Dear Veteran,

When you served your country as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, you joined the many members of our faith who have protected this Nation, beginning with the American War of Independence through the Global War on Terrorism. It is our military version of L'dor V'dor - from one generation to the next. For that service, regardless of where, when or for how long, I thank you and our Nation thanks you.

Remarkably, the general community is largely unaware of our long and distinguished service to this Nation. The Jewish War Veterans (JWV), America’s oldest Veteran Service Organization, chartered by Congress in 1896, was specifically formed to counter the “Big Lie” that Jews did not fight to preserve our Nation. JWV exists to educate everyone about our special contributions as Veterans and combat the re-telling of that lie and other anti-Semitic tropes, to advocate for the needs of all Veterans, and to strengthen and celebrate the ties that bind all service members and their community.

Membership in the Jewish War Veterans is not restricted to wartime service in combat. It is open to almost all Jewish members of the Armed Forces honorably serving or discharged, whether in combat or not. A form of membership is also available to family members and friends who wish to make a difference in our community and ensure that no Veteran or Veteran’s family member is forgotten. With membership comes an opportunity not only for fellowship and camaraderie, but also for continued good work through educational, service, and volunteer activities in the greater Detroit area, throughout the state of Michigan, and nationally.

If you are already a member, thank you, not only for your service, but also for your commitment to the organization. Please ask your fellow Veterans to join you at the next Department or Post event. Feel free to share with him or her your copy of The Jewish Veteran, to learn more.

If you are not yet a member, please contact us by email (membership@jwv-mi.org), telephone (248-855-5085), or visit our website (www.jwv-mi.org). Better yet, come pay us a visit at one of our monthly meetings (3rd Sunday of each month, 10am at Temple Shir Shalom).

Sincerely,

Dr. Edward H. Hirsch
Colonel, US Army Special Forces (Retired)
Commander, Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Department of Michigan