



NATIONAL MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION, INC.  
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
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1 Nov 2020

From: National President, National Montford Point Marine Association (NMPMA), Inc.  
To: The Family of Master Gunnery Sergeant Lee Ward  
Subj: RESOLUTION OF MOURNING

*Seventy-eight years ago, June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order # 8802, which allowed black men to be recruited in the United States Marine Corps. On August 26, 1942, the first African American Marine reported to the segregated boot camp called "MONTFORD POINT CAMP" Jacksonville, North Carolina. From 1942-1949, during this period, approximately 20,000 black men trained and walked those hallowed grounds, paving the way and blazing the trail for thousands of others to follow. Master Gunnery Sergeant Lee Ward was one of those men who had to "Fight for the Right to Fight."*

*Be That Said:*

*Whereas, God has called from labor of this life, Master Gunnery Sergeant Lee Ward to be with him throughout eternity. We, the officers and members of the National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc., wish to express our grief and heartfelt sympathy to the beloved family and friends Master Gunnery Sergeant Lee Ward. We bow in humble submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, and we pray that each of you will find comfort in Jesus who is able and will heal all sorrow.*

*Therefore, be it resolved:*

- 1. That at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, 1 November 2020, the National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. will pause for 60 seconds of silence in honor of our hero's life.*
- 2. That I assure the Lee family that Lee Ward's name will be called, and the bell will toll once, in solemn Commemoration of his life, at the 2021 National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. National Convention in Shreveport, LA. on 17 July 2021.*
- 3. That a copy of this resolution is filed at the National Headquarters, Quantico, Virginia, and a copy be given to the Family.*

*Submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2020 by:*

Carmen E. Cole  
National President  
National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.