

# Limerick's Vietnam dead are honoured

By LEADER REPORTER

LIMERICK men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Vietnam War were honoured at a moving ceremony in Adare.

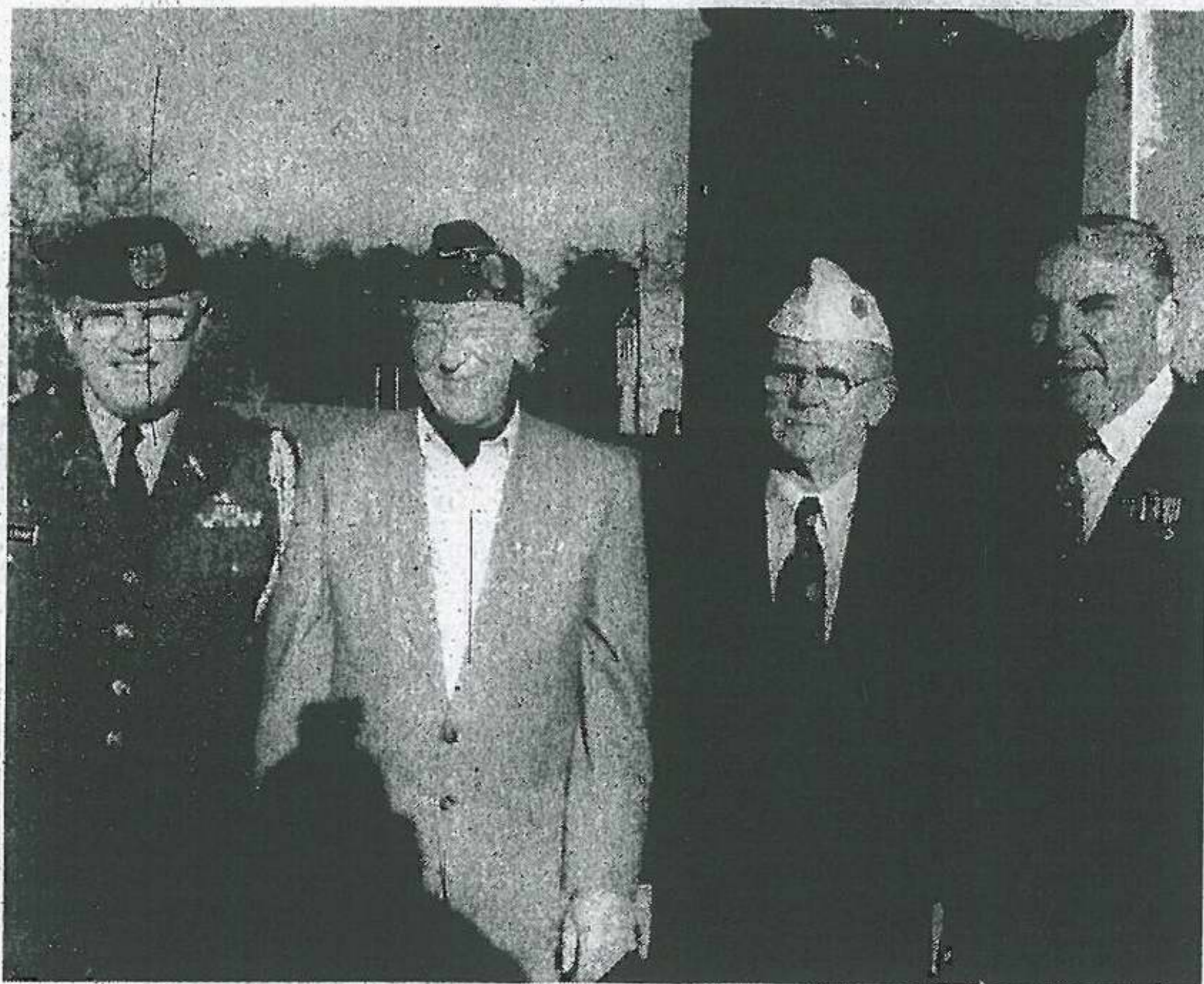
The ceremony took place at Adare Manor, whose owner, Tom Kane, is a veteran of that conflict, and over 100 people gathered at the memorial in the grounds of the manor for the service organised by the Tipperary branch of the Organisation of National Ex-servicemen and women (ONE).

"It was a poignant and moving occasion," said Tipperary ONE spokesman Mick Haslam.

"An awful lot of young Irishmen went to Vietnam looking for adventure, not realising how bad it was. I was in Cyprus, and me and my pal decided we would go to the US or Australia next. My friend ended up joining the US forces, and, sadly, never returned from Vietnam.

"It's possible I could have ended up the same, but by a twist of fate, I met my future wife during my leave from Cyprus," he said.

This was not only a Limerick-focused event, how-



At the ceremony in Adare Manor to honour Irish people who died in Vietnam, Col John O'Sullivan, US military attaché; Michael Coyne, Vietnam veteran; Liam Kane, vice-commander, American Legion, France, and Tom Kane, Vietnam veteran and Adare Manor

ever, and was dedicated to all Irishmen and women who died in Vietnam.

Among the attendance were representatives of ONE, IUNVA (Ireland and Britain), British RAF Association, Naval Associ-

ation (Ireland), Australian Veterans Association and some families and friends of those who lost their lives.

Also in attendance were Brig Gen Pat Nash, OC 1st Southern Brigade;

David Hammond, first secretary of the Australian Embassy; US military attaché Col John O'Sullivan; British military attaché Col Paul Cummings; Col Colm Doyle, chief-of-staff, mili-

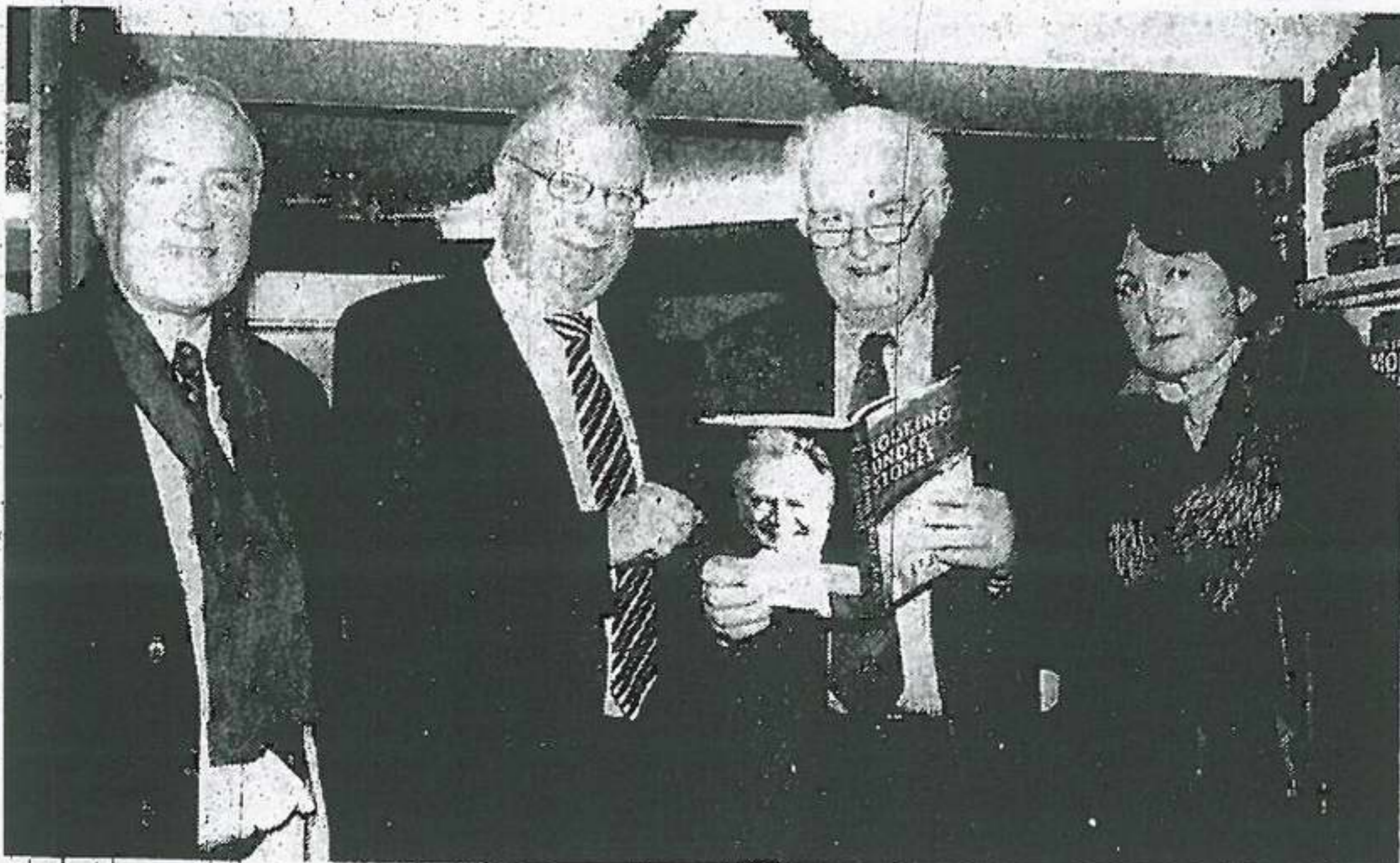
tary division, UN Peace-keeping Operations; Lt Col Michael McMahon, OC 12 Inf Bn; Major James MacLeod, chairman, Combined Irish Regiments OCA; Col Mick Shannon, chairman, Irish Peace Institute; Liam Kane, vice-commander, American Legion, France, and representatives of the Irish Army, Naval Service and Air Corps.

After prayers by Fr Moriarty and Rev Rachel Lewis, Col John O'Sullivan, David Hammond and Col Paul Cummings laid wreaths on the monument, as did veterans Michael Coyne and Tom Kane.

Families and representatives of the various ex-service organisations completed the ceremony, which concluded with the sounding of Taps and Reveille.

On behalf of Tipperary ONE, Mr Haslam thanked Tom and Judy Kane and the staff of Adare Manor, and the management Woodlands Hotel for the post-ceremony reception.

He also thanked Lt Col Michael McMahon for providing Cpl Stephen Kelly and his military police detachment, as well as to Mick Egan for providing the pipe music and to Post 6 IUNVA for their support.



At the launch of INTO general secretary and Sen Joe O'Toole's book, Looking Under Stones, at Newcastle West Bookshop, left, Tim Donovan, Rathkeale; Sen O'Toole, John Cussen, Newcastle West, and Esta Donovan, Newcastle West, and, right, David O'Grady and Frank Bouchier Hayes, both from Newcastle West