

PATROLLING

December 2020

75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC.

Volume 32 Issue IV



Glenn Harry English JR Gravesite Revisited —Page 27—Submitted Photo

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Editor's Corner

By Stephen Odin Johnson—Editor

Greetings,

In this issue of *Patrolling* you are provided information about people who care about the Greater Ranger Community. That includes everyone who submitted articles and who read them. We thank you for that!

Before we move on with the content, please try and stay connected and move forward. We hear that a lot, *moving forward*. In Minnesota, we have an adage. "Row the boat"! This time of year easier said than done, but I like Gopher Coach PJ Fleck's description of that saying.

"Row the Boat" focuses on what you can control — the energy you bring to your life ("the oar"), the sacrifices you are willing to make ("the boat"), and the direction of your life ("the compass"). You can roll your eyes at the use of the oar, the boat, and the compass, but they are symbols that hold actual meaning. And at a time when there is so much going on in the world that is beyond our control, it feels like a good time to remember that living a joyful life means not letting the circumstances dictate your behavior. You can't always control the circumstances of your life, but you can control your perspective and how you react to those circumstances.

Interesting enough, there are two articles in this *Patrolling* that encourage us to "Row the boat" by staying connected and moving on; the first is on page 10 with Janet Morgan and the second one is on page 13 by Jill Stephenson. Our readers know about Jill as a motivational writer-speaker who is also a Gold Star Mom. I am sure that many of us know Janet who is a counselor with degrees aplenty. The one certification (CTRTC) that I share with her involves the use of "Choice Theory". In due time you will become familiar with that. Read on!

Recently, I got an email from LTG(Ret) Gary Speer who asked about a book review or at a minimum an announcement of a published book [A Soldier's Journey Living His Why](#). This was written by LTG(Ret) Lawson Magruder 2008 RHOF and first Company commander of B Company, 2nd Ranger Battalion. The book can be found and ordered on Amazon. He has chapters of his Ranger experiences. Anyway, there is a blurb we provided on page 24.

Does anyone want to volunteer to become a book reviewer for *Patrolling*?

"WWII Burmese Kachin Ranger" by Ron Roof JR is on page 9.

A special tribute to Tabitha Gail Kidd by Jonnie Clausen on page 11.

Merrill's Marauders update on pages 16-17.

Our Unit Reports start on page 19.

Hotel Information page 51.

"Staying Connected is a Choice"— Steve



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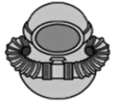
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The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission that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

Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November for the four yearly issues of March, June, September, and December respectively.

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to:
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BY JOE MARQUEZ

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Paraguay Ranger

Greetings Rangers, I write this from our home in Valle Pucu, Paraguay. We came down here last February just in time to be forcibly quarantined. House bound for the last eight months we, having little else to do, have felled trees, had a man with a yoke of oxen break up the fallow ground that had lain undisturbed for about a quarter of a century, and planted a garden. Then after receiving the proceeds of the sale of our house in Greenville, SC we have undertaken the finishing of our house here. Last night there was a dumper of a thunderstorm that overwhelmed a gutter that we had installed to protect the floor from the rain and we had a small rivulet flow through our living room. In one door and out the other. The same storm had put out the lights so we had to examine the mess by flashlight. Couldn't do anything much so we went to bed. I am looking at the mud stains on the ceramic floor as I write. This has happened several times over our decades here so just another little hiccup.

Fifty years ago I had just returned from Vietnam after 18 months with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, (Sep). While on leave in September met up in West Palm Beach, FL with my brother Julian Ernest, or Ernie as he had liked to be called. He was on his way to the War. One of the things we talked about was his determination of the proceeds of his government provided life insurance policy in case he was KIA. Since our parents were divorced, half would go to each unless specified otherwise. I encouraged him not to worry about it since I had survived he would too with the 11th Light Infantry Brigade of the Americal Division. Four months later he was KIA at age eighteen in February of '71. I had assumed that his experience would be like mine. It wasn't.

The Bible in Psalms 90:10-12 speaks of the days of our lives. "The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."... So teach us to number our days. That we may gain a heart of wisdom."

I have just turned seventy. Never thought that I would live so long. Thus far this year we have lost Pat Tadina, and Sid Smith among the Rangers I know. Larry Crow, or Buzzard as he was affectionately known to the Headhunter Platoon of C/1/503rd PIR in 'Nam. My Aunt Emily in Albuquerque, NM, and a Church friend Joanna, whom we have known since she was my youngest daughter's age, early forties, and her childhood play mate. She left several children and a grieving husband along

with family and friends. Cancer took her, as it did Sid. Some fly away having made peace with God through faith in the person and work of God's designated Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Some neglect to do so. All fly away. But the destination is so very different.

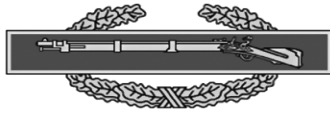
Those who have humbled themselves to do as Daniel the Prophet lamented the nation of Israel had not done as recorded in Daniel 9:13, "...yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities (unjust behavior, sins) and understand your truth." Din takes us in the wrong direction. Away from God. Whom sooner or later we all must face.

Those humble souls find that their faith in a faithful God is rewarded. Jesus did all that God requires of any man or woman. He knew we couldn't resist the temptation to cross the lines he has established for our conduct. So He sent the Just One to do right 100 percent of the time, in our behalf. To live forever we must accept God's judgment that we, in ourselves, cannot please God. Nor does he expect us to. To please Him we have to believe the witness God gave in the Holy Scriptures concerning what His Son did for us. The Apostle John tells us this in his first Epistle, or letter. Chapter Five, verse eleven, "And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."

As God gave us this life, short or long on earth, so He has provided that we may live forever with Him. By believing that we have life through His Name. That is the Gospel, literally the Good News. We have then gained a heart of wisdom and can wisely live the rest of our lives until we too are called to 'Fly Away'. May each find a refuge from the constant agitation of our present circumstances by trusting in the Everlasting Arms of the Rock of Ages.

Rangers ought to lead the way.

Joe Marquez, C/1/503rd, '69 N/75th, Juliet, '70 A/2/503rd, '70 Chaplain of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Facetime 864 525 6941 Paraguay Cell/Whatsapp +595-971-147600 Serving those who served. 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©19 corporation, registered in the state of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F Co 58th, (LRP) and L Co 75 (Ranger) Inf. The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION:

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible members of the 75th Infantry Rangers and those who served in the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Companies, Long-Range Patrol (LRP) Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ). Also eligible are those 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 members of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

2. To sustain the Association. To promote and establish *fellowship of the Special Operations ranger community by recruitment and encouragement of active duty and recently separated Rangers to become members. The association provides a special "No Cost Membership" to all personnel while assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment.*

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, 3rd, STB, and MIB Ranger Battalions, successor units, or any additions that are activated and assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment.

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.

Section 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

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



WHAT WE DO: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association participants in a variety of events that support our members and the active duty regiment. Each event is reviewed by the Board of Officers for merit and how it will promote the Association. Our current projects include; awarding scholarships (to qualified individuals) through our coordination and with the support of the National Ranger Memorial Scholarship Foundation. We also provide support to the Best Ranger Competition and any other events the officers regard as beneficial to the association ethos.

We hold biennial reunions (in conjunction with the 75th Ranger Regiment Rendezvous) and business meetings. The association officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer), are elected at the biennial association business meeting. This reunion is held at Columbus/Fort Benning, GA
Subordinate units hold off-year reunions at various locations across the United States per their unit schedule

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 Ehrler
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
2015-2019	Richard Barela
2019-	Stephen Johnson

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 1984
- 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Military Intelligence Battalion, activated in 2017

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.

Unit Directors

HQ. 75th RANGER HHC

We Need a Volunteer UD

75TH RANGER SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION

We Need a Volunteer UD

75TH RANGER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION

We Need a Volunteer UD

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

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Westmore, MI 49895
906.387.2318

M/75-71st LRP-199th LRRP

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805.824.2133

N/75-74th LRP-173rd LRRP

Jeff Horne
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Windsor, OH 44099-9708
440.897.9312
csm.jhorne@gmail.com

O/75-78th LRP

We Need a Volunteer UD

P/75-79th LRP

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25 Carleton Drive
Cocoa, FL 32922-7003
321.631.3213
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ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

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Aiken, SC 29803
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C: 803.292.2571
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LRRP DETACHMENT-3rd ID

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oldlrrp62@aol.com

D/151 LRP/RANGER

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F/51 LRP

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Dianne Hammond
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Dave Walker
In Memory

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FREE MEMBERSHIP- NOT A RENEWAL OFFER

NEW MEMBERS FREE OFFER*

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. is embarking on a membership drive specifically aimed at veterans of the 75th Ranger Regiment. The 75thRRA is offering free one-year memberships to those who qualify as a Regular Member as defined in Article VIII-Section 2 of our By-Laws, and only to those who served in a qualifying unit as defined by Article V-Sections 6 & 7. Our goal is to acquire 500 new Regiment members, and the offer will expire only when that goal is reached. *

ARTICLE VIII-SECTION 2: Regular membership

Regular membership is afforded to any individual who served honorably in any of the predecessor or successor units, or who is presently serving in a current or successor unit listed in ARTICLE V of these Bylaws. Regular active members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership, to include the responsibility and the right to vote on all issues and matters presented to the membership, which include elections of all Executive Board Officers of the Association and changes to these Bylaws. Only members afforded Regular membership status may hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. Applications for Regular membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

ARTICLE V-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 1984
- 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Military Intelligence Battalion, activated in 2017



COMPLETE ALL FORMS AND SEND TO:

**75th RRA
PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662**

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 of Article V of our by-laws

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI
STREET ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PRIMARY PHONE	SECONDARY PHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS		

SIGNATURE _____

UNITS

FROM (DATE) TO (DATE) UNIT (Company or Battalion) NAMES OR ORDERS

FROM (DATE) TO (DATE)	UNIT (Company or Battalion)	NAMES OR ORDERS

REMARKS _____

MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY OUR BYLAWS: orders, or have two current members provide testimony of your service in an eligible unit as designated by our Bylaws. We are not just a Vietnam era veteran's organization. Service in all units of the 75th Ranger Regiment is eligible for membership.

Greetings to the Greater Ranger Community,

Congressional Gold Medal

Congratulations to the Merrill's Marauders for being authorized by the United States Congress to receive the Congressional Gold Medal. The Congressional Gold Medal seeks to honor those, individually or as a group, who have performed an achievement that has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement.

Upcoming Ranger Events

The Best Ranger Competition is tentatively scheduled for April 16-18, 2021. Travis Pheanis will give us all the details as soon as he can. 2021 Ranger Rendezvous is on for Monday July 19th through Friday the 23rd. Our Banquet will be held on early Friday evening on the 23rd at the Ironworks. Our host hotel is the Phoenix City Marriott Courtyard with the Downtown AC Marriott serving as the overflow hotel. Information on hotel booking is in this Patrolling issue. 2021 Critter Cookout is usually scheduled for late April and Robert Suchke, Mountain Ranger Association Secretary, will keep us posted.

2021 Ranger Hall of Fame

The RHOFF ceremony for the 2020 and 2021 inductees will be held during the week of July 19-23 2021. No specific schedule for that yet, but we will post those dates on the website (www.75thrra.org) as soon as we know. So far, I have received three excellent, completed RHOFF packets for the 75th RRA Executive Board to review. I know that there a few more being put together and the cutoff date for submission to us is December 31. The 75th RRA can submit three packets to the 2021 RHOFF Selection Committee.

2021 75th RRA Officer Elections

I will not be seeking a second term next July. I have encouraged, after continual conversations with Art Attaway starting this last September, for him to run for the office of president of the 75th RRA. And he has agreed to. I am stepping down because I would like to continue as editor of Patrolling and I feel that Art can move this Association forward better than I can. The Association is first and always will be for me. So anyone wishing to seek office let me know so we can give our membership awareness of who is running and for what office. The 75th RRA members vote during our 2021 general membership meeting.

Ranger for Life Program

A complete article in the March Patrolling issue will focus on how we can support the current Ranger in transitioning to civilian life. In the meantime I have included a memo from CSM (Ret) Mike Hall with suggestions how the 75th RRA or individuals can help Rangers during their transition:

"A bit more about the Ranger For Life program which we are in

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY STEPHEN O. JOHNSON



support of. It is the 75th Ranger Regiment's unit level transition program. In the spring of 2019, the Ranger Regiment launched this initiative in an effort to better support our Rangers with their transition from active duty to civilian life. The mission is to establish an ongoing network where information can be shared for everyone's benefit. We look to share information on Ranger transition, retirement, college education, career and job opportunities, obtaining certifications/training, and small business startups. Once a

Ranger always a Ranger; you're a Ranger For Life. Here we hope to build a stronger Ranger network in order to help one another because... "I will never leave a fallen comrade." Ranger For Life serves to fulfill three needs:

Assist Rangers transitioning out of the military whether it is for ETS or retirement through support and mentorship.

Make available the means for Ranger veterans to reach back into the network for support who have already transitioned.

Provide the support and resources to Rangers veterans as they navigate their way through civilian life by connecting them back to the Ranger community.

Some ideas on how 75th RRA and TRF in support of Ranger For Life can benefit each other.

75th RRA Participate in the Regiments NCO and SOY program, separate message.

Helping the 75th RR, build out its Ranger for Life Mentor network. We are building out the mentor and the networking connections. Ask 75thRRA members to go to, <https://www.threerangersfoundation.org/mentorship-2> and hit the Mentor button, should take less than 5 minutes to fill out a bit of info. Some guys might not be contacted, some might be working with 3-4 guys at a time, depending on what they want to do and interest for Rangers.

TRF has a Ranger Brotherhood Page <https://www.threerangersfoundation.org/support-ranger-businesses>, if any members of 75thRRA owns a business, we welcome you to post on our website, no fees. Contact [@Caroline White](https://twitter.com/CarolineWhite) to get your info posted.

TRF has a Ranger Friendly Career page, <https://www.threerangersfoundation.org/ranger-friendly-careers> where we post business that are interested in hiring Rangers. Ask any 75th RRA member contact [@Caroline White](https://twitter.com/CarolineWhite) if they would like to add their business there also. This is just not for owners/CEOs, but anyone that might have influence on plucking a resume off a pile to ensure the Ranger gets a look see."



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1st VP REPORT

ROY BARLEY

2020 is damn near over and the year that started with so much progress and hope ended up being one of the worst years in the world. We had all sorts of events cancelled starting with the Best Ranger Competition; the Ranger Hall of Fame; many unit reunions. This shall pass and we will emerge stronger and better than before.

As we enter the autumn of our lives, we have seen many comrades pass on this year.

From my unit, E./50 and E/75 we lost some key men, and we are missing them already. Terry Leishman ; Arlan Weiland; John Autry. The names are a history of the unit as they were there along the timeline of the unit. They will be missed.

I have at various times spoken about the need to get the new blood involved in leadership roles. I think we need to develop a guide that would outline the various responsibilities and job of the President. A guide would make the transition much easier. There are dates when certain activities/actions must be done by.



While Tom and Roger do an excellent job of insuring that the organization moves in the direction it should and the President meets all the responsibilities. If something were to happen to Tom or Roger, we would be in difficult straits without a written guide as to what is due on what date.

We would like to see the gathering in 2021 to be bigger and better than ever but time will tell. For most businesses 2020 has been a terri-

ble year. Will we have a motorcycle to raffle off? At this time, we can only hope. The partnership we have with Harley has been great and enjoyable. As we get closer to the new year and in to 2021 we can hope to have some positive news. The lady who is handling this for Harley is new to this process but is intelligent and a wonderful to deal with. I am sure she will do all she can for us.

Here is hoping all have a wonderful Holiday season and hope fully a much better New Year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Join the **GallantFew Rangers** team this February at www.patriotchallenge.org or here:



Register by Dec. 31 and save \$10.

100% of funds raised by GallantFew Rangers support Ranger transition and family programs.

TREASURER REPORT

ROGER CRUNK

Statement of Activity

	TOTAL
Revenue	
4000 Program income - DNP	
4002 Membership dues	1,125.00
4008 Patrolling ads	250.00
4020 Miscellaneous revenue	11,675.00
Association Sticker	29.75
Total 4020 Miscellaneous revenue	11,704.75
Assoc. Pin	20.00
Total 4000 Program income - DNP	13,099.75
4100 Member donations - DNP	
4102 Family fund contributions	225.00
4110 Operations contributions	190.00
Legacy Walkway	100.00
Total 4100 Member donations - DNP	515.00
4900 Interest income	54.35
Total Revenue	\$13,669.10
GROSS PROFIT	\$13,669.10
Expenditures	
6000 Program expenses - DNP	
6007 Coin expense	12.50
6016 Reunion costs	825.00
6020 Website maintenance	1,030.13
Filemaker	540.00
Total 6020 Website maintenance	1,570.13
6022 Intuit Subscription	
ACH GoPayment	20.00
Quickbooks Online	40.00
Total 6022 Intuit Subscription	60.00
Membership Returns	175.00
Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP	2,642.63
6500 Operations - DNP	
6502 Bank and merchant fees	34.86
6516 Postage and mailing service	410.00
Life Funds Transfer	11,670.00
Paypal Transfer	50.00
Postage-Secretary	153.57
Treasurer Supplies	144.32
Treasurer Postage	7.70
Total 6500 Operations - DNP	12,470.45
Total Expenditures	\$15,113.08
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -1,443.98
NET REVENUE	\$ -1,443.98

Financial Position

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Affinity / Operations	13,774.31
1002 Affinity / Family fund	19,558.24
1030 Affinity / Savings	73,812.01
1040 Benevolent funds MM	40,355.62
1041 Legacy funds MM	5,242.54
1042 Life funds MM	27,250.87
1050 Paypal funds	3,107.98
Total Bank Accounts	\$183,101.57
Accounts Receivable	
1100 Accounts receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$183,101.57
TOTAL ASSETS	\$183,101.57
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	
Equity	
3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted	160,800.64
Net Revenue	22,300.93
Total Equity	\$183,101.57
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$183,101.57

Never Shall I Fail My Comrades

Be true to your past, remember your history, and honor those who came before. I joined the Army late in life. I had no signposts pointing me to who or what a Ranger was or what it meant to be part of Ranger Regiment. I joined basic training, secured a slot to airborne school, and threw my name in the Regimental application pile. Before airborne graduation, I was told I was getting picked up for Ranger Regiment that afternoon. Quickly, I learned what it meant to be part of something bigger than myself, to be part of a history, a tradition, and values. I found myself fighting to earn the right to become a Ranger. And once in Regiment, I fought to stay. When you fight every day to just be part of something, its values become knitted into your soul. Regimental values were professed every day through the Ranger Creed. The words of the Creed encapsulate what it means to be a Ranger. Ranger lineage units led the way from Rogers' Rangers to Francis Marion to the Gray Ghost to Point du Hoc to Merrill's Marauders and beyond. For me, the Marauders and other units that fought in the Burma Campaign always represented something mythic. Special operations units of volunteers asked to join a mission with a tenuous infill and no exfill plan. They glided, flew, and marched hundreds of miles behind Japanese lines in an attempt to open the Ledo Road and with it a China front against the Japanese. The last stanza of the Ranger Creed, "Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission though I be the lone survivor," always represented the Burma campaign to me. Every day I said that creed. I was taught Marauder history and made to understand that impossible is only a state of mind. Never give up, never surrender, and always keep moving forward. That is intestinal fortitude.

The men who fought in Burma are legends and we revere their contributions to the Regiment. They did not fight alone. Local Kachin tribesmen fought along side the American and British soldiers, guiding the Allies through forested mountains across Burma, all the way to the Kachin capital of Myitkyina. These local volunteers fought, suffered, and died alongside their Allied partners. They became brothers in the struggle for survival and, in Ranger parlance, comrades in battle. From May to August 1944 the Burma Campaign culminated in the Siege of Myitkyina. While the Allies ultimately reclaimed control of the capital city, the toll on the Allies virtually wiped out the units that fought alongside the Kachin Rangers. The heavy losses, the Allies' focus on battlefields closer to Japan, the end of WWII, and the start of the Cold War all contributed to a growing separation between the comrades who once endured so much hardship together in Kachin.

For the Kachin Rangers, the Allies left and never returned. Unit-



Burmese Rangers Fought Alongside Merrill's Marauders

ed States foreign policy shifted to other regional issues and Burma went through its own transformation from British colony to independent nation to the Myanmar of today. In November 2019, the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Myanmar hosted three of the last surviving Kachin Rangers at a meeting in Myitkyina. At over ninety years old these veterans were strong, stoic, and proud. In part, the Kachin Rangers felt they had been left without a sense of closure for their actions 75 years ago. When they told their story, they spoke with commitment. Dang Lawk Hkawng started speaking. He had been shot three times, in the helmet, shoulder, and abdomen. He escaped the Japanese after the

battle of Nhpum Ga and rejoined the fighting for the battle of Myitkyina. Sara Nang Zing Htoi Wa, told of volunteering first with the British and then again when the Americans arrived looking for guides. Duwa Duwang Tang, spoke of the impact of having his two American friends killed in fighting outside of Walawbum. The loss of his friends so affected him that after the war, he returned to the spot where they fell and started a new village, which he still leads today. Dang Lawk Hkawng spoke again. He said, after all these years he is almost at the end of his life. He is afraid all of his stories will be lost and with them the history of the Kachin Rangers.

The Ambassador thanked them on behalf of the American people for all of their contributions and presented them with plaques for their service. The Defense Attaché, whose tireless efforts found and connected with these men, talked about the impact of the units that fought in the Burma Campaign on the special operations community today. And he gave them, what appeared to be, their most coveted gift: U.S. Embassy baseball caps, which they all immediately donned with pride. I was reminded of another line of the Ranger Creed, "Never shall I fail my comrades." I told them of my unit lineage, how I learned their history and listened to the stories of their accomplishments. I told them how I said the Creed every day and how the memory of their actions will continue to live on in those words. I have long since left Regiment. I came to the Diplomatic Security Service in 2002 and have had the unique opportunity to work in Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Panama, Normandy, and now Myitkyina. Meeting these men was a great honor and I will not fail to remember them. I implore you to also remember these men and all those that fought in the Burma Campaign. If you serve in a unit with a special operations lineage, remember the impossible achievements these units accomplished and the example they gave. And if you wear the insignia of the 5307th as part of your unit crest be especially true to their memory.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of State or the U.S. Government.

STAYING CONNECTED

We are currently creating a new normal with how we interact with each other and how we interact within the world. Nothing seems the same and we are unclear of the parameters that we are required to construct to maintain personal safety. We sometimes step too close to the person next to us and we touch things with caution and uncertainty. How do we maintain our relationships in this new normal?

The value of interpersonal relationships cannot be overstated. How do we greet our good friend? Do we shake hands, high five, elbow-greet, or bear-hug? Personal touch and greetings, such as

hugging, have positive chemical changes in our brains (<https://www.healthline.com/authors/erica-cirino>).

So, what do we do? How do we stay connected and mentally happy?

Dr William Glasser, (Counseling with Choice Theory, Harper Collins, 2000) posited that to satisfy our Basic Needs we must have good relationships with other people. What are our Basic Needs? The first Basic Need could be the foundation of all the needs; survival, or self-preservation. In the military, we are formally trained in using skills to protect and defend ourselves in adverse situations and adapt, if need be, to survive. The second Basic Need, Love and Belonging; can be viewed through a few lenses. The first lens might encompass intimate relationships; those of family members and close friends. Within the constraints of Covid-19 many of these intimate relationships have suffered through long distance, lack of contact, or fear of giving, or contracting, the disease. Connecting with these loved ones takes effort and ingenuity, but perseverance may help foster these bonds. Belonging, a separate facet of Love and Belonging, most often involves community. Here, we may isolate, again for fear of contracting or transmitting the disease. We quit attending church services, going to restaurants, movie theaters and our



Staying Connected-Janet Morgan

bowling teams. Sports events, VFW Halls, and educational institutions may be closed. So, how do we meet as a group? And, in groups, we find another powerful form of bonding, the bonding of shared experiences. Connecting through the internet has

helped some groups reconnect but some continue to meet with social distancing conduct rules in place. The third Basic Need, Achievement, Power, or Competence; focuses on the ability to perform or create that gives a sense of achievement or purpose. With the infrastructure of business changing before our very eyes; jobs, or

employment, has transformed almost overnight. Working from home is imperative and demands of internet capabilities are essential to daily living. Many jobs were lost initially but new jobs were redesigned and recreated to be performed from home. Fun, the fourth Basic Need, is essential to having a balanced life. Fun can be found in card games, computer games, kayaking, bike riding and numerous other activities. The object is that the activity brings you joy. A bit of daily pleasure may help generate positive mental health. The last Basic Need is Freedom. With many restrictions and quarantine rules in place it may feel like our freedoms are few and far-between. Some people wear masks, some people do not. Some people isolate and do not go to restaurants. Other people may fly on airplanes, go shopping or attend concerts. We all have the freedom to choose our behaviors. Do you make decisions that lead you in your own direction?

By meeting our Basic Needs in ways that we feel empowered and safe, loved and loving, we can stay connected. It may take creative thinking, learning new ways to connect with loved ones, training in skills for work, or exploring new hobbies that give us joy, but we are resilient. Using the Basic Needs as the impetus for positive mental health in the world today may help us find the new normal that we seek.

Tabitha Gail Kidd

Sept. 5, 1977 - Oct. 11, 2020

“Hail and Farewell”

FT. Benning, GA employment:
Airborne Ranger Training Brigade
Amor School
Public Affairs

National Ranger Memorial Foundation



Left row, Top to Bottom:

- *** Tabitha, 2014, with Merrill’s Marauder Vincent Melillo at 75th Ranger Regiment Anniversary, Ranger Monument
- *** Tabitha, 2014, and Jonnie Melillo Clasen at 4th Battalion Ranger Ball
- *** Tabitha, 2016, at Merrill’s Marauder Bob Passanisi’s RHO of induction



Center Row, Top to Bottom:

- *** Tabitha, 2013, and Jonnie Melillo Clasen, Airborne Ranger Training Brigade at Christmas
- *** Tabitha, 2013, and LTC Clayton D. Meals at Ranger Graduation, Victory Pond
- *** Tabitha 2013, was third editor, National Ranger Memorial Foundation Anet, Jonnie was second NRMF Anet editor.



Right Row, Top to Bottom:

- *** Tabitha, 2014 at Merrill’s Marauder Vincent Melillo’s 96th birthday
- *** Merrill’s Marauder Vincent Melillo, 2014, with Tabitha’s youngest son, Brandon, at WW II Heritage Days, Peachtree City, GA.



created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen

In past the have been articles in the PATROLLING Magazine about how you need to have an In Case of Emergency (ICE) Folder to asset your survivors when you become incapacitated or if you “answer the final roll call”.

Some things the funeral home can and does asset with, but some things are not so easy!

The COVID 19 Pandemic has thrown a monkey wrench in how things are normally handled and what happens if you need to be hospitalized. In many cases your family and friends are not allow to accompany you if you have to go to the hospital. So this means that you may not be able to explain where your important papers are and how you want things done. So you need to re-think.....and re-examine your plans and requests.

For instance...how does your family contact the VA if they need to...or how does your spouse contact the VA for her DIC, if she/he is eligible? The forms are on-line if you know the form number of form title

Just how can you report a Veteran’s passing? DFAS has an on-line process, but just try and goggle.....”How to report a Veteran’s Death”! When I tried to assist a surviving spouse, I finally found a number to call and luckily I found a VA person who was understanding and willing to assist. After a few minutes, he had enough data to get her a packet in the mail.

There are a number of things I’ve learned in the past couple of years dealing with the passing of family members and this recent experience.

For one thing, I learned that in Georgia that your joint bank account just may not be! I learned that there is (in the cases I was working with) a place on one of the bank forms for “Right of Survivorship”. Again, this was my experience, but the bank account could be locked if there is no right of survivorship which allows the surviving party to have full access to the account.

I got with my banks and convinced them to “please check” as they were arguing that it was automatic. They came back, apologized and explain that in Georgia, the form must be check for “Right of Survivorship”. Now I am not giving legal advice, only telling you of my experience.

YOUR ICE CHEST/FOLDER

So what should in your ICE folder?”

- (1) You need a copy of your DD-214;
- (2) A copy of your DFAS pay information;
- (3) Social Security information;
- (4) A document with your VA File Number if you are drawing disability;
- (5) What you want your service to be...cremated, in-ground burial, etc....you can even indicate you want on your headstone;
- (6) Have a listing of people you want to be notified;
- (7) Bank and/or Credit Union information;

(8) Security and Gun safe combinations, and,

(9) An updated will.

Maybe even a picture you would want publicized. I’ve even know of guys who wrote their own obituaries.

As a reminder, every military retiree should have the information below included with their "just in case" documents to report the death of the Retired Soldier.

Contact the Department of the Army Casualty & Mortuary Affairs Operations Center at 1-800-626-3317.

They will refer you to a local Casualty Assistance Center who will report the death to DFAS to stop retired pay and initiate the survivor benefits process.

When reporting the death the following information needs to be available to initiate this process:

- * Full name of retiree
- * Retired rank
- * SSN of the retiree
- * Next of kin information
- * Circumstances involving the death
- * Copy of the death certificate
- * Copy of DD-214

I realize you may have told your families or your wife all this stuff, but what if someone other than your family or wife is handling your affairs. In some States if you do not have a “good” will, the State can and might attach your assets!

So the next time you are thinking of showing your neighbor how to do a PLF off your garage...or before you say...”here hold my beer and watch this!”...get your ICE Chest properly stocked (no...not the one with your beer in it”...the other one).

WARNING: Be prepared!

Marshall Huckaby
25th ID LRRPs
RVN: 66-67, 68-69, 70-71



GOLD STAR MOM—JILL STEPHENSON

Greetings to all. As I write this, we are just under two weeks away from Thanksgiving. This also means we are only six weeks away from 2020 being over. There is so much that can be said about this year, most of it not very positive. I don't make it a habit to speak for anyone else, but I think I can safely say we are all tired and would like to tell 2020 not to let the screen door hit it on the way out! I am not going to go on and on about the details of what we've been dealing with. I would likely be preaching to the choir. I am going to offer my opinion, but I am not going to be opinionated. Honestly, I am tired of talking and hearing about the topics of discontent. So, I am going to talk about what we can do, or what has been helpful for me, to get through the murky waters we've been living in.

Since my son Ben died, I have done my darndest to focus on the positive and not get lost in my sorrow or feeling of lack. It wasn't and hasn't always been easy. When everything else fails, the most reliable resource I have is mindfulness. I can choose how I react to something. The death of my son and a lightning strike (six years apart) that caused a fire and complete destruction of my home, were things I didn't have a choice about. Both shined a light on how important it is to be aware of the things I DO have a choice about. Who and what I surround myself with are at the top of the list.

These last six months or so have forced us all into isolation in some form or another. We have had to stay home from many activities. Maybe staying home is normal for some, however, the restrictions about going anywhere else are not. This forced time at home has helped me to focus on me. I have meditated more, exercised and walked more, gone for spontaneous drives and done a lot of home cooking. Simply put, I have busied myself doing things that make me feel good and feed my soul. Did I need a pandemic to action any of that? I sure didn't, but that is what it took.

I have certainly had my moments of not being happy about what has been forced on me since March. I reminded myself I have a 100% survival rate for everything I have experienced in my life and took account of what I have and not what I have not. For this, I could write a REALLY long list.

I came into 2020 feeling excited about putting 2019 behind me. I looked forward to 365 blank pages to start afresh. On the 3rd of January, I had the good fortune to go up in a hot air balloon. It was winter, there was fresh snow and blue skies and sunshine to glorify my view from above the treetops. I saw a pristine landscape below. I saw with clarity (20/20 vision) a literal and figurative picture of what it means to see the forest through the trees, to have a birds eyes view of what we are surrounded by. It was a reminder to me of a trait I already had and should give more



attention to. Little did I know what was forthcoming and how helpful that 2020 view would be in the months to come.

I know there has been a lot of difficulty and a lot of suffering for many of us. I am not downplaying or claiming to know what any of you has experienced during these trying times. I only want to offer some tried and true wisdom, well wishes, good health and God's best to all who are reading this.



Continued on the next page

As we enter into the holiday season, one that may be different than any others in the past, may you remember the following:

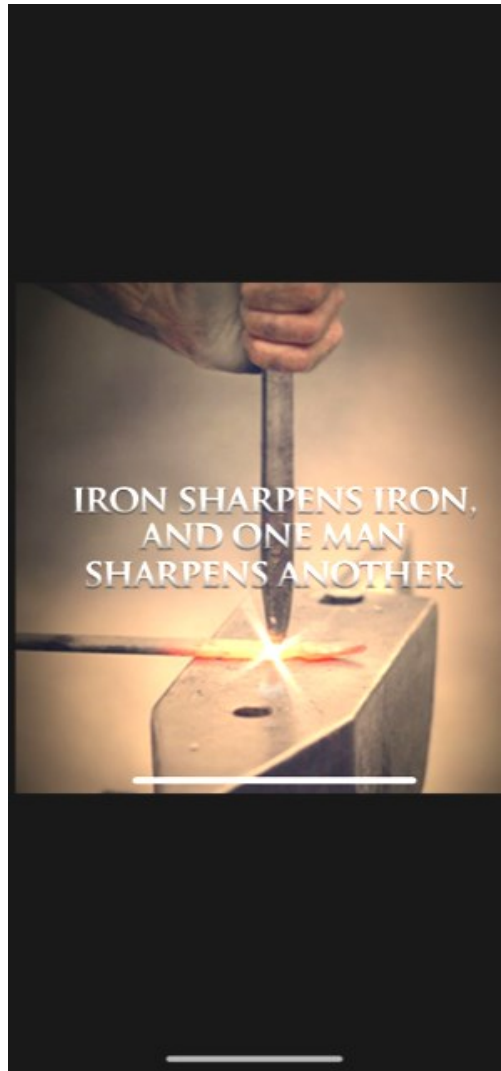


- Your brothers and/or your Ranger family
- Those that have gone before us to ensure our freedom
- Our forefathers and what they fought for
- Who is in control and always has been
- Count your blessings, not your worries
- Focus on the haves and not the have nots
- Reach out/Make phone calls to alleviate feeling isolated (for self and others)
- Never, ever, give up hope
- You are never alone

The brotherhood/family of this community remains strong. Always has been. Always will be. No matter what happens in this life, we have each other. Many of you have had each other's backs for a long, long, time, long before I came into this picture. There is a knowing that in time of need or crisis, this family will be there. You are all a gift to me from my Ben, a gift to all of the Gold Star family members reading this, and to each other. Remember this please.

Iron sharpens iron. The strongest steel is forged in fire. 2020 ain't got nothing on what we have all conquered. This too shall pass.

In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, stay well, be blessed, put your trust in God, and keep your powder dry! My love to all ~ RLTW



MISSION

EMPOWERING VETERANS, GOLD STAR FAMILIES AND AFFILIATES OF THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT TO ACHIEVE LIFELONG SUCCESS



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.THREERANGERSFOUNDATION.ORG**

VISION

PROVIDE THE BEST EXPERTS, ADVICE, AND ASSISTANCE IN EVERY ASPECT OF THE TRANSITION JOURNEY; SPIRITUAL, BEHAVIORAL, CAREER AND NETWORKING, FINANCIAL, LEGAL, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

75th RRA

PO Box 2200

Orangevale, CA 95662

With our Benevolent fund, the Association supports the Family Fund, Gold Star Fund, and the Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships working collaboratively with the Ranger Memorial Foundation. We support the Best Ranger Competition and other events the officers regard as beneficial in promoting the 75th RRA ethos within the Greater Ranger Community. If you wish to help out, anytime is the right time. Especially right now! If you

75th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2200

Orangevale, CA 95662



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Annual Dues **\$40** Checks Payable to:

75th Ranger Regiment Association

Special Rate 5 Years for \$175

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI
STREET ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PRIMARY PHONE	SECONDARY PHONE	
EMAIL ADDRESS		

SIGNATURE _____

UNITS

FROM (DATE) TO (DATE)

UNIT (Company or Battalion)

NAMES OR ORDERS

FROM (DATE) TO (DATE)	UNIT (Company or Battalion)	NAMES OR ORDERS

REMARKS _____

VISA OR MASTERCARD _____

EXP. DATE _____ 3 DIGIT SEC CODE _____

CHECK ONE **NEW APPLICATION** **RENEWAL** **SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER**

MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY OUR BYLAWS: orders, or have two current members provide testimony of your service in an eligible unit as designated by our Bylaws. We are not just a Vietnam era veteran's organization. Service in all units of the 75th Ranger Regiment is eligible for membership.



Past three months are "milestones" for WW II Merrill's Marauders

created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen



The Merrill's Marauder Congressional Gold Medal Act was signed into law by President Donald Trump Oct. 17, 2020. It was passed by the U.S. Congress Sept. 22, 2020, at 8:23 PM. The CGM was awarded to the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, known as Merrill's Marauders, "in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during WW II."

SS Lurline leaves San Francisco 77 years ago Sept. 21, 2020, with 2,000 unnamed "expendable" volunteers

The Lurline stopped in New Caledonia for less than 1,000 more volunteers from South Pacific battlefields and sailed to an "unknown" destination and mission. They would become known as Merrill's Marauders.



Jungle Tab awarded to living Merrill's Marauders



In September, the living Merrill's Marauders were inducted as **Distinguished Honorary Members** of the **Jungle Operations Training Course. Lightning Academy**, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Commanding GEN James B. Jarrard, 25th ID, signed the certificate. Commanding GEN Paul J. LaCamera, U.S. Army – Pacific, sent a congratulatory letter. Almost the entire Marauder 2nd Battalion was from the Caribbean and had jungle training.

HELL ON LAND DISASTER AT SEA

The Story of Merrill's Marauders and the Sinking of the Rhona



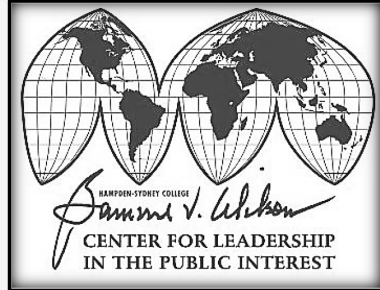
By Fred E. Randle with the collaboration of William W. Hughes

9th Merrill's Marauder Fred Randle confirmed alive



Fred Randle (L) & William Hughes

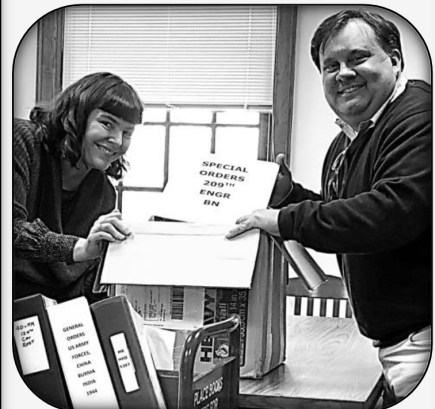
A "911" anniversary story in Arkansas' "The Hot Springs Sentinel-Record" about WW II veterans being honored with "drive-by parades" alerted us that Fred E. Randle Jr., 97, is alive. Randle cowrote the book above with William W. Hughes, also a China Burma India Theater veteran, decades after witnessing the 1943 HMT Rhona sinking when it was part of a 12-ship convoy in the Mediterranean Sea headed for the CBI Theater. Randle was sworn to secrecy for 57 years since the Rhona was sunk by the world's first guided missile.



Historian Hansel Haycox's Marauder memorabilia is donated to the "Wilson Center for Leadership"



Boxes and boxes of Merrill's Marauder memorabilia that Vietnam veteran Hansel Haycox and his wife, Rose Mary, have set up for decades at Marauder reunions has been donated to the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest at Virginia's Hampden-Sydney College. The center is named for Marauder and retired LTG Sam Wilson, a former president of Hampden-Sydney College. Wilson's widow, Susie, donated his memorabilia to the center. "We are so grateful for this extraordinary gift," said Ryan Pemberton, the center's director. "We tell our students that we expect them to learn from and to be inspired by the life and legacy of General Wilson. Our students, along with scholars from around the world, will eventually have digital and in-person access to these documents and artifacts. In addition to being inspired by General Sam Wilson, generations of Hampden-Sydney men will be inspired by the collective acts of the Marauders."



Ryan Pemberton & archivist Sarah Almond



"They were apparently forgotten, frequently lost, occasionally mutinous ... and almost always magnificent."



"Expendable" WW II Merrill's Marauders

5307th Composite Unit Provisional

Code name "Galahad"

1943 - 1944

"Sua Sponte" - Of Their Own Accord

China Burma India Theater

"The Forgotten Theater of WW II"

Awarded Congressional Gold Medal October 2020



"PLEASE"
We need your help to raise
\$10,000
plus production costs

for the non-profit WW II Foundation
to BEGIN production of a PBS documentary
to tell the world of their "impossible" mission
Any amount is appreciated!!!

NOTE: Lines on lead scout's chest (Left) are his ribs showing.



To Donate by Check

Make checks payable to World War II Foundation. In the memo line designate Merrill's Marauders Project. Mail to: World War II Foundation
333 White Horn Drive
Kingston, RI 02881

To Donate with Debit Card or Credit Card

- *** Go to www.wwiifoundation.org
- *** From drop down menu click on Donate
- *** Enter your donation amount
- *** Choose method of payment (debit/credit card)
- *** Click on Write a Note to designate the donation is for Merrill's Marauders project - or it WILL NOT go there
- *** Enter your card and billing information as you would normally do to complete the transaction

To Donate with PayPal

- *** Go to www.wwiifoundation.org
- *** From drop down menu click on Donate
- *** Enter your donation amount
- *** Choose method of payment (PayPal)
- *** You will be directed to your login for PayPal
- *** While logged in be sure to Add a Note to designate the donation goes to the Merrill's Marauders project
- *** Complete the PayPal transaction as usual

Rangers of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. It is my honor and great pleasure to place the name of Ranger Arthur (Art) F. Attaway for the office of President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association for the 2021-2023 term. Elections will be held at the Ranger Rendezvous.

I have known Art since 1974 as he served with me in 1st Bn (Ranger) 75th Infantry at Fort Stewart Ga. He served from 1974 to 1978 as a Platoon Medic, Company Medic, and Battalion Medic. Art served in B Company, Company and HHC. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army's Ranger School Class 1-76. His awards and decorations include:

National Defense Service Medal
 Army Commendation Medal
 Parachutist Badge
 Ranger Tab
 Expert Field Medical Badge
 Jungle Expert Badge

During his tenure in the battalion he attended Artic and Desert Warfare deployments to include deployment to Operation Reforger in Europe. He was selected and attended the Advanced Medical Training Course at Walter Reed Medical Center to better prepare him in the duties as a true medical professional.

After the military he worked in the arena of Management in "Corporate America" for the Hyatt and Ritz Carlton Hotel companies. He is and has been a very successful and inventive entrepreneur and used his skills in starting many profitable small business companies over the last 30 years. Many of which have supported the Ranger Community.

Over the last six years he has been active in Ranger Associations and currently serves as the Executive Vice President of the United States Army Ranger. He has served as the Deputy Regional Director. He currently sits on the Board of Directors for the National Ranger Foundation and works with the Worldwide Army Ranger Association and the U.S. Mountain Ranger Association, Sua Sponte Foundation, Three Rangers Foundation, and Gallant Few. He is very supportive of the active Duty initiative "Ranger For Life Program".

I have talked to Art and he is running for the office of President so that we have an active voice with the active duty Rangers and to represent the Ranger Community especially with the other organizations that promote Ranger goals. He would like to accomplish the following goals for the association:

- Expand membership in the 75th RRA through outreach and awareness programs to increase Ranger Communi-

ty's knowledge of the 75th RRA and its goals and objectives, and foster relationships with all Regimental Rangers, past, present, and future.

- Aid and assist all Unit Commanders in the execution of their duties.
- Actively seek contributors and sponsorship for 75th RRA activities to increase financial capabilities of the association.

Scholarship Fund - Move to the next level in helping the family members of the Rangers
 Ranger Rendezvous – Functions for the active duty rangers, families, and our associations members.

75th RRA Special Projects.

Donation to active duty fallen Rangers
 Rangers Helping Rangers Initiative
 Work with our sister organizations and promote the Ranger Ethos.

Work with the Unit Directors in developing newly identified programs

- Seek opportunities to engage with soldiers and leaders of HQs 75th Ranger Regiment, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Ranger Battalions, the Special Troops Battalion, the Regimental Military Intelligence Battalion, and the Airborne & Ranger Training Brigade which will raise the awareness of the Association and its purpose.
- To promote our Association for all Rangers past and present, especially those of the GWOT era and serve as a conduit for passing information and keeping the members informed thru the Unit Directors.

Ranger Attaway currently resides in Dahlonge, Georgia, which does allow him to be in constant contact and access all active duty Rangers in the 75th Ranger Regiment and the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade.

I feel that Art will provide us an opportunity to move the Association forward with new ideas and use of his skills in business to move us to the forefront of Ranger Activities. He has a very contagious demeanor and such a positive attitude in working with the civilian community and keeping the active Ranger informed of what we can do for them while in service and once they leave the regiment. I am asking that you support Art Attaway for president of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association at the next election. We need to move forward, and Ranger Attaway has the skills to carry us to the next level of success.

He is my friend and one who I can trust to assist the 75th RRA in moving forward. Please put your support behind Art Attaway at the next election to be our next president. I feel that his leadership and experience in business acumen is something we need to make us grow and become cohesive with all aspects of the Ranger Community.



1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICK MERRITT

Happy fall y'all from the greater Savannah area, home of the Imperial 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment! The shrimping season is in peak and the reds have starting running within our Georgia intra-coastal waterways. Come on down and visit your old stomping grounds and if the fish are not biting we can always shuck some oysters or go shooting on the firing range in Richmond Hill as Georgia is open for business...as of right now, anyway.

First batt's chain of command has seen a few changes over the last few months, notably their Change of Command ceremony for the incoming Battalion Commander, LTC Christopher Brawley. Additionally, the Battalion leadership is highlighted below, along with LTC Brawley's Biography.

BN Commander: LTC Christopher Brawley

BN CSM: CSM James Spencer

BN XO: MAJ Ryan Boeka

BN S3: MAJ Bryan Cercy

BN LNO: MAJ Matthew Buchanan

OPS SGM: SGM Joshua Peterson

LTC Christopher J. Brawley Biography

1st Ranger Battalion Commander

Lieutenant Colonel Chris E. Brawley is from Ellington, MO and was commissioned as a 2LT from the United States Military Academy in 2002 after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in International Relations.

LTC Brawley's early assignments were in the 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Scout/Sniper Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Assistant Battalion S3. After Completing the Infantry Captain's career course, we was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment in 1st Infantry Division where he served as a Rifle Company Commander for 40 months.

Following service at 1st Infantry Division, he and his family moved to Fort Benning, GA where he served as the Assistant Operations Officer for the 75th Ranger Regiment. Upon graduation from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in Quantico, VA, LTC Brawley served as the Operations Officer for the Ranger Regiment's Special Troops Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment and also as the Battalion Operations Officer and Battalion XO for 1st Ranger Battalion in Savannah, GA. In the summer of 2016, he returned to Fort Benning, GA where he served as the



Regimental S3 and the Regimental XO.

Most recently, LTC Brawley served as the Battalion Commander of 2nd Battalion, 501st Parachute Regiment in the 1st Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division.

Lieutenant Colonel Brawley is married to the former Meghan Elizabeth Miller of Tyler, Texas. They have two sons, Thomas (9) and James (7).

Welcome back home Sir!

Dick Eckburg Memorial



Mrs. Eckburg escorted during the memorial by GEN Richard Clarke

On 02 October 2020, 1st Ranger Battalion honored one of its most cherished supporters, Dick Eckburg. Mr Eckburg passed away on 01 June 2020, which was a significant loss for the entire Savannah Community.

Dick was known for his philanthropic contributions to the City of Savannah. Aside from the contributions, and most importantly, people knew Dick for a life of service. The most valuable thing he had to give was his time, in which he gave without hesitation.

Mr. Eckburg has been a staple within 1st Ranger Battalion for the better part of two decades, having a great impact on the lives of every Ranger who has worn the 1st Ranger Battalion Scroll. The memorial was held to recognize the decade's long support of Dick and his wife, Judy Eckburg."

Continued on the next page



Memorial Flyover

Roll Call

I am sad to report we lost SGM (retired) Joshua Mitchell, Jr., age 59, as he passed on 4 October. His Celebration of Life Service was held on 13 October in Atlanta. As a Ranger for Life he continued his service to our nation's youth as a JROTC Instructor. Josh was a 1st Battalion veteran with combat parachute assaults into both OPERATION(s) URGENT FURY in Grenada and JUST CAUSE in Panama. He is survived by his wife Sherlene M. Mitchell; his children: Joshua III, Tashina, David, Christopher, Quamius, and Sherylene; grandchildren, three sisters and a host of other family and friends. As we never leave a fallen comrade, final honors were rendered for the "Big Cat" with Ranger buddies present, among those present to pay tribute was Charlie Company's Brendan "Duke" Durkan.

Josh, may you rest in eternal peace, we will never forget you or your family.

In other News

The Battalion has recovered from yet another combat deployment and remain forever busy as they just completed their BILATERAL TRAINING to stand ready to deploy anywhere in the world at a moment's notice to conduct special military operations in support of our nation. Our Regiment has now surpassed the 19-year mark of continuous combat deployments. God speed to those who are currently deployed in harm's way and please keep their families in your prayers over the holiday season.

CSM Spenser recently briefed me on the Battalion's plan to expand the memorial area to also include a ceremonial site and gathering area to cook, serve meals or hold functions but mostly as a covered shelter area for the Rangers to share camaraderie. The design includes a tribute to Kevin Barry's Pub as the former owners, Vic & Cheri Power, (Vic is an Honorary Member of the 1st Ranger Battalion), has donated the bar top from the closed pub's "Hall of Heroes" that was located on the second floor amongst other historical items from our former rendezvous point along River Street in Savannah.

My war-bride Elizabeth & I were able to attend our recent Rang-

er Breakfast in November at Perkins Restaurant (near I-95 & GA 204) for active duty, veterans, families and friends of the 75th Ranger Regiment. These are held monthly all throughout the nation; living near Savannah we mostly see a 1st Batt affiliation. See the inserted photo, it was great to see my fellow 1SG, SGM (retired) Ken Turner although we were not the oldest with Ranger Murphy present, nor the youngest as also joining us was 1st Batt veteran, Evan Townsend. He and his family recently moved back to the area from Europe as he is completing his education and internship as a Nurse Practitioner/ Physician Assistant; welcome back home to you too Evan.



Ranger Breakfast at Perkins

We look forward to seeing CSM (retired) Bill & Brenda Acebes back next month as he continues to gain back his strength and now recover from his completion of chemo and in remission. Come and join us for breakfast at 0900 on the first Saturday morning of each month, bring a friend or family and remember... nothing ruins a good war story like an eye witness!

A special thanks to the Sua Sponte Foundation who partnered with the National Capital Region Squad who raised over \$50,000 on 3 OCT at their annual "Go Ruck" fundraising event. These funds support our Rangers of the 1st Battalion and their families, especially our Gold Star Families.

SFC Slater led a six man Ranger team who joined the patriots throughout the 12-hour endurance event held in the Washington DC area. As expected, I received very great feedback of the impression these quiet professionals left of our Regiment, well done.

Continued on the next page



Memorial

tion this to portray the lasting effects of Abrams Charter throughout our Army and Joint US Military community. We have produced over 150 general officers and command senior enlisted leaders but I believe the most affect we can have on our nation are the larger number of young Rangers veterans who can lead our communities, states and nation as current and future leaders throughout our country. They have something America needs a whole lot more of...CHARACTER... of those who have and will continue to live by our creed for the rest of their lives. The Regiment is truly a leadership factory.

A few weeks ago I also had the privilege to join RCO Brown & RSM Donaldson as LTC (P) Shaw & CSM Eierman invited me for a LPD then attend their 75th RSTB Founders Day Activities. They and their Rangers put the "SPECIAL" in the STB and as I told



RSM Donaldson and CSM Merritt

Speaking of those in need, please continue to pray for Honorary Ranger of 1st Battalion, Miss Sheila Dudley, the lifelong former Battalion Secretary and her husband Bob, as they continue to fight his medical battle and now confronted with enormous medical bills/living expenses. They are moving into a home near me to accommodate his ambulatory requirements and could use our help financially. Please see her Facebook page or "go fund me" site if you are able to give back to a patriot who has given so much to others for so many years.

I too was recently in Washington, DC and had the opportunity to have dinner with SGM Chuck Albertson, former RSM, and COL Tegtmeier, former RCO as they are currently serving as the respective Executive Officers to the Sergeant Major of the Army and the Chairman, Joint Chief of Staff. Duty in the Pentagon for them is very much different than their many years of combat carrying a rifle to say the least. They are fine examples of the many senior leaders our Regiment produces to our Army. I men-

them all (as current/former STB and 1/75 leaders) I think the RSTB might be giving us a run for our money as the "leadership factory" for our Regiment and Army...no pun intended for our fellow battalions.

Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays to all!

RLTW

V/R,

Ranger Merritt



3rd BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—TONY MAYNE

Change of Responsibility: CSM Christopher Clapin relinquished responsibility of 3rd Ranger Battalion to CSM Christopher Masters during the Battalion’s Change of Responsibility ceremony this October. We wish the Clapin family well in their future endeavors and welcome back Masters family to the Battalion.



memorating the courage and sacrifice of Operation GOTHIC SERPENT’s Battle of the Black Sea.

NCO and Solider of the Year Competition: 3d Ranger Battalion alumni and supporters are encouraged to support the Battalion’s best with award recognition for the Battalion’s NCO and Solider of the Year Competition this spring. Please contact Tony Mayne at [to-ny@allantfew.org](mailto:tony@allantfew.org) if interested in providing a gift to participants and awardees. All gift submission will be presented to the command for approval before acceptance in keeping with standing Army gifting regulations. The Battalion for this event made no solicitation or request for support.



Change of Responsibility: Outgoing Battalion CSM Christopher Clapin (right) prepares to relinquish responsibility to CSM Christopher Masters (left) at the 3/75 Change of Responsibility ceremony this October.

Mogadishu Mile events: Thank you to the Army Ranger Lead The Way Fund for their leadership of the annual 5k race this October. Once the decision was made to cancel the in-person race in Columbus, Ga. due to COVID-19, the LTWF team rapidly adjusted their plan to ensure the race continued virtually.

Three Rangers Foundation increased participation to more than 700 nationwide for the Mogadishu Mile workout. This year’s event featured a challenging workout of the day (WOD) com-



Mog Mile: 3-75 Veteran MSG Lee Garcia, ret., completes the Three Rangers Foundation Mog Mile workout at Foundation Training Facility in Waverly Hall on Sat., Oct 3.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES

Elections are over, now back to our regular programming and stupid commercials, but as I submit this, we still don't have a winner. I was going to wait, but it may be next year before its finished. Veteran's Day 2020 is next week. The Tipton American Legion always has a Ceremony on the County Courthouse lawn where there a is a Veteran's Memorial and a sidewalk with Tipton County Veteran's bricks, similar to the Ranger Walk at Ft Benning. This year as the Legion Post Commander, I get to get up in front of the crowd and conduct the Ceremony. I am also going to be the speaker for the day. I will share that in the next edition.



As far as I know, A Co is Covid free for now. We do have a few who are having health issues and we need to keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Eddie Sanders posted on Facebook that he was undergoing treatments for "The Beast" as he called it. Others have shared with me but did not want it to go public yet. I have finally given up and am getting a lower partial plate so that I can once again enjoy a steak and throw Ranger Nate's in the bush. If you have talked to Ross in the last 20 years, I am sure he shared the steak story with you. And I am going in to have my right knee replaced in January. Not looking forward to that but after our vacation to Mackinac Island this September my wife said she was not going anywhere else until I did. Update on my grandson, Austan. He is done with his radiation treatments but still taking chemo pills for now and the near future. He is still in the process of getting his medical discharge and really waiting on his car and household goods to get here from Hawaii. He's been back since May. His stuff showed up in Hawaii from Germany one day after he left to come home. Now they seem to be having trouble finding a ship to send it back to the states. Austan will be participating in the Veteran's Day Ceremony.

Roy Bissey received the following email: Good Evening, I came across a write up for A Company Ranger Reunion 2019 and am looking for anyone who may have stories or pictures of my uncle Daniel Sedillo. Unfortunately, he passed away before I was born and I would like to know more about his Army service. I am a recently retired MSG from the Army. I was in the 82D before I reclassified to Psychological Operations and served in numerous USASOC positions until I retired from USAJFKSWCS May of this year. Please let me know if you have any information for me or can point me in the direction of someone who can. Thank you so much. I truly appreciate it. Respectfully, Danielle Sedillo
From Roy Barree: In early 1973 I transferred from the 2nd of 7th first cavalry division after serving my first 2 years and reenlisting for the "A" Company 75th Rangers. Danny Sedillo was my squad leader and he directed and showed me how to find the

confidence I needed to accomplish task and challenges for becoming a better person in life. My squad leader, platoon sergeant and company commander were three leaders in that unit that taught and directed me with what I needed to survive and overcome 5 years of Afghanistan and 1 year in Iraq. I served those tours as a civilian but it was in the worst locations of constant combat conditions you can imagine. Thank you SSG Danny Sedillo for giving me your "extra" I needed! Hooooaaahhh!!! This and other stories were passed on to Danielle. SSG Danny Sedillo passed away in in Decatur GA in May of 1974. Several members of A Co attended his funeral.

Everyone starts new chapters in their life at some point, sometimes planned and sometimes not so much. I retired from the volunteer fire service in December of 2019 after 30+ years. I was looking forward to kicking back and working on my skills as a wood crafter (wood butcher). All was well until June when we were discussing re-opening the Legion and we needed a new Post Commander. Thought we had a volunteer until he didn't check out as even being a Veteran. Long story short after much debate, I am now the Post Commander of American Legion Post 46 in Tipton, IN. I'll slip away into retirement later.

Jim and Jason Savell have been posting on Facebook about preparations they have been undergoing in anticipation of Waco Reunion 2021. To be held in March with the dates yet to be determined. If you missed the last one, you better not be AWOL for the next.

Not a whole lot going on, no stories coming in except the posts that Jim Savell has been leaving on Facebook. Here are a few: Super heroes like us at danger sneer. Airborne Rangers train to have no fear. But no matter how far we roam. Eventually you return to wife & home. And with a meek little voice answer "yes dear". Another story: Team Handball I was assigned to B 1/325 PIR 82nd Airborne. Was early '70s. The battalion was at Indian Town Gap, PA doing ROTC Summer Camp support. One day the Company was formed up at the athletic field. A special service...uh...I say "special service" rep gave us a talk. Seems "Team Handball" was a new sport being introduced in the Olympics. The USA didn't have "Team Handball" players. A decision was made to use the military to field a team. The military would have Company team competition. The best would be on a Battalion team for Post play. Each Post would field a team to play other Posts. From these Post teams would be selected a team to represent the USA. We broke into platoons with a "Team Handball" ball. What are the rules...uh...we didn't receive any rules...only the balls. "Team Handball" is played on a basketball-sized court & of course hard floor. *Continued on the next page*

No one told us paratroopers this. We played on a grass field with no goalie net. When we were given the ball we made our own rules...which were....there are no rules. A lot of casualties from the initial play. Eventually rules were adopted & WIA's were fewer. Grabbing & hitting was allowed & it was very rough. I had never been told that "polite society" didn't wallow in the mud like us paratroopers. Now my story. I was reassigned to A/75th Rangers at Ft Hood. The Post was having the Company level "Team Handball" championship playoffs. "Team Handball" was my middle name. I had played with the dirtiest...uh...best. I joined the team. I was put in the game & immediately grabbed a player on the other team. Two minutes penalty. Looked like a good play to me. Went back out & lasted about 5 seconds & got another penalty. Cpt Nolen realized my playing abilities & I had a courtside seat to watch the action. A/75th won the Post Championship. And one more: Basic Training...The beginning! This is in the time frame of '70s & could/probably is different now. Enlistees trickled in to a "reception station". They get immunizations, testing & uniform issue. I was a Drill Sergeant & would inherit these troops. Basic was 7 & a half weeks. We would "fill" on a Tuesday & graduate on a Saturday. Usually we would graduate on a Saturday & "fill" the next Tuesday giving time to take a breath.

On fill day all the DIs in the company would go to the reception center. We would be given a mob of 200 plus troops. They have on new boots & uniforms. All their bags etc. slung or hand carried. We would march....uh....herd them to the company area. They would be strung out like the "Bataan Death March". Some

had ROTC/JROTC/et, but most didn't know whether to "sic, fetch or stay? In the company area they were broken down into platoons. How this was done I don't remember. We went through the ranks & obese were all put in one platoon. We took turns being the "phat" man platoon. It helped them for us to adjust some things so they could compete. Now my story. When we arrived with the troops from the reception station, they had all their stuff with them. At the reception station they had contraband (drugs etc.) taken. We would open ranks & run dogs down the ranks. A speech was then given that at least once a week we would be bringing in these drug dogs. We will catch you if you are into drugs. Of course, the dogs don't alert...they are clean from reception station. Uh...hee hee...I failed to mention it was a neighbor's dog. Thanks for the stories Jim. Keep em coming.

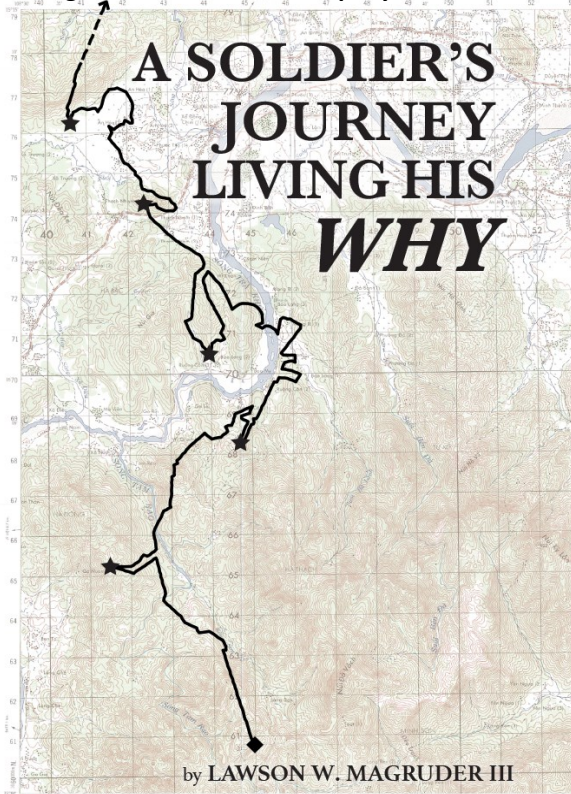
If you belong to the American Legion, you have seen in the magazine and other places about a program called "Buddy Check". If you know a Veteran and haven't heard from him for a while, call him up and say "Hey, just checking". We are losing 22 Veterans a day to suicide and we need to be addressing the issue. One way is to let everyone know we care and they matter.

Need some more stories. Sound off!!

That's about it for this edition. Everyone enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

Stan

Original Commander B Company 2nd Battalion



This is a book of stories. Part autobiography, part memoir, the book is intended also, and perhaps most importantly, to be a primer of sorts for those interested in leadership. Lieutenant General (Retired) Lawson Magruder tells us he wrote the book to pass along to his children and their children, the lessons and insights he acquired during a successful career as an Army officer and later as the co-founder of True Growth, a successful and valued leadership development practice. Readers will also find a rich menu of life lessons, many professional, but some personal as well, the product of a long and happy marriage to his "soulmate and friend," Gloria. As you read the stories in this book you will find personal triumphs, and at times personal failures. Candor and frankness, as well as humility, and a willingness to admit shortcomings show how values are developed or sometimes discovered. This becomes a central tenet of the True Growth leadership development model where participants are asked to identify their "purpose" in life. Understanding one's purpose is key to answering most of life's other questions. From time to time, the stories will include a summary of life-changing leadership lessons and events that were significant crucibles and emotional experiences. In other cases, insights, personal and professional, are there to be uncovered or discovered by the reader. Throughout, the narrative is at times serious, sober, but also often humorous and lighthearted. "A Soldier's Journey Living His Why" is an inspiring summary of life's lessons in leadership. Lawson is as authentic and real in sharing these experiences in life, some very difficult and sensitive, to others that must have left him feeling very vulnerable, to ensure that we all can learn from and feel the events as he has. You will want to read it all, to grow and develop as a leader.

2008 RHOF MEMBER



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

VII CORPS, C/58 LRP, B/75

Greetings and Salutations:

Hello again, fellow Rangers, LRRPs, and Jayhawks!

Stay safe... stay healthy...

This addition to the latest issue of Patrolling comes immediately following Veteran's Day, and we have to bid goodbye to some of our family. Unfortunately the family seems to shrink some each passing year.

For those remaining... Thank you for your service.

For Those Departed... we miss you, we raise a glass in your memory, and will join you at the appropriate time.

TAPS

RICHARD STUTSMAN

Ranger Richard Stutsman passed away after a long battle with Parkinson's, and other illnesses. He had underlying issues with Agent Orange and Diabetes. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's and Lewy Body Dementia a few years back, and has been dealing



with various issues stemming from that diagnosis ever since.

He has been taken care of at home (primarily), by his wife, Janette, and his daughter Rebekah (in Miltonvale, Kansas).

Richard retired to the Miltonvale area following his retirement from the Army after 20 years of service, and became a Deputy Sheriff with the Cloud County Sheriff's Department, from which he also recently retired.

Following some earlier trials with various challenges related to all his medical issues, Richard appeared to be "back on track", but experienced some difficulties, and wound up in the hospital again. He gradually was able to accommodate what he needed to,

and was returned to the rehab facility to continue his recovery.

His family was unable to visit him because of the coronavirus restrictions placed on the facilities, but they were able to have virtual visits. He experienced another "setback", returned to the hospital, and it looked as if he would be returning to the rehab facility, when he took yet another turn for the worse.

In accordance with his last wishes, I will be arranging for half of Ranger Stutsman's ashes to be released during a parachute jump.

Rest Easy, Ranger... We'll see you in the tall grass...



BONNIE MOSER (MIKE MOSER'S WIFE).

Mike and his girls busted Bonnie out of the assisted living home in July, where she had been dealing with her MS and other issues. She has been much happier spending her remaining time at home with Mike and the family. Bonnie passed away peacefully this past week.

Bonnie and Kids-1970's Photo

Continued next page

Mike's message: From our Family to yours. We wanted to thank everyone for the outpouring of Love And Prayers. The hundreds of prayers and mountains of love we have received has helped support us through Bonnie's passing. God has truly Blessed this family. Hold close those you love and cherish each day.

It's a little hard to see but there is an Eagle in the top left of the tree in our yard. I have never seen them this close to our house. This was Bonnie's Walnut tree. This Eagle appeared the day after Bonnie passed. Feel free to tell stories or legends about Eagles.

SICK CALL:

From Ricardo Torres (COVID-19): I'm home from Covid-19. Doctors tell me 10 days to recover strength and feel normal. I'm thinking about retail therapy and fishing along the river bank might help. I had to walk out of the hospital with Fuck You's flying as no transport available. I felt like I was doing the Mogadishu mile with that N95 mask on. Great feel breathing clean air again. I'm getting stronger each day. Thank You all who check on me. Today I felt strong enough to fill the old Toyota truck with split firewood and load it on the front porch. I did have problems breathing but forcing the lungs to work helped me resolve the problems I currently face.

Bottom line up front, I'm doing Great.

GENERAL SICK CALL:

The following criminals have all been enduring various forms of medical treatment for assorted ailments. All are still with us as of this writing, and most as as nasty and ornery as ever:

Ranger Voyles. Ranger Bill Walter. Ranger Tony Harley (done recovering from the knee thing?). Ranger Greg Phillips. Ranger Leo Starkey (recently seen sporting an eye patch).

HEARD FROM: (partial and incomplete list)	Jim Reynolds	
Alfredo Moncayo Sr.	Joe Touchon	
Anthony Lorren Roberts	John DeCosta	
Bert Smith	John Henry Voyles	
Beth Ryan-Checking in for my dad -Bill Ryan.	John Toney	
Bill Waterhouse	Jose Zapien	
Bob Kraus	Judy Faught (wife Clarence Faught - RIP)	
Chris Maxfield	Kenneth Cates	
Chuck Straehl	Kirk Gibson	
Cindy Reams (wife Chuck Reams -RIP)	Leo B Starkey	
Dennis Lucas	Lynn Thompson	
Dick Foster	Michael Henry Moser	
Donald Bruce	Neil A. Lofgren	
Ed White	Ricardo Torres	
Edward White	Richard R. Cole	
Gary Scott	Robert Lee Smith	
Gene Kauffman	Sam Wentzel	
Greg Phillips	Stan Harrell	Until next time...
Howard Stokes	Stephen Foote Sr.	Respectfully,
James Parker	Tim Grzelka	Marc L. Thompson
Jeff Rice	Tom Forde	Unit Director
Jim Broyles	Tommy R. Wright	
	Tony Harley	

Continued next page

Mi LRRP Hermanos:

Another Airborne LRRP reunion has passed successfully and we owe all that to those who braved travel from faraway places to challenge the false notion that our beloved country was succumbing to the Wuhan China plague. Many of us believe it's an



Ssg English Grave

updated version of long banned Germ Warfare perpetrated by nefarious forces (domestic as well as foreign) aiming to bring us and our country down. Proudly, and in the LRRP and Ranger tradition, we defied the sheep.

Those "Sheep Dogs" leading the way are CSM David Clark, Distinguished Special Forces member and LRRP, for whom the Special Forces NCO Academy is named, Kirk Gibson (w/ wife Sally), Bill Mathiak (w/ wife Donna), Bob Vanasse (w/ wife Carol), Rick Hathaway (w/ wife Melissa), Toby Ivey (w/ w2b Katherine), Sam Storey, Joe Chetwynd, Tom Lake, Joe Touchon, Steve Lengel, John Fisher, and me. AIRBORNE!

We met in Fayetteville, NC and was hoping there would be some Veteran recognitions and events on post or in town. As "The sheep of Covid" would have it, there were no celebrations. On top of that were the lousy accommodations we experienced at the Comfort Inn Suites on 1922 Skibo Rd, and I name that hotel purposely. Not one person had much good to say about the place, except perhaps for the hotel staff. Of course Covid got the blame, but we learned decades ago that excuses only satisfy those who make them. AIRBORNE, Hermanos!

But we made the best of a bad situation. We (upper left photo: I-r Hathaway, Lengel, Chetwynd, Gibson, Foster, Touchon) paid homage to our sole Medal of Honor recipient SSG Glenn English, KIA Vietnam serving with 173rd Airborne "The Herd"! Undaunted by rain and confusing directions, we somberly toasted Glenn at his final resting place in the Ft Bragg National Cemetery.

The rest of the less significant time was spent congregating with Brothers and Family over good food and drinking and reminiscing over recollections (lies) of good times when we were young; and they ain't over! The highlight of these get-togethers was Dave Clarks revelations of some of the stuff that went on in

company about which we were unaware and had made us the special group that opened the door to ALL LRRP units and Ranger companies and battalions.



Ssg English (MOH) Headstone

Finally, I want to thank all of the above who went out of their way to make this reunion another one to be remembered. Touchon (Texas), Mathiak (Michigan), Vanasse and Storey (Tennessee), Chetwynd, Hathaway, Gibson, and Fisher (Upper East/New England), Lake (Kaintuck), and Ivey, Lengel and Foster (South). We're looking forward to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association meeting next year. If not, maybe at Sam Storey's Grassy Mountain abode. Who knows?

Jayhawk Runion

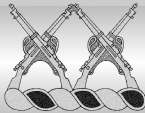
Tee-Shirt



To all of you great guys that make this Association great, thank you, stay in touch, and try to make the next one.

Pfc (E-10) Foster, El Presidente y El Crankero Patrol #7

Adios mi Hermanos.



C/75 - E/20 LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOE HAYES

Tom Bragg called the middle of October. Bob Stein had called him to tell Tom that Mike McDonald had suffered a stroke. Tom, being a chaplain asked to keep Mike in our prayers and that, I am sure, we will do.

After the last issue of *Patrolling* came out, I received an email from Michael Rubinstein. I did not know Michael in Vietnam. He introduced himself as Michael Rubinstein (Shortround), and said that he lost touch with Conrad Hansen a long time ago. Well – I sent a letter off to a Conrad Hansen in Wallkill, New York the beginning of October, hoping to get the right one. Today is October 23rd and I guess I got the right Conrad Hansen - I don't know why I thought otherwise - I'm sure that God only made one Conrad Hansen. His son in law Jason Fitzsimmons sent an e-mail to say that His father in law was now living with him. I called the number he sent and Jason answered the phone and was happy for the call. After asking me to be patient when talking to Conrad because of the Parkinson's, I assured him that I would and he turned the phone over to Pappy. We had a really good conversation for about ten or so minutes. I asked him if he'd like to hear from Michael Rubinstein and Conrad answered that he would like to hear from Shortround. So I got hold of Michael and I trust that the two will have a good reunion after fifty years. It's a beautiful thing!

I suppose that this issue could be called the Veteran's Day issue. On this November 11th we, each in our way, will be honoring and remembering our own; those who we knew long ago – some long gone - as well as those, who by the hand of Providence, are still with us, and whose friendship we still can enjoy. One thing that I have done the past twelve years is to re-read Rocky Stones article printed in the fall 2008 issue of *Patrolling*. It is his memory of the Battle of Dac To, Hill 875, in November of 1967. When I first read the article, what has stuck in my mind ever since, and especially this time of year, is when Rocky said that he'd never be able to eat turkey again. Thanksgiving is, and probably always will be for me, a happy time. After reading his article the first time, it left me with a different perspective of the holiday. Reading it again has become part of my holiday things to do. There's a famous photo, one of many taken at that battle, of a helmeted soldier, his right arm wrapped around a tree –



head against the trunk looking at the ground, with a weapon in his left hand, arm by his side. You probably know the one. I was told a long time ago that soldier was Rocky Stone. I didn't get to Vietnam until 1971. Sixty seven, eight, and nine were very devastating years for the Vietnam Vet as you who were there in those years very well know. I didn't know Rocky well. Jimmy Purdue told me a little about him. I e-mailed Rocky once and got a nice reply. I thanked him for his article and told him how much of impression it had made on me. Rock passed away in 2014. I hope that he is in peace.

Not too long after Rock's article I had the idea of having an E/20 – C/75 KIA memorial patch



made with all the names of our KIA's on it. I didn't quite know how to go about it, and the idea never came to fruition. In 2017 after reading Bob Stein's excellent book, *Ghost Warriors*, I got motivated once again to try to come up with something. The names of our KIA's were there in the back of the book. I'd wanted to have something with their names on it (a patch or a poster...something) to hang on my wall for me to look at and, for a moment to stop and think about the guys

who went before me; who paid the ultimate price, to make my time in Vietnam a little easier. There are thirty-one names. Only two I knew and those two, not that well. So, the idea that I had was to pattern a picture poster after a 1988 Lee Teter painting called *Reflections*. You have probably seen it: A businessman is leaning against the Vietnam Wall Memorial – head down in sorrow with the fallen soldiers looking back at him out of the wall. It is really a remarkable painting. I wanted that kind of effect. I'm not an artist. I had my photos and I learned how to use photo shop. It took a while to learn and I haven't used it since. So, the result, after a few weeks, was a composite of about eight pictures. I wanted the slicks coming in to take the team out to mission. I wanted a medivac chopper flying out with the KIA, away and up toward the clouds. The fallen team had to be there looking back at us like in Teter's painting. And I wanted a sixship flyover of Hueys to honor the fallen. Over all of that was to be our unit patches, and finally the names of our fallen; thirty-one names – from Maj. David Bruce Tucker who died October 1 1964, to Jimmy Lyn Dunagan who was killed on January 21, 1972.

Continued on the next page

The result is what you see in the photo of the poster.



member all the names, but I think I got most of them. If I'm wrong please correct me. Top left to right; Lazar K. Lazarov III,

Angel (I think was his first name. I can't remember his last), and Ron Fortier. Bottom left to right; I don't know, Kevin Penman, and Neal Clark. I am thinking that Angel was from Puerto Rico and, if my memory serves me correctly, he went back to San Juan on leave and never came back to Nam. Ironically he was murdered in his hometown.

I had made six prints, which I gave away at the last reunion. So, to any E/20-C/75th guy who wants a print of the poster, I will have to send you the PDF disc because the file is too big to attach to an email. Just get me your address and I will send you one – no charge. Then you can take it to a print shop and get the size you want. It looks good in a frame.

And, finally I am thinking as I usually do at this time of year: No matter how sad the memories at times may be, it truly is good to remember. There needs to be a sign off here. I could sign off like Laz – "Stay sharp, stay focused" - Or I could sign off as Del Ayers would – "Be well." I am getting too old to stay sharp and

focused, so...Be Well!

See you in February

Joe Hayes

To say just a word about the fallen team in the poster: It is a picture of Laz's team 2-6. I enclose a photo that I took of the team in June (I think) of 1971 in An Khe, at the north end of the airstrip, getting ready to go out. I asked Laz about that mission. He didn't remember much except that it was his last mission. After that I think that he started working Intel. He didn't re-

D/151st/LRP/LRS

Unit Director Bob McIntire

I concede that title to not be original, but rather than come up with something equally as good would not be worth the effort. This one fits so well, if it were not so, so many people would not have already used it. I find it difficult to think of how I actually felt 51 plus years ago. Other more current situations have taken precedence. Can you even wrap your head around this 2020 election? I can't speak of it here. It's too mind-boggling!

When I wrote last, the Annie Fanny Huey was loaded with team 2-1, she is all warmed up and is in a line with two other slicks ready to deliver other teams to jungle rendezvous with fate. I don't think about the other teams, my brain is filled with 2-1. Is my acetate-covered map of our objective accurate? Do I have everything I will need to accomplish my part of this operation? Is team 2-1 firing on all eight cylinders (or in our case all six)? Duke is our Kit Carson Scout and we rely a lot on him. He actually has more at stake than the rest of us because his capture is certain to be a slow and painful end along with his families more than likely. I need to be on the same wavelength with the team leader. We have been on this route before and 2-1 has always well together, I shouldn't waste my effort thinking about that, but I can't help it.

I am watching the terrain go by below, what a beautiful country. I wish this flight could go on forever, but alas it will only last a few minutes. Our helicopter crew is experts and I don't really think about them. The pilot are no more than the backs of helmets, the crew chief is out of my field of view and the door gunner is intently observing the view much the same as I am. The difference in him and I is he has a return ticket and my re-



turn ticket has not been issued yet.

Our pilots have given us an exciting ride. Maybe for our benefit, but it's more likely for their own enjoyment. If they didn't get a real high from doing this, they wouldn't be doing it. I have to stop and realize that this all is a real high for me too. But all too soon we are at tree top level and the ballgames are ready to start. Whether 2-1 is the first second or third team on the ground is of little concern.

Our pilots will let us know with a signal when we are close. I look at the rest of the team just to make sure they have gotten the signal to. The atmosphere is electric with anticipation. I am anxious to be on the ground. A question pops into my head, will the L.Z. have six-foot-high grass when we jump off the skid or will it have three-foot-deep holes to fall in. This is even more important if you are carrying an 85-pound ruck on your back. Will I injure my back or break my leg



these things are real and could cause a cancellation or at least a delay in the activities. As luck would have it we are all ok and running for the wood line, or jungles edge. We have to be a funny sight running as hard as we can with a huge weight on our backs. We are sprinting for the safety of concealment and cover if all hell breaks loose.

The first leg of the operation is behind us so to speak. We are all together and in the safety of the vegetation. We are trying to catch our breath and settle down

as quickly and silently as possible. Now we are using all of our senses to get as much information about this area as we can.

Continued on the next page

We are smelling the air for fires, for food, for any odor foreign to the jungle any odor that might mean Charley is near. We are listening. I hold my breath so it does not mask another sound that could be important. Do I hear voices, footsteps, running clanging, anything that might signal an interruption to the normal jungle. The animal sounds are gone because of the noise created by our slicks, but within a few minutes of their departure the animals have start their racket again, but are there any underlying sound that could be significant? We pull on our sixth sense. It is not a flight or fright thing but we all have it. It may make us wait an extra 10 minutes before easing out of our "laying dog" still/silence. We may lie dog for a few minutes or several minutes. If we have unnormal activity we may start preparing for a fight right here. If all is good, we will, at the team leader's signal move slowly and quietly, deeper into the jungle.

The length of the teams move may be a few feet or maybe several yards depending on a thousand different things. If we have been inserted close to our objective we may wait while the team leader and maybe the point man move forward to find a good ambush sight. If we have some distance to go before reaching our objective we may stand up and start moving in that direction. If we have been inserted late in the afternoon we may find a good defendable location to set up for the night and move on mid-

morning. If inserted midmorning we will probably try to at least get close to our objective and try to find an ambush sight that give us as much advantage as possible. All these determinations are made by the team leader and maybe with input by the team members. I stay as close to the team leader as possible with the radio so I can get good, fast and accurate information. I am also in close contact with our aloft pilot (radio relay) with Atterbury East T.O.C. I must also remain vigilant to our location and keep aloft aware of our movements and activity. If the team leader decides we need artillery or an air strike, or if we are getting ready to instigate a "contact" fire fight I will be the second to know if time permits. If time does not permit, I should know and should be already on the radio with aloft because I know what the team leader wants before he can put it into words. There is no room for error here and time is of the essence. I must instantly let the team leader know exactly what is happening as far as what is going on with aloft, with T.O.C. and our cobras. These things all come into play in the team leader's decision making. Our lives depend on it.

Ok, getting back to what is actually going on, we were close to our objective and have found a reasonable defendable location to set up our ambush. The team leader has set up our individual

locations to best take advantage of our terrain in conjunction with the objective. We must now unpack. The belt ammunition is handed down the line to our M-60 man. He is the greatest firepower we have and should be the first man ready. Next on my part I put up the PRC 25 (prick 25) antenna that I keep hidden in my ruck while moving. I don't know how much truth there is to it but I have been told that Charley likes to shoot at radio operators to stop communications. I keep it hidden as much as I can, but that limits the distance of my transmission. I must explain that I was always a R.T.O. and although each team member can do the other team members job I am not going to get into what the other members are up to at this point, it's all I can do to remember what I was doing. My claymore mines are the next priority for me. I direct them either for the best destructive option or to cover an under protected area. The one

sure thing is for me to be able to see them (I carry two).

It has been said that Charley likes to sneak in and turn them around. The back blast from one of these is mind-boggling, Getting hit with 700 plus double buckshot size steel ball bearings does not appeal to me. Ok, now I make my nest where I will exist for the next maybe five days and nights.

My ruck is placed on its bottom, so as to make something to lean against, with access to both sides and



Finn in his nest

the top opening. I take out my poncho liner to lie on and lean back against. I get out a paperback book at some point and lay out some M-16 magazines. I check once more with aloft and update the situation with the team leader who is next to me in a similar nest. There are several other things that I am doing that I don't think of in order right now. My map is out and I compare it with the team leader's map and I write down our coordinates and the coordinates of the trail we plan the enemy to transverse. I log the azimuth of that same trail if need to direct the cobras (our snakes). I register in my mind where each team member is and the time. I get out a LURP ration and my canteen cup to boil water. If I plan on eating this must be done before evening, as a flame, even a small one is highly visible at night or even at dusk. I look again at the trail so I will remember exactly what I am looking at even after dark when I won't be able to see my hand in front of my face. The jungle is under a triple canopy. Is unexplainably dark and I want to know, if I see a light or hear a sound, exactly where it is coming from. Cravens is reading a book, Dixon is going over his maps, Peace is dry shaving and Jones is applying some camo stick, Duke is intently observing the trail and MacDonald is getting something out of his ruck.

Continued on the next page

We will spend the night in one-hour watches. Everyone gets a turn and some get two. We have a stick to pass around. Whoever is on watch will have the stick and it will be used to wake a guy up that is snoring. The first wake up is a light tap; the second is a harder swat and so on. The ones not on watch are trying to sleep. This is a good night; it isn't raining. Rain makes listening and watching impossible, plus you are cold and wet. Most guys don't use a poncho as they make noise and shine brightly if hit with a light or the flash from lightning, in other word rain just adds to the pucker factor. Morning is very slow coming, but usually signals the end of the rain. Aloft will sometime leave during bad weather but he will always let me know that he is doing that. The instant he gets back up he is checking on all of his teams. I give him a sit-rep and settle in for another day. If we are lucky, we will have some activity. Five days can be an unbelievably long time to lie in one spot. Day two is the same as day one and days three, and four are a ditto. The fifth-day maybe a pick-up by Annie Fanny. That is always something to look forward to.

I had hoped to get us into and out of a contact during this installment, but time and space are against me. Next installment I promise there will be blood (not any 2-1 blood). I have (happily) some other guys that have stories to tell so next

time may be a by installment to be picked up at the installment after next. I will look for some pictures to go with this but pictures in the field are as scarce as hen's teeth. Until next time, wear your mask and keep your distance and most of all stay heathy and happy. This is RTO 2-1 out.



Another Insertion, Another Day

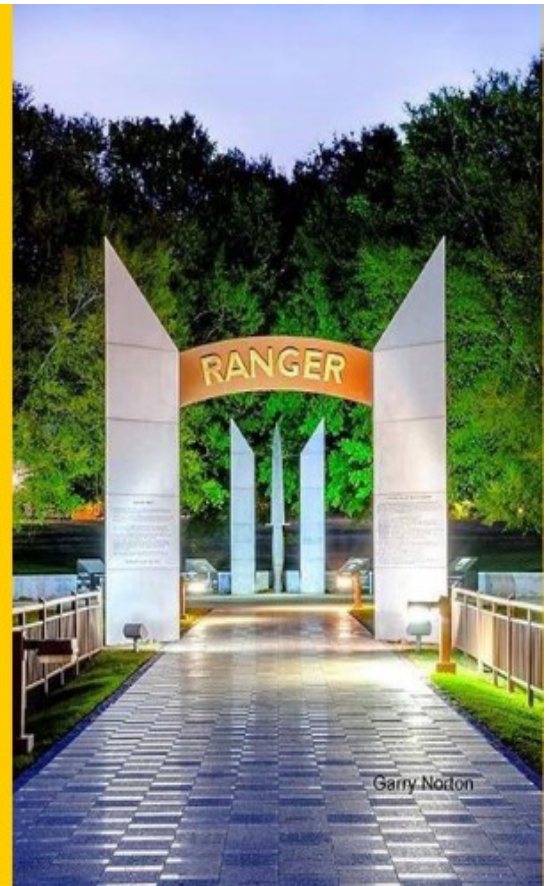
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Garry Notlon



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROBERT HERNANDEZ

I think that we are all ready to close the chapter on 2020 and welcome the New Year and all its possibilities. Hopefully the anticipated vaccine will clear the way to opening up the country and get us back to a little more normalcies in our lives.

Branson Rally - As of now the new dates for the 2021 LRRP Rally in Branson, Missouri are June 9th-13th, 2021. The three hotels taking reservations for this event are the Spinning Wheel, the Twelve Oaks and the Dutton Inn. I would suggest that you make your reservations as soon as possible because we are expecting a huge turnout after the lock down for the Covid virus. The phone numbers to make your reservations are:

Spinning Wheel 800-215-7746

Twelve Oaks Inn 800-336-7340

Dutton Inn 417-332-2772

E50/E75 Reunion -The E company unit reunion in Mobile, Alabama is still on track for October and plans are just about complete. We will post the dates and more information after the first of the year. I would like you to encourage your family and friends to attend this event. It is going to be a great reunion.

I would like to thank all those that purchased the latest Tess t-shirts especially designed for the Branson Rally. Tess made a \$200 donation to the unit fund from the profits and is busy working on a new design for the Mobile reunion. Tess has also designed new baseball hats with the new logo and you can purchase them for \$30 each plus shipping. The hats are good quality, made in America and embroidered with the new logo. I have a dozen black and a dozen tan ready for sale.

To order make checks payable to:

Bob Hernandez
4424 Rock Island Dr
Antioch, CA 94509

Lest WE Forget-
Terry Leishman
passed away on
October 23, 2020
and Dennis Lastine
and I represented E
company in a final
salute to a great
warrior and a great

friend. The Leishman family requested that in lieu of flowers we make a donation to the unit fund. Some of the money collected



will be used to buy Terry a brick at the Ranger Memorial in Fort Benning, Georgia.

Finally I would like to share a story with you from our unit Chaplin Dave "Stoney" Stone:

The Christmas Story -"Once upon a time, in a galaxy far, far away..." Whoa! Whoa! Wait a minute. That is how a fictional, make believe story begins. The story of Christmas is a real true store-so, let us start all over.

Imagine your name is Gabriel and you are one of the many heavenly hosts with God Almighty. God calls you to his heavenly Throne in heaven and says to you, "Gabriel, I have a mission for you." So God sends you, the angel Gabriel, to a virgin who lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee.

Her name is Mary and she is engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. You come to her and say, "Greetings! The lord has blessed you and is with you."

But Mary is very confused by what you, the angel Gabriel, has said. Mary wonders, " What does this mean?" Then you say, "Don't be afraid, Mary, because God is pleased with you. Listen! You will become with child and will give birth to a son whom you will name, Jesus. He will be great and people will call him the son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of King David, his ancestor. He will rule over the people of Jacob forever. His kingdom will never end.

Mary says to you, "How will this happen? I am a virgin!" You tell Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the most Most High will cover you. The baby will be holy. He will be called the Son of God." Mary replies, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." Mission accomplished, Gabriel! Now...let me tell you the "rest of the story".

Now Mary must tell Joseph (her future husband) about Gabriel's news to her and what was going to happen. While Joseph, who is a good man, is turning the matter over in his mind, an angel of the Lord appears to him in a dream and says, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name, Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Joseph believed and obeyed.

All this happened to fulfill what the lord had said through the prophet-"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel (God with us)"- Isaiah 7:14.

About that time, Emperor Caesar Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed, so Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea.



Bethlehem had been King David's hometown and Joseph was from David's family. Mary was very pregnant when she and Joseph left for Bethlehem.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, they cannot find any place to stay. However, an innkeeper allows them to stay in his stable (barn) where Jesus is soon born and laid on a bed of hay in a manger/ cattle feeding trough, because there was no room for them in the inn.

At this time, there were shepherds nearby living out in the fields, keeping guard over their flocks. An angel appeared to them, followed by a fast, heavenly army praising God and proclaiming the "Good News of Jesus' birth in the town of David.

When the angels left, the shepherds hurried off and located Mary and Joseph with the baby, Jesus, lying in a manger. When they saw him, they related all had been told about this child. All who heard what the shepherds said were astonished. But Mary treasured up all these words, pondering in her heart what they might mean. So, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything was just as they had been told. Thus, Jesus' birth is the end of the story. But wait... what about the Magi? You know, the "Wisemen?"

After Jesus' birth (months to 2 years), Magi from the east come to Jerusalem. They ask, "Where is the child who was been born to be king of the Jews? We saw His parents. They bow before Jesus and worship Him. Then they open their treasures and give Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Yes, the Magi are a very important part of the Christmas Story. No doubt they came bearing extremely expensive gifts-out of love.

As I get older, I have come to realize that The Christmas Story is in itself-a gift. This story or "testimony" of the birth of Jesus is one of many testimonials of his life- and it only gets better! Yes, God gave the most valuable gift of all, out of His great love (John 3:16)- His one and only Son, Jesus! Please use every opportunity you have with others, to share this gift by your telling or reading the Christmas Story. And that my friend is the gift that just keeps on giving and- the rest of the story!

As the holiday season approaches, my family and I would like to send you our warmest wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a Merry Christmas.

Bob Hernandez

E50/75 Rangers

RLTW

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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN MCGEE

Well where do we start? Attempting to write an article for publication in *Patrolling in the Year of Our Lord 2020* has been incredibly challenging to say the least. A silent enemy from a foreign land has brought the most powerful nation in the world to an utter standstill. How many events nationwide have been cancelled? Let's see, no romantic dinners at fine restaurants for Valentine's Day, no placing flags at the National Cemeteries on Memorial Day, no fireworks displays on July Fourth, No Trick or Treating on Halloween, No parades or celebration on Veterans Day, and now some places want to cancel or at least limit celebrating Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's eve.



had a beautiful memorial key chain made for our unit. Mona started mailing out these key chains to the addresses we had for members on our unit roster. After discussions with Mona since she lives on the Big Island that it would be economically more feasible if we mailed out the key chains from here in the mainland. I began the process of trying to ensure that we had up to date addresses on the mailing list by making phone calls to the numbers listed on the unit roster. As to date I have placed 62 calls to the various numbers and have only been successful verifying 4 numbers. Most of the time the number has been changed or is no longer in service. We can't be sure what that means. Is the



How many reunions were cancelled? Every year as we Vietnam Veterans get older these reunions become more and more important. The 75th Ranger Regiment Association has announced the dates of the 2021 Ranger Rendezvous and I hope to high heaven they do not have to cancel the event. Keeping that in mind, the focus of this article will be

address still good and they have changed numbers, have they moved, or heaven forbid are they deceased? So, as you read this article if you have moved, changed phone numbers and not notified Bill Mrkvica so that he can update the roster please do so. You can send me the any change and I will get to Bill. My e-mail address is irishlrrp@tamapabay.rr.com.



trying to stay in touch with your fellow comrades. Being unit director, I sometimes have the unfortunate duty to report the loss of one of our brothers. Sadly, sometimes that death notification is the first time we have heard any information about that veteran since he returned from Vietnam. You cannot blame anyone. We all have lived busy lives and keeping in touch with your team members was probably not high on the list of priorities as we were busy raising our families and working in our careers. This situation has become very clear to me in recent months. I shall explain.

Two years ago at the 2019 Ranger Rendezvous the wives of our unit better known as The RANGELS decided to do something special for the members of our unit. Ms. Mona Gurrobat (Lovingly Known as Mona from Kona) and the rest of the ladies

I am enclosing a picture of the key chain the ladies had made. If you have not received one, please e-mail me or anyone in our unit and have them notify me, so that I can send you your key chain. We have all been through a lot this year and the past 50 years since returning from Vietnam. Please try your best to keep in touch with your fellow LRRPS.

Lastly this has been a very trying year for all of us. Having lockdowns, cancellations of vacations and reunion have added to everyone's frustration. The only thing I can say is that we all stay strong and drive on. Hopefully better days are on the Horizon.

John McGee



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



I am writing this on Election Day but I promise I will avoid politics. I am making an assumption, a dangerous thing to do, but this assumption is not something I expect controversy over. My assumption is that the majority of our members in the RRA and more specifically, the E/51 LRRP-G Company Ranger Association are supportive of military associations and the military in general. Since we were in the Army during the draft years, some of us were told we would be soldiers while others volunteered. Since the draft ended in 1973, the youth of today has never experienced the compulsive service that took place in our generation.

Generations before ours experienced a much different military world that was often compulsory and for a longer period of time. I will use my father-in-law, Charlie DiMaria, as an example. The son of Italian immigrants, Charlie was born in 1917 in a small town outside of Buffalo, NY. Charlie lived to be 100 and 6 months and was mentally sharp as a tack until the day he died. With an 8th grade education, Charlie left school to work and help provide for his large family. His experience with the Army began April 10, 1941 when he was drafted and inducted well before we entered WWII. Charlie was trained as an anti-aircraft gunner, which initially was with .50 caliber machine guns, later evolved into quad .50's and later 40mm Bofors.

On December 7th, 1941, Charlie was in his AAA Battery office signing out to go on leave after 9 months of training. His unit was shipped out a couple of days later to Boston where they were assigned on roof tops of buildings with their .50's waiting for the impending air raids from Germany. Some months later, his unit shipped out from New York to parts unknown. After time at sea, Charlie told me that their commander told his unit they would be landing in Africa in 2 days. Charlie told me the only thing he knew about in Africa was lions and tigers and snakes. He said that the first he saw of Africa when they landed in Casablanca, Morocco was a large, red Coca-Cola sign.

His travels took him to Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium and Germany. His last significant mission took his unit attached to Third Army on the hard run with Patton to relieve the 101st at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. Charlie never went anywhere that he didn't wear his "PATTON'S 3RD ARMY" ball cap and he got a lot of free meals wearing that hat. He told me he witnessed Patton's famous pissing in the Rhine River. He never complained about serving and just saw it as a chapter in his life. He told me that his unit had it better than the infantry



because they had trucks to haul their guns and didn't have to walk much. He said, when they were sleeping in the field, he slept under his truck for protection. Charlie left for home in October 1945 after 4 ½ years in the Army and just short of 4 years overseas.

I have never joined the VFW or American Legion. I enjoyed my 3 years in the Army and grew up a great deal during that chapter of my life. Being retired and unincumbered by work, my bride and I feel fortunate to have the freedom and means to take trips around the country or to other countries as well. I will never see the places in North Africa or Europe in the same way my father-in-law did, but I probably enjoy it far more than did Charlie. Keeping up with old friends from the Army has been an important and enjoyable time for me and Ranger reunions provide a means for making those contacts easier.

The unusual issues of 2020 have curtailed travel, visits and a lot of social functions for all of us. Some have been impacted directly by the virus but for many of us, it has simply been a major inconvenience to our normal way of life. The last travel my wife and I had that was not impacted by the virus was to New Orleans to see the WWII Museum. A part of that trip took us on a quick visit to see an Army buddy in New Iberia, Louisiana. Grady Thibodeaux as you may imagine, is a certified, -carrying coon-ass Cajun. After AIT, the NCO Academy, Jump School and Ranger School together we were not just alphabetically close but brothers as well. Grady ended up in with Lima Rangers while I was with Golf Company. After Vietnam, when I reported into Alpha Company Rangers at Ft. Hood, Grady was the first person I ran into and it was old home week once again. Grady has had some real challenges in 2020 aside from COVID-19. It seems that every hurricane that has come through the Gulf of Mexico this year has landed in his back yard. Grady has gotten really good at tying down everything on his property every couple of weeks. He says he has enough firewood to last him a lifetime. Some of us have had it easier than others.

I don't know how many of our guys and their families have been impacted by the forest fires, floods of other aggravating issues of life, but we all seem to put them in perspective and move on with life. Take the opportunity to reach out to your Army buddies just to say hello and check in to see how they are doing or what they may be facing. Chances are, you will be glad you did and will feel better after making the call. Life is short and don't let some old virus stop you from enjoying each day.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—BENNIE GENTRY

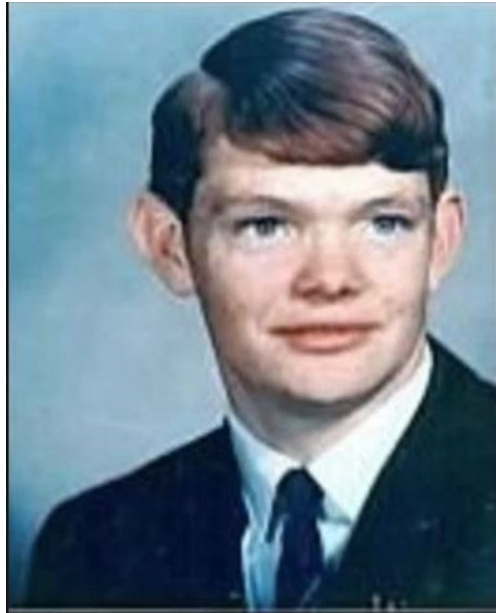


Pete Dencker-Writer

H Company Brothers, I would like to approach my entry in this edition a bit differently and dedicate both parts (memorial and mission) to Omer Carson. Omer was with H Company for just under a year but during that year had achieved so much as a leader and impressed so many with his friendship. I didn't arrive at H Company until a week after this mission but became aware of the impact he had on his H Company Brothers from the number of responses I received from those that knew him – some who had been on previous missions with him - but weren't with him on his last mission. I was not able to get or find any input from members of Team 52 but did get an account of what happened on the ground from remembrances from members of the Blues, Ken White who had written in the Saber about the contact based on information from the Blues and other pilots that supported the mission, and primarily from the Blue Plt Leader then Lt Mike Nardotti who was with Omer when they both were wounded. Many have asked why.....why was Omer in the field in what was expected to be a "hot" AO with only nine days left on his tour. Hopefully, this article will help create a better understanding of what happened on December 6th and why Omer was still in the field.

Omer was born on December 21st, 1951. He was the third child in a family of five. He grew up on a small farm in the Baptist community of Stillwater in Wolfe County, Kentucky. He learned about hard work early in life, helping to tend crops and cattle on the family farm. Omer was happy, good-natured and loved to hunt and fish.

Omer attended a one-room school, which he walked to and from each day. He and his brother would be the first to school in the wintertime. They would build fires in an old potbelly stove so that the school would be warm by the time everyone else arrived. Omer was the Grand Champion marble player at the Baptist Community School,



Omer's High School Photo

"hero" status among all of the school's eight grades. He was well known for always yelling "Feel Goody" after any paddling he received in school.

Omer was my best friend, companion and buddy. He was my little brother. We did a lot of fun things together when we were growing up. We broke dad's cattle to ride, we took mom's refrigerator door to snow ride on, and we tied a tire on old Fred's tail to use for a sled. Although Fred was an old workhorse, our scratches and bruises testify to the folly of the sled experiment.

Continued on the next page

and this aggie was always ready for any and all challenges.

Omer graduated from Wolfe County High School in June 1969. He wanted to become a doctor and had hoped to use his G.I. Bill to go to medical school.

Omer entered active duty on June 5, 1969, at Louisville, KY. He completed Basic and AIT training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and Fort Polk, Louisiana. He completed the Jungle Warfare Course at Fort Sherman, Panama and reported to duty in Vietnam on February 10, 1970. He completed the "in-country" Ranger School on March 8, as honor graduate of his class and was one of 7 in that class who finished out of a starting group of over 50.

Sister's Memories

I'd like to send out a special thanks to Omer's older sister for these great memories of their childhood.

"When Omer was in the first grade, he played hooky one day by hiding in a corn patch behind the school and wound up falling asleep. His teacher, parents and most of the community searched for him all day. Omer had awakened and mistakenly thought school was over and returned home halfway through the day. Also, while in the first grade his mischievous ways and strong, seemingly unbreakable spirit earned him

Omer is still a big influence in my life today. I still remember his words, "Sis, you can do that, all you have to do is try". Like the time he was teaching me to drive. He leaned back in the seat of his car and pretended to be asleep. About that time, I drove the car into a ditch. Omer just looked up, all cool, calm and collected, and said, "Well, give it some gas, you don't want to stay here all day".

President Roosevelt said that December 7th would live in infamy in the minds of Americans forever as the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, but for me it will forever be the day I lost my brother."

The Mission

I wanted to continue the "mission" portion of this article by highlighting Team 52 and the events of December 6th and 7th 1970.

At this point I would like to thank the H Company Brothers that responded to my request for information so, Jacob (Mack) Thomas, John Lebrun, Glen McCrary, Chuck Coffin, Doug Parkinson and Lou Bruchey – Thank you for caring about Omer and getting back to me. A special thanks to Darrell Smith and also Ken White, and George Minda, for their input. Last but not least, a special thank you to MG (Ret) Mike Nardotti, who was the Blue Platoon Leader of the 1/9th Blues that responded to Team 52's contact. (Mike and I grew up together on Long Island and were Classmates at West Point)

Omer received many awards and citations during the year and a half he was in the army: Honor Grad of his "in country" Ranger class, Combat Infantryman's Badge, 2 Silver Stars, The Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Air Medal and others. Omer's leadership ability earned him the position of Team Leader at a very young age.

Omer was the TL of Team 52 that deployed from FSB Mace on December 6th, 1970 to an AO in Long Kahn Province, an area NE of Bien Hoa. There are numerous stories of exactly what happened that day prompting numerous inquiries on my part to talk to anyone who was there and could verify with some accuracy the sequence of events. I was unable to get someone from Team 52 or H Company to provide any specific information, but I was able



Omer Carson

to spend time talking with Maj Gen (R) Mike Nardotti, at the time Lt Nardotti, was the 1/9th Blue Platoon Leader that responded to Team 52's contact. Previous to 6 December a number of other H Company Teams had worked in and around this area and had multiple contacts with enemy units, so expectations were high that this mission would provide another opportunity to engage the enemy.

The Team was inserted earlier in the day on 6 December. At some point after their insertion they heard what sounded like artillery fire NE of their position with the rounds impacting a few kilometers to their SW. As they were able to determine the firing location was relatively close - the team moved toward the sound of the guns. The Team stopped as they closed in on the position and TL Carson moved forward to recon. During this recon he encountered 2 enemy soldiers and engaged them resulting in 2 enemy KIA's. At that point Carson and the Team were engaged by a number of NVA troops and Carson and the Team moved back and consolidated into a defensive position. The contact was then called into the 3rd Brigade, and because of the history of contacts in this area, Brigade bounced the Blues to support Team 52 along with Blue

Max and other fire support. The Blues arrived on station at about 5:00 pm and could hear machine gun fire and rocket fire as they attempted to find an LZ. Due to the need to get support on the ground as quickly as possible, the expectation of heavy jungle, and having made the assumption that they would be unable to find a suitable LZ, the plan from the start was to rappel in. Due to the nature of this change, the entire Platoon was unable to respond resulting in the Blue Platoon leader Lt Nardotti and just 17 members of his Platoon reaching the ground. Nardotti explained, "A normal load would be seven troops per UH-1. With the pilot, copilot, door gunners that totaled eleven and essentially maxed out the load capacity.

Continued on next page

Whenever we rappelled in we had to go with one less troop per aircraft. The additional weight of one more troop made it much more difficult for the pilot to keep the aircraft stable while we rappelled". Specific to this insertion and due to the overabundance of tall trees in the area there was only one small - good spot that allowed the pilots to get close enough to the ground. The Blues had to rappel in one bird at a time. Once on the ground the Platoon moved to link up with Team 52.

Linking up under normal conditions is a challenge. Linking up in the middle of a contact, with light conditions now minimal and impacted by the dense tree cover, combined with the heavy jungle that existed in the area – was a significant challenge. Under Nardotti's leadership the Blues were able to connect with Team 52 without incident. At this point TL Carson had again moved forward to recon the area where the last contact took place. Now that the Blues and Team 52 had consolidated their position Lt Nardotti crawled up to make contact with TL Carson. As he arrived at Carson's location everything was quiet. After introducing himself to TL Carson – Carson said to him "this is a helluva situation – I've only got 9 days left in Country". At this moment Nardotti's RTO who had crawled up behind him, taps him on the leg with the radio handset. Nardotti turns to reach for the handset and at that moment a B-40 round goes off almost on top of them. TL Carson is hit in the head. Because he had turned to reach for the handset at the moment of impact, Nardotti avoided the same fate but took a large piece of shrapnel to the left side of his neck. Nardotti was hurting but could see that Carson was not moving and at this point began pulling Carson back toward the main position while AK fire was hitting all around them. Although Bleeding heavily from the Neck wound and then taking an AK round to his arm Lt Nardotti was able to get an unconscious Carson back to the combined defensive position where the Blues and Team 52 returned fire and called in fire support which in the interim had come on station. Because of the severity of the wounds to both Carson and Nardotti, it became necessary to get Medevac in ASAP – both were in very bad shape. It was necessary to break contact for a period of time moving all air support some distance away, allowing Medevac access to the area and enabling them to get the wounded out as quickly as possible. Because of the lack of an LZ, and because it was now dark the Medevac had to utilize a cable to first lower a litter. Carson was secured to the first litter then pulled up through the trees. The process was repeated to retrieve Nardotti. Meanwhile during this lull in contact Team 52, and the Blues were able to link up with 2/17th Blues that were now on the ground. At some point 3rd Bde had Alpha 2/8th link up with the units on the ground to provide additional support through the night. Nardotti estimates it was about 8:30 or 9:00 at night when they were medevacked.

Darrell Smith was working as the H/75th liaison to the 1st

Bde, 1st Cav at Xuan Loc when he heard that Omer was being medevacked and in bound to Xuan Loc. Smitty and the Bde S-2 ran from the TOC to the flight line and were able to accompany Omer as he was rushed on a litter to the Med station. Omer was not conscious and had significant head injuries, which (they were told) were related to an RPG, strike. Smitty indicated that Omer looked pretty bad. It was obvious that he had been hit on the top and back of his head and there appeared to be very little blood or active bleeding and he didn't remember seeing any bandages. At some point, due to the severity of their injuries both Omer and Nardotti were moved from Xuan Loc to the hospital at Long Binh.

There seems to be conflicting stories about when Omer passed away – on the ground, on the Medevac bird, at Xuan Loc, or in the Long Binh hospital - Nardotti couldn't be sure as he was in very bad shape himself due to the significant loss of blood from his wounds. He remembers someone from the hospital staff coming into his room the next morning to let him know that Omer didn't make it.

An assessment of the contact area following the contact revealed numerous blood trails but no bodies.

As if this story isn't bad enough - The question of why Omer was in the field with nine days left in Country is tough one. Cpt Frank Stewart (H Company CO at the time) visited Lt. Nardotti in the hospital soon after the contact to check on his condition and thank him for what he had done when this question was discussed. Cpt Stewart explained to Nardotti that he had received a letter from Omer's mother a week or so prior to the mission, begging him to not allow Omer back in the field because he was so short....and that she had already lost one son. Stewart was beside himself for not going with his gut and granting Omer's Mother's wish. Omer should not have been on that mission but he had convinced Cpt Stewart that it was important, actually critical that he complete his mission in Vietnam – he owed that to the members of his Team and the mission of H Company. He was so convincing that Cpt Stewart allowed him to go. I was Frank's XO for about 5-6 months and clearly remember him as a great man, a great Leader and one who really cared about the Rangers in his command. I'm sure this decision and the resulting situation haunted him the rest of his life. Omer's dedication to his Team and to H Company speaks for itself.

RIP Brother Omer

For those who've fought for it – life has a flavor the protected will never know....

RLTW



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



It has been said that the statement of "No Man Left Behind" has been a part of military lore since empires started mobilizing Armies. Does this phrase date back with military conscription for development of Armies before the Greeks and the Romans? The question is whether or not this is truth or military folk lore?

In analyzing this concept it seems that it was used more as a myth for morale as young men were taken from their villages and families. "No Man Left Behind" on the battlefield was a tool to comfort young soldiers while the old generals made their battle plans. In practice, many centuries ago it was almost impossible to bring a wounded or dead soldier back to their village and family. Battlefield casualties were often the victims of the environment of war.

The Peloponnetians, the Greeks and the Roman Armies of centuries ago did not have the field hospitals or the equipment to treat wounded. This often resulted in leaving the dead and wounded behind on the battlefield. During battle those that were killed or wounded were often left to nature - burials were often considered a luxury because of logistics. Individual soldiers would often fight to the death rather than become a POW because they would be tortured to death. Often commanders did not know if an individual was captured because of communications in early wars. Many historians fast forward their research centuries reviewing the concept "no man left behind" and find some reference to Major Roger Roberts during the time period around the American revolution. Roberts is often credited with the phrase "I will never leave a fallen comrade fall into the hands of the enemy". This statement is not part of "Roberts Rangers 28 Standing Rules". It seems odd that the term "No Man Left Behind" can not be traced. The statement is clearly considered to be part of military history but we can not say it came from an ancient Latin or Greek origin. However, the reality of the phrase can be traced to modern day warfare in Vietnam from the American Army. A reasonable review would establish that neither Roberts Rangers of the Revolutionary War nor any military conflict until the advent of the technology giving the helicopter a prominent role in warfare would allow the term "No Man Left Behind" become a reality.

I have walked battlefields throughout America from the Revolutionary War, battlefields in Europe from WWI and WWII , Civil War battlefields and the United Nations graves in Korea. I can see where men were buried and never returned to their homeland. I visited the Central Identification Lab in Barbers Point, Hawaii where they are still recovering bodies from WWII until Vietnam. My conclusion is that the earlier Wars throughout the centuries did not have the capabilities of extraction of captured ,



dead or wounded. The early limited use of the helicopter started in Korean War but the helicopter became an everyday part of the Vietnam War surgically moving men back and forth from the battlefield and also making sure "No Man Left Behind". A better understanding would be to look at the wounded from America's Vietnam War and WW I both wars produced about 300,000 battlefield casualties. One could conclude that without the helicopter in Vietnam the death rate would have been much higher because medical treatment was often a helicopter ride from the battlefield.

In Conclusion, the daily use of infantry being ferried and extracted from the war zone reinforced the philosophy that is the credo of today's modern army - "No Man Left Behind" and the phrase is credited to the Vietnam Warriors.

Note - this article applies to the Warriors , their Dead and Wounded - This does not apply to POW's.



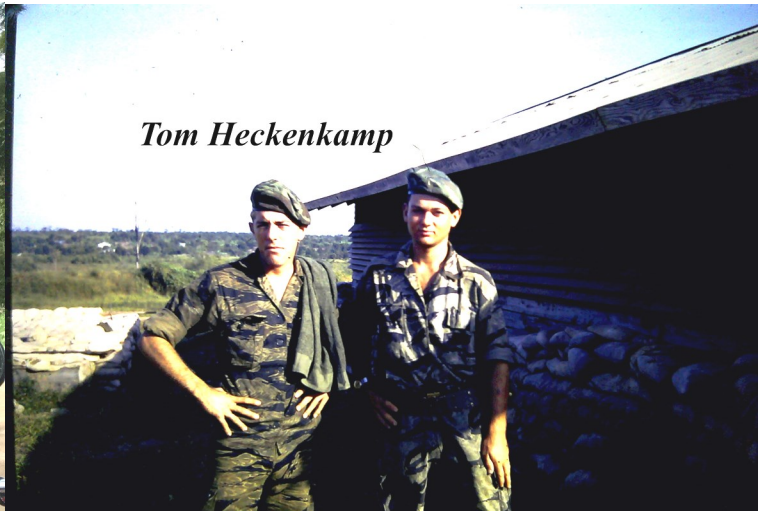
Mike and Nancy Wise



Mike Wise



Tom Heckenkamp



Tom Heckenkamp

Information, Questions and or Suggestions.

- Have had a couple questions regarding establishing starting a LRRP/Ranger Scholarship - can do but like to plant ideas for opinions at next reunion.
- New member Thomas Heckenkamp has been reunited into our ranks. A little difficult but all official
- Covid 19 is still a very serious issue in the world and pray that we have a Ranger Reunion this year.
- Have a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year
- From our photos of yesterday and today we had a gentleman telephone and ask me if we had a "Peat Moss" in our outfit - It turns out that he served in Basic and AIT with James Moss and "Peat" was a nickname from High School. I called Ranger Jim and confirmed he knew the gentleman. (a 173rd LRRP/Ranger).
- Asking all members if they received their certificate of membership and membership card. If not please contact the Unit Director via www.DaveChristian.com - use the contact link on the website.



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K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Greetings to all,

To begin: The 75th RRA reunion has been scheduled for July 18-24/2021 in Columbus, GA. The host hotel is actually across the river in Phenix City, AL. The Courtyard by Marriott located at 1400 Whitewater Ave., Phenix City, AL. 36867. The overflow hotel is the AC Hotel/Marriott in downtown Columbus located at 1225 Broadway, Columbus, GA. 31901. The reservation phone number is (1-888-236-2427) which is good for both hotels. Just tell them which one you will be staying at and be sure to let them know that it is for the 75th Ranger Regiment to get our rate. You can also go to 75thrra.org to make your reservations from the links provided. We should also have an Assoc. registration form soon. Hopefully, we will not have to cancel because of COVID-19. You should find more info elsewhere in this issue.

To the LRRP/LRP/Ranger Brothers:



Chuck Harubin

It is with sadness that I have to report the passing of our Brother Chuck Harubin on August 26th. Those of us who knew him sorely miss him. He was a great researcher for all things 4th Div. LRRP/Rangers and a writer of memorials for our Brothers who have passed. Wayne Mitsch is looking for a new researcher and or a writer who can write fitting Memorials for those who have gone on to meet our maker.

Wayne sent out an email previously about Chuck that I will include here. It says what he meant to us.



To the LRRP/LRP/Ranger Brothers:

It is with very deep pain that I have to tell you that we have lost another amazing brother. Chuck Harubin passed away on Wednesday August 26th. Those of you on Facebook may have known him as Czeslaw Charubin. Chuck was a 2nd Brigade and a K Company LRRP in the 69/70 eras. I have had communication with the family who have shared Chuck's wishes that there be "no dog and pony show" including cards, memorial or obituary. I have added Chuck's son's email address if you'd like to send him a mes-

sage. Daniel.harubin@hotmail.com

I will do my best to write a fitting Memorial for our TAPS page for Chuck, however it will be difficult. Most of you may not know but Chuck was the one behind the scenes who wrote all of the Memorials for the past 2 years. If you have read any of them, you know that he was an amazing storyteller, was able to find information that others couldn't and was able to turn it into Memorials that those families could be proud of. John & I will miss him for this reason alone. However, Chuck also never wanted any recognition for any of the articles – rather he wanted to work behind the scenes. I encourage you to read some of them – [Memorials](#).

Chuck leaves a wife Kathy, 2 daughters Debbie & Meghan and three sons Danny, Michael & Matthew plus grandchildren. His son is a SFC in the Army and one son-in-law is or was in the Marines. I do know that his son Danny followed in Chuck's footsteps because of Chuck's time in the LRRPS. I got to know Chuck again quite well over the last few years, he was as his son so eloquently stated: "He was ever the oak, strong and unyielding, and he'd be damned if he'd let someone catch him being anything but the best Chuck he could be." Chuck leaves a void that will never be filled for so many reasons.

RLTW!

Wayne

There is not a lot of news to report as most of us are still trying to stay at home as much as possible. Willie and Sue Williams did stop by for a couple of days on their tour of the West. It was great to visit with them while visiting Arches National Park and Deadhorse Point in Utah. Thanks for the memory's guys.

I hope as many as possible will be able to get together in July. Roger

Here are some pictures for a stroll down memory lane.

Pictures on next page



Navy Destroyer at Quy Yhon gun target practice from LZ Hardtimes. I didn't think they could reach that far but they had that coordinates dialed in. Sure glad they weren't firing 175mm.....



*Shooting up old ammo at the range (Camp Radcliffe)
Guess who? Sharp looking troop there.....*



I took this picture on a stormy day with the sun breaking through the clouds onto the rock pile across the road from the Company area at Camp Radcliffe.



Who is this stud? I recognize the glasses.....



Loading up for a trip to? Maybe from the range back to Company AO. I believe we were practicing rapid reaction drills. I can't help but think if we were so smart why isn't the tailgate down? It even has a step! But Wadley would probably still need a boost anyway.

RLTW! Roger



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

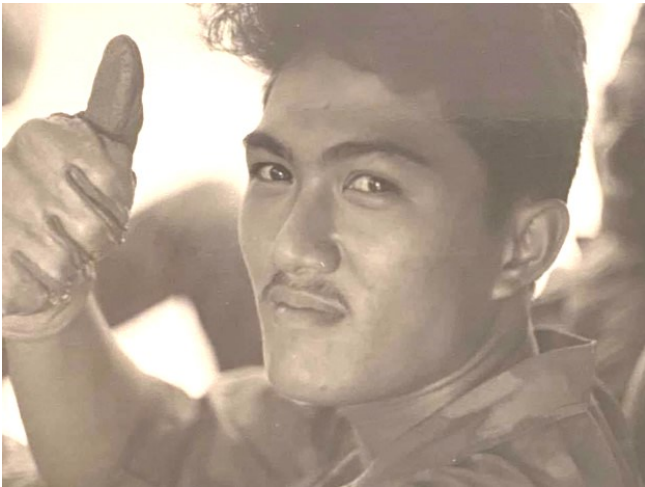
UNIT DIRECTOR—JEFF HORNE



Greetings Brother LRRP's, LRP's, and Rangers from the 173d Airborne Brigade (SEP),

Welcome to 2021 and I trust 2020 does not "darken our doorway" again. We lost quite a few Brothers this year while many of the early LRP's and LRRP entered their 8th inning, while "us" November Rangers are finishing our 7th inning stretch. Sadly, Our latest loss is 1SG Jimmy Akuna (USA-RET) who passed away the 26th of August, with family at his home in Mililani, Hawaii on Oahu. He was at peace as he "faced his journey" (in his own words).

"Jimmy "Kaleo" A. Akuna giving a Thumbs-Up while catching a ride with Casper Aviation"



We mourn the loss of each of our Brothers trusting our fondest memories overshadow their passing.

The COVID restrictions and travel consequences has postponed two key events. We are looking forward to the rescheduled (twice), Casper Aviation Annual Gathering in Las Vegas. The reunion is being held at the Las Vegas Tropicana Hotel & Resort from: March 29 thru April 1 (hotel checkout April 2). However, you can also check-in a day earlier on March 28 and still receive our special guest room rate of only... \$79/night + taxes. The quick & easy way is to use the special Casper Platoon reservation link:

<https://book.passkey.com/gt/218003779?gtid=6e66abf4c67c1af2cf13a2f767cb8819>

Or you can call the Telephone Group Reservation: 1-800-634-4000 and tell them "Casper Aviation Platoon" (Group SCAS20).

The 75th Ranger Regimental Reunion scheduled for 2020 is currently a "GO" for 2021. You can book the 75th RRA hotel for the 2021 Ranger Rendezvous week of July 19-23 with checkouts Saturday the 24th on our website. Host-Hospitality Room is at the



Marriott Courtyard, Phenix AL with an overflow hotel at the AC Downtown Marriott in Columbus. They are both a lot closer to the Ironworks where we will hold our banquet and closer to the events on Ft Benning. Both events will afford us a chance to renew face-to-face brotherhood and catch up on what we have done over the past two years.

We had only a couple of submissions for this issue of Patrolling, but contacts have been frequent via EMAIL, Facebook, and phone calls. I'll recap several of the items that have been brought to my attention.

1SG Herb Baugh (USA-RET) has hosted several "Ranger-fest" Cookouts, Hog and Deer Hunts at his Ranch in Tow, Texas. He is a fine and well respected Texas style cook but refuses KP...Sergeant Major and Officers fill that void so that dishes do not stack up in the sink.

Paul Beckwith (LRRP and Ranger), Frank Steka (of 1st Ranger Battalion and 10th Mountain fame), and me gather here in NE Ohio for late breakfasts almost monthly. We are carrying on the Original Darby Ranger tradition of a "after the war(s)" monthly breakfast. The three of us gather little attention under Ohio's lockdown policies. If you want to join us in rural Ohio, just give me a holler.

SGM Gordon Baker (USA-RET) had heart surgery in mid-2020 and fought off double pneumonia giving us all quite a scare. Please keep "Gordo" in your family prayers as he continues to follow the Doc's orders in his recovery.

Ranger/DOL Ron Thomas frequently meets travelers passing through Las Vegas for a meal and chat. Most recently he met Benjamin Moya and sent me photographic evidence. Unfortunately, the photo is so dark it appears as only two shadows at a table. All kidding aside, Ron has provided the unit collection with a wealth of LRP, LRRP, and N Co photographs from the many of the war years and beyond.

The phone lines and EMAILS messages lit-up over Veteran's Day among Unit members. All have a special day of brotherhood. I had a special blessing in the year that Merrill's Marauders were recognized by Congress and our Nation. A fine Professor of History at the University of Akron (and the daughter of a Marauder) has been sharing information with me regarding PFC Robert Landis. He was a local young man born and raised in the county where I reside and buried about an hour South of me. He was the first Marauder KIA as he soldiered as a 5 man recon element near Lanem Ga, Burma. He volunteered for the Marauders after having fought in the island campaigns of Georgia and New Caledonia.

Continued on the next page

There are no living relatives and the Professor asked if I wanted to meet her at the gravesite for Veteran’s Day afternoon. . It made for a fine remembrance and we talked till after dark. I was all “ears” as she recounted Marauder history and recommended several readings for me to endeavor during the upcoming Ohio winter months. I will take care of the grave each Spring before Memorial Day.

Ranger Rendezvous...Dave we still need a picture of the “hawk” the Unit presented you.

Our Brotherhood continues to share and remember. Hope to see you all in 2021, Sua Sponte.



“Leave No Ranger Behind”

SGM(R) Rudy Teodosio continues to excel as Vice Unit Director. The first batch of Unit Coins went like hotcakes, so he ordered another 100. As of this writing there are about 50 left and he will bring them to Las Vegas or you can mail him a check and have a quick turnaround. A “Tip of the Beret” to Rudy, thank you again.

1SG(R) David Cummings was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for 2020 with the formal induction to be held at our 2021





P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—TERRY B. RODERICK

Once again I have to report the passing of another of our brothers. This time it's Riley Miller, a Team Leader and member of our company in late 1970 through 1971. Riley was a natural leader and revered by the men who served on his teams. He was born May 7th, 1948 and passed away from a reported heart attack at his Mason Lodge on Monday, November 10, 2020 in New Braunfels, Texas. Riley retired from the Army after attaining the rank of Command Sergeant Major and held some of the most senior NCO slots in the Army before retiring. I'll have more to report on him next issue since this all just happened as this article is being put together.



Their helicopter was shot down while the team was being inserted and Larry and a door gunner were the only men who survived the crash. Our Lone Survivor from that team, Ranger Larry Smith, currently lives in Asheville, N.C. and is very much still a part of our family and of course he's tickled to see one of his teammates honored in such a way. We're just so glad to have Larry if we can't have them all and he's a big link in our history during the two and a half years we existed. Unfortunately, due to health issues he was unable to attend the dedication, Monday, September 28th, 2020. Two of David's sisters, Emily Deubner and Pat Mummert were there to represent the family. The bridge is located on Six Mile Run Road in Defiance, in Bedford County, Pennsylvania.



CSM Riley Miller



Riley Miller Team-15

On a more positive note, our brother and one of our KIA's in country, the state of Pennsylvania and his leaders honored David Barber by having a bridge named in his honor. David was a member of SSG Thomas Dowd's Team Killer 1-6, affectionately referred to as "Dowd's Dirty Half Dozen" by our company that we lost on December 21, 1969 in the DMZ in northern I Corps.

Prayers and get-well wishes to Rick and Linda Chitwood in Miami. Rick recently had some heart and breathing issues and last I heard they were performing tests on him to see exactly what the problem is, but it is pretty serious. I want to take the time to thank everyone for the well wishes, cards, and phone calls. If I do not reply right away, please do not take it personally as I am overwhelmed and struggling now to keep up with everything. My breathing issues are my major problem, and my leg is still healing from the cancer surgery last April. I am in the middle of immunotherapy treatments locally and not sure when that is going to end. Basically, I am a mess right now.

I know you guys are used to longer articles from me, but I do not really have a lot to report right now. I wish I had more but haven't been hearing much since this Corona virus set in. I sure hope they find a cure for it soon as all of us are vulnerable. Marlene and Jerry Cornelius contacted me recently for a visit, but we were unable to link up. Hope to catch up with them before Marlene goes back up north in the Spring. Wear your masks, watch your spacing, and stay safe and healthy until we meet again. RLTW!! Rock



**U.S. Army Ranger
Sgt. David Leon Barber
Bridge Dedication
Ceremony**

"It is Our Duty to Remember"

Special thanks to all our veterans, National Guard, Reservists and active duty personnel we have with us today.

Monday, Sept. 28, 11 a.m.



ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

It is with profound sadness that I have to inform you once again of the passing of two more of our Ranger brothers since the last patrolling magazine. Ranger John Tippen Advisor to the 37th ARVN Ranger Battalion passed this August.

LTC Harold A. Jenkins Jr. passed 26 September 2020 at his home in Sharpsburg, GA. Hal was the oldest of six children (five boys and one girl). He graduated as Valedictorian of Wilkinson High School Class of 1961 and then was appointed to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned a 2nd LT in the U.S. Army Infantry. Hal was assigned as Senior Advisor to the 22nd ARVN Ranger Battalion in 1968. Toward the end of his 1st tour, he requested a second tour on the condition he be assigned to the same unit. Harold said Vietnamese soldiers often said the Americans really didn't care about their cause because, unlike themselves, they came for a year and left.

Hal is survived by his wife Lavern, Son Harold III (Tanesha), Daughter Cheryl, and many grandchildren and Great grandchildren. Harold was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Stephen and Bruce (KIA 1968), sister Sandramarie and his grandparents.

I knew and served with him in the 2nd ARVN Ranger Group and he was a fine officer, well respected by Officers and Enlisted alike.

Rest in peace!

Feature

Well, we are back for the final installment of the battle of Thach Tru.

Death Stalked the Night- Vietnam Rangers Battle Human Wave Assaults at Thach Tru

By Mike Martin

Death of the Advisors

As the first light of dawn was breaking over the coastline, an eerie silence enveloped the courageous, but exhausted survivors. The rain had lessened, as had the main frontal assaults of the enemy. However, the fighting would continue for several more hours until the U. S Navy and Vietnamese and American pilots delivered the final deathblow against the enemy later that afternoon.

It was now 0600 hrs and the situation for the three US Rangers



on the hilltop outpost had not changed. They were still fighting just to survive—and now they were without communication with the outside. The Saint Paul had not yet arrived on station and the jeep's battery was already dead.

The vehicle had not been left running during the night for fear that the engine noise give their position away. Subsequently, the radio had drained the battery. Now they decided to try to push the Vehicle down the hill to jump-start it, but the effort proved unsuccessful. Captain Celeste had just gotten out of the vehicle and was standing with McNeal and Wintermoyer at the rear of the jeep discussing their options, when an enemy soldier fired at them with an automatic weapon from less the 25 yards away. Hit

in the back, Celeste fell to the ground. Sergeant McNeal grabbed the brave officer and pulled him under the protection of the jeep, but it was already too late. Celeste pointed to stomach and said, "I'm Hit" He died before there was any time to do anything for him.

As McNeal was pulling Captain Celeste out of the enemy soldier's line of fire, Wintermoyer exposed himself to call for a Vietnamese medic. A second burst of automatic weapons fire hit him, killing instantly. The young Ranger remained loyal to his commanding officer until the end—not an uncommon characteristic for the RTO's serving in Vietnam. Staff Sergeant McNeal's plight was now perilous. Wet and fatigued, alone and surrounded, short of ammo, he faced overwhelming odds at surviving. But he was an "old army" hand, having enlisted in the military at the end of World War II. He later served in the Korean War where his training and leadership as a professional noncommissioned officer became ingrained in him.

He decided to remain with his fallen comrades, Celeste and Wintermoyer, until full daylight arrived. It was then he realized that the night had protected him as much as it had the enemy. Now, since there was no cover on the hill, the sunlight revealed his position to the NVA who wasted little time direction their attention toward him, McNeal did the only thing he could do---he attacked!

Firing a full magazine into the general location occupied by the NVA soldier who had killed his fellow advisors, McNeal began to work his way back and forth over the hill, using the makeshift foxholes of the Rangers for cover. He quickly shot one NVA soldier as he peered over the brim of a position to top of the hill. A Vietnamese Ranger with a machinegun swung his weapon around to give McNeal overhead cover as he continued to maneuver around the enemy.

Meanwhile, taking advantage of the weather, the communists had resumed their attacks on the fort. *Continued on next page*

They would assault the fort six times during an eight-hour period. SSG Shelnut continued calling for naval and air support even after he had heard the radio at the outpost go dead. He could see Viet Cong bodies inside the fort strewn in the camp's perimeter wire. Many of the bodies had been identified as members of the 914th Viet Cong Regiment. Some of the dead were wearing brown Khaki shirts and short black pants. Several had commemorative buttons that read "Dien Bien Phu Battalion; apparently they were North Vietnamese regulars who had fought in the decisive battle at Dien Bien Phu in 1954, when the Viet Minh defeated the French. Many of the Rangers were killed inside the fort in the close-in fighting. "These Rangers didn't move an inch," Shelnut stated after the battle. And they (the enemy) had better weapons, too—a lot of automatic weapons that we didn't have.

During McNeal's escapades on the hill, at one point, he had crawled into a depression in ground occupied by a Ranger and two wounded comrades. The two wounded men left the position and moved to a hole behind them. The advisor then got a grenade and some carbine ammunition from the Ranger. He threw the grenade at a spot where he has spotted an NVA, only to have the NVA retaliate several minutes later when a grenade came flying back. It sailed directly over the hole occupied by McNeal and the Ranger, but failed to explode. The Ranger also threw a grenade toward the enemy position, and then speaking in rapid Vietnamese, he showed the advisor his last grenade. After the battle, McNeal discovered that his Vietnamese companion was telling him, "This is my last grenade and I'm saving it for us to kill ourselves with if we are overrun."

The day grew longer and with the fog beginning to burn off the Navy provided an intense bombardment from two 7th Fleet vessels lying off shore. US and South Vietnamese planes and helicopters arrived on the scene and attacked with napalm, bombs and rockets—many making passes under an 800 ft ceiling due to the weather. At about 14:30 hrs the communists were forced to withdraw. They had paid dearly for this fruitless defeat, leaving behind as souvenirs for the battalion of maroon bereted Rangers many of their new weapons made in communist China, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The Rangers had captured three 75mm and one 57mm recoilless rifles, two 30 caliber machine guns, and over a hundred other individual weapons, besides three radios.

Battered and outnumbered, the Rangers held the fort at Thach Tru and the outpost on Nui Tho with courage and endurance. At one spot, the bodies of nearly 20 Vietnamese Rangers lay side by side. On the hilltop, Sergeant McNeal and the few remaining Rangers of the 2nd company flopped down in the mud under what little remained, trying to some relief from the weight of immense lassitude. He had popped a green smoke grenade to let the spotter planes know there were some friendlies still alive on the hill; there were twelve Rangers and McNeal along with six wounded. Sergeant McNeal did not have a poncho. Rain-soaked and fatigued from the night of heavy fighting he began to shiver uncontrollably. The hill was deserted of enemy soldiers—live ones, anyhow. McNeal, playing back the memory of

the chaos and tumult of the preceding night, recalled the final action he witnessed before the battle ended – a one on one duel between an ARVN Ranger and an NVA soldier. They both had automatic weapons and were taking turns firing and chasing each other. Finally the Ranger won; a fitting climax to the nightmare he had just endured.

"... the advisor and his small team are entirely dependent

upon others whom they frequently don't even share a familiar language. The battlefield is a lonely place, they are the

loneliest people in the world – these advisors in the districts

and with ARVN battalions and Special Forces Units."

General Harold K. Johnson

Chief of Staff, U.S. Army 1966

Epitaph:

At Hoi An, South Vietnam, 1967 the President of the United States gave full credit to the 37th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion for its gallantry in combat on 22 November 1965, by awarding the unit the Presidential Unit Citation. General William C. Westmoreland, Commander, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) was present to award the citation to the Battalion.

The 37th Rangers would again add to their fame when on 27 January 1968, they went into Khe Sanh and were positioned along the eastern edge of the defense perimeter, "outside" the U.S. Marines perimeter wire.

On 29 February 1968, the 37th's position was twice assaulted by different NVA battalions and another battalion on 1 March. Each assault was smashed with the assistance of U.S. air support. The NVA assaults on the Rangers proved to be the climatic episode of the Khe Sanh battle and he only major ground attacks on the base or its outposts. They received praise from President Johnson for their actions.

Major Son Thuong and the company commanders of the 37th were awarded the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation and several South Vietnamese awards for their heroism at Thach Tru. Major Thuong received a battlefield promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and command of the I Corps 1st Ranger Group. He died in one of the reeducation camps after the war.

Major Raymond Celeste Jr., was a West Point Graduate, and also attended the New York National Guard Preparatory school. He served with the 10th Special Forces (Abn) in Germany where he was a detachment commander. Celeste was the commander of the 54th Officer Candidate Company at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1964. The Republic of Vietnam awarded Major Celeste the National Order-Fifth Class, and the Gallantry Cross with palm.

Continued on next page



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DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

In October, GEN Joseph L. Votel, US Army, Retired, served as the inaugural speaker for the Association's new online Distinguished Speaker Series. The next DSS presentation is scheduled to occur in January. Visit www.ranger.org/DSS for updates

TAX STATUS CHANGE

For many years the US Army Ranger Association has operated as nonprofit veterans' organization under Section 501(c)(19) of the Tax Code. While this provision of the tax code has recognized our unique character as a war veterans' membership association, it has served to limit the Association's fund raising abilities when seeking to support our three primary programs: the Ranger Events and Activities Program; Ranger Assistance Fund; and Michael B. Ranger Legacy Scholarship Program. Effective August 27, 2020, the IRS now recognizes USARA as a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3). This change places the Association in a more competitive position to support its programs as well as the Ranger Community as a whole.

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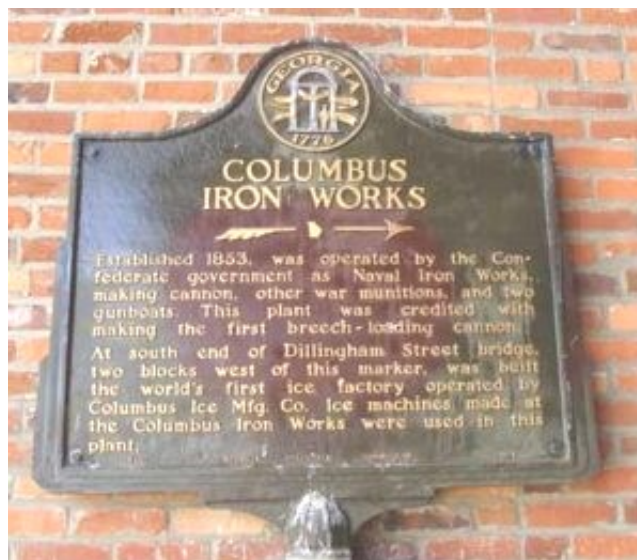
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Host Marriott, Phenix City AL-75th RRA Hospitality Room



Downtown Marriott Columbus-Overflow Hotel



Iron Works— Banquet Friday July 23, 2021

Settlement will ease process for Army veterans looking to upgrade less-than-honorable discharges

Leo Shane III

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Under a legal settlement, Army officials will now automatically review tens of thousands of discharge upgrade applications denied over the last nine years. (Airman 1st Class Nicolas Z. Erwin/Air Force)

Tens of thousands of Army veterans with other-than-honorable dismissals will see an easier path to upgrading their discharge status under a new legal settlement announced Wednesday.

The deal, the resolution of a class-action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for Connecticut more than three years ago, requires Army officials to automatically review tens of thousands of discharge upgrade applications denied over the last nine years, this time using "procedures more favorable to veterans" regarding evidence of underlying mental health conditions.

Similarly, Army veterans whose applications were denied between 2001 and 2011 will be informed of new opportunities to reapply for a discharge upgrade, to include the same broad considerations of mental health factors in their cases.

New Pentagon rules aim to broaden reviews of 'bad paper' dismissals

Veterans advocates are hopeful that more veterans with "bad paper" dismissals will be able to upgrade their discharge status now that defense officials have released clearer guidance of how to handle a host of mental health and injury cases.

Leo Shane III

And the Army Discharge Review Board for the first time will allow veterans to argue their cases over the phone, instead of requiring them to travel to Washington, D.C. — at personal expense — for their upgrade hearings.

"I've heard from veterans across the country who were kicked out for suicide attempts, are self medicating to deal with combat stress, for going AWOL because they couldn't deal with it anymore," said Steve Kennedy, an Iraq War veteran and one of the named plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

"All of them were discharged for symptoms of mental health conditions and then stripped of the very benefits that may have helped them heal. Now they will have the chance for justice."

Officials from the Yale Law School Veterans Legal Services Clinic, which handled the case, estimate as many as 50,000

Army veterans may benefit from the new review board changes.

Veterans advocates for years have pushed for widespread reforms in how military officials handle discharge upgrade requests, arguing that many veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were improperly kicked out of the ranks because of undiagnosed brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder and other unseen injuries.

The difference between an honorable and other-than-honorable discharge can mean a denial of tens of thousands of dollars in education benefits, access to certain health care services and eligibility for many job training and financial assistance programs.

A Government Accountability Office report released in 2017 found that nearly one in four troops booted for misconduct over a four-year span suffered from some type of mental health condition that may have been cause for a different discharge decision.

Later that year, Pentagon officials issued a memo requiring that reviewers should take into consideration "conditions resulting from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault or sexual harassment" when deciding whether to upgrade a veteran's status.

VA should already care for veterans with bad-paper discharges, experts say

Congress is looking into the issue of whether the VA is wrongfully denying services to veterans and with bad-paper discharges.

Meghann Myers

But those standards did not necessarily apply to veterans already denied discharge upgrades. The new settlement reopens that opportunity for Army veterans, through both the automatic reviews and the opportunity for other veterans to refile.

The settlement also requires Army officials to conduct new annual training for review board members on how to properly evaluate claims of mental health conditions and notify all applications of their right to legal and medical assistance when filing the claims.

Yale Legal Services Clinic officials said they have a similar lawsuit pending with the Navy, and hope for similar accommodations from service officials there.

[Contact Link](#)



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