episode and was never charged, questioned or anything until she prepared to take the stand at the trial. The prosecutor then insisted the judge read her, her rights in the event she may be indicted too. Just a ploy to intimidate her into not testifying, but didn't work, and we're waiting to see if she may be arrested.

Last week my "trial" took place and I had what was supposed to be a *premiere lawyer* in Alabama represent me—*what a dud*. He was too busy, kissing the butt of the prosecutor, to defend me. He apparently wants her help in a case he's working on in Alexander City and wants the Attorney General to assign her to assist in an investigation and help him sue the city and an officer in an unrelated case. I think I was just a burnt offering to garner her help.

Long story even shorter, the jury went right along with the prosecutor and found me guilty. The majority of the county is in an uproar and I've asked them to start a letter writing campaign to the judge. That's already happening and the judge is officially adding these letters to my file. We are going to submit a motion to *set the verdict aside* and grant a *verdict or acquittal* in my case.

What You Can Do to Help — Your Letter Can make a difference.

I am scheduled for a sentencing-hearing on 5 December 2014, so time is of the utmost importance. I'll thank you in advance because I know what VSPA can do, and I would appreciate it if you and anyone else with VSPA could write the judge a polite letter of support for me, asking him to please set aside the verdict and take action to dismiss charges against me.

Time really is critical, so please allow me to state what I believe can *help or even hurt* my case in well intentioned letters of support:

- **Letter writers on my behalf** can certainly compose their own letters of support, but please ask writers not to use the terms *leniency or mercy*; please ask them to politely request the verdict

be *set-aside, rescinded or dismissed*. Also, as to any verdict against me: *not guilty or innocent* has a nice ring to it, along with *acquittal*.

- **Letter writers who met me** at Sgt. Jones' Memorial, or at the Banquet, can express any opinions such as having the perception of me as being honest, helpful, and grateful to have played a part in finding and honoring a lost brother (if they wish to add something like that).
- **Letter writers who did not meet me** can express appreciation for my role in finding a lost brother and honoring his memory, as do we all...and something we are all grateful to have played a part in.
- **Who and Where to Write the letter of Support:**

The Judge's name and address are:

**Honorable Ashley McKathan
Covington County Courthouse, Courthouse Square
Andalusia, AL 36420**

If things go right with this issue, Tess and I would love to meet up with you and have a nice visit.

James Windham

Sgt. James Bruce Jones

VSPA Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony photos:

<http://www.vspa.com/reunion-2012-welcome-home-memorial-sgt-bruce-dale-jones-p1.htm>