



**North Mankato Post 518 Proudly Honors These**

# **Veterans of the Month**

The Flag flying from this site is flown in honor of all Prisoners of War / Missing in Action from all wars for the month by North Mankato American Legion Post 518.

We honor the more than 82,000 veterans still missing (according to Defense POW/MIA accounting agency) from WWII till today. According to Home of Heroes statistics, there are more than 400,000 listed as missing from WWI and prior with most of these coming from the Civil War on both sides. While the numbers seem to vary from site to site, the fact remains that there are a great many still missing from all of our country's wars and conflicts.

The POW/MIA flag was created by Newt Heisley, a pilot during WWII. His son Jeffrey, while training to be a pilot with the US Marines, became very ill with hepatitis and later medically discharged. Newt noted with horror how gaunt his son looked and began to imagine what POW's life must be like behind barbed wire fences. He began to sketch, with pencil, the barbed wire, a tower and the profile of a gaunt young man as his initial proposal. On August 10, 1990, Congress passed US Law 101-355 recognizing the flag as a symbol of our country's concern and resolve in accounting for the fates of all our POW/MIA's.

We must always remember and work for release of all those still in captivity, a repatriation of the remains of those that have died and a full accounting of those still missing.

