1. Charles (“Charlie”) Kettles at 3 years old in Lansing, Michigan, 1933. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

2. A young Charlie Kettles stands in front of his family home in Lansing, Michigan, 1937. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

3. Charlie Kettles high school graduation from the Edison Institute in Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan, 1949. Charlie was the winner of a Fisher automobile design competition; his design ideas were later incorporated into two popular models of the Oldsmobile.

4. U.S. Army Lt. Charles Kettles at the controls of an Army L-19 aircraft, 1954. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

5. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles (left), standing beside his heavily damaged “Huey” helicopter on return from the May 15, 1967 emergency extraction rescue operation. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

6. 176th Aviation Company UH-1D model “Huey,” pictured in Vietnam, 1967. This is the helicopter normally flown by then-U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles, but it was undergoing maintenance the day of the rescue operation. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

7, 7-2. Distinguished Flying Cross Citation (DFC). The DFC was awarded to U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles for his heroic actions on May 14, 1967. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

8. Distinguished Service Cross Citation (DSC). The DSC was awarded to U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles for his extraordinary heroism in the “emergency extraction” rescue operation, May 15, 1967. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

9. Lt. Gen. L. J. Lincoln awards the Distinguished Service Cross to U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles, Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, 1968. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

10. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles (left), with his family looking on (second row) during the Distinguished Service Cross award ceremony, Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, 1968. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

11. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles between tours of duty to Vietnam, Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, 1968. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

12. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles in his second tour of duty in Vietnam, at a change of command ceremony where he took charge of the 121st Assault Helicopter Company, Soc Trang, Vietnam, 1969. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

13. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles, official photo for Command of the 121st Assault Helicopter Company, Sac Trang, 1969. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

14. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles, posing in front of a 121st Aviation Company UH-1H, during his second Vietnam tour of duty, 1969. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

15. U.S. Army Maj. Charles Kettles on a short “R&R” (rest and recuperation) break from Vietnam in Kauai, Hawaii, 1969. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

16. Charles Kettles (center) being promoted to lieutenant colonel during his second tour of duty in Vietnam, 1970. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

17. U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles, after his second tour of duty to Vietnam, in San Antonio, Texas, 1971. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

18. Personal message from Medal of Honor recipient, U.S. Army Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez to Lt. Col. (Ret.) Charles Kettles. Reads: “To LTC Charles Kettles, U.S.A., (Ret.), A great American comrade brother-in-arms who helped me receive the MOH. Best wishes always. Roy Benavidez, MSG, U.S.A., SF, (Ret.); Duty, Honor, Country; 7 June 1981.” In 1974, Kettles initiated a formal review to upgrade Benavidez’s Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

19. Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles (left), as an Ypsilanti City Councilman passing the baton to newly elected Councilman Clyde King, 1984. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

20. Retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, Secretary of Veteran’s Affairs Administration, speaking to retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles at the Captain C. Robert Arvin Award foundation gathering in Ypsilanti, Michigan, 2009. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

21. Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles poses in front of the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial in Ypsilanti Township, Michigan, 2009. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

22. Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles stands with Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12), at the Ypsilanti Historical Society Museum, 2015. U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Debbie Stabenow (MI) introduced time-waiver legislation as part of the fiscal year 2016 government funding bill that allowed President Obama to award Kettles with the Medal of Honor. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)

23. Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles in Ypsilanti, Michigan, June 2016. (Photo courtesy of Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Kettles)