

PATROLLING

Winter 2018

75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC.

Volume 30 Issue I



CHINA—BURMA—INDIA—VIETNAM—IRAN—GRENADA—IRAQ—SOMALIA—AFGHANISTAN

BENERGY

By Jill Stephenson

There is a word I often say that cannot be found in the dictionary. If you knew Ben in life or after his Heavenly transition, you'd know it too. It's *Benergy*. Ben meets Energy. The spirit of Ben colliding with energy and showing up in ways that will make your heart smile. *Benergy* can be explained, however, the first time you experience it, will be just that, an experience.

In December of 2009, for the first time, I was at Arlington National Cemetery attending Wreaths Across America. Erin, one of Ben's friends from middle school, now lived in Arlington, VA. Erin and Ben stayed close throughout college and while Ben was in the Army, so it was no surprise that she joined me in placing a wreath on Ben's grave. Not long before that, Ben's personal effects, including his Chevy Pickup Truck, were returned to me. His truck was his pride and joy. Picture this: black, dark tinted windows, sharp leather interior and oversized tires. He bought it in Georgia where he was stationed, and never drove it home to Minnesota.

Erin asked me what it was like to drive Ben's truck. I always drove it cautiously because I was afraid something would happen to it, so I only drove it a handful of times. I soon realized there was a presence inside the truck when I drove it. It was a feeling of protection and warmth, and as silly as it sounds, love. It was an energy I had never felt before. It was empowering. It didn't take long before I was comfortable behind the wheel. All my fears had fallen away.

After explaining the truck's new-found energy, Erin turned her head slowly with wide eyes and said, "Do you mean *Ben-ergy!*"

"Yes! Oh my gosh! *Benergy!* How perfect!" I replied.

From that day forward, *Benergy* became an otherworldly feeling or experience that often defies logical explanation. I have collected a "treasure trove" of *Benergy* stories over the past eight years. Many of them have been witnessed, many of them have not. It may be driving to church Easter morning feeling alone and sad and suddenly a red, heart-shaped balloon floats in front of my car or arriving at the mall to replace clothes I lost in my house fire and the only car parked near me has a license plate that reads "LUVUMOM". But my favorite story is my first experience with what became Ben's "signature sign". On the night of his funeral in Minnesota, as you can imagine, I came home from what was a long and emotional day. When I walked in, the purest, whitest moth I've ever seen caught my eye on the wall that lead down to Ben's room. As I walked towards it, the pure white color became more apparent and beautiful. As I went to touch it gently, it spun toward the light and then followed me upstairs and landed on the wall next to my night stand. When I woke up in the morning it was still there. It had been there all night.

Benergy often happens when I need it, when I need to be reminded to see things differently. That *Benergy* is always present when I need strength or encouragement. Above all, *Benergy* provides me with a strength that allows me to tell Ben's story without losing composure. The experiences may be different, but the feelings they bring are not. *Benergy* reminds us to see the world through the eyes of our heart. *Benergy* is a reminder that life is momentary and signifies something greater. *Benergy* reminds us to find joy in the little things and not lose focus on what matters most. *Benergy* is not just "Ben+Energy", it's the spirit of all we love in this life and knowing where it comes from.



Editor's Corner

By Stephen (Steve) Johnson
Editor

Hello Patriots!

I am the new editor of Patrolling magazine and I would like to thank everyone in the 75th RRA Association for giving me a chance to helm this great magazine. Not only as a window of who we are, but making sure we are a beacon.

Secondly, I would like to thank all who have contributed to this first issue of 2018 in a timely fashion. This last year we have had in hand, a hard copy of only one issue in 2017. I will promise you 4 issues in hand for 2018. How are we going to accomplish this?

Maintaining cut off dates and more importantly, reminding everyone of a 30 day deadline; a two week deadline; and a one week deadline as a friendly reminder. As editor, I will continue to do that because like myself, I often most times need a friendly reminder and some of you have expressed that very same thought.

As a matter of fact, I had to save some articles sent by you as future featured articles in a folder for June's issue. Dave Regenthal and myself will make sure that articles submitted to patrolling75thrra.com will either be included in both Patrolling and/or our website.

To include what I have put into Patrolling for this issue, I have had to reduce the font size. Also, because of using a different format with Publisher, I had to type in all the minute stuff for contacts, etc., but that's my responsibility.

My printer that I have used for Sua Sponte magazine is the same one that is printing and assisting us for a Patrolling magazine. Arrow Printers in Bemidji, MN is on time every time and they have a welcoming staff and *can do* attitude. It helps me as editor to have someone assisting me in person rather than relying on other sources of communication.

If you have a picture, story, and the like, please send that through your unit director or to patrolling75thrra.com for us and we will try to our best by getting your "piece" into our magazine, Patrolling.

Proactive suggestions are always welcome and the lines of communication are open to the officers, unit directors, and supporting staff. I hope to improve with each issue, but I cannot do that without every one's help.

Let's be the beacon for the 75th and share with our country examples of not only who we were, but who we are, and who we will continue to be. Help us with that endeavor and thanks! Steve RLW!

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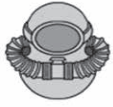
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The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission that is in bad taste, offensive, or discredits unnecessarily and individual or group.

Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November for the Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter Issues respectively.

POSTMASTER

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Greetings Rangers,

I have been thinking about a statement in Jeremiah 9:23-24, in the New King James Version of the Bible.

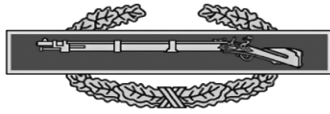
Thus says the Lord:

“Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom,
 Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might,
 Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches;
 But let him who glories glory in this,
 That he understands and knows Me,
 That I *am* the Lord, exercising loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth.
 For in these I delight,” says the Lord.

CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE
 BY JOE MARQUEZ

Who says this? The God who revealed himself to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the fathers of the nation of Israel. His prophet, Jeremiah was speaking to a people who had forgotten their foundations as a nation. But more, they had forgotten who had established them as such, and who had given them a place among the other nations and had blessed them with a measure of prosperity and peace. Their focus was on themselves, their glory, their might, and their riches. So correction was needed. Don’t glory in the changeable things of time and sense. But rather glory in this, that you can understand and know Him! And what character is this God who can be understood and known? One who is LORD, absolute ruler of His Universe! And he delights in exercising loving kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth, where we live. He delights in those kinds of things. And we ought to delight in them as well. We as a nation generally have forgotten what many of our fathers knew very well. That God’s hand was with us as we were formed from a group of rebels to the English Crown, into a nation of free men. Our freedoms have always been limited to our understanding of the nature of them. Freedom to oppress another is just tyranny in disguise. All abuse of our fellows is wrong in God’s sight, though it be declared legal by man. Destroying an enemy who threatens our people is sometimes a grim necessity, but under what circumstance do you take away the right of the unborn to exist when they have been conceived through no fault of their own? By what right do we seduce others who are innocent into our perverted lifestyles for our pleasure and their often irreparable psychological, emotional, physical, not to mention spiritual harm? Would we like such treatment for ourselves? We rightly condemn the Aztecs, some of my ancestors, for their sacrifices of human innocents on the altars of their stone Gods and to the demons behind them. But who really has stony hearts? No, we have strayed, individually and nationally, as Israel did from the moral foundation of all human government in God’s Universe. Natural law governs our environment. God has revealed His laws by His ordering of our world around us. Through His Word He speaks to our hearts, asking that we acknowledge His declaration of our condition and need before Him, intelligently and humbly submitting to the Son of His love, whom He sent to be our Savior and Lord. And to trust in his work to reconcile us to Himself, the Father of spirits, through faith in the Blood of Christ once shed for sinful men on Calvary’s Cross. There is coming a time when He will ask no more but will subject all by force. The God who created the heavens and the earth is not to be played with. Men can have wisdom, might and riches, and for a time they can use and enjoy them. But who is the giver of these things, and the Author of time? The Psalmist said, “My times are in thy hand...” Psalm 31:15 This is such a comfort for those who understand and know God in His way. Be in time for everlasting blessing. Or...?

Joe Marquez, C/1/503rd,'69 N/75th, Juliet,'70 A/2/503rd,'70 Chaplain: SC Chapter 30; and the National 173rd Airborne Brigade Association. Serving those who served. 864-467-0424 Cell 864-525-6941 Our lives are but for a moment, while what we do or leave undone will echo down through eternity.



WHO WE ARE

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., is a registered 501 © corporation , registered in the state of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F/58, (LRP) and L/75 (Ranger). The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible 75th Infantry Rangers and members of the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Companies, Long Range Patrol Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan: members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Long Range Patrol Companies that were attached to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the 75th Ranger Regiment.
2. To sustain the Association. Unlike the WWII Battalions and Merrill's Marauders, the 75RRA accepts members and former members of the Active Ranger Battalions. By doing so we are perpetuating the association. It will not "die off" as these two organizations someday will.
3. To assist, when possible, those active units and their members who bear the colors and lineage of the 5307th Composite Provisional Unit (CPU) , 475th Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Companies (Merrill's Marauders), 1st and 2nd Battalions (Ranger) 75th Infantry, the 75th Ranger Regiment, consisting of Regimental Headquarters 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Ranger Battalions, successor units, or additions to the Regiment.

WHAT WE DO

During the past years we have provided financial support to the young men of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Each year, through contributions from our members and some outside sources, we have provided about \$4,000 to each of the three Ranger Battalions and \$2,000 to the Regimental HQ. These funds enable the families of the junior enlisted men, (E-5 & below) to get certificates for toys for the children and provide turkeys for Christmas dinner.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

- V Corp (LRRP)
- VII Corp (LRRP)
- 9th Inf. Div (LRRP)
- 25th Inf. Div (LRRP)
- 196th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- 1st Cav. Div. (LRRP)
- 1st Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 4th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 101st Abn. Div. 1st Bde. (LRRP)
- 199th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- 173rd Abn. Bde. (LRRP)
- 3rd Inf. Div. (LRRP)

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

- Co D (LRP) 17th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 20th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 30th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 50th Inf.
- Co F (LRP) 50th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 51st Inf.
- Co F (LRP) 51st Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 52nd Inf.

- Co F (LRP) 52nd Infantry
- Co C (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co E (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co F (LRP) 58th Infantry
- 70th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 71st Infantry DET (LRP)
- 74th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 78th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 79th Infantry DET (LRP)
- Co. D (LRP) 151st Infantry

Section 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- Co A (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co B (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co C (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co D (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co E (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co F (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co G (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co H (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co I (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co K (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co L (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co M (RANGER) 75th Inf.

We have funded trips for families to visit their wounded sons and husbands while they were in the hospital. We have purchased a learning program software for the son of one young Ranger who had a brain tumor removed. The Army took care of the surgery, but no means existed to purchase the learning program. We fund the purchase of several awards for graduates of RIP and Ranger School. We have contributed to each of the three Battalions Memorial Funds and Ranger Balls and to the Airborne Memorial at Ft. Benning. We have biannual reunions and business meetings. Our officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer), are elected at this business meeting. This reunion coincides with the 75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Rendezvous which is held at Columbus, GA (Ft. Benning). We have off year reunions at various locations across the United States.



Presidents

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1986-1988 | Bob Gilbert |
| 1988-1990 | Billy Nix |
| 1990-1992 | Bob Gilbert |
| 1992-1994 | Roy Nelson (resigned) |
| | Milton Lockett (resigned) |
| | Duke Dushane (selected by Directors) |
| 1994-1996 | Roy Barley |
| 1996-1998 | Rick Erther |
| 1998-2000 | Terry Roderick |
| 2000-2002 | Emmett Hiltibrand |
| 2002-2004 | Dana McGrath |
| 2004-2005 | Emmet Hiltibrand |
| 2005-2007 | Stephen Crabtree |
| 2007-2009 | William Bullen |
| 2009-2011 | John Chester |
| 2011-2013 | Joe Little |
| 2013-2015 | Bill Anton |
| 2015- | Richard Barela |

SECTION 4 (Continued): 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co P (RANGER) 75TH Inf.
- Co D (RANGER) 75TH Inf.

SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors BDQ

All units of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ)

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment

- 1st Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1974
- 2nd Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1974
- 3rd Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1974
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984

SECTION 7: Long Range Surveillance: Any Long Range Surveillance Company or Detachment that can trace its lineage to, or is currently assigned to a Brigade or larger element, that was deployed to Vietnam as listed in section 2, 3, or 4.

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Patrolling Magazine: Winter is upon us and getting ready to leave us and most of you are wondering what the hell

happened to the Patrolling magazine. A lot of things went wrong and too much to try and explain. The corrective action taken we are trying to find a new printer to take over from Gazette and hopefully have a company that is more responsive to us.

The magazine will continue to be 48 pages, plus cover unless there is something extra special we need to do to keep costs within reason. We do have the magazine on line at 75thrra.com under media section.

Unit Directors please send your submissions to patrolling@75thrra.com for inclusion into the magazine. Please do not use that e-mail address for conversation, questions, or any other purpose (as everything sent there goes directly to the publisher). We need and want your stories about our rangers past and present. Let us know what each unit is doing.

Ranger Hall of Fame Nominations: By the time this issue is out the Ranger Hall of Fame packets will have been submitted to the RHOF Secretary. I was planning on making way to Fort Benning to review and vote on all the submitted packages. However, with medical things on going the 1st VP (Stephen Johnson) might be attending in my stead or I might be able to vote electronically.

We need to start now on the packages for next year. We need to make sure we have good solid packets that are viable and well written. We have a committee that will review them and make comments and recommendations prior to our submission. With that stated, we urge everyone to look at who they are submitting. If it the packet is for a deceased member from combat related injuries, make sure that you have the proper documents and the awards are accurate. If it is someone still with us, you need to look at what he has done in support of the ranger community in general, i.e. after he has left the service. Remember the person must be 3 years from termination of service.

The RHOF requirements have changed over the years and are more restrictive. There is a total of 15 slots open each year unless MOH winners are included. They do not count against the 15 regular slots. Each of the ranger associations may submit 3 packages each year and hopefully all three are selected for induction. I would like to see three inductees from our association every year.

75thrra Rendezvous: Our Ranger Rendezvous for 2017 did

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICHARD S. BARELA



help us identify specific topics of improvement for 2019. A committee has been established for getting ready for Ranger Rendezvous 2019. That committee is headed by the 2nd VP Roy Barley. This past rendezvous we had over 248 members register and at our dinner 338 attend our banquet (These numbers are up from the previous rendezvous).

Did everything go smooth, "Of course not" but we are learning from our mistakes. With the addition of feedback from our attending Unit

Directors through written AAR's we've got a pretty good sense of where we are and where we need to go.

The main point is no one can do it by themselves. I asked for assistance and as in the past got none. This is where you all need to step up to the plate. Be proactive by helping the association out and volunteer.

Elected Officers: I have been in constant contact with each of the officers. We are working on correcting areas of concern with the new set of officers and some from the old regime in Tom and Roger.

What we do need is for you to think who will take over the positions in the future. Granted I am what is called a "Lame Duck" but we need to keep the association moving forward. We need new blood in the officer positions and new ideas. If you are interested in a position let one of the officers know and we can let you know what it entails. There is a lot of planning and some travel. However, you do work with the ranger community and promote the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. We have a voice with the National Ranger Community and the Ranger Hall of Fame Board. We need your ideas to come in and not just a bitch session but bring ideas to push us forward.

Lastly, the association still needs a couple of Unit Directors, i.e. H Co and 3rd Bn. Also, we have a new unit, the Military Intelligence Battalion for the Regiment, (MIB). Lets see if we can bring this forward to assist the regiment and the Viet Nam era companies to stay active. If we don't we will be like the Korean Rangers and turn in their charter. We can't let this happen. We have too many rangers still serving and many of the Viet Nam era rangers still active within the association. Let us "Lead The Way" and bring new blood into the officer corps and promote our association.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Ranger Living History Walkway: The one item that is happening is the idea for a Proposal for a Ranger Living History Walkway that we are looking to establish within confines of the regimental area. The plan is to have a living history walkway which tells the story of the Rangers past and present. Commencing with the Ranger Battalions and Merrill's Marauders from World War II, it takes us through the Airborne Ranger Companies of the Korean Conflict to that of the Long-Range Patrol (LRP) and Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) detachments. The journey will highlight establishment of the Ranger Companies and BDQ Rangers in Viet Nam to that of the present-day Ranger and the Global War on Terror (GWOT).

Our history over the last 75 years is rich in service and sacrifice with great moments that have brought the Rangers to the forefront in military operations:

Formation of the Ranger Battalions and their accomplishments during WWII in North Africa, Italy, and in the Pacific theater of operations

6th Ranger Battalion conducting the successful prisoner raid at Cabanatuan POW Camp

Lineage with the famed 5307th Regimental Combat Unit (Provisional) better known as Merrill's Marauders and what they accomplished in the China-Burma-India Theater

Airborne Ranger Companies of the Korean Conflict

Long-Range Patrol (LRP) and Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) detachments and establishment of the Ranger Companies in Viet Nam

Biet Dong Quan (BDQ) Ranger Advisors Vietnamese Ranger Battalions

Ranger Battalions and active Ranger Regiment

There is an outstanding National Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning dedicated to those who have served this great Nation. The Ranger Legacy Walkway will not be a memorial but a living history reminder to all who visit. It will inspire future Rangers and develop a strong ethos towards the Ranger Motto "Rangers Lead the Way"

To date we have a donation from Marc Rubio in Florida in the amount of \$5,000.00. We need to raise funds and have requested some from the major Defense Contractors. Hopefully they will see benefit in this project and assist in

reaching our goal. 1st Ranger Bn did something similar at Hunter AAF and it has worked out. This is a much larger project and we are working with Ms. Shelia Dudley to get this project off the ground. We do have the blessing of the regiment and USSOCOM has agreed to this in principle. If you know of anyone who is willing to donate get them involved.

Closing Comment: I feel I have said enough and you are probably tired of reading my comments. Just remember we are the association and we need to support the officers and Unit Directors. Get involved and help us make this the best association in support of the ranger community.

Last item, those that can attend the internment of our past president and Ranger Hall of Fame member from H Co LTC (Ret) William Bill "Polar Bear" Anton which is set for 22 May at 0900 hrs. at Arlington National Cemetery under full Military honors. If you can make it, the family would really appreciate it and give him a ranger farewell.

Rangers Lead the Way – All the Way!!!



**Richard (Rick) S. Barela, President
75th Ranger Regiment Assn., Inc.
(509) 440-1126**

Winter can in some years be warm or as in this year, perhaps not. In Northern Min-

nesota when you have to put your 1 foot extender onto the 36 inch ice auger that you are using for drilling ice fishing holes translates to a cold winter. I keep reminding myself that the only person I can control is myself. Maybe the thermostat in my house, but anytime you are trying to control anything or anyone it doesn't go without consequences.

The Best Ranger Competition is coming up in mid April and I have never taken the time to observe this incredible contest. Also at that time, the officers of the association will be meeting in Columbus planning for next year's Rendezvous, among other things. My friend Roy Barley is a key person for finding us an AO that we can use for that occasion and we will be assisting him in this endeavor.

After the Best Ranger Competition and our meeting, I will return home for a short stay and then drive down to Camp Merrill at Dahlenega for the Critter Feed. I'll be staying with Roger Peet at his cabin that he has built there. We will be joined by two other guys that I served with in Vietnam from G 75th; David Moncada and Bill Martin. Both Peet and Moncada were Ranger Cadre at the MRC after serving with G Company in Nam.

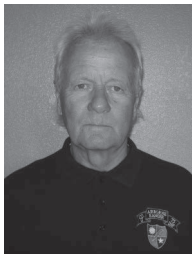
From Dahlenega, I might have to be in Benning the 3rd of May to sit in on the RHOF selection committee in lieu of President Barela of our association who will be recovering from knee surgery and may not be able to travel.

Whenever possible I travel with my golf clubs and walking shoes to fill in down time between scheduled places that I have to be. For those of you who play golf, you might agree that you have to stay focused on your game. As a result, all other things in your life are blocked out until you have to yell, "fore", for an errant shot about to impel into someone or perhaps a house window. Ouch! What's worse yet, my wife Pam is a 9 handicapper and I have to beg for strokes whenever I play golf with her. Just ask Moncada, aka "Chief".

Another hat I am wearing now for the association is that of the editor for "Patrolling" magazine. I have saved a column

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

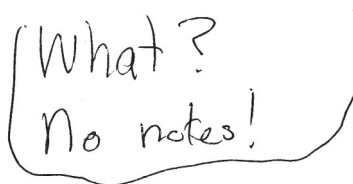
BY STEPHEN O JOHNSON



ti tasking is not my forte!

I can't tell you how many conference calls that the association officers have had, but when in need those calls have helped me fulfill my duties as vice president. Not only have they kept my "boat" afloat, but also keeping it going in the right direction.

Whenever I have needed clarification to questions that I have had, I have gotten it. All in a professional manner with a sprinkling of humor thrown in.



When I was at the association membership meeting during the Rendezvous, I brought my notebook along to take notes, but seeing Tom

Sove diligently doing that, I set my notebook down. Anyhow, some Ranger rascal left me a message!

There never was much humor when most of us returned from Vietnam. I can't change what happened back then but I can really appreciate the younger Ranger coming home and getting a deserved warm welcome for duty served. I can vicariously hitch hike with that and anytime I recognize a Ranger, I always go out of my way to introduce myself to a Brother and give them a big thank you!

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is a welcoming place for the younger Rangers who have served or are currently in one of the Ranger Battalions. To show our appreciation, it is our responsibility to roll out the red carpet for these young warriors!

In the upcoming years, a lot of us Vietnam guys will be gone, but not forgotten, and it is the younger Rangers of today that will carry on the traditions of the 75th RRA.

For those of you who will be attending the Best Ranger Competition or the Critter Cookout, I look forward to seeing you again or meeting you for the first time. The dates for those events are found within Patrolling.

Stephen (Steve) Johnson 1st VP 75thRRA

RLTW!

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ROY E. BARLEY

The grass is greening up, the snow has melted, and the flowers are starting to pop. There are a number of events coming forth this year: Best Ranger; Critter cook-out at the mountain ranger camp; LRRRA in Branson; various units are having reunions and this year will pass as quickly as others have. But there is one big difference: For many, many of us it is the 50th Anniversary of our service in Viet Nam, for others that happened in 2016 or 2017 and for others that will happen in the next 3 or 4 years.



may be difficult to pull off in that there are rules and regulations in place that did not exist in the past. If you could, please forward to me via e-mail what you would like to do. Wait, lets make that would like to do within reason. What is relevant and what is not? We need to know!

In my unit we have lost some and gained some members in these past few months alone. As focus on 50 years sharpens thoughts on reconnecting with others and you never know how or where it will happen. We had a few men find us thanks to the internet and having them decide to reconnect is a moment in time that brings everything full circle and fills voids that have existed for years. Considering what we did and with so few of us it surely is helpful and healing for all.

In 1992 when we started to gather our members together (E/50th E/75th) we had a number who simply told us they wanted to forget all that had happened. Over the years some came back to just see what was going on. In this past month we had several who reconnected after years of trying to forget. You cannot out run your memories and sharing those memories can do nothing but help.

Speaking of getting together we have a reunion coming up in 2019 and guess who has been tasked with putting it together...yup, me. We need a committee to work on this and really need some "boots on the ground" in the Fort Benning area. Volunteers are needed. Many hands make light work so step forward please. It is important to have a reliable person there to be a go between myself and the other officers in coordinating actives.

We also need to know what most would like to do at the reunion. I think everyone would like some time on a range firing the newest toys that the bad boys have. This



BOOTS ON THE GROUND CONTACT INFORMATION

Roy Barley

(716) 496-8803

lordshill@aol.com

2vp@75thrra.com

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

BY ROGER CRUNK



75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

January - December 2017

| | TOTAL |
|--|--------------------|
| Revenue | |
| 4000 Program income - DNP | -6,500.00 |
| 4002 Membership dues | 18,770.45 |
| 4004 Life membership | 3,210.00 |
| 4006 Reunion income | 26,685.00 |
| 4008 Patrolling ads | 550.00 |
| 4010 Coin sales | 1,828.90 |
| 4012 Quartermaster sales | 2,577.45 |
| 4020 Miscellaneous revenue | 268.70 |
| Total 4000 Program income - DNP | 47,390.50 |
| 4100 Member donations - DNP | |
| 4102 Family fund contributions | 12,809.41 |
| 4104 Goldstar contributions | 1,760.00 |
| 4106 Member fund contributions | 5,000.00 |
| 4108 Merrills Maruaders contribution | 20.00 |
| 4110 Operations contributions | 5,015.00 |
| Scholarship | 736.00 |
| Total 4100 Member donations - DNP | 25,340.41 |
| 4900 Interest income | 442.35 |
| Total Revenue | \$73,173.26 |
| GROSS PROFIT | \$73,173.26 |
| Expenditures | |
| 6000 Program expenses - DNP | 60.00 |
| 6002 Cash awards & grants-Battalions | 6,000.00 |
| 6006 Cash awards & grants - Members | 5,941.52 |
| 6007 Coin expense | 15.00 |
| 6008 Association patch | 517.98 |
| 6009 Association lapel pin | 207.00 |
| 6012 Other costs | 740.53 |
| 6014 President's travel | 176.90 |
| 6016 Reunion costs | 21,952.05 |
| 6018 Reunion supplies | 303.24 |
| 6020 Website maintenance | 3,618.42 |
| Vimeo Subscription | 240.00 |
| Total 6020 Website maintenance | 3,858.42 |
| 6022 Intuit Subscription | 274.97 |
| Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP | 40,047.61 |
| 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP | |
| 6102 Patrolling printing | 8,888.41 |
| 6104 Patrolling postage | 2,501.40 |
| 6106 Adobe subscription | 588.73 |
| Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP | 11,978.54 |
| 6500 Operations - DNP | -6,500.00 |

Accrual Basis Thursday, January 11, 2018 12:01 PM GMT-8

1/2

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY CONTINUED

| | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6502 Bank and merchant fees | 1,265.35 |
| 6504 Business registration fees | 30.00 |
| 6508 Computer maintenance | 500.00 |
| 6510 Insurance - D&O liability | 1,675.00 |
| 6512 Legal and accounting fees | 300.00 |
| 6514 Office supplies | 743.86 |
| 6516 Postage and mailing service | 989.94 |
| 6520 Subscriptions & reference books | 475.78 |
| Total 6500 Operations - DNP | -520.07 |
| Total Expenditures | \$51,506.08 |
| NET OPERATING REVENUE | \$21,667.18 |
| NET REVENUE | \$21,667.18 |

75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2017

| | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| 1000 Affinity / Operations | 18,817.81 |
| 1002 Affinity / Family fund | 8,886.98 |
| 1030 Affinity / Savings | 45,233.01 |
| 1040 Benevolent funds MM | 17,016.15 |
| 1042 Life funds MM | 38,349.63 |
| 1050 Paypal funds | 1,523.26 |
| Legacy | 10,001.71 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$139,828.55 |
| Accounts Receivable | |
| 1100 Accounts receivable | 0.00 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | \$0.00 |
| Total Current Assets | \$139,828.55 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$139,828.55 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Total Liabilities | |
| Equity | |
| 3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted | 118,161.37 |
| 3999 Opening Balance Equity | 5,000.00 |
| Net Revenue | 16,667.18 |
| Total Equity | \$139,828.55 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$139,828.55 |

When Staff Sgt. Jacob McKinley competed in the 2013 David E. Grange, Jr., Best Ranger Competition, he

BEST RANGER COMPETITION 35

By David Poe, Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs

said going up against the military's best was "humbling." "They are the Olympians of the military," the 1st Armored Division Iron Training Detachment pre-Ranger instructor said of his experience. "It's literally like being in the presence of an Olympian – like competing against the (23-time Olympic gold medal swimmer) Michael Phelps."

The proverbial swimming pool was open last week when McKinley and the ITD ran four 1st AD Soldiers through their Best Ranger Competition challenge on Fort Bliss and the Fort Bliss Training Complex, Jan. 10 through Friday. The event marked the first time the group of four, which ended as a threesome after an injury, trained together as the 1st AD's prospective team for the **35th annual Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, Georgia, April 13 through 15, 2018.**

Although now a commercial event, the BRC started as an informal competition between Rangers at Fort Benning to honor retired Lt. Gen. David E. Grange, Jr., a past Ranger Department director and former commanding general at the Army's infantry hub. Since then it has grown to challenge troops from all branches and is also open to non-military competitors.

The ITD has been training Fort Bliss troops for the BRC since 2015. Last year the Iron Soldier team finished 17th out of 25 finishers, an improvement over the previous year and a tangible example of the ITD's efforts to prepare competitors.

On day one (Jan. 10), this year's trio, Capt. Tyler Nash, 1st Lt. Ryan Keith and Staff Sgt. Noah Seui, all from the 1st AD, started the 72-hour challenge with a Ranger PT assessment similar to what Ranger candidates would have to pass prior to going to Ranger school. ITD troops also oriented the competitors on what to expect over the local, three-day event.

Day two included a 500-meter swim and pull-up event, among other challenges. Troops continued to the 1st AD vehicle driving course where they completed a three-mile run with weapons and individual combat loads. After another push-up challenge, they proceeded to the Air Assault Course on West Fort Bliss for 5K runs and marches, along with other tests.

On the evening of Jan. 11 and into the overnight, Soldiers were assessed on Soldier-specific skills such as Advanced Land Navigation and other technical areas in the most austere reaches of the Fort Bliss training complex. They ended the challenge at McGregor Range in southern New Mexico for a final day of evaluation, which involved displaying proficiencies on several weapons systems and later incorpo-

rating them into a final "stress fire" shoot in full body armor. Sgt. 1st Class Reag Wood, the ITD senior

Ranger instructor, said the intent of the local challenge was to best prepare the 1st AD team not only for the physical trials of the BRC, but the mental stressors as well. Three current ITD cadre have competed in previous BRCs. "I believe mental toughness is the most important trait to have," Wood said. "If you have physical shortcomings – those who find ways to deal with them can find success." While the goal may be to win, the senior noncommissioned officer said success for the 1st AD at the BRC will be more than just race times and scores – it'll be about growth. Finding the Michael Phelps of soldiering within each competitor. "Doing all of this with limited food, limited sleep and under extremely-harsh conditions has been a true test of what (the BRC) really is and we're trying to mimic that," Wood said. "The David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition is known as one of the toughest endurance races on the planet. (The ITD) is working to train a team so that (1st AD) can do better in the competition every year."



1st Lt. Ryan Keith, left, training for the BRC 2018 April 13-15 at Ft. Benning



Capt. Jacob Cortez, calibrates his M4 for the David E. Grange BRC 2018

I had the good fortune of meeting up with my good friend and fellow brother

CAMP MERRILL REVISITED

BY DAVID "CHIEF" MONCADA

Ranger Roger "Gunn" Peet in Dahlonega, GA from 19 – 25 Apr. After our 1-year tour in Vietnam, Gunn and I were Patrolling Instructors at the Mountain Ranger Camp (2nd phase of Ranger School), the best duty station I had in the Army. It was the annual Critter Cookout and Open House at MRC. I hadn't been to Dahlonega since I left in Feb 1971. The MRC is now known as Camp Merrill (in honor of Gen Merrill of Merrill's Marauders), which has undergone many modern changes. The permanent duty staff were terrific in hosting and putting on a Rangers in Action display of mountaineering, hand to hand fighting, fast roping, skydiving, and other classic Ranger tactical demonstrations. It was a lot of fun to watch and to recall how we used to do things. During the Open House (Sat) hundreds of families with young children were certainly treated to observing all the Rangers in Action displays, especially the Black Hawk helicopters on the ground in the little airstrip at Camp Merrill. Gunn and I (and all other Ranger Cadre at MRC) had to use this little, thin airstrip as a DZ to maintain our jump pay....crazy stuff indeed.

Gunn and I were able to visit Lonnie D. Miller's gravesite a few miles from the Ranger Camp. He passed due to cancer in 2000, after retiring as a 1SG from the Ranger Camp. We spoke with many old Rangers from the camp that worked with and knew 1SG L. Miller, and it was quite clear that Lonnie was held in the greatest esteem and admiration among all. Lonnie was my friend and fellow instructor of the Americal Recondo School in Chu Lai, and I had the honor of going into the bush with him on many occasions. Lonnie was a straight shooter, a great man, and one hell of a Ranger.

The Critter Cookout was simply amazing – on the menu we had venison, wild hog, fish of all type, possum, turtle, snake, and other enticing chow, all in the Ranger tradition. As the day waned into evening, a few bottles of local Moonshine somehow appeared around the large evening bonfire. Gunn was the designated driver that evening....nice for me, as I do have "a hankering for white lightning" from time to time, especially around old Rangers telling their war stories! Maybe it's just because we're growing a bit older, but I never tire of hearing Ranger war stories, especially from those who served in other units and beyond. The old LRRP/Rangers from P/75 were among the funniest in their accounts (they were along the DMZ in Nam), as they seemed to enjoy pestering and messing with their buds....very much like us and other 75th units.



David "Chief" Moncada at left; Roger "Gunn" Peet on right.

We had the privilege of meeting two older Rangers who both fought in the last stages of the Korean War and who had multiple tours in Vietnam with Ranger units – and they were also Ranger Instructors at the MRC. One of the Rangers graded Colin Powell as a student at the MRC. It simply boggles my mind that the Ranger Family is comprised of amazing men from all walks of life who love to hang together to enjoy "more Ranger company!" This event happens every year, and it's open to all LRRPs/Rangers, and I plan to return as often as possible, God willing!

MERRILL CONTINUED



I hope that guys from all of our associations have the opportunity to visit Camp Merrill for the Critter Cookout in future years. God Bless and RLTW!

Chief

CAMP MERRILL COOKOUT 2018

USMRA Fish Fry - Rainbow Trout

April 27, 2018,

Starts at 1700 hrs. at NCO Club, "The Overhang" at Camp Frank D. Merrill

No cost - donations are most welcome

5th RTB Open House

April 28, 2018,

Live action begins with the Hand-to-Hand Demo. Be there at 1000hrs

Helicopters on station at 1100 hrs.

Fallen Ranger Memorial <<http://usmountainranger.org/memorial/index.htm>>

April 28, 2018

1630 hrs.

USMRA Critter Cookout: Pot Luck: Could be Gator, Rattlesnake, Venison, Moose, Bear meat, Boston Butts, Wild Hog, Possum, Cajun crawdads and who knows what. Plus Hotdogs and Hamburgers and all the fixin's and sides you can eat.

April 28, 2018,

1800 hrs. There is No cost to eat, but donations are most welcome

The USMRA is a nonprofit organization that operates solely on donations. We do not require membership dues. However, we do incur costs, so any donations are appreciated. Donations can be sent to:

USMRA Treasurer

Robert K. Suchke

P.O. Box 201

Dahlonega, Georgia 30533-0201





GOLD STAR MOMS AT BENNING

BY GOLD STAR FAMILY ADVOCATE DIANNE HAMMOND



Left to Right: Jill Stephenson, Dianne Hammond, Ranger MSGT Gilbert H. Howland, and Scoti Domeij

Gold Star Moms invade Ranger Rendezvous 2017 in Ft. Benning, Ga. The hard work of Shelia Dudley and the open invitation from the Regiment and the 75thRRA brought quite a few Ranger Gold Stars out, some for the very first time. Scoti Domeij and Jean Hughes hadn't been to Benning for 28 years. (The last time was for her son's memorial.) I think it did us all a great deal of good, getting to know each other face to face instead of just through Facebook or some list. We came together as sisters, forged into a formidable group by our sons. 1/75, 2/75 and 3/75 were all represented. We laughed, shared stories, cried and hugged each other tight. The BBQ was very informal and Scoti got to meet quite a few guys who had served with her son in 2/75. Jill Stephenson was there promoting the book about her son "The Heart of a Ranger", a book that should be mandatory reading for every Ranger. By the time the Banquet rolled around on the last night, we all were like giggling school friends. Sandee Rouse, who I consider the God Mother of all Ranger GSMS, joined us for dinner. She fought so hard to get us recognized as a unit and was the driving force behind the Private FB page for Regimental Gold Stars, which Col. Vanek and his team started immediately after he took command of the Regiment. I for one will be eternally grateful for this site, it keeps us in touch with the Regiment and each other. Here is a picture of just one moment in the week, but a great one—Jill Stephenson, myself, Ranger MSGT Gilbert H. Howland who served in WWII Burma with Merrill's Marauders 43-44, in Korea at Pork Chop Hill Section 53-54 and Vietnam 68-69 and Scoti Domeij. Where else can you meet men of this caliber except at a Ranger Rendezvous. I hope to see you all at the next one—God Willing—until then RMLTW!



1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL ACEBES

Some of this is VERY OLD NEWS; but was not included in a “skipped” Patrolling Magazine and thought it was newsworthy.

Ranger Kevin Lee Evans passed away on 7 March 2017. He was with Bravo Company during the Grenada Operation.

Lots of St Patrick’s Day “doings” in Savannah in March 2017 – Shelia Dudley and Sherry Klein worked really hard planning this “gathering”; to bring all eras together. The parade on Friday – what can I say. Several 1974 Rangers/spouses/friends fell in line behind the Battalion. Shelia had “commandeered” several WWII Jeeps which had Rangers riding in. Saw lots of Rangers/Friends of Rangers along the parade route. After the parade; several of us moved to Tailgate Sports Bar; on Abercorn Street. This place is Ranger friendly; and the food was terrific. A brunch was set up on Saturday morning at Ranger Battalion Headquarters Conference Room. This brunch was catered by “Creative Catering.” It doesn’t get any better than what we were served that morning. Saturday night was the Ranger Ball. It was outstanding as always. Guest speaker was Brian Mast. Brian Mast is a Congressman representing the 18th Congressional District of Florida, but had served in the US Army for 12 years earning medals including The Bronze Star Medal, The Army Commendation Medal for Valor, The Purple Heart Medal, and The Defense Meritorious Service Medal. While deployed in Afghanistan, he worked as a bomb disposal expert under the elite Joint Special Operations Command. The last improvised explosive device that he found resulted in catastrophic injuries, which included the loss of both of his legs. After his speech; several Rangers picked him up and carried him off the stage.

The “Shelia Tree” was dedicated on 7 April 2017 at 1st Ranger Battalion Headquarters Building. A living memorial to a great lady and Ranger Icon!!!

Ranger Training Brigade: Former 1/75 members: Joe



Stringham, Tom Wilburn and Donny Baldrige were inducted as Distinguished Members of the RTB.

At the Mountain Ranger Camp in April; three former members of 1/75 were honored at the Fallen Ranger Memorial: SFC Harold Kaiama, CSM Joe Mattison (both original 1/75 cadre) and Ranger Thomas “Eli” Taylor. The Mountain Ranger Association – no

membership dues/fees – you have already paid the price of admission by earning the Ranger tab. Thank you Mountain Ranger Camp for honoring several of our fallen Rangers each year.

Gold Star Dad Bill Rouse (PFC James Markwell, Panama KIA) passed away 29 April 2017.

Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund Golf Outing held 12 May 2017. This is in honor of Sergeant Alessandro L. Plutino, known to all as Sandrino, who gave the ultimate sacrifice on 8 August 2011. This Fund Raiser is held each year – SSG Plutino – Never forgotten!

SSG Jason Dahlke Memorial Race held at Hunter Army Airfield on 13 May. (Picture of his parents below). 2018 SSG Jason Dahlke Memorial Race to be held at Hunter Army Airfield on **8 September 2018**.



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REG CONT'D

In August, Gene Peters hosted a BBQ at his home in Oklahoma. Lots of people gathered there. He plans to make it a yearly event. Steve and Karen Murphy attended and said it was a great time.

In August, Brenda and I were in Lake Havasu City and were honored to have breakfast with Janie Barlow Emmett and Bob Emmett (Merrill's Marauder). (Picture on right column)

In September, Steve and Karen Murphy and Brenda and I went to Jacksonville to walk the "final two miles" of Tessa Dahlke's "walk to Afghanistan" in honor of her son, SSG Jason Dahlke, KIA 29 August 2009. Tessa started the 7687 miles walk when her son was killed. She is now "walking back" home. -- Tessa also uses this walk as a fund raiser for the Sua Sponte Foundation (tremendous organization helping 1st Ranger Battalion members and their families). Tessa credits the Sua Sponte Foundation with getting her out of her depression and walking "with a purpose". To read an article from the Jacksonville, FL newspaper, go to this website: <http://jacksonville.com/slideshow/slideshows/slides-photos/2017-09-16/photos-memorial-ride-and-walk-honoring-army-ranger-sgt#slide-1>

Attended memorial service for Specialist Etienne Murphy in September.

Attended Ranger Golf Tournament 28 October. Lots of supporters that day. Some of the cooks that day included Bob Deale, Steve Murphy, Marshall Huckaby, Mike Waldron. There were several others but my brain can't remember right now.

Sua Sponte Foundation made sure we had a Sua Sponte T-Shirt to present to our waitress (Jessi) at Perkins Restaurant in December. Jessi makes sure we have our meeting room and she takes care of all of us every month (Perkins Restaurant, I-95 and Hwy 204, every 1st Saturday of the month, 0900).

20 December was change of responsibility from CSM Michael Albaugh to CSM Joe Davis.

5 January 2018 – Flag raising for Staff Sergeant Anthony Davis at Daniel Defense. Our fallen heroes will never be forgotten.

Former Regimental CSM and 1st Battalion CSM Gary Carpenter presented the Doughboy Award in January 2018.

22 January 2018 - Regimental Change of Position from CSM Craig Bishop to CSM Michael Albaugh. CSM Bishop is off to Ft Riley to be 1st Infantry Division CSM.

Former 1st Battalion members with health issues: Les Chapman,

Pete Schetrompf and George Horvath – Our prayers are with you brothers.

Ranger breakfasts everywhere – Look for one in your area.

Until the next time; keep your head down; your powder dry; your hatchet sharp and see you on the high ground.

Bill Acebes





A/75 - D/17 LRP - LRP - V CORPS LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES

Finally, after several years of begging and groveling, I have a story from then A CO Commander, Capt. Doug Nolen. After the Ranger Company, Doug went on to become a Major and retired. Then went to work for the Army as a civilian advisor, spending a lot of time in Germany. He is now mostly retired and living in the Austin, TX. area with



Captain Nolen, Now

his wife Tiffany, whom we met at the rendezvous this summer and is in the "now" picture with Doug.

We had a great time at the reunion at Ft Benning this summer. In attendance from A Co including Maj. Doug Nolen, CSM Gary Carpenter, 1st Sgt. Romo, CSM DeJarnett, Mike Cantrell, Roy Bissey, Fred Stuckey, Pete Rothrock, and Herbie Owens. Also from V Corps we had Ted Tilson, Willie Williams and Bill Gross. Hopefully I didn't miss anyone. Most of us attended the reunion banquet, but pictures didn't turn out. Retired General Stanley McChrystal was the guest speaker. He noted in his speech that in the summer of 1974, as a cadet at West Point he spent time at A

CO in Ft Hood. And to those not familiar with A Co, we really did sing the "jody" call at the end. Made a lot of folks unhappy, which in turn made us happy. I'm going to close by saying Happy New Year, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter to All!

From Capt. Doug Nolen

A/75th Airborne Ranger CO., Fort Hood, TX, 1973-1974

Now that the Ranger Rendezvous is over and once again I have promised Stan Jones an A/75th article. There were 9 of us from A/75th at the rendezvous and for me I hadn't seen the guys in 43 years. Took all of 5 minutes and the BS and cutting one another was in full swing.

I was assigned to Ft Hood in September 1971 after my second tour in Vietnam serving as Senior Advisor, 43d Vietnamese Ranger Battalion out of Vinh Long in the Delta.

For 14 months I commanded the 1st AG Company, 1st Cavalry Division. Sports were big in the First Team and the company level Sports Participation Trophy never left my orderly room in 27 months of command. The last quarter I was in command of A/75th and we won the post flag football and basketball championships and we took the battalion level sports trophy. There were a lot of LTC battalion commanders pissed off over that one!

In Dec '72 I was slated to command a mechanized company in the 2-12th Infantry at Fort Hood, but I got a call from Colonel Joe Jagers, Commander, 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry who said I was going to command A/75th and not a mechanized company. I was more than happy! A/75th was a FORSCOM unit (A and B Company Rangers at Ft Carson were the only active duty Ranger Companies), attached to III Corps at Fort Hood and further attached to the 1st Cavalry and the 3rd (Grey Wolf) Brigade. B Company was commanded by my good friend Sealon R (Doc) Wentzel (RIP Brother) who had been a platoon leader with me in 2/505th PIR, 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne Division in Viet Nam, 1968-1969.

I took command of A/75th in January 1973 and left in January 1974. The following are some recollections from my

A/75 - D/17 - LRP - V CORPS CONT'D

12 months in command of this great Ranger Company.

My initial 1st Sgt was Bonifacio Romo. We were on the company sidewalk by the parking lot one day and this Soldier walked by without saluting. 1st Sgt stopped him and asked what his problem was with saluting and the reply was "I don't salute no M.F.ers!" 1st Sgt grabbed him by the throat, slammed his head down on a car hood and asked if he was sure about that. I received my salute! I thought "I'm going to like this company!" CSM (R) Gary Carpenter was my 2d 1st Sergeant. Twice blessed!

1st Sgt Romo had a rule that no one came into my office to see me without seeing him first. One day 1st Sgt brought in SFC Duke Snider, platoon sergeant for 2d platoon. Duke stuttered when excited and he was excited as he explained that "some of his Rangers were in jail in Mexico." I told Duke to take up a platoon collection and get them back to Fort Hood and I wanted to see them when back on post. The next day here they came, 1st Sgt, Duke and 4 Rangers. I told 1st Sgt I wanted daily a jeep, an NCO, water, radio and a medic as the Rangers were going to be doing some serious walking at the end of the duty day for a week. The message was received to stay out of trouble and jail.

There were bad race riot days in '73. One evening gunshots were fired into our barracks windows. I moved all the off-post officers and NCO's into the barracks. Took a while, but things eventually died down.

Before REFORGER '73 I had been trying to get our communication base stations fixed so we could use our Coder Burst devices. Fort Bragg, 5th SFG had the equipment and know how to fix, but the ream of paperwork that I had trying to get support was to no avail, so A/75th was forced to learn and use manual Morse Code during REFORGER. One morning during REFORGER a sedan with a 4-star plate came thru our checkpoint. It was the FORSCOM Commander, General DePuy. He knew a lot about the company and asked why we were using Manual Morse. I explained the situation to him and he thanked us and left. When we landed back at Fort Hood Colonel Jagers met us and said he and I had an appointment the next day with LTG Seneff, Commander, III Corps and bring the base sta-

tion paperwork. Apparently the FORSCOM commander was not happy that one of his units was not getting any love at Fort Hood. After I left command weeks later the base stations were fixed.

During REFORGER '73 A/75th worked for VII Corps against V Corps which had the 200th FERNSPA Company and the French 13th Dragoons, but each corps had about 18 teams out in the field. A/75th stayed in Germany after REFORGER to do real world work in one of our missions as a stay behind force in the V Corps sector of the General Defense Plan (GDP). I deployed teams to check team hide positions, vegetation, water, etc. Each team was to do a communication check back to our headquarters in Frankfurt across from the V Corps headquarters. Check in never got past the 2d team before the East Germans jammed our 2 radio nets. I went to V Corps and requested additional radio nets which we received and continued our work until the 1973 Middle East War broke out and A/75th was put on "strip alert" at Rhein Main Air Force Base to jump into the Sinai Desert in our "tree suit" camouflage uniforms.



Captain Nolan left with EJ Alexander

A/75 - D/17 - LRP - V CORPS CONT'D

This never happened, but we remained in Germany longer than expected.

After the East German jamming I had to meet with LTG DeSobry, CG, V Corps. He wanted to know about A/75th. During the course of my briefing to him he asked how many teams did I expect to lose after being rolled over in sector. I said 75%. He said it wouldn't be that high as V Corps would come pick the teams up. I said "Sir, I don't think you will be able to do that." He asked if the A/75th Rangers knew what to expect. I replied "Yes Sir, and they are all volunteers!"

We have lost several A/75th Rangers. LTC John Keneally, Commander, 3d Ranger Battalion, was killed in a Special Operations flying crash in Utah several years ago. John was my Executive Officer in A/75th. Sergeant Clyde (Smilin') Bayless, 2d Platoon, was killed in a helicopter crash in South America. When Clyde started smiling, bad shit was fixing to happen! I wonder if Bob "Pop" Crepeau,

2d Platoon, is still with us, born 27 February 1932. Lost Alan "Lurch" Childress several years ago after being the Sergeant Major at Field 6, Florida Ranger Camp. PFC Robert (Bob) Doornbos, 1st platoon has passed away. Saw him knock out a Soldier with his 1st punch in the 1st Team Boxing Smoker. One bad ass Ranger. Lost SSG Dan Sedillo to a cancerous softball size mass in his head in 1974. Beautiful twin girls and a great wife. A/75th Rangers paid their own way to Decatur, Georgia to bury Dan. RLTW! RIP!

I could go on for a long time about A/75th and the great Rangers in that company. It was my honor and privilege to serve with these Warriors, most of them were Viet Nam veterans. I'll close with this "Jody" call we used to sing as we ran:

"Rat shit, bat shit, dirty smelling twat, 69 assholes tied in a knot, eat, fight, f—k, screw nibble, gobble chew, I'm a f---ing Ranger, who the hell are you!"

BEST RANGER COMPETITION

APRIL 13TH - 15TH 2018

BEST RANGER 2018 | APRIL 13-15, 2018

FORT BENNING, GA

The Best Ranger Competition 2018, is the 35th anniversary of this grueling competition, starring the best soldiers of the world, our United States Army, RANGERS! The Best Ranger Competition was started in 1982 after Dick Leandri found a way to honor his personal friend, Lieutenant General David E. Grange, Jr.

The competition has evolved over the past thirty years from once that was originally created to salute the best two man "buddy" team in the Ranger Department at Fort Benning, GA to determine the best two-man team from the entire United States Armed Forces.



B/75 - C/58 - LRP - VII CORPS LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

VII CORPS, C/58 LRP, B/75

Hello again, fellow Rangers, LRRPs, and Jayhawks.

We appear, unfortunately, to be getting older, and time is taking its inexorable toll. First is a reprinted article about 1SG "Pappy" Haugh's passing, and then updated notes about VII Corps, followed by Dick Foster's VII Corps report. We'll open with the B/75 news, and then the updates to VII Corps, then Dick Foster's Jayhawk report.

SAMUEL J. HAUGH III

1939 - 2017

(Published in The Canon City Daily Record on Nov. 11, 2017)

1SG, USA (RET) Samuel James Haugh III died on Oct 31, 2017 in Cañon City, Colorado.

Samuel was born on June 6, 1939, the eldest of 9 children, in Hartford, CT, to Samuel J. Haugh Jr. and Margaret (Brennan) Haugh. Sam grew up in Manchester, CT, where he graduated from Manchester High School in 1958, and immediately joined the US Army. Sam spent the next 21 years in the Army including 3 years in Vietnam, 4 1/2 years in Panama, and at numerous stateside posts. He retired as a First Sergeant from the 2nd Ranger Battalion, 75th Infantry at Ft. Lewis, Washington in 1980, and moved with his wife Gayle, and son Jeff, to Cañon City. Sam served with the 173rd Airborne Brigade and the 23rd Infantry (Americal) Division in Vietnam. Among his awards and decorations are 4 Bronze Stars, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal with 7 Campaign Stars, Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab. Sam was a member of the US Army Ranger Association, American Legion Post 13, VFW Post 4061 and the Upper Arkansas Military Retiree Association here in Cañon City.

He worked on and off at the Salvation Army Thrift Store from 1993 until it closed in 2005. Sam was preceded in death by his loving wife, Gayle in 1994, his father in 1969, mother in 2009, and a brother Danny in 1975. He is survived by his son, Jeffery, sisters: Julie B. (Don) Frost of West Hartford, CT; Nancy B. (Wally) Haugh of Key West, FL; Margaret B. (Mike) Kaaczorwski of Essex, and Mary P. Haugh of Manchester, CT. Brothers: John B. (Corenda) Haugh of Bolton, CT; Gerald B. Haugh of Coventry, CT; and Thomas B. Haugh of Manchester, CT. He is also survived by numerous nieces, a nephew and many friends and acquaint-



ances. A special thanks goes out to Kim (Allen) and Jack Ward of Cañon City for the loving care that you gave Sam over the the past 22 years. He was very thankful for the physical and moral support you gave him. He will be eternally grateful. At Sam's request no services will be held. Cremation will be performed by Holt Family Funeral Home. Dispersal of the ashes will be at a later date in Canton, Ohio. Contributions may be made to the Wounded Warriors Association or the Cañon City Humane Shelter, or to a charity of one's choice.

FACEBOOK POSTINGS

I awoke to this news this morning and I needed to share it with you all. A true Legend has left us. For us that served with him in 3d Platoon it is a big loss of a very special

leader, mentor, friend and brother-in-arms. Rest In Peace Pappy!

Eldon Bargewell:

My first PSG as a brand new 2LT. He was better than great. He taught me what a Platoon Leader should do and what not to do. I am forever in his debt.

Thomas Harris:

RIP Pappy (Ranger Haugh) Respected by all who had the honor of serving with him. RLW

Thomas Harris:

Leo- Great hearing... been "off net" for a few years now... Heading from Alaska to Arizona for the winter in a few days... really appreciated the coin you made for B/75 a few years ago... hope all is well with you?... The years are passing quickly and taking a toll... Went to Ranger School with Pappy and a lot of other B/75 Rangers (13-72) and was with him at Fort Carson & Fort Lewis. A real professional soldier.

(NOTE: Contact the Unit Director for Tom Harris' mailing address if you want it).

(From the U.D.) I am prejudiced, but...

The third platoon of B/75 produced an astonishing number of senior NCO's, CSM's, and Officers (including General Officers) for the United States Army, under Pappy Haugh's tutelage. His legacy was the dissemination of those professional soldiers he mentored throughout the Army, and the standards they learned there and carried with them to benefit their units, the Army, and the country. He did, however, tell me a couple years ago that: "I had the easiest job in the Army. (Continued next page)

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP

You all made me look good.”

That’s a leader. We are in his debt. The Regiment is in his debt.
The Army is in his debt.

We’ll see you in the tall grass, Pappy...

I would be remiss if I did not mention here that we also lost LTC (Ret.) Jim Waters, (another outstanding mentor, leader, and friend) this month, which I am certain will be covered in the BDQ section. I hope to attend his service at Arlington. RIP, Jim.

HEARD FROM:

Richard Stutsman, Dirty Eddie White, Leo Starkey, Greg Phillips, Lynn Thompson, Jeff Rice, Pat Fuscaldo, Dennis Lucas, Mike Moser, Jim Broyles, Kim Maxin, Steve Murphy, Gary O’Neal (and many more, via the FB group).

January 1

This is the news copy and a photo (photo not available) of my unit that came from Ft.Riley, Kansas to Ft.Carson, Colorado. I was in the Advance Party going from Riley to Carson.

We were a LRRP Unit [C/58] then after that we were changed at Ft. Carson to what you read in the paper [B/75]. This was a great unit and the second Airborne Ranger unit I served with (after my first 18 months in Vietnam with the All The Way Brigade of the 1st Cavalry Division). We were the vaunted 1st Brigade Airborne unit of the 1st Cav. (also a great combat unit with many battles and brave men in Vietnam). After my time with these great units I went back to Vietnam for 18 more months with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, later to be wounded again. That ended my Army life and transitioned to a Disabled Combat Vet who will never forget the brave men I served with in these units in Vietnam and the States. Some of the greatest men to have ever served with in my lifetime. I will take all these great memories to my grave one day but will never forget them as long as I live and breathe.

Respectfully,

Marc L. Thompson

Unit Director



AH-1G Cobra support story on next page

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP CONT'D

VII Corps LRRP updates and 2018 San Antonio Reunion

PFC Foster, President

Feb 11, 2018

Good afternoon, Troops! I hope this finds you all in relatively good health and I am helping make your May reunion plans. I'll try to get as much as necessary in this, because Patrolling Mag is limited to 48 pages. They may have to edit for space.

First and foremost, Theo's not doing well at all. Briefly, he's in hospice; set to go home for home care. Aside from the terrible spinal nerve pain he's enduring, he was diagnosed with neck and chest cancer. He refuses treatment and is barely eating by choice. In short, I hate to say this, but after talking with him and Lucy, his time is limited. He has put up the good fight, but is tired and ready to do what he has to do. If you want to call him, I suggest you keep it brief. He would love to hear from everyone, but is too weak to talk long. He still has his *Schweinhund* sense of humor, though. Remember: It's never too late to send a prayer to him and Lucy's way and asking for divine intervention. Let's not forget his Grandson who lives with them.

In case you've missed the reunion changes, here they are again: We assemble at the Best Western Plus Medical Center hotel (210-684-9966) in San Antonio from May 11-15. Costs are \$350 for 4 nights, 2 queens per room (beds, not the others), free breakfast and parking. We'll have a company rental to pick you up at the airport. When you arrive, call me at 352-281-0983, and I'll get Touchon to meet you with a couple of his miniature pack mules. Bring your own saddle. PS: I reserved 5 rooms but I think they're all spoken for, so plan on making your own reservations.

I expect a decent showing with myself, Forde, Hathaway, Kennedy Straley, Touchon, Aviles, Morales, Lengel, Strahel, Fee, Yarborough (?), Allen, Lake, Moncayo (?), Sam Rodriguez with his "unissued TRK-77, ruck, and GRA-71 and whatever else" he can pack along. If Sam and Edgar can make it, we all can.

Dues: We can always use them. They're still \$25 (or whatever you can afford or donate) per year. Send dues payment to Tom Forde at 80 Carolina Drive, New City, NY 10956.

Limited reunion tees will be available for sale. All will be Size XL, unless you notify me directly for XXL or L. Our order will be limited to 15-20 tee shirts.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association's next reunion is in 2019 at the Rendezvous in Benning.

I also want to suggest that we, as an Association, seriously consider donating at least \$10.00 per month to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to honor those brothers of ours whose lives were cut short by the Vietnam War through KIA or indirectly through Agent Orange, PTSD, diabetes, heart attacks, and what ever else. I support it personally in memory of Capt. Frank Kraxner (Cf. following citation) and Lt David Tucker to the tune of \$5 each per month. Others surely deserve it. Think about it

and lend your voice. The money (\$) will come from our Association account.

The crew (Kraxner/Caplan) of AH-1G was on a night cover mission over a low-flying UH-1H with a Xenon searchlight. The AH-1G complied with a request from the UH-1H to expend several 10 lb. rockets into a bamboo thicket. Capt. Kraxner's AH-1G commenced its final dive, fired three pairs of rockets and then a fourth pair. After the latter, the aircraft began to pull out of the dive, which apparently was too close to the ground. One of the main rotor blades struck the ground or a tree severing it, the skid and the vertical fin of the tail boom. The initial impact point created a 15-foot trench dug about 12 inches deep. As a result, Capt. Frank Kraxner and 2LT David Caplan were killed.

RIP Kraxner and Caplan! Your LRRP Brothers.

In light of this, I want our Missing Man Table to reflect the names and service to duty of ALL LRRPs who died in war or peace or are no longer with us, except in spirit, so that we might continue to pay homage to them and their memory. Some have sent me names and I want all of you to search your dilapidated memory banks so that the list will be complete! Thanks Sgt. Lake for your extensive input.

That's it fellas. As usual, I've, no doubt left something out. When it comes to me, I'll get back to you. Hope to see *you* in May in Texas and Ft Benning later on.

"I serve in the forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense." Article 1, The Soldier's Creed

Out!

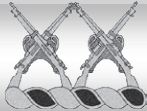
PFC Foster, President

VII Corps LRRP Association

VII CORPS UPDATE FROM DICK FOSTER:

Pray for Theo and Lucy, Diane Lake, Sam and Edgar and any others in their time of need. Foster

Gentlemen - As most of you are by now aware, our dear friend and Brother and one of the best LRRPs who ever served, has passed away. His final farewell followed weeks of pain as a result of a jump gone bad many years ago at one of the 75thRRA reunions at Ft Benning. His final exit from the door of life occurred on Sunday night, February 11, 2018. I daresay a finer man has not been born among us. Rest my Man; you earned it. Theo would want you to and you should say a prayer and keep in your thoughts, "The Sainted One" TSO, Lucy and Theo's beloved Grandson.



C/75 - E/20 LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOE HAYES

Well here it is; January 2018. Gary and Edie are now Mr. and Mrs. Dolan. If all went well, they were married on Dec. 29th in California. May you both live long and have a happy life together.

Just like everywhere else in the north, it's cold. I normally don't mind the cold, but when it gets down into single digits, my digits tend to get a little harder to work. Fortunately it doesn't snow as much when it's this cold so I guess that's a plus. Del – send a little of that Arizona heat up this way. I know what you're thinking: "better you than me."

I was thinking back to January 27, 1972. I came home from Vietnam. I remember landing at Detroit Metro. It was 13 degrees. It was warmer in Anchorage where we landed to refuel before heading for Travis AFB in California. I'd only been gone less than a year. My orders were dated March 31, 1971; ultimate assignment RVN transit Det., APO SF 96384. You know the drill. Report not later than 1200 hrs on the date specified for overseas movement. So the morning of April 27, 1971 my Dad drove me to the airport and said his goodbye. He wasn't a hugger so we just shook hands. He couldn't stay until the plane took off because he had to get to work. It was early in the morning and the airport was pretty empty when I checked in. I think I felt just as empty. I remember that the lady at the check in counter asking me if I wanted a first class seat since not that many people were flying to San Francisco. It didn't cost me anything so I said OK and took a seat at the gate waiting to board. Just as they gave the first call to board my sister Barb came running up. Boy, I was glad to see her but we just had a couple of minutes. I had to board and she had to get to work. She gave me a big hug and almost started to cry but didn't. We said our goodbyes and she watched me board the plane. I'm sure glad that Barb came. It meant a lot to me and to this day it still does.

I think I was at Oakland Army Base for four or five days where I turned in some uniforms and got the Vietnam wardrobe. Then it was on to Travis AFB. After a stop in Anchorage where we refueled and took on all male flight attendants, it was on to Bien Hoa. There was a guy named Dan Erlich on the flight. He was with me in jump school and I was thinking, "ok, maybe we'll be together over here." I wanted to be with at least one person that I knew. I didn't know how things worked over there. The



jet rolled to a stop and the engines stopped. As we waited for the doors to open, it didn't take long for the temperature to start rising. I saw a blue bus pull up not far from the plane and then the door opened. You will all remember the rush of humid heat hitting you for the first time. There was a distinct smell that accompanied the heat. I'd never smelled that particular smell before but if I ever smell it again at least I'll know where I was the first time I smelled it. I remember that the tarmac being very busy – people, trucks, planes, and towing vehicles. I saw my first actual Vietnamese people. Nobody

said much as we loaded the buses and were taken to the transit detachment to in process.

I spent about twelve days in that facility. I remember thinking that it reminded me of a refugee camp. There were a couple of formations a day where names were called for an assignment. When I was not called I pulled various jobs which were so menial that I don't even remember what they were. All I remember is that the days went by and I was beginning to wonder if anybody besides me knew that I was here let alone if I even existed. But somehow like magic, my name was called: "Hayes, Joseph J." I think I almost missed it because I was getting used to it not being called. I received orders to be reassigned to HHC 17th AVN GP. And moved over to their holding pEn for a few more days and once again my name was called to report to a sergeant so and so; (I don't recall his name). I reported, and there was a line to see him. He was seated at a desk and as each individual got to the desk, he would go through their records jacket and give them sometimes one option and sometimes more options. When it was my turn he gave me two options. As he was looking at my papers he said that I could go to someplace in the 1st Aviation Group in Pleiku or to Company C, 75th Rangers in An Khe. The guy behind me told me to go to the Ranger unit because he said they'd make me a door gunner and you don't want that. Well all I knew was that I sang that cadence song about wanting to be an Airborne Ranger enough times in jump school that I wanted to be an Airborne Ranger. And here was my chance. I told the sergeant I wanted to go the Ranger unit. I walked away from that desk, not knowing where An Khe was let alone how to get there. I was just as proud as I could be to be on my way to the Airborne Rangers.

Later on I received a letter from my Dad telling me that he was proud of me and was praying for my safe return. Dan Erlich would not be going with me. I was sad about that. I don't know where he was assigned.

C/75 - E/20 LRP CONTINUED

Orders #134 were cut on Friday, May 14, 1971. I got them on Monday. Jimmy Dunagan and I were both on those orders assigning us to Co. C (Ranger) 75th Inf. (AB). Jimmy seemed to know how to get around, so I just stayed close to him. We took a C 119 to Tuy Hoa and had a day there before taking a Caribou up to An Khe to check in at the unit. Once we landed on the airstrip, Jimmy kind of went his way. During my time in C Co., we talked a little but not much. We were friends, but never became close friends. Once, his team pulled security for one of our Xrays. I had a Pen EE camera and I took a lot of pictures. There is one that I'm glad that I took of Jim on that X ray. He had a kind of forlorn look sitting by his poncho hut next to a water can. But that was about it. As the days turned into weeks and then months, I had come to realize that that was just the way it was with few exceptions. Close friendships seemed to be a liability. At least that's the way I sized it up. But I did have a lot of good conversations. Bob Rath and Scott Martin were memorable ones. Desmond had given me a heads up not to call Rath by his first name, Richard, Rich or Dick. He told me that Rath hated that name. When I met Rath he said; "Hi, I'm Bob Rath." And that was that. Scotty and I had some good discussions sitting up on that big boulder where TOC was. It was a nice view of the airstrip and An Khe and it was a good place to talk.

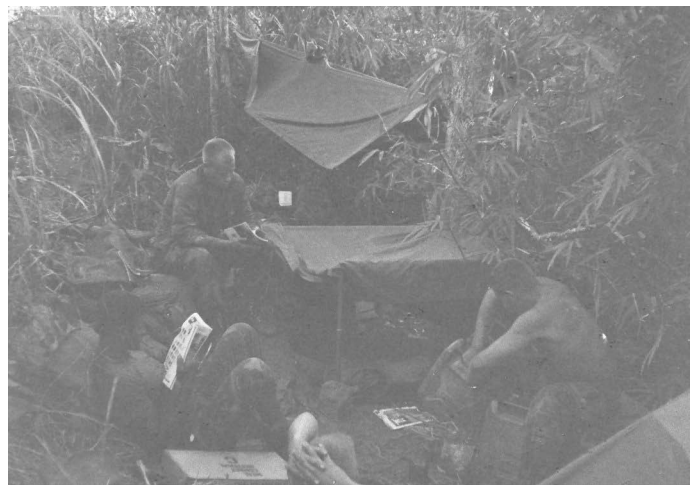
The spring, and summer of '71 passed along with their events. Those of you who were there in the waning days of C Company will remember how much smaller it got week by week. Orders #293 came down from Hq. 17th Avn. GP. On October 20th. Sgt Bob Morel was assigned to the 52nd CAB, Bob Webster, Ron Fortier, and I were assigned to HHC 17th CAG. Neil Clark went to the 7/17th CAV, and Sgt. Conrad Hansen went to the 180th Assault Support Helicopter Company where the Chinooks were. All of us went down to Tuy Hoa together. You'll recall our area. Charlie Rangers only. And you will also remember that a lot of folks down there did not like us one bit. So, our stay in Tuy Hoa was brief as there was a little scuffle that happened at the NCO club the first night we were there. I just saw the aftermath.

Wes Lynn and I were in the barracks playing some cards when an MP officer and sergeant came in and told us that we were confined to our building. They left and a short time later in came Bob Webster and Ron Fortier carrying Neil Clark over their shoulders. Neil wanted to go back out and kill the guys who beat him up. He could hardly stand up, but he was starting to

fight Ron and Bob, so Bob cold cocked Neil, and Neil was out; down on the floor. All that

Fortier said to me was "watch him." And both Ron and Webster were back out the door. O..K..What just happened? Well, I guess our guys were just having some friendly drinks in the club and someone said something to somebody. What was said?... I don't know. Someone fired a handgun and Sgt. Hansen fired a pocket flare into the bar and...well...you can imagine the rest. I don't think that there were any KIA's. So the MP's posted their guys around our building the rest of the night.

I think our departure became a priority for the commander. We were moved to a different location and within a couple of days we were gone to our next assignment. I volunteered to go to the 17th CAV as I still had five months left in country. I ended up being a gate guard for the 10th CAB in Dong Ba Thin until January '72.



Jimmy Dunagan KIA Vietnam

On January 14, 1972 I received orders to be reassigned to the 82nd Ag. Admin Co .Somewhere around the 25th or the 26th, I made my way up to Da Nang to catch the flight back to "THE WORLD", as I had heard it referred to so many times.

I ran into Ron Fortier and Bob Webster in the NCO club and joined them for a round. Ron asked me if I had heard what happened to Dunagan. I answered no but as soon as he asked me, I knew he'd been killed. Ron said that Jimmy's helicopter had been hit by a rocket and crashed —no survivors. That happened on the 21st, just a few days before. Ron felt we should have a toast so he pulled off his boot and filled it with beer. I didn't want to drink out his boot but I couldn't refuse. So as not to look like I wimp, I took a long drink. Even Ron looked surprised. A couple of Vietnamese barmaids looked at us like we were nuts. Well, that was that.

C/75 - E/20 LRP CONTINUED

Then it was time to board the plane home. Again: roster – names called – answer here – board plane. I was glad to see Dan Erlich again. He was ok. We didn't have a lot to say to each other. No one did. We just found a seat and waited to take off. I had a window seat and as we started to taxi I saw a couple of Phantoms take off right before us. They gave us an escort as we flew into the dark and finally the F-4's were gone. Most everyone put out their overhead light and went to sleep. It was quiet enough to actually sleep. Anchorage was a brief stop. I had time to buy a flash for my Pen-EE, and then it was on to Travis AFB. Dan and I and another guy hired a taxi to get us to the San Francisco airport as we didn't want to wait for the army bus. It was early in the morning; not much traffic, and the trip didn't take that long. The lights on the bay bridge were beautiful as I recall. When we got to the airport there were a couple of hippies there telling us to go back to Vietnam but they were harmless...probably cold and hungry too. Nobody paid attention to them. I had to wait five hours for a flight to Detroit. Danny lived in Orange, California so he just caught a commuter after calling his girl to come and pick him up. We said our goodbyes and good lucks and I never saw him again.

So it's 5 PM Jan 27, 1972. It's dark, it's cold, and it's Detroit. My Dad, My Mom, Brother William and baby brother Pat (3 ½ yrs), were there to greet me. Some of you will remember Col. Pat (Purple Hayes) from the 2012 reunion in Colorado Springs. Dad had his bowling shirt on as it was Thursday, and he bowled at 8 PM. Everything was the same. I don't know why I expected things to be different. It was good to be back. My good friend, Bob Franke from up the street, had hung a big WELCOME HOME JOE sign on our garage so that's the first thing I saw when the car lights hit the garage door coming up the driveway. I appreciated that but I don't remember telling him "thank you". I can't remember if I even thought to thank him then. I thanked him two years ago. Dad kept a bottle of Johnny Walker Red in the upper kitchen cabinet. As Mom didn't touch the stuff, Dad and I had a toast to my safe return and he was off to the bowling alley. My Dad wasn't a big drinker but my Mom told me that he didn't touch that bottle from when I left until tonight. And, I'm sure she would have known if it had been. I never forgot that toast. Mom told me that one of my friends from high school had called, but I was kind of relieved that most of the guys that had hung out with in high school were away at college. I didn't feel like seeing them at that time. I had forty days leave which was more than enough time to visit with the family and to do a little traveling before reporting to the 82nd. I still had a year and

nine months left on my hitch which turned out to be one year and six months. That time was good for me as I didn't have a long term plan. I got out three months early to go back to school. A lot of guys were getting out early back then. Vietnam was winding down. What a sad ending. We were surplus to the needs of the Army.

And so, we came back home. Some had an easy time and some didn't. Don Erickson told me that he never had a problem when he came home. He said that he just picked up where he left off. And, I suppose he did. Don had a good construction company going. He did a favor for me a few years back and I'd call him now and then. I liked talking to him. I miss that. Forty five or fifty years can just about wipe your memory clean on certain things. If it was not for my Mom's notes and her saving all my papers way back when, then I wouldn't have remembered a lot of this stuff. For instance: On Jan. 27, 1972 I would not have remembered that Mahalia Jackson, the great Gospel singer, passed away. That's in her notes because her dad, my grandfather lived with us before he died and he loved watching Mahalia Jackson on TV. She'd come on at 5:30 just before the news. Mom thought it was important to me because I would sit and watch with my grandfather so she wrote it in her notes. God bless Mom and Dad. They are now passed on, but always in my thoughts. I will forever be thankful for their prayers and their memories. And, to Jimmy Dunagan and Mahalia Jackson: Here's to you.

See you in the spring!

Joe



The 75th Ranger Regiment Association Welcomes You Home, Joe!



D/75

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICHARD “HERD” NELSON

I recently talked to a group of men at the church I attend and some of the attendees were men close to my age, a few were Vietnam veterans. My talk centered on growing up in the 1960s, mentioning the change and some of the events of that decade that changed our history forever, like the assassinations of President Kennedy and his brother Bobby, and civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. The focal year in my talk was 1968, tragically speaking, the high water mark for casualties in Vietnam with 16,592 US servicemen killed and 87,388 wounded, you might say that 1968 was both tragic and astounding in many ways. 2001 A Space Odyssey, Funny Girl and Planet of the Apes were the top grossing films that year. To grow up in that decade was like living through constant change of chaos and order that affected the entire world, especially here in America, you never knew what to expect next. For those of us who were not in Vietnam in 1968 we had already been there or would go later, in the case of Co D 75th Inf. and to some extent Co D 151st Inf., 1969 and 1970 was the time frame we served.

Herd Nelson and I were two of the youngest members of our company and speaking for myself was looked after by our NCO corp., the best in my opinion the United States Army produced during the time I served on active duty. What I experienced in those six months from October 69-April 70 influenced me for the rest of my life, and still does to some extent.

I made the military one of my careers retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel after 31 years of service and I can tell you that without my experience with Co D, 75th Inf. I seriously doubt that would have happened. The best and most lasting thing that came out of my experience in Vietnam was the life-long friendships forged



with the men I served with and sharing the good and bad times together. A poem that says it better than I ever could is:

From this day to the ending of the World....

But we in it shall be remembered....

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers.

For he today who sheds his blood with me Shall be my brother. ~ Shakespeare

Tom Delaney, a team leader of 3rd Plt., calls us a “Band of Brothers”, that’s true Tom, to the end.

I will tell you what is happening to everyone that Herd has recently contacted. By the way, thank you Herd for contacting all of us and caring about what is going on in our lives. We all owe gratitude of thanks to you buddy for all you have done as our unit director. Stay well and keep up the good work and leadership, from all of us.

I’ll start it off by saying that since our last article things have been good for the Warrens, with two highpoints to report. My grandson, Jaxen, harvested the only elk legally taken in Knox Co. KY in the 2017 season hunt. We have a lottery draw in KY and this is the first time anyone in my family have been fortunate to be drawn, Jaxen harvested a big cow elk, around 700 pounds, thank you Lord, I have never tasted any better meat than elk. The other and most important highlight in my family is that our daughter Leah is home with us again, finishing a six-month rehab and is doing well, hopefully finding meaningful work soon, again I say, thank you Lord. There is hope for anyone who really wants to change their life’s direction; you just must really want to.

D/75 CONTINUED

Billy Faulks is doing better than



Jaxen Warren and his Elk taken in Knox Co. KY, Dec 2017

Other news: *Mike and Vickie Jaussaud* are doing well with Vickie taking care of her mother, a good and very difficult task for those of us who have done that, but still a good and noble thing to do.

Tom and Janice Delaney are also doing good, must be paying the preacher well, only a few inches of snow fell on Fayetteville while 65 miles north of Fayetteville (as the crow flies) Raleigh NC got a foot of the white stuff. They would like to see rain though because the lakes are low, and Tom can't launch his fishing boat, crazy weather.

Gary Olson and family are well with not much going on, a good thing at our age. Thank you, Gary, for your help and inspiration that got us through some tough times.

Carl Norris has been spending some time in North Carolina with a friend and is doing just fine. When I talked with him the day after Valentine's Day he said he was in North Carolina for two heavy snow storms. He also told me he has been back in Arizona for a couple of weeks now. Wish you the very best Carl, I can still see you flying in formation coming to extract us on a hot LZ, you're the best!

Psycho is doing well, When I asked him about the weather he only said snow and snow and more snow. Hunker down and continue mission.

Ken and Linda are doing ok and like the rest of us are having to deal with the crazy winter.

Fitz and Kathy are doing well and dug in for the rest of the winter.

average and has recently started a veteran support group for homeless veterans. Billy is giving something back to a group almost forgotten by the world; bless you Billy for caring and willing to put your caring into action, our prayers for your continued success. It is called United veterans support group and he has a posting on his Facebook page.

Bear Papp is hanging tough and has reported that he made it through Hurricane Harvey without any major damage, just some minor flooding at their kids houses but they have survived well, good to hear brother.

Moe and Cindy are fine. Moe was always bringing up rear security in the field, making sure we were safe, thanks buddy for all the times you were there when we needed you.

When I talked with *Richard Lowes* on Valentines day he said that he was doing OK, but he was heading out of the door to get everything set up for his daughter's funeral as she has recently passed away. He said also they all have been sick due to the weather, he sounded like he was dealing with some chest congestion when I talked with him.

As for *Herd* he was hospitalized twice this winter for pneumonia. VA is looking for a treatment program that combines both Pulmonary and Cardiac treatment. There are several good programs, but they only offer treatment for one or the other. This has been the coldest winter he can remember since he has lived in central Florida.

He was without power for a full week after hurricane Irma and he now has a new 30-year roof as he lost several shingles during the storm. The last message from Herd. He and *Ken Dern's* Football team did well this year, best season in ten years, but lost in the AFC championship game, just one short of the Super Bowl, we'll get them next year.

From Herd and I we wish all of you and your families a good spring, remembering it's a time of new life and beginnings, take care all,
RLTW



E/75 - E/50 - LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—C."JEFF" WEBB JR.

Winter greetings to members of Echo Company and our warrior women. This edition is all about reunions past, current and future and a little nostalgia about arriving "in country" some 50 years ago.

Reunion Las Vegas 2017 Recap:

About 54 E Co. personnel including many wives attended the October reunion. Notably, 3 Company Commanders were present; several platoon 1st Lieutenants, 1 PRU scout and WAY too many loud NCO's!

A good time was had by all as evidenced by the group photo below



Congratulations to the reunion committee of Bob Hernandez (Chair), Terry Leishman and Tom Koontz. Bob reports due to the generous and enthusiastic participation of E Co. members and wives in the silent & live auction, the unit was able to raise more than \$2,000 towards the unit fund. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION!!!

A special thanks to Sharon Barley and daughter Allison Kozak for their tireless efforts coordinating the hospitality suite and the fund raising \$\$\$ auctions. Much kudos!!

UPCOMING EVENTS – GATHERINGS

E 50TH LRRP / LRP REUNION JUNE 7TH-8TH-9TH 2018 -BRANSON MISSOURI

The following have indicated they will be attending the LRRP rally:

Bob Hernandez, Ron Tessensohn, Cody, John Berg, Ken McConkey, Duane " Poncho" Alire, Jim Thayer, Howard Munn, Bill Christiansen, Chuck Watson, Jim Martins and Robert Hill.

Official hotels of the rally are:

Spinning Wheel Inn
235 Schaeffer Drive 800 215 7746
Branson, Mo.



Twelve Oaks Inn
205 Schaeffer Dr.
Branson, Mo
888 336 7340

Both hotels are closed December 1, 2017 through March 1, 2018

E CO. 75TH RANGERS - E 50TH INFANTRY 2019 REUNION KALISPELL MT.

This is a "heads Up", although we do not have an official date, it is anticipated it will be held in the early fall time frame of 2019. Terry Leishman, the reunion coordinator will be assembling his committee and communicating to us in the forth coming months.

From Rick Stetson commemorating E Co.'s 50th anniversary arriving "in Country" January 1967

Greetings E Company Rangers. At this time 50 years ago, orders were being handed out to send the original E Company members who had formed at Fort Riley back to the "Real World." We came over together but went home individually and lost track of each other for a good 20 years until efforts were made to reconnect. Reunions were started and men were located who had served with E Company years before. At our 2017 reunion in Nevada we had several attend their first reunion and they jumped right in and renewed long-lost friendships. Welcome home Rangers!

Last year I sent an email describing the unit's deployment to Vietnam in January, 1967. I have reprinted much of it below so our "new guys" can read it and so Bob Hernandez can include it as part of the unit history he is compiling. Bob, as you know, is the person responsible for putting together the book, "Bonding of Warriors," which tells much of our E Company story. But there is a lot of our history that could not fit in the book, like how we traveled from Kansas to Vietnam. I wanted to write that part of our history while I could still remember some of the details.

As we begin 2018, fifty years ago takes us back to 1968 when we had expanded to a company under Clancy Matsuda's leadership with our own barracks, training program and a bunch of Rangers who knew how to get the job done. If you would like to share some of your E Company memories, Bob needs to hear from you: lucky322@sbcglobal.net I know he would be willing to pass along your stories for the rest of the unit to enjoy. You all have your unique experiences of how you wound up with the Rangers. Some were interested in the lurps after arriving in country seeing a briefing by a couple of soldiers wearing black berets.

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP CONT'D

This took place at the Old Reliable Academy. Others received orders with "9th Division Long Range Patrol" and had no idea what it meant. But you all made it to the unit and are part of our history. Let us know how you became a lurp. Did you attend the MACV Recondo School? What was it like going through our own training program? Do you remember any of the instructors? What was it like being stationed in Bearcat, Dong Tam or maybe Tan An? "Bonding of Warriors" describes some of our missions but there were many others. Were you on a patrol you would like to describe? Were you a team leader or did you serve with a patrol leader had his "stuff together?" There are many great stories out there and who knows, we might have enough material to come out with another book (but we can't ask Hernandez to type it up!) In the meantime, we all need to thank Bob for volunteering to serve as our E Company Historian.

50 YEARS AGO - JANUARY '68'

BY RICK STETSON

It has been over 50 years since we formed a long range patrol unit to go to Vietnam. It is hard to believe the amount of time that has passed. Some of the events from our first year in country are still clear in my mind but there are names and places that have faded away over time. So before my memory completely goes, I would like to write down some thoughts from when the long range patrol shipped out from Fort Riley, Kansas.

Bob Hernandez, one of the original members of the 9th Division long range patrol, has put together a book, "Bonding of Warriors," which is a collection of articles detailing the unit's time in Vietnam. But to describe how the lrrps departed the United States, we have to go back to October, 1966 when a call went out for volunteers to join a new unit that was being formed as part of the 9th Division, a long range patrol platoon. After interviews had been conducted, men selected and orders cut, the unit headed to Panama to go through training at the Army's Jungle Warfare School where it would face many of the same hot, humid conditions encountered in Vietnam. Arriving back in Kansas after two weeks in Panama, 14 of the patrol's volunteers decided they had enough of sleeping on the ground and patrolling through the jungle and elected to transfer back to their original units. But the 33 who remained were all good men. They might not have known exactly what they were getting into, but they were willing to give it their best.

The departure date of early January, 1967 arrived and it was time to "load 'em up and head 'em out." For the trip to Nam, the platoon was split into two groups. The unit's commander, CPT James Tedrick, was already in country having flown over with the division's advance party. I was in charge of one group and we would fly to Vietnam on an Air Force C-141, a large cargo plane without windows that had some canvas seats, all facing towards the back of the plane. Sleep was obtained by lying on

duffle bags or on top of large pallets. Our flight took us first to Alaska where we could get out and walk around for a bit inside a cold hanger and then to Japan where some of us looked out a small porthole in the plane's door as we flew by Mt. Fujiama. The next time we looked through the porthole was to catch a glimpse of green rice paddies surrounded by dikes as we flew over South Vietnam. Many of the rice paddies had shell craters which served as a reminder we were flying into a combat zone.

The other half of the platoon was under the supervision of LT Ed Garrison. His group would fly to Nam on a C-130, a prop-driven aircraft that had been outfitted with stretchers to carry wounded soldiers back to the United States. When it returned to Vietnam carrying members of the newly-formed long range patrol detachment, the stretchers were a good place to get some sleep. The 30-hour flight took them from Kansas to San Diego, Hawaii, Wake Island, Guam, the Philippine Islands and finally to Bien Hoa, Vietnam. En route the group was served breakfast seven different times. As the men stepped off the plane in Vietnam, they were greeted by a blast of hot air and humidity that seemed worse than anything experienced in Panama. What a contrast from the frigid arctic air back in Kansas.

The platoon was reunited at the unit's new home, a base camp by the name of Bearcat. Some of the men did not have much time to get settled because the day after arriving in Vietnam, Garrison along with Dave Moss, Ray Hulin, Ed Kulcavage, Stephen Noonan, Don Ferraro and Lonnie Johnson headed to Nha Trang to attend the MACV Recondo School. It was said to be the most difficult of the Army's schools because instead of carrying blanks in the field, the students were issued live ammo as contact with the enemy could and did happen. The instructors were all members of the 5th Special Forces (SF.) Being veterans of jungle operations, they knew their subject matter well. The SF instructors required the students to be in good physical condition and took them on long marches at a fast pace while they carried heavy backpacks. But the soldiers of the 9th Infantry Division's long range patrol did well with several graduating at the top of their class.

A lot happened during the first year in Vietnam with the unit growing from a platoon to a company in size, new barracks, classrooms, clubs and offices were built by the men both at Bearcat and at Dong Tam and many successful missions were completed resulting in valuable intelligence for division headquarters. I wish we had kept copies of the after-action reports that were written up after each mission and sent to the division's G-2 intelligence section, but a number of the E Company patrols are described in "Bonding of Warriors." So is the fact that as we grew from a platoon to a company, there was a need for additional soldiers. Some of the new arrivals in country received orders to report to a unit they had never heard of, the 9th Division Long Range Patrol. But it didn't matter if the new addition had volunteered or was assigned to the unit.

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP CONT'D

He still had to prove he had the courage and stamina to operate deep in enemy territory with just four other men. We conducted our own training program based on the MACV Recondo School and if a soldier did not perform to satisfaction, he was quickly assigned to an infantry outfit.

We received two outstanding professional soldiers that first year that made a lasting impact on the unit. The first was Master Sergeant Roy Nelson, a Korean War veteran who joined us from headquarters of the 3/5 Cav where he had been the operations sergeant. Roy immediately became our first sergeant and he was a perfect fit. My impression of an Army first sergeant was formed when I was stationed at Fort Polk. There we had a first sergeant who was a big man but he did not look as if he could run the length of the company area. When he was not in the orderly room drinking coffee, he was walking around the barracks pointing out bits of trash that needed to be picked up. Roy was not like that. Never once did I hear him raise his voice at his men. Instead, he wanted to go out on patrols so he could observe his soldiers in action. I used to tell him, "Roy, you cannot go out on every mission," yet he still managed to get in his share, all of them successful.

The next leader who contributed to the success of the lrrps was CPT Clancy Matsuda who was assigned by the 9th Division chief of staff to take over as our commander. Clancy came to us from the 3/60 Infantry after his company had been involved in a major battle in the Ap Bac Zone, one in which Clancy had been awarded the Silver Star for his brave actions and leadership. Clancy put in two of his soldiers, SGT Len Keller and SP4 Raymond Wright, for the Medal of Honor, an award both received for their heroism in that battle. When Clancy came to the long range patrol, he did not talk about what happened at Ap Bac or boast about his decorations. Instead, he said he wanted to go out on a patrol to see how we operated. Even though he was Ranger qualified and had been a recon platoon leader when he was with the 173rd Airborne Brigade on Okinawa, Clancy told the patrol he was going along as an observer. It happened that the patrol made enemy contact but everyone made it safely to an LZ where they were picked up. When the patrol returned to base camp, we knew we had a good leader.

The men who belonged to the 9th Division long range patrol were brave soldiers who formed a bond that is still felt some 50 years later. We served during different years so we did not know everyone while in Nam, but in the years since the war we have held reunions in locations across the country and remained close with wives, sweethearts and even some family members of our KIA's all joining E Company. The title of our book says it best: we experienced a "bonding of warriors." E Company was a top-notch unit and a good example of why we say, "Rangers lead the way."

As always, I remain your ever loyal and obedient unit director

Jeff Webb RLTW

LOST PATROL GATHERING— RENO AT 'CIRCUS CIRCUS'

DAVE LUKOSKIE

- *Oct 11—14 (3 nights) at Circus Circus Resort Casino in Reno, Nevada Who: any/all Rangers and spouses or significant others.
- *Get to Reno and check in Oct 11th. Reserve your room by sending me a check for \$110. That will pay for your first night there and also contribute to the cost of the Hospitality Suite (HS) and the initial stocking of the HS with food and drinks. You pay the balance to the Hotel when you check out. There is a FREE shuttle bus that runs from the Reno airport to the Circus Circus (CC) every half hour or so.....about a four mile run if you prefer to do it that way.....
- *There will be a Banquet at the CC on Saturday evening, Oct 13th.
- *Reunion T-shirts will be made and available for purchase in our Hospitality Suite. Ranger Jeff Pribyl (2/75) will be in charge of that.....let him know how many you want and what size. *Pribyl: rgrprib@gmail.com
- *Ranger Wayne Getz (1/75) will be in charge of the Banquet. He and I will develop a menu and he (Ranger Getz) will collect the \$\$ for the Banquet. Contact him for all details on that. Getz: getz175@gmail.com
- *We will likely "pass the hat" once or twice in the HS to keep the bar stocked and the frig full of other beverages and food. Any guys who live near Reno or drive there can take home whatever is left in the HS when we all effect egress on Sunday....Oct 14th
- *When you send me your check, specify SMOKING vs NON, and 1 King or 2 Queen beds in your room. The CC is right now completing an extensive remodel and should be looking great when we arrive. You can cancel your room up to 2 weeks before your arrival date.....do that thru me and I can process a refund to you for the cost of the deposit for your first nite in the room.
- *We have a block of 30 rooms right now, and can probably get more if we reserve them via deposits by 8/1/18. After that, the CC may well be sold out for our dates. I would ask that you reserve your rooms early and send me checks ASAP.
- *Any questions...PM me thru Facebook or email me at: dclukoskie@gmail.com
- *Send checks made out to me at: Dave Lukoskie; 417 Beech Bluff Drive; Mount Holly, NC 28120



F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN MCGEE

Well 2017 has come and gone and by the time you read this we will be knee deep in 2018. We had discussed in our unit meeting at the last Ranger Rendezvous having an off-year reunion in 2018. There were multiple suggestions about locations and times, but alas I do not think it will happen. There are however several options to get together with one another in 2018. There is the Long Range Reconnaissance Association Reunion June 8-10 in Branson, MO. There is also the 3/4 Cavalry Reunion September 26-30 at Colorado Springs, CO. Marshall Huckaby has suggested that if members would like to set up a F Company dinner at either event. He would graciously volunteer to make that happen. I ask that you contact Marshall if you want that to happen. Finally, several of our members will be sailing on a cruise in November. The information for the cruise is on our Facebook page.

I was rereading Shelby Stanton's "Rangers at War, LRRPS in Vietnam" and of course I focused in on the Chapter titled Tropical Rangers ,25th Infantry Division. The first part of the chapter talks about the formation of LRRP company in June of 1966. How then commanding Major General Fredrick Weyand ordered the formation of a LRRP unit. Unfortunately, Stanton does not however discuss who was given the task of making this unit happen. That task as we all know by now was given to one Captain Mark Ponzillo. I wonder if Stanton just glossed over what it took for a mere Captain to interact with a Divisional staff to make the formation of this unit possible. Was because it would probably take an entire book to chronicle all the ups and downs that the good Captain faced creating what the today's military call a Special Operation Unit out of thin air? So my brothers as we look back at our time as proud members of Company F ,25thID LRRP/50th INF LRP/75th Rangers take time to thank that young Italian Special Forces Captain for a job well done.

The book also describes how the new force was called" Mackenzies LRRPS "because it was administratively assigned to the 3/4 Cavalry "Mackenzies Raiders" a regimental nickname stemming from its ruthlessly proficient commander during the 1870-82 Frontier Period COL. Ranald Slidell Mackenzie. After reading that paragraph I became very curious of who Col Mackenzie was and decided to research our founding namesake. Col Mackenzie was born in July of 1840 in New York. He was of Scottish ancestry



and graduated 1st in his class at West Point in 1862. Upon graduation he was immediately thrust into the Civil War and with his leadership and skill soon proved to be both dazingly competent and almost recklessly brave. No less that General of the Army Ulysses S Grant considered him the most promising young officer in the Army. He went from Second Lieutenant to Brigadier General in three years. He was wounded six different times. Took a 50.Cal bullet through both shoulders, artillery shrapnel in the leg, the chest and one that finally took off

the first two fingers of his right hand. Those that knew him well said that he had changed drastically after the war from a very affable a cordial young officer with a sense of prankishness and humor into a hardened brutally demanding efficient commander. His men did not like him, and many feared him but most believed they had chance with him in battle than with other commanding officer. He was described as the boss from hell.

Mackenzie for all his faults is considered the greatest and most effective Indian fighter in the Army's history. He was selected by General Sherman to subdue the most feared and the most notorious of the Indian nations the Comanches. Mackenzie basically studied how the Comanches fought and defeated them using their own tactics. He trained his soldiers to fight from horseback and become true Calvary warriors. Following his success in the Indian Wars he was appointed brigadier general and assigned to the Department of Texas (October 30, 1883). He bought a Texas ranch and was engaged to be married; however, he began to demonstrate odd behavior which was attributed to a fall from a wagon at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in which he injured his head. Showing signs of mental instability, he was retired from the Army on March 24, 1884 for "general paresis of the insane". Mackenzie died in 1889 at Staten Island, New York, and is buried in West Point National Cemetery. On his death the Army and Navy Journal carried a lengthy article on his career and personal life, which began, "The sorrow with which the Army will learn of the death of the once brilliant Ranald Slidell MacKenzie derives an additional pang from the recollection of the cloud which overshadowed his later years and consigned him to a living death." I wonder from what we know now how much of role did PTSD play in his 'Living death" Surely from what the horrors and brutality that he in counted in both the Civil War and the Indian War Colonel Mackenzie had to have had PTSD.

F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP CONT'D

If you want to read a fascinating book on the Rise and Fall of the Comanche Nation and Colonel Mackenzie and the 3 / 4 Cavalry's role in that fall. I highly recommend "Empire of the Summer Moon" by S.C.Gwynne.

One final personal thought from the last reunion. Many of you know that I spent a career in the US Army and I have always been proud to wear the 25th ID with an Airborne Tab patch on my right shoulder. I have always been proud to have been a member of Company F 50th INF. (LRP). Even though we are incorporated into the 75th Ranger Regiment Association I have always had problems when someone would call me Ranger since I have never been awarded the Ranger tab. I retired working for the Army in 2015 and for the last 5 years of my employment I spent a great deal of time interacting with the Infantry Center and the Ranger Regiment. During that time and at this last reunion I have made it a point to ask the young Rangers just what they thought of us old crusty Vietnam LRRPs/LRPS/Rangers. I was shocked and presently surprised by their answers. The great majority of them stated that they did not care that we early LRRPs and LRPs we were not awarded tabs. They have been taught that what the Vietnam LRRP/LRP/Ranger companies accomplished is why the 75th Ranger Regiment exists today. Most always came back to the statement that "You guys in Vietnam lived and fought as Rangers" and that was good enough for them. So I guess what I am trying to express that if it good enough for them to acknowledge us as Rangers it is good enough for me !

RLTW

McGee Out



SANDRINO GOLF CHALLENGE COIN

SANDRINO'S 2018 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund is proud to announce our Sixth Annual Golf Outing on Friday, May 12, 2017 at Pitman Golf Course in Pitman, NJ. The event will feature a morning tournament followed by a lunch banquet and an afternoon tournament followed by a dinner banquet at Bogey's Café & Club.

Sergeant Alessandro L. Plutino, known to all as Sandrino, gave the ultimate sacrifice on August 8, 2011 when he was killed by enemy forces while conducting combat operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Sandrino was a member of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, GA. He served 3 tours in Iraq and 3 tours in Afghanistan. Sandrino was killed 15 days before his 29th birthday on the last mission his unit would conduct before the end of his 6th deployment.

Few people outside the special operations community understand the work these gallant young men do for us and what they give up to serve on the front lines. They do it for our country but also for the men besides them – they are truly a Band of Brothers. Sandrino was loved and respected by his "brothers" and we feel that the best way to honor his sacrifice is by giving back to the special operations community and the town he called home.

Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund was established to honor our fallen hero and give back to our great nation's heroes and their families. Since established the Fund has donated over \$227,000 to various organizations. In addition, we've been able to establish the Sgt. Sandrino Plutino Memorial Scholarship Fund at his alma mater, Pitman High School, as well as the Sandrino Award, which is presented to a senior athlete that best embodies Sandrino's qualities and ideals. Below are the organizations we have proudly supported (but are not limited to).

Sua Sponte Foundation

Lead The Way Fund, Inc.

Feherty's Troops First Foundation

GallantFew Inc.

Jared Allen's Homes For Wounded Warriors

Everett James Katzenberger Fund



G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



Just to let you know, I am the new representative to the Ranger Regiment Association from the E CO. 51st LRRP/G CO. 75th Ranger Association. As a new shake and bake sergeant, I was fortunate to go to Jump School and Ranger School before heading to RVN. My luck continued when I got picked up by “G Company” upon arrival in country and after Recondo School, I started my mission time in I Corps. After Vietnam, I was assigned to “Alpha Company Rangers” at Ft. Hood; one of the two remaining Ranger Companies left closing out the VN era. I got out of the Army not long before the First Ranger Battalion was formed. I know how fortunate I was to have had the opportunity to be part of the Ranger family.

Over the years, I have experienced the bonds of Rangers in attending many of the E/51st-G/75th reunions as well as several “Ranger Rendezvous” at Ft. Benning. In September, I once again met with our E/51st-G/75th guys at our annual reunion in Buffalo, NY. For a number of years, our association has moved our reunions each year between the west coast, east coast and the central heartland in order to make attendance at reunions as easy as possible for all our members. IN 2016 we were in California, this past year (2017) in Buffalo and this year (2018) we will enjoy the Black Hills of South Dakota in historic Deadwood.

If you have never been to Buffalo, NY, or like me, have not been to Buffalo since the significant renovations of the city and especially the harbor areas, it was a real treat. Buffalo is now a clean, fun, welcoming city with much to offer. Of course Niagara Falls are still a big draw and Ft. Niagara was a great surprise but we found much to see and enjoy. The harbor area is magnificent and is home to many Veterans Memorials. The Pierce Arrow Museum is one of the “must see” places if you care at all about automotive history.

We had nearly 30 of our E/51st-G/75th members in attendance and with the wives, girlfriends, children and grandchildren, we reached over 70 for the reunion.

Another project taken on years ago by our association, was to make sure every member of our unit has a Memorial Brick at the Ranger Memorial, Ft. Benning, Georgia. When one of our own passes, we fund the placement of a brick if they did not already have one in place. We continue this effort in honor of our fallen. We die twice; once when we take our last breath and again when we are no longer remembered. With bricks at the Ranger Memorial, our brothers will always be remembered.

Al Stewart

RLTW



H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—VACANT

The Moving Wall by Jim Regan

Have you ever heard about it? Have you ever seen it? Do you know that it exists? If the answer to any of these questions is “No,” then we got to do better, getting the “word” out!

Got a “call” the other night. “Jim, the “Moving Wall” will be in London, KY., and we want to “Lay a wreath!” Okey Dokey, I said; who, what, when, where, and how???

The answers were there, and I moved on to getting the wreath, planning my trip, making contact with the folks at London, Kentucky.

The local florist did a great job, (I was able to fit the wreath into the passenger compartment of my pick’um truck!) I could just “see” that whipping out of the truck bed, as I kept up with the “Big Boys,” at 80 MPH on I-75 S!!!

I got to London, KY, a small but busy ‘burg! As I followed my “Map Quest” instructions, I immediately “saw” where I was going. There must have been fifty American flags, outside the fence from the High School!!! Turned in and was greeted warmly by all that were there. There was a “Tent,” where the “Table for the Missing Veterans” would be set up. I moved our wreath in, and just kinda moved around and “scoped out” the area.

It was not too long, and the guys linked up with me, and we discussed what would happen with the “presentation/placing of the wreaths.” I felt very comfortable, but did not let my guard down. “Mister Murphy” always lurks in the background!

Time for the ceremony, all things not really “solid” in my mind. “Stay cool Jim, go with the flow!” The formation; about a Platoon sized group of Vietnam Vets, the spectators, wives, kids, and grand kids. Color Guard, and us folks w/ the wreaths, man-



aged to get to where we were supposed to be. All the commands were not what I was used to hearing, or shouting, on the parade fields, but they got us to do what we were there for!!! To pay tribute and honor to our “Fallen Comrades!”

The ceremony went on, and the guy introduced the units that were going to, “place” the wreaths. He told the “history” of each outfit! First, the JROTC from the South Laurel High School, then the guys, the LRRPS/Rangers from the 75th Ranger Regiment, then the Representatives from the 229th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cav!

The fellow from the JROTC went forward and placed his wreath, about six feet from the middle of the wall.

I was next, and I said a “silent prayer, “Dear God, don’t let me stumble or falter!” I placed the wreath. Didn’t know where it came from, but I stepped back, and straightened a ribbon. Then I saluted, moved a half step to the right, and approached the “WALL!” I placed my right hand on the top of the Wall! Why in the world did I do that!!!??? Slowly, about faced, moving slowly, and surely, I resumed my position to the left of the Color guard.

Taps were “played, and I managed to get “through it!”

I truly believe, SOMEONE, perhaps the guys, (41 of our Comrades,) prompted me to say a “Final Farewell!!!!” Forty-some years later!!! I believe that I have finally found “CLOSURE” with Vietnam!!! Jim RLTW (Rangers Lead the Way)



I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



The 75th Ranger Regiment Rendezvous for 2019 is moving into the pre-staging area of preparation. Yes, it seems like yesterday that we were electing officers and enjoying the hospitality work of the Rangers, Ladies, and family members of our unit at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Patrolling magazine highlighted most of the issues of our most recent reunion on pages 28 and 29 (Spring/Fall edition). The units' biggest highlight for all members was having our "Battle Buddy" for the "Bloody Red One Long Range Recon", Ronnie N. Imel, inducted into the RHOF. Our Unit walks with great pride because of SSgt Imel's combat history. Again, salute Team Leader Imel as the Ranger Teams of the 1st Infantry Division walk in the shadow of your legacy!
IMEL IS CENTER AT RHOF



The Spinning Wheel Inn

235 Schaeffer Drive

Branson, Mo

800-215-7746

AND

Twelve Oaks Inn

205 Schaeffer Drive

Branson, MO

When making reservations inform receptionist that you are with the "1st Infantry Division LRRP" rally. Note both hotels are closed until March 20, 2018 for renovations.

Important to also note that all specifics on the Reunion were not available at time of publication. However, you can reach out to me email CombatWriter@aol.com or Face Book Greg Bennett and we can hopefully answer anything that may be of question for your stay in Branson. We will answer all questions and keep you posted. The room rates seem to be adjusted as to need of the individuals. (One person or two, etc.). Dave Hill secured a room for \$41. Dollars a night while John Douglas room needs cost \$62. Dollars a night as did Greg and Nancy's room.

Daily activities are not fully established because we are sharing activities with LRRP – you can view the LRRP web site and you will be able to see some of the activities you may want to participate in. Anyone wanting to play in the The Golf Tournament on Friday may play but it is necessary to let Greg or myself or the association know early. Also, Greg states that anyone wanting to go trout fishing should bring spinning rods and equipment. Boats are available for rent or you may choose to fish from the public docks.

Gary Linder is coordinating a hospitality room and it will be in operation by 1500 hours on Wednesday because many members, family or associates often arrive a couple of days in advance. A registration fee has not been established as of this printing of Patrolling Magazine. When you register you will meet Gary Linder or one of the Officers or one of the Ladies of the organization that will help with and all issues.

During the successful Ft. Benning business meeting of 2017 Greg and Nancy Bennett volunteered to coordinate our next Rendezvous/reunion and stated that we will be meeting in Branson, Missouri. I am proud to state that I just talked with Greg and "all systems are go". All the necessary issues of "Who, What, Why, When, Where, and How" are being addressed to create a wonderful time for our members and their families. The dates are June 8,9 and 10 of 2018.

The LRRP and I/75 – F/52 and 1st Division LRRP/Rangers are sharing many of the same festivities. The hotels to call for reservations are as follows:



I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP CONT'D

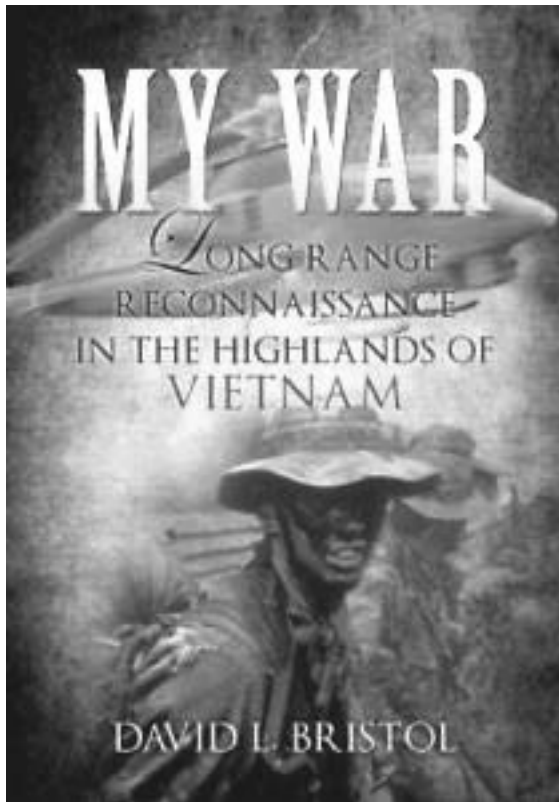
If you “Google” city of Branson, Mo you will be presently surprised by the number of activities for individuals and families. The Branson tourist bureau will also be on hand to assist us with suggestions on restaurants, shows, shopping, site-seeing. If you are flying into the Reunion, the best airport for Branson is “Springfield-Branson National Airport” (SGF). The airport is located North West of Branson and is approximately a one-hour car drive. The following airlines serve the airport: Allegiant; Delta; United and American. Ground transportation or car rentals are available at the airport.

Some members may be staying at an RV park and one is located six minutes away from all the festivities called Branson Shenanigans RV Park and they give a 15% discount to Veterans. (please call Military Reservations at 800-338-7275) The RV park is closed until March 1. (However, the park management will get back to inquiries quickly).

I would like to thank Greg and Nancy Bennett and Dave Hill for contributing to this information.



JAMES MOSS ON PATROLLING COVER



MY WAR

Is the story of a young Ranger, in the Highlands of Vietnam, his experiences and the men he served with. It was written for those who were not there, but Veterans have found it helpful as well.

The book is available online at Amazon in paperback and E-book. Signed copies are available at www.mywarvietnam.com



K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER T. CRUNK

Greetings to all,

I hope everyone is as well as can be, (at our age) it can change from one day to the next. Please remember to stay in touch with your Brothers who are going through rough times. We all need an encouraging word from time to time.

It is with sadness that I report that we lost another Brother. Randy Windstein passed away Oct. 3, 2017. We extend our condolences to his Family. Rest in Peace Brother.



Gold Star Mother Elizabeth Olgyay, (Mother of Roy Olgyay, KIA 9/19/1970) passed away January 24, 2017 at her home.

I'm not sure but I believe she was the last 4th Div. LRRP/Ranger Goldstar Mother. Please remember Roy's Sister Joy in your thoughts and prayers.

Please remember your Brothers and their families who are suffering with medical issues. Bill Fillipini, Doc Thomas, Clay Andrews, Bob McSweeny come to mind. I'm sure you

know of others.

Again if you plan to attend the Reunion in June, (75th Anniversary of the Rangers) you need to get registered and make your room reservations. The details are in another section of this issue. Hope to see as many as possible there.

The 4th Inf. Div. will be celebrating their 100th anniversary Aug. 13-20 in Colorado Springs, Co. /Ft. Carson. Headquarters will be the Double Tree Inn. Their phone is 719-576-8900. You can find all the details on the 4th Div. website or in the Ivy Leaves publication.

Also the 1st Brigade LRRP/Rangers are hosting a reunion Sept. 21-26 in Columbus, Ga. /Ft. Benning. The hotel is the Hampton Inn which is next to the Infantry Museum. Calvin Gotts is the organizer so you can contact him for the details. 231-357-7070 or cgotts@aol.com

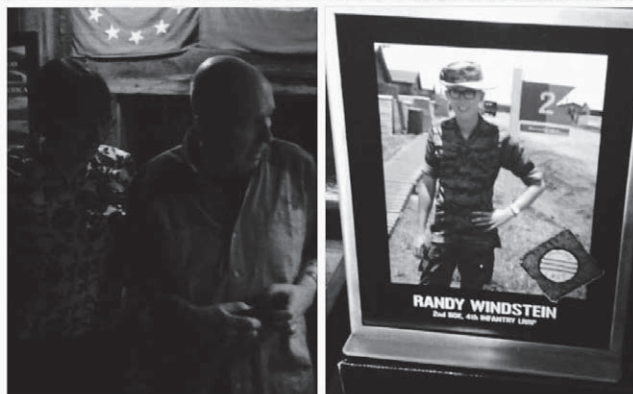
See you in June.

As I prepare this article I got word that we lost another Brother. Tony Cohee passed away on 1-1-2018. He was a first Brigade LRRP and had attended his first reunion with the 1st Brigade LRRPs in September, 2017. May he rest in peace.

We also extend our sympathies to Jake Makepeace. His Son Jeff, Daughter-in-Law Jennifer, and his twin Grandchildren Addison and Benjamin were lost in a plane crash near Glenwood Springs, Colorado on September 15th.

Krys and Roy Simpson report on the Ranger/LRRP reunion in Ft. Benning (9/21-27/2017) follows on the next page.

Windstein Photos



K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP CONT'D

The military museum there was fantastic and the memorials around it were wonderful. The single monument for the 4th Division was amazing. Everyone went to the Ranger Jump School and those youngsters put on quite a show for everyone. The guest military speaker on our last evening was about to retire and gave a speech of great interest to all the Long Range Recon Patrol veterans attendees. He reported that the military is taking steps to go back to using Long Range Recon Patrols after much review of action reports of the LRRPs in Vietnam. Calvin Gotts did a great job of organizing this reunion. He is to be commended. On October 8, Roy and I traveled to Frankenmuth, MI, to participate in the program inducting LRRP Joe Palazzolo into Michigan's Military and Space Museum. This museum is for Michigan space and military personnel only. It is a wonderful museum and the program was touching.



Back (L-R): Calvin Gotts, Joe Palazzolo, John Vandenburg, Stan Craig, Denny Ferguson, Larry Flanigan, (behind Clay Andrews), Roy Simpson, Mattie Gentilella, Tony Cohee, Gary Shellenbarger, Steve Bradshaw; Front (L-R): John Serrano, Charlie Robbins, Pete Julian, John Duffy

Our K-Co Ranger/LRRP reunion for 2018 will be July 23-27 in Pittsburgh, PA. Please note the info below and make your arrangements as soon as you can. Hotel--Hampton Inn/1247 Smallman Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Room Rate--\$149.00 Includes Breakfast and Parking. Rate is good for the day before and the day after. Cut-off date for reservations is June 25th, 2018. After that it will be space and rate available basis. Call the hotel @ 412-288-4350 and mention K/75th Rangers for our rooms. The hotel is within walking distance of downtown. Call me @ 970-640-3815 or rogertrunk@msn.com .

Missing Man ceremony will be on Wednesday July 25th at our KIA Memorial located at Jim Bells home in Harrison City, PA.

About an hour's drive from Pittsburgh. Catered lunch afterwards.

We need to get a head count for the catered lunch and the dinner on Friday so if you plan to attend those please let Jim Joyce know ,also what your shirt size(and guest) is. Jim-412-551-2582 or Gigi at ggjoyce@aol.com .

As other details or activities are arranged I'll put that in the next issue and on Facebook, website and by e-mail. Any questions just call me or e-mail. Thanks to Jim and Gigi Joyce for their work in making these arrangements. Hope to see you all there!



Back (L-R) Pete Julian, Joe Palazzolo, Calvin Gotts, Larry Flanigan, Clay Andrews, John Vandenburg, Gary Shellenbarger, Steve Bradshaw; Front (L-R): Mattie Gentilella, John Duffy, Stan Craig, Roy Simpson, Denny Ferguson, Charlie Robbins, John Serrano



Three old LRRPS talking to each other !



L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—GARY LINDERER



First, let me apologize for the absence of my column in the last two issues of *Patrolling*. I offer no excuses other than I didn't get them done in time. Seems as if the aging process and personal motivation go hand in hand. Not a lot of news to report this time either, but I will endeavor to pass on what I have.

For those of you L Company members who didn't attend the L Company reunion last April (myself included), you missed a great gathering of warriors. Attendance was high with nearly 60 brothers showing up at Columbus, Georgia. For many, it was the first reunion ever attended. For some, it was the first time since the original reunion in 1986 at Ft. Campbell. Hope you realize the importance of attending these get-togethers. Every time I hear of another of our number passing, I realize that none of us will ever be able to share memories with him again. Far too many of our fellow warriors have made that long journey to Valhalla, and as we grow older, those numbers are bound to increase. In the past year, we lost 1st Brigade LRRP "plankholders" Larry Forrest and David Sloan. We also lost F/58 LRP, Dave Walker. We also have several members who are having major health issues, like Milton Lockett and Darrol Walker. Don't know about the rest of you, but that's pretty good motivation to make it to some of our reunions.

I haven't heard yet if there will be a 101st LRRP/LRP/Ranger reunion at Ft. Campbell in conjunction with the Week of the Eagles. Linda Cox and Leslie Burks are in-charge of putting that together. For those of you who would like to attend a reunion in 2018, you should consider the 4th annual Long Range Recon Association Rally at Branson, MO, June 7-9. So far, we have 19 of our brothers registered to attend the event. Many of you have attended these in the past and have experienced one of the best military reunions anywhere. The organization, open to any veteran who has served in LRRP, LRP, VN Ranger, pre-VN LRRP, post VN LRS, LRSU, and LRSD units, is in its 4th year of existence and currently has a paid membership of 625 veterans. The rallies are a blast. This year, we are expecting more than 250 brothers to attend along with their families. 1st Div. LRP/Rangers and Americal Div. LRP/Rangers are holding their annual reunions in conjunction with the Rally. Normally, about half the attendees are VN era while the rest are post/VN vets from a large number of LRS units. It's great to see how these younger brothers respect us for the legacy we created, and just as great to see how they have improved on what we taught them. The rally is centered around three hotels that we block solely for the use of our attendees. Rates are cheap. The actual reunion site is a large,



shady park situated between two of the hotels. A 40' x 80' tent is provided with 8-seat tables and chairs to accommodate break-out gatherings and meals. Hot coffee, soda, beer, liquor and mix is provided at all times. The registration fee of \$75 covers a nice registration packet, all drinks, two meals including the big BBQ on Sat. Wives, girlfriends and children are free. Guests will be subject to the same registration fee as the veterans. We hold a memorial service at the Missouri State VN Veterans Memorial, host a golf tournament for those who wish to enter, and provide a half day of shooting at a local gun range, so bring your toys and plenty of ammo. If you don't have toys or you're flying in, don't worry. There are plenty of weapons for you to play with. There is a lot to do and see in Branson for the wives and kids who may not want to listen to war stories and watch guys hugging each other. So, come and share the camaraderie. Feel free to call or email me for details and/or registration forms. You need not be a member of the

LRRP to attend. You only had to have served in some type of long range recon unit during your time in service. Hope to see some of you here in June. You'll love it.

I'm adding a photo of a monster whitetail buck that brother Jim Broyles harvested in Ohio this season. CSM Broyles is enjoying his retirement from the military in fine fashion. That's a wall-hanger for certain.

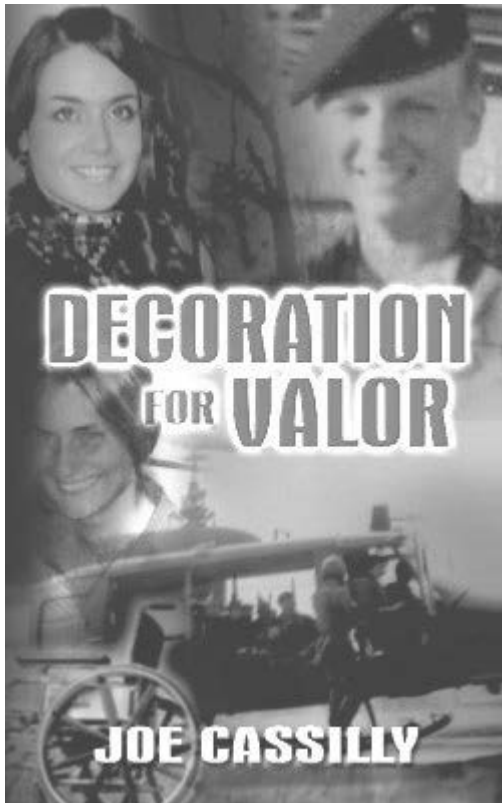
In the future, if you have any news or information you wish to see in our column, get the information to me as quick as possible. I have deadlines to meet to get the column submitted to the magazine staff. Although there have been problems in the past with the Association getting the *Patrolling* issues out in a timely fashion, they are currently working their butts off to correct the situation.

Gary Linderer
Unit Director
L Co., 75th
417-331-2834
Lindlrp@yahoo.com

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP CONT'D



Jim Broyles Scores!



As the Vietnam War drags on, many in the United States are angry or indifferent about the war and with the soldiers who fought it. Three people experience the animosity and apathy that threatened to split our nation in two.

A twenty year old soldier returns home with a spinal injury. Expecting a world that is sympathetic to his experiences, he instead discovers one that criticizes and condemns. Assigned to Walter Reed Hospital for rehabilitation, he soon finds himself drawn into self-doubt and dread while having to face the challenge of his physical limitations. As he attempts to work through the psychological demons that plague him he meets other soldiers that are going through their own kind of hell—disfigurement, isolation, and despair.

A young nurse completes her tour of duty and returns home with her own scars-

And a 21 year old nurse prepares to go to Vietnam-

Amazon.com



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROBERT "TWIN" HENRIKSEN



Now middle of 2018 and we are getting older. As time has past since we served 46 to 51 years ago, depending when you served, things we remember are fading and we have photos and conversations with team members to recall certain times and actions. I recommend you sent me your photos and any other material so it can be recorded for our unit history. Several members have sent their photo albums to Jay Borman, who has collected our history and especially helped me with company history. Jay is currently working on his Second Edition book of Vietnam LRRPs. Currently we have 166 active members listed on document called "Members Contact List". "Names of Who Served in Unit" document list has currently about 720 members listed who served from 1965 to 1971. Members have sent me a lot of information on us and I have saved it on computer and have a file cabinet with folders. I'll keep my comments short as Patrolling only allows us a few pages.

Note: LRRP Member Ben Harden passed away in January

Robert "Twin" Henriksen – Unit Director

Passing Of LRRP Member: Ben Harden 66-67

Ben Harden; A master of technique in LRRP operations, planning, execution, and purpose. An NCO who was courted for a field commission, by the people in S2 who knew real talent and leadership. Ben Harden got the "knife" at Recondo School, in the infant classes of the formation of that school. Ben Harden taught me things on my first missions in LRRP that would keep me alive throughout my time in LRRP's, when situations became severely adverse and peril surrounded and blocked all hope of survival; things that would last a life time and keep me alive in my ventures climbing ice and rock walls throughout the world, and keeping my composure when life threw adversity my way. He taught fortitude, stealth, planning, execution and E & E plans, he prepared meticulously and included each and every member of a team, so cohesive understanding of what was to happen was understood by all, even I, the FNG. Ben was the kind of leader that caused you to puff up your chest for just knowing him. The caliber of many others as well made you feel the same; the Cundiffs, Tadina's, Brosious, Brooks, and Silsby types, and the other team members were all better off for experiencing the descriptions, and mission techniques of Ben Harden. A true master of the requirements of a savage war, fought deep inside enemy territory without fan fare, and understood only by those who participated in such.

With all the respect and admiration a soldier can give another, peace and calm be with you Ben, NEVER to be Forgotten.



by Robert "DOC" Clark – 173rd ABN, LRRP 66-68



L-R; Steve Carazo, Raul Santiago, Ben Harden

How I Remembered Ben

I joined the LRRP unit in April 1967 shortly after returning from the hospital from a gunshot wound to the chest. I was in-country only 3 months. I was 18 1/2 years old. A month

earlier I applied but I was turned down and told to come back after I gained more experience. I guess getting shot in the chest and still wanting to be a LRRP was impressive enough to give me a try.

I was assigned to Ben's team. He said that he picked me because he heard that I had won the trophy at jump school and that he expected me to live up to the tradition that went along with that honor. Gilmore, Peterson, McAllister and now me would make the five man team. Ben immediately trained me to be the point man. We ran numerous missions in D Zone, C Zone, Pleiku, Dak To. He was like a big brother to me. He Derosed in the summer of '67. I missed him but carried on the way I knew he would expect me to.

He taught me the tradecraft we needed to stay alive and "always complete the mission". He was demanding, compassionate, reluctantly fun loving. He was a friend who always tried to make me better. I have loved him my entire life.

Rest In Peace Sky Soldier.

by Steve Carazo.....Lrrp 1967-68

BEN: First with Hueys then Lrrps

Ben was with 173rd helicopters on Okinawa and arrived in RVN in 1965. He was an original member of 173rd Provisional Lrrp platoon. He was a team member, an ATL, and finally a TL in the hectic days of the summer of 1967.

He was an excellent LRRP. He led a number of patrols into ASchau Valley. He and Frank Vansevers were on the patrol at Recondo School in March-April 1967 that either ran into an ambush or a meeting action. He was known for his intelligence, humor and combat savvy. *Continued on next page*

He was a great friend and of all of us, will be missed. I stay in touch with his wife.

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP CONT'D

L. Z. ENGLISH MORTAR ATTACK

by Reed Cundiff – 173rd ABN LRRP Team 4 1966-67

Nov. 19, 1968 Mission

On 11/19/68 I was the RTO on a Hawk mission designated Hawk 62. Our mission was compromised when two Dinks walked into our position. Both of them were killed but it gave away our position. We requested extraction but were told to continue the mission. The VC were on three sides of us and a



Crew Chief Ben Harden prior to a LRRP

lake was on the fourth. Charlie "Teach" Kankel was on the radio at the Toc and he pleaded our case but to no avail. This was at about 0530 hrs. We went up and over a hill and were stopped at the lake. We set up and waited. The plan was to wait till dark and try to evade and escape. The team members were: Russ Weyl - senior scout / Ernie Martinez - TL / Me - RTO / Ray Reeves - scout / Jim Mowery - scout / Rich Dudley - scout / Cameron McCallister ATL.

At approximately 1330 hrs the VC attacked. In the firefight that followed Reeves was Killed, Weyl took seven rounds and required immediate dust-off, I was seriously wounded and Martinez took a shrapnel wound to the face. When I called for a dust-off and gunships, Reed Welke had taken over the radio in the TOC. He calmly related the status of our relief to me minute by minute. He told us to hang on. He requested a report on casualties. My report to him was Hawk 1 - wia, Hawk 2 - wia, Hawk 3 - wia, Hawk 4 - kia. His voice changed, I could tell he was shaken.

Years later in the early 1990's he wrote me a letter recounting the events of that day. Because I was an RTO on all of my missions I became familiar with Reed, "Teach" Kankel and "Snuffy" Smithee. I never saw Snuffy again. I saw Teach at several reunions and Reed, Tommy Echhoff and I met with Ray Reeves family in Minn. in 2002. I will miss them all, they were a voice of hope when things got bad. To all places including Heaven, Rangers Lead The Way !

by Dave Gowen – 1968-69



L-R; Carmon, Moran, Gowen, Brooks, Brueggemann

November 12, 1969: Team Foxtrot was doing recon along the borders of Cambodia, Laos, and South Vietnam. Uncle Ho's trail was active and our team was counting heads, weapons, etc. The Command Operations came on the horn and ordered us to extract to an observation point near L.Z. English. The VC had set up a mortar just across the river on the nearest mountain top from our base camp. The rest of the day we called in arty on the mortar position, but with little success. Each time arty stopped, the VC lobbed in a few more mortars. That night we called in a C130 aircraft, "Puff the Magic Dragon". Aircraft had three mini-guns on each side that put out extraordinary amount of firepower. After Puff left the A.O. the mortar fire stopped. We observed the mountain side the rest of the night and saw little if any movement.

November 13, 1969, The next day there was not any mortar fire. By afternoon the C.O. ordered us to move in and find the mortar position. Our team reached a small clump of tress and brush near the base of the mountain where the mortar fire had originated. The Team Leader spotted two VC moving down a trail from the top of the mountain. A fast ambush was set up and both VC were killed. The TL and RTO, Jenkins, and scout John Petraitis were the ones who exterminated the two VC. Scout Steven Schooler, and myself, also a scout, were on the far end of the ambush line, and we were in no position to see the two VC.

After the smoke settled, the TL (name unknown, but nick-named "Charlie Brown") ordered us to move out of the tree line and into an open field. As we did, a mortar was lobbed in on the team. Schooler and myself were farthest from the base of the mountain, and that is where the mortar landed. Schooler took the worst of the blast, then me. After being slammed to the ground, I felt extreme pain in my left side. Then I saw Schooler's head was bloody and broken. As I moved over to him, saw his left shoulder, arm, and chest were torn open. Using compression bandages, I wrapped his head, then rolled him over on the wounded side hoping his lungs wouldn't fill with blood. Petraitis was screaming for help. I ran over to him and applied a tourniquet on his right leg. He was begging for me to give him morphine, but I was afraid he would bleed out, so no meds were given. Jenkins was our RTO which I found sitting up like you would in a chair. He was not moving, nor was he making any sounds. He just sat there as I rushed over to him. He was alive, but he had wounds to both eyes. As I pulled him over, I said to him "Don't open your eyes, try to keep them closed".

While I was assisting the wounded, smalls arms fire was popping all around us. The TL was still back in the trees and he told me to call in for help by using our code "Timber", which meant all wounded/dead. A few more rounds popped near us. Grabbing as much ammo and frags as I could carry, I ran across the open field to draw off any fire from hitting the exposed team members. After putting down a field of fire, I would throw a hand frag at the base of the mountain, *Continued next page*

then I would fire off a few more rounds from my M-16. When the VC would fire back, it didn't sound like an AK-47, but like an M-16 that the enemy was using.

Shortly, two gunships showed up and stated to circle our team position. As they did, it was like a curtain of bullets surrounding us. Another chopper came over the top of the curtain of bullets and picked up all the wounded except for me.

Even the TL jumped that first chopper and I was left on the ground still firing my M-16 in the direction of the VC. However, in a few seconds, a second chopper landed for me. Bear, another member of our Ranger group, helped me climb on the chopper that transported me to the aid station. Frank "Top" Moore was near the door as I stepped inside the aid station. I gave him my last mag of ammo and my last frag.

As the adrenaline left me, my knees started to give in and I was having a hard time breathing. Top grabbed me and called for help. They laid me down on a cot.

When the medic asked if I had been wounded, I pointed to my left side. After he rolled me over to look for a wound, I heard him exclaim "Oh my God" I had a hole in my left side big enough to put in your hand in.

After returning to the states, it took about seven to eight months to get back on my feet. I have not seen or heard from any of my team since.

By RJ Huckaby - Foxtrot Team 1969

My CIB

I had been in the company over a month and had several combat patrols and enemy contacts under my belt. I had my Ranger scroll having passed probation but was yet to be awarded the official badge that distinguishes those who have seen the beast and those who have not. The Combat Infantryman Badge has been, since WWII, the badge of honor distinguishing those who have engaged in Infantry ground combat from the other 90% of the armed forces who all exist, in one way or another, to support the man with a rifle standing on hostile real estate. PSG Fletcher said the paperwork had been sent but nothing had come back. He suggested I hitch a ride to Cha Rang and check on it at S-1.

Next morning I grabbed my M-16 and helmet (the only time we wore steel pots), put two captured folding stock AKs into a laundry bag, and headed for the main gate. The MPs would check you at the gate for proper uniform, ID tags, helmet, weapon, and one extra magazine. They would not let you out the gate if you

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP CONT'D

didn't have the required stuff.

If you wanted to hitch a ride, you stood at the gate and as

trucks came up you asked where they were heading. I found a deuce-and-a-half heading to Cha Rang and climbed aboard. It was a good arrangement, you got a ride, and the driver got folks to ride shotgun for the trip. The MPs would hold the trucks up until there were a few to make a convoy. Often an escorting MP gun-truck would lead out on point. These 5-ton gun trucks were awesome. They were armored and mounted .50 cal MGs and 40mm automatic grenade launchers.

Out through Bong Son and back down Highway 1. Kind of like riding a tour bus looking at the sights. Except you were always scanning windows and likely ambush spots for bad guys. As we drove through small towns kids would gather by the roadside to wave and hopefully catch a candy bar or cigarette pack from passing GIs. I carried a couple John Wayne chocolate bars and C-Rat cigarette packs to throw to them. Another Soldier hitching a ride with us was a grunt from one of the battalions. He had the thousand yard stare and withdrawn look of a guy who had zipped the torn remains of friends into body bags too many times. The guy was taking cans of C-Rats and throwing them to the crowd. But not tossing in good will, he was winding up and dinging kids with fast balls. I was disturbed at this as he was no doubt earning recruits for the VC.

Arriving at Cha Rang the truck stopped just inside the gate and we had to dismount. An MP at the gate took our weapons and gave us a claim chit for it. You had to take a weapon when off base, but on base you were not authorized to carry one. There was more danger from some drunk or drugged up GI with a weapon than an attack by the NVA. By 1970 there had been too many fratricide incidents and the "civilized" people inside the wire were not comfortable with us folks with blood on our hands walking around with guns.

I should have been awarded my CIB weeks before but I understood how Army bureaucracy could sometimes delay orders. Not, apparently, at Cha Rang though. As I entered the airy S-1 Personnel Center I gazed in wonder at the rows of clerks working studiously at their typewriters where they would spend their tours. I registered my complaint at the counter with a PFC clerk who said he would check on it, I could come back later. I had heard that before, the old Army runaround. I told him politely that he would check on it now or I would come over the counter and kill him.

He slithered out and got his NCOIC, an E-7. The SFC listened to my complaint and cautioned me not to threaten anymore of his Soldiers. Never sure of the sanity of booney rats he offered me a deal, I could set down with one of his clerks who would check the order requests stack, but that I should realize most of these glitches occurred at the unit level and the request most likely never got here. They would look then if I would quietly leave. I agreed.

I was shown to a blond-headed SP4 wearing love beads discreetly under his starched collar.

Continued on the next page



Ranger RJ Huckaby

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP CONT'D

He reluctantly went back to a large stack of papers and began to quickly scan through them, none too thoroughly I thought. He returned ten minutes later, "sorry dude, I don't see it, check with your 1SG and make sure....."

I dropped my laundry bag on his desk with a thud and said quietly, "you know what's in here?" He slowly shook his head and I saw the uncertainty in his eyes. "Chi-Com folding stock AK-47s," I whispered. He looked around as if considering his chances to run for it. "Look dude," he pleaded, "I'm sorry, I'd like to help." "No man," I said softly, "I will give you one if you can square me away."

The guy looked around to see if anyone was watching, "no shit man?" He loaded a triple paper/carbon sheet and started typing away. Finished he forged a signature on it, gave me a copy, and put the others in his out box. "Congratulations man, your CIB orders are approved, can I see it?" He cautiously placed the bag

under his desk and glanced at the AK, "wow man, like wow man, anytime you need something, you know." "Dig it man, but, the orders, it's really that easy?" "Well, yeah man, see all those CIBs out there." It was then I noticed most of the clerks were wearing a CIB on their chests.

REMFS (Rear Echelon M...r F..s) I thought. I had been coached on how to get things done here, but was somewhat disheartened to learn how the real world works. I had my CIB but it now seemed somewhat cheapened in the process. However the AK trade to the REMFs in Cha Rang was a lucrative enterprise. Being automatic weapons they could not be taken home as war trophies. But they could be hung over ones bunk to play with and impress newbies and for taking profile pictures to send the folks back home. Pistols and semi-auto SKS rifles which were legal war trophies would fetch a hundred bucks here. I sold the other AK to my clerk's buddy for fifty bucks which I would split among the team, which was our Team SOP.



P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—TERRY RODERICK

On September 20, 1970, the Papa Company Rangers had a team, Killer 18, shot down while being inserted by helicopter into their assigned area in northern I Corps, near the DMZ. The final toll was 5 Rangers KIA, 4 helicopter crewmen KIA, and before the day was done, two more soldiers from the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mech) lost their lives in support of our team after the helicopter crashed. One Ranger, David Slone, survived miraculously that day and was found still alive on the ground. Our XO at the time, 1Lt. Roger Bergh (retired Colonel), landed on the site and was instrumental in making sure David was medivaced that day and helped secure the area temporarily, until assets from the 5th Infantry Division arrived on the scene to assist in the recovery process. It was a huge loss for our company and the second time a team had been shot down during insertion during my time in the company. We had lost another team, Killer 16, on December 21, 1969, shortly after my arrival to P/75th Ranger in 1969. On that team, we also had a Lone Survivor from our team, Ranger Larry Smith, but also one of the door gunners who somehow jumped and survived prior to the impact of the helicopter. Larry and the door gunner who jumped were reunited several years ago for a while but not sure where that relationship is at this current time. As you might expect, both disasters left a large void in our small company and it took a lot of gumption and bravery for everyone to continue the mis-



Team Killer 18

sion we were assigned to in Northern I Corps. That's one of the things I'm most proud of in retrospect and the ability we showed to continue the missions assigned while mourning our lost brothers and support personnel. During the recovery process that day, the 5th Mech lost two soldiers, 1LT Richard Stube, and PFC Michael Linville. The helicopter crew we lost that day consisted of Pilot, WO Larry Glenn Baldwin, 1Lt. Albert Maurice Finn, Sgt. William Thomas Dotson III, and Sgt. Dan Owen Felts.



Ritchie Gallina Gray Slone and Apellido Mai Loc

The team, Callsign, Killer 18, was led by Sgt. Harold Sides TL, ATL SP/4 Ray Appellido, and four fairly new Rangers, Glenn Ritchie, Tony Gallina, Dale Gray, and David Slone. Harold and Ray had been in the company for several months and were very experienced and were leading 4 of our younger Rangers and teaching them the tricks of the trade and they were just beginning to hit their stride. We never got a chance to see them do their thing on a consistent basis, but they were enthusiastic, brave, and ready to take the fight to our enemy. All Rangers in every sense of the word. We were very proud of this group as we were with all of our teams in one of the smaller Ranger companies in Vietnam and one in a very active zone, northern I Corps and the DMZ, Khe Sanh area.



Top, Dave-Steph Tortola; Bottom Glen Ritchie

team of such enthusiastic Rangers who were ready and willing to take the fight to our enemy. I can remember and see the faces of all these guys since we were a close-knit group in Papa Company, but the level of activity for us made it impossible at times to get to know everyone real well. Anyway, during the last 2017 Ranger Rendezvous, a plan was hatched by Steve Nash and others there to bring our Reunion to David since we had such a hard time getting him out to join us. After gaining his approval to have us invade his home area, plans were made to go to an area most of us have never been to before. That being Rhode Island. I

P/75 - 79TH LRP CONT'D

For a variety of reasons, we've never been able to get David out to join us over the years and a decision was made to take our 2018 Reunion to his neck of the woods and have him rejoin his Papa Company Ranger brothers again. Ted Tilson, Jay Lutz, and I met David in Stuart, Florida several years ago for lunch and we had a very enjoyable mini-reunion. Jay had left the company before David arrived and Ted arrived after David had left, but I was there during David's time with us. I must admit he was one of the new guys and I didn't have a personal relationship with him, but I was very close to Harold and Ray since we all had been together for quite a while by then. Harold and Ray were excited and happy to have a

thought I knew where Rhode Island was, but was surprised to find that it's north of New

York and halfway between Boston and NYC and closer to Connecticut in fact. The smallest state in the Union, but one with a proud history that many of us are unaware of in truth. David reminded us of this by informing us that the state motto is "HOPE" and the state symbol is "THE INDEPENDENT MAN", a statue placed atop their statehouse. Smallest of the states, first state to renounce allegiance to The Crown and last of original 13 to sign constitution We're all looking forward to visiting there in June and reconnecting with David after so many years. He's excited and I'm sure a bit apprehensive about all this disrupting his life, but we hope to let his family and friends know how much he means to us and our history in Vietnam. He's done some really fantastic things with his life and has not wasted it in memory of his lost teammates. If you get a chance, go to this website and link and see how he memorialized his team and the others involved <https://youtu.be/GeJNGtIHUNC>. It's a 13 minute video of a bike trip he, his wife, Stephanie, and some of his friends took in April 2016 to honor his team and the other support personnel that day who gave their lives. Very well done and inspirational as well as a wonderful tribute to the men we lost that day. Personally, I'm very proud of the little bit that I know about that he's accomplished in his life, but he's a very well-rounded man and I'll leave it at that for right now.



Rick Polski Ray Appellido Tom Sherman 1970

The annual Special Operations Wounded Warrior "Takin' Bacon" event is coming up near Myrtle Beach, S.C. the last weekend in February and I expect to attend with Rangers John Burns (Somalia era) and Bryan Schrader (GWOT) and hopefully, Eddie Olgesby, and his clan and hunting dogs again. . After that, I'll be at Best Ranger Competition April 13-16 and plan to attend the Critter Cookout/Open House at the Mountain Ranger Camp in Dahlonega, Ga., April 27-28. . An early family vacation in early June at Lake Norman, N.C. where I'll leave to fly to Rhode Island for the Papa Company Reunion. *Continued on next page*

Ranger Rendezvous for 2018 will not be held this summer as it will go to an every-other year schedule with all the events, etc., but the annual Ranger Hall of Fame ceremonies will continue every year. Dates for this year's RHOF induction ceremony to be announced at this time. This allows for the ARTB to hold their events and such without a competing 75th Ranger Regiment schedule of events each year. Something new and it also coincides with the usual 75th Ranger Regiment two-year Change of Command schedule in 2019. I'm sure our Association Reunion in

P/75 - 79TH LRP CONT'D



Harold Sides TL Killer 18 KIA

2019 will be held in conjunction with this event. Rick Polski coming to Florida next week to look for a home here in Paradise. Hopefully he'll land near my AO and he'll get a taste of 70-degree weather during the winter months for a change. Garry Norton left Philadelphia last year and he and Maria are enjoying the mild winter in Ormond Beach, Florida this year. Not a whole lot else going on. Looking forward to seeing you all in June in Narragansett. If you're in the area, come join us. Rangers Lead the Way!! Terry "Rock" Roderick

Facebook-February First-Saturday Ranger/SF Breakfast Across America



Top left; Columbia, South Carolina; Top right; Louisiana Bayou

Bottom Left; Tacoma, Washington; Bottom Right; Murphys Pub; Savannah, Georgia

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

First order of business: At the reunion last year in Las Vegas it was voted that we would hold our reunion every eighteen months. Well here we are and I am asking you all to save the dates Sept 6,7,8,9, 2018 to be held in Huntsville, Alabama. Check in on the Sept 6th and Depart Sept 9th. Details are not finalized as of this time, but will be made available as we move forward. Mark the dates on your calendars. Please try to make this one as we are not getting any younger.

I still need your articles and photos. If you don't respond I will not have much to send in for publication. I know that many of you like and wait for the Patrolling magazine to arrive, and there have been problems, but I believe that it is a great magazine and we need to continue this publication.

If you are an annual member please send your dues to the following address:

75th RRA'

PO Box 348360

Sacramento, CA. 95834-8360

In Memoriam:

(1) Lt. Col (RET) James Kirk Waters Jr.

Died January 14, 2018. Jim was born on April 25th 1944, in Lewistown, PA to the late James Kirk Waters and Ruth Cramer Waters. He grew up in McAlister Ville, PA and graduated from East Juniata High School in Cocolamus, PA. He attended Bloomsbury University and Penn State. Jim worked at Leo Graybill Hatchery and always referred to his employer as "Uncle Leo".

Jim wanted to serve his country and enlisted in the Army in Harrisburg, PA, in 1965. During his enlisted Service as an Infantryman, (Nov.65 to Feb 71), he attained the rank of Staff Sergeant, and served two combat tours in Vietnam. One tour with the 42nd Vietnamese Ranger BN. Jim attended Officers Candidate School at Ft. Benning, GA and in Feb 1971 was commissioned a 2nd Lt in the Infantry Branch.

During his 29-year career in the Army, in addition to his two tours in Vietnam, Jim served in Germany, Panama, and Saudi Arabia. Jim's military education included Jungle Warfare School, Ranger School, Airborne School, Infantry Officers Advanced Course, Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. Jim also received a Bachelor of Arts from Methodist University and a Masters of Arts from Georgetown University

Jim's Awards and Decorations are as follows;



Legion of Merit

Bronze Star 2 (OLC)

Purple Heart (OLC)

Meritorious Service Medal 2 (OLC)

Air Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Army Commendation Medal 2 (OLC)

Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal 2nd Class

Army Ranger TAB

Parachutist Badge

Combat Infantry Badge

Vietnamese Ranger Badge

Army Staff Identification Badge

After his retirement from active duty Jim worked as a defense contractor as an instructor at the Army Force Management School at Ft. Belvoir, VA. Jim also served as a docent at George Washington's home, Mount Vernon. Jim also served the membership of the U.S. Army Ranger Advisors to the "Biet Dong Quan" gaining admission for Burial at Arlington National Cemetery. Internment with full military honors will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined.

Contributions in memory of Mr. James Waters may be sent to: Three Rangers Foundation; P.O. Box 713 Sheridan, Oregon 97378.

(2) Wallace Crane

Passed December 2017. Wally resided in Clarksville, TN. From August 1964-October 1964 Wally served as an Advisor at Duc My and from October 1964-August 1965 he served as the Senior Advisor to the 37th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion (Biet Dong Quan)

Sua Sponte Jim and Wally-Until We Meet Again

Feed Back:

Fellow Rangers, I would like some feed back from those of you who may have watched the Ken Burns Vietnam Documentary. I am interested in your opinions. Did anyone see what I saw!! I would like to print your opinions in the next patrolling. Please send me some feedback, and let me know if I can publish your comments. Many Thanks

Quote: "I get a choice every time I open my mouth: that it can be with civility and dignity and grace-or not".— Dana Perino

Mu Nau

Bill Miller, Unit Director

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To prevent lapses in your memberships, please send dues and any ADDRESS CHANGES to:

75th RRA
PO Box 348360
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

The Association makes donations to each of the four Ranger battalions for the benefit of the young Rangers and their families. We have also established a Gold Star Fund to support our Gold Star families program. If you wish to help out, anytime is the right time. Especially right now! If you wish to pay with one check for any combination of dues and funds, please specify how much is to go to each. Thank you!

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Under the Tent*

Isaiah 6:8

I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send, and who
will go for us?
Then I said, Here I am; send me."



RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

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