

# PATROLLING

March 2022 75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC. Volume 34 Issue I



Marauder Gabe Kinney's Cake (Bottom)— At His 101st Birthday Party With His Wife Elena of 77 years— Venue @ FloraBama— Submitted Photos

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





*Thank you Ft Benning Harley Davidson for hosting Veteran events like this one during the last Ranger Rendezvous!*



## Editor's Corner

Greetings Patriots!

Talk about Patriots, many of us are participating in this year's Patriot Challenge. This is my first year for that event and I am a member of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association Team. I paid and got my t-shirt that looks pretty darn nice. As a matter of fact, I wore it today doing my regimen of walking over 2 miles a day with cardiovascular machines, to boot! I do this 7 days a week and for this month, I still haven't figured out how to log my mileage into the team totals. Tony Mayne, where are you?

For those of us who live north of the Mason-Dixon Line, exercising can be rather challenging, finding a place or way to keep gyrating the body and not get caught becoming *super-sized* by the time the snow melts. Habits.

Total health not only involves exercising the body but how about our mental health? How do we manage to meet our psychological needs and stay connected to those that are important to us and part of our quality world pictures. It's not easy. Just ask my wife, Pam. When she reads this, I'm sure, as she will be looking at me, and shaking her head while she smiles, maybe. According to her, I'm *high maintenance* on a good day. Habits.

As a retired special education teacher K-12, I always had a chance to sit down with the student I worked with, their parents, and anyone who was proactive and write down some goals after listening. Goals that were reachable, measurable and so on and that the student would take ownership. In my mind, one of the most important things to write was a goal of *maintaining*. But all of that is moot if you don't have a good, working relationship with the student beforehand. Trust is not an easy thing to establish and gaining trust is not easy to come by and never will one have total trust.

Janet Morgan, a mental health therapist or counselor and *Patrolling* contributor, has an interesting basic needs assessment that you might consider doing. There is a lot of similar things that she talks about in her article compared to comments from above by me, especially establishing trust by listening and observing. Please take the time to read her preface and take the assessment and use it as a tool. More to follow from Janet.

Listening is a good habit, or can be, only if you choose to. *Opinion*.

### March Patrolling

The contributors to this issue have provided some good reading for us and we thank them. **Outstanding!** Starting with the front cover photos of a Flora-Bama 101st birthday party for Merrill's Marauder Gabe Kinney and his wife, Elena, who have been married for 77 years. Wow!

Read on, Patriots and enjoy.

Stephen Odin Johnson/Patrolling Editor

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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:  
Patrolling  
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Greetings Rangers. We have been against the ropes this last couple of weeks. An Upper Respiratory Infection, to which I am prone, snuck up on me and took me down for two weeks. Went to the bathroom, Ramona heard a crash and groan and I was on the floor. Got scrapes and bruises and she helped me back to the bed. Said my eyes were glazed. Oxygen levels in the blood went down to the upper seventies. Long story short have been back on my feet for the last several days.



Just read a post from first LT with C/1/503rd talking about a Recon team wiped out in late '68. They went in to recover the remains. Thought about the brevity of life. Being here today and gone tomorrow. If we are made in the image of God? Why are things so ephemeral.

The fifteenth of February, 1971 My brother Julian, 'Ernie' Marquez was killed on the DMZ in I Corps along with two other men caught in a command detonated mine explosion. Their bodies laid out on the mountain side for three days while the men of their unit, A/4th of the Third LIB, tried to recover them. Two more wounded was the price paid for that effort. But we were able to bury our dead. His name is on the Wall in DC, while his mortal remains lay under a bronze plaque in the Tenth Avenue Cemetery in Lake Worth, FL.

Yet as I read my Bible I am reminded of another who died was, buried and after three days revived, and was seen by many. Secular history records the death by execution of one Jesus of Nazareth, by Pontius Pilate, who for many centuries was lost to history until a remnant of an engraving in Palestine was found bearing his name. Point is that the Bible tells of one sent to save those who trust in Him. My brother was walking point and saw the wires to the mine. but was taken out before he could cut the wires. This Jesus, on the other hand said before he died, "It is finished". What was finished on that Roman

cross? Simply this. The pouring out of an innocent soul for the life of a guilty world. God gave his holy Son for a world of unholily men and women. Faith in the love and goodness of God and a sincere belief that God made men to live and not just to die is what changes a destiny.

A few days ago I believe I was teetering on the edge of eternity, but felt no fear because I am a believer in the Good News that Christ Jesus came to save sinners, and I know I am one of

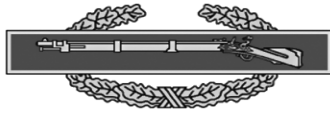
those. Perhaps one of the worst. But the neat thing about the Salvation of God is this. All you have to do to qualify to be forgiven and made to inherit eternal life which God has promised is to believe in the One sent from Heaven to give earthlings an opportunity to fulfill what God created us all to be. Those children of God through faith in Christ Jesus, who indeed died once for others, and lives forever to make sure not one of his own is lost. John 5:24 says this" He that hears my words, and believes on Him that sent me, has everlasting life and will not come into condemnation( for their sins) but is passed from death

( everlasting separation from God and His goodness) to life." There is a lot of dying going on in this world. Question is. Who is up for living forever? Some will cling to the last desperate breath and into the hand of God who gave that breath and spirit without ever finding out how to find and keep it. This old frame will give out some day. But I am persuaded that God is able to keep that which I committed to him over fifty years ago until the day of resurrection. May this blessing of life and peace be each readers.



Joe Marquez, 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup>, STB, and MIB Ranger Battalions, successor units, or any additions that are activated and assigned to the 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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- 2021	Stephen Johnson
2021-	Art "Doc" Attaway

##### 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

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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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We Need a Volunteer UD

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In Memory

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## CSM Acebes

I had the honor of speaking at the 9DEC21 memorial service that was held at the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Bn Memorial on Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia. I was there as a representative of the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA, and as an adult lifelong friend. Bill Acebes was my first Platoon Sergeant, and I was his first Ranger Medic in 2<sup>nd</sup> platoon, B CO, I/75, shortly after the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion was stood up in 1974. Being a Platoon Medic, I was joined at the hip to my Platoon Sergeant, Bill Acebes, and spent almost every day for 2 years by his side. He taught me everything from how to cull C-rations so there was enough chow but

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ART "DOC" ATTAWAY



Vietnam with the 173<sup>rd</sup> (The HERD) and had numerous combat deployments after the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> BN's were formed, and

after the Regiment was formed in 1984.

As I am sure he did to a countless number of young Rangers, he influenced my entire adult life. The standards and expectations, along with the always present humor he brandished, taught me how to face life and overcome its many challenges.

*Below Photo — CSM Acebes*



## Merrill's Marauder Gabriel Kinney

On 5FEB22 I had the opportunity to join several hundred other Rangers for the 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday celebration of Gabriel Kinney (see front cover). Kinney is a Merrill's Marauder that served in Burma during World War II, and the unit that the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment colors and DUI originated.

The Merrill's Marauders (5307<sup>th</sup> Composite Unit, Provisional) are a storied Ranger unit that fought the Japanese in Burma during the WW II. Last year, the unit was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. Approximately 3000 Marauders began the jungle and mountain 1000 mile movement, and approximately 300 reached the final objective, a strategic airfield in the mountainous region of central Burma.

The event was hosted by the owner of Florabama in Gulf Shores, Alabama. The owner, Cameron Price is himself a Ranger. Organization and execution of the event was conducted by the Ranger Base Kinney and led by Chris Rivers, an Alpha company Ranger from the early 70's, and his team.

*Continued on the next page*

not so much weight, to adjusting mortar fire and using that spectacular (It was near worthless) original NVG, the 12 pound Starlight, which he ensured I always carried it for him. I had the privilege of knowing him well.

When I began volunteering for Ranger Association and organization work I was often in many Ranger headquarters buildings, and everywhere I went was his picture. Bill is a Distinguished Member of the Training Brigade, and the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment, and served as CSM at 1/75, 3/75, ARTB, Regiment (RCSM), and of Fort Benning. When I met him he had just come from



General Stringham and his lovely wife and daughter, Sandy and Molly, also attended. The Sons of Mosby motorcycle club made a strong appearance with riders from all over the Southeast. The rest of us were generally hoodlums and brigands.

Ranger Base Kinney was started in 2020 by Chris Rivers, and conducts a monthly luncheon at Florabama, on the first Saturday each month. Attendance usually ranges between 20 and 80 Rangers and families. **All Rangers are invited.** This base is among several existing in the U.S., and along with the numerous monthly breakfasts and lunches held all over the country, is a great way for Ranger brothers to assemble and maintain the brotherhood. Next edition we will list all of the known monthly activities so you may plan attendance if desired, and if you know of any that take place please notify us so we can publish it.

#### **Summer Rendezvous and Ranger Hall of Fame**

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment has decided to conduct a Ranger Rendezvous this summer at Fort Benning, in honor of the Change of Responsibility for the Regimental Command Sergeant Major, as they do the the Regimental Change of Command every other year. The Association has obtained a block of rooms at the downtown Marriott, and we can produce additional meeting space if any units want to have their own get together during the week. The Ranger Hall of Fame will likely NOT be the same week as there is a conflict with the Change of Command dates. The RHOF is executed by the Ranger Training Brigade and operates under a different schedule from the Regiment. Please join us at this Summer Rendezvous in Columbus, GA.

**Dates:** July 18-22

**Hotel link:** <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1644949450188&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

**Other details are being developed and we will provide more information as it comes available.**

#### **RHOF:**

The Association has submitted the 3 candidates we are allowed for induction to the RHOF and one additional Honorary RHOF candidate. Selections will be made by the RHOF board in May and we will announce the names at that time. I urge all of you to think about a Ranger you know that is worthy and deserving of this honor and get the names to us by September of this year. We will walk you through the compilation of the needed packet to support your Ranger brother's presence.



This year we had 7 packets to select from, and the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA RHOF selection committee, consisting of Rick Barela, Steve Johnson, and RRA-VP CSM (RET) Rick Merritt, evaluated each package and put forth 3 packets, which is all units and organizations are allowed. However, we are able to also submit an Honorary RHOF packet and we did.

#### **Ranger for Life:**

The Ranger for Life program was an idea that originated with active duty RCSM's and Ranger

retirees over the past decade, and is run by the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. Three Rangers Foundation and retired RCSM Michael Hall assist in the program and manage the "Mentor" program, where younger Rangers are attached to a Ranger brother to aid and assist them in their development and decision making. Please consider becoming a Mentor and helping these young Rangers. Contact CSM Hall at Three Rangers Foundation for details. (link)

#### **World War II Ranger Units - Congressional Gold Medal**

We are pleased to announce that the bill requesting the CGM for the WW II Ranger units has now received enough cosponsors to be voted on, and will soon become law. We want to give much thanks to all who answered the call to contact your Congressmen and women, and get them onboard with the effort.

We will broadcast information as soon as the bill is actually voted on.

Ranger Ron Hundell led the way for these historic Ranger units to receive this honor and much thanks to him personally for all of his efforts. Like the Merrill's Marauders, their ranks are dwindling.

#### **Merrill's Marauders documentary premier**

On 4MAR22 at the Georgia Military College, the recent documentary about the 5307 Composite Unit, Provisional, will be shown. 3 living Merrill's Marauders will be in attendance. The 75<sup>th</sup> RRA led the way by donating early to the WW II Foundation so the living Marauders could be interviewed. Tim Grey, Executive Director of the foundation, produced the documentary. The documentary will air on PBS during the month of March, 2022.

#### **Ranger brother Travis West**

Travis West suffered the great devastation of losing his 16 year old son, Alex, earlier this month. Our love and sorrow over the loss goes to Travis, Ryan, and Emily West.

Obituary link here: <https://www.gundersonfh.com/obituaries/Alexander--Travis--West?obId=23959121>

Information on donations to Alex's Catholic School is available here: <https://www.st-dennischool.org/>

## SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

BY TOM SOVE

The 75<sup>th</sup> RRA has been active in providing educational scholarship opportunities for many

years. We do not administer scholarships ourselves; we partner with the National Ranger Foundation (NRF) and utilize their talents for that purpose. We donate annually to them, and they include our funds in the overall scholarship pot. The NRF oversees their own scholarship program; however, their primary function has been the construction and now is the continuing maintenance of the Ranger Monument at Ft. Benning. The Monument is not owned by the post, the Army, nor the Department of Defense. It was built by donations to a private fund, and all decisions regarding the monument, and all costs maintaining it, are borne by the NRF. Consequently, they are constantly in donation-solicitation mode.

The scholarships are available for any Ranger-past or present and their descendants/dependents. Eligible Ranger service includes Vietnam-era LRRPs and Ranger companies, any of the Ranger Regiment battalions or regiment, and Ranger tabs. Active-duty Rangers are also eligible. Scholarships are for students at certified four-year institutions and/or technical or trade school.

The application process is simple- fill out the application and upload transcripts at [nationalrangerfoundation.com/scholarship/](https://nationalrangerfoundation.com/scholarship/). Applications must be received by May 1, and the recipients will be determined that month so as to facilitate their college plans for the ensuing fall semester. Upon proof of acceptance and matriculation the scholarship funds are made payable direct to the institution, not the applicant.



performance. Scholarships are awarded based on academic merit and not on financial need. The number of scholarships varies each year, as do the amounts. The variance is actually quite large, with numbers fluctuating around 10 to 20 individual scholarships awarded at \$1,000 to \$2,000 each; and the total pool ranging between \$10,000 and \$20,000. Since its inception, the NRF has awarded approximately \$530,000 to many qualified recipients over the years.

The scholarships are given in the name of the NRF and not the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA. At this time there is no method to keep our scholarship funds separated. The NRF possesses one single bank account from which Monument expenses are paid as well as the scholarship awards. By contract, the NRF must sustain a contractual minimum fund of \$400,000 for the purpose of maintaining the Monument. Scholarships are awarded only with funds in excess of the contractual minimum. Depending on the fund balance the annual scholarship payout may be seriously affected.

To this point, there have not been any NRF scholarships awarded the past two years. Happily, that is not the case this year and the scholarship gates are once again open. This is an educational benefit all Rangers may utilize. Please show support for it and use it! "Applications" are due in less than three months.

Take advantage!



THE NATIONAL RANGER MONUMENT  
FORT BENNING, GA

PRESERVING THE RANGER LEGACY  
SUPPORTING THE RANGER COMMUNITY  
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



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# TREASURER'S MESSAGE

BY ROGER CRUNK

## Statement of Activity

January 2022

Accrual Basis Saturday, February 5, 2022 03:08 PM GMT-07:00

1/1

TOTAL

Revenue

4000 Program income - DNP

4002 Membership dues 720.00

4010 Coin sales

4012 Bronze 89.60

4013 Nickel Silver 28.70

**Total 4010 Coin sales 118.30**

4020 Miscellaneous revenue

4021 Association Patch 17.85

4022 Association Sticker 35.70

**Total 4020 Miscellaneous revenue 53.55**

4052 Assoc. Pin 20.00

**Total 4000 Program income - DNP 911.85**

4100 Member donations - DNP

4102 Family fund contributions 235.00

4104 Goldstar contributions 10.00

4110 Operations contributions 130.00

4115 Legacy Walkway 50.00

4120 Scholarship 10.00

**Total 4100 Member donations - DNP 435.00**

4900 Interest income 33.79

**Total Revenue \$1,380.64**

**GROSS PROFIT \$1,380.64**

Expenditures

6000 Program expenses - DNP

6020 Website maintenance

6021 Constant Contact 45.00

**Total 6020 Website maintenance 45.00**

6025 Intuit Subscription

6026 Go Payment 20.00

6027 Quickbooks Online 50.00

**Total 6025 Intuit Subscription 70.00**

**Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP 115.00**

6100 Patrolling expense - DNP

6102 Patrolling printing 2,806.03

6104 Patrolling postage 1,040.85

**Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP 3,846.88**

6500 Operations - DNP

6502 Bank and merchant fees 27.80

6504 Business registration fees 50.00

6510 Insurance - D&O liability 590.00

6540 Postage-Secretary 28.42

6552 Treasurer Postage 16.22

**Total 6500 Operations - DNP 712.44**

**Total Expenditures \$4,674.32**

**NET OPERATING REVENUE \$ -3,293.68**

**NET REVENUE \$ -3,293.68**

## Statement of Financial Position

As of January 31, 2022

Accrual Basis Saturday, February 5, 2022 03:22 PM GMT-07:00

1/1

TOTAL

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1000 Affinity / Operations 37,221.45

Paypal legacy Transfer 200.00

**Total 1000 Affinity / Operations 37,421.45**

1002 Affinity / Family fund 27,437.26

1030 Affinity / Savings 62,137.82

1040 Benevolent funds MM 47,487.70

1041 Legacy funds MM 8,758.00

1042 Life funds MM 27,374.30

1050 Paypal funds 1,488.56

**Total Bank Accounts \$212,105.09**

Accounts Receivable

1100 Accounts receivable 0.00

**Total Accounts Receivable \$0.00**

**Total Current Assets \$212,105.09**

**TOTAL ASSETS \$212,105.09**

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

**Total Liabilities**

Equity

3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted 215,398.77

Net Revenue -3,293.68

**Total Equity \$212,105.09**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$212,105.09**



Some years back the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA became aware that we were losing some of our brothers and 75<sup>th</sup> RRA Members, often without others being aware of their passing. In some cases, the Fallen Ranger's service was not attended by those with whom he had served.

To better inform others about a Fallen Ranger, the STATE ADVOCATE PROGRAM was established. Its purpose was to identify Rangers in each state who could disseminate information about service arrangements so that others in the area might attend the service. In many cases those attending the service may have not served with the Fallen Ranger, but still he was a brother in Arms.

Eugene Tucker, 25<sup>th</sup> ID LRRP, 1966, was one of the first National State Coordinators and because of his efforts a "data base" of State Coordinators was established. He managed the program until I assumed the position.

It has become necessary to revitalize the program and develop an up-to-date roster and contact information for the STATE ADVOCATE PROGRAM.

We are asking that you, as 75<sup>th</sup> RRA Members consider being the point of contact for your state, or in some cases, one of the points of contact for your State. For instance, due to its size, California should have two or three points of contacts.

So, what does the STATE ADVOCATE actually do? The way the program works is that when a family member, friend, fellow

Veteran becomes aware of Rangers passing, the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA is notified and the STATE ADVOCATE is alerted.

Notification of a Ranger's passing can be achieved by completing the FALLEN RANGER Form on the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA website. When the form is completed and submitted, several 75<sup>th</sup> RRA members are "automatically" notified by email with the information, which is relayed to other Association Members. The STATE ADVOCATE serving as the point of contact in the State or area where the service is being held is additionally notified and the information passed on.

Often, we are notified of the passing of a Ranger who may not have been a member of the 75<sup>th</sup> RRA, but we are all brothers and the information is disseminated.

If you feel that you can assist with the STATE ADVOCATE PROGRAM, please contact me using the email: [nationalcoordinator@75thrra.com](mailto:nationalcoordinator@75thrra.com) and I will contact you.

This is a very worthwhile endeavor and service to your fellow Rangers. I look forward to working with you.

Marshall Huckaby  
25<sup>th</sup> ID LRRP  
NATIONAL STATE COORDINATOR.

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EST. 2021

Ranger Outreach Center—Director- Tony Mayne-  
[tony@gallantfew.org](mailto:tony@gallantfew.org)





The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

1236 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy

Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives

2468 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

The 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Association, Three Rangers Foundation, Gallant Few Foundation, Worldwide Rangers, National Infantry Association, National Ranger Foundation, United States Army Ranger Association, Onpoint 1-1, and The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urge you to vote and pass H.R. 3577, the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act.

The Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded more than 160 times in the past to individuals or groups "who have performed an achievement that impacts American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient's field long after the achievement."

Rangers have been working for descendants to lobby for Gold Medal recognition of the service of the 1st through 6th Ranger Battalions and the 29th Provisional Ranger Battalion in WWII.

The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Ranger Battalions fought in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy; the 2nd and 5th Ranger Battalions were in the D-Day landings and then fought across France, Belgium, and Germany until the end of the war.

The 6th Ranger Battalion led landings in the Pacific theater and most famously rescued 516 Allied prisoners in the legendary raid on the infamous Cabanatuan POW camp in the Philippines.

The 29th Provisional Ranger Battalion conducted raids on islands in the English Channel and German installations in Norway. President Ronald Reagan's famous 1984 "Boys of Pointe du Hoc" speech on the 40th anniversary of the D-Day landings, given atop the rugged cliffs of the point commanding sweeping views of Omaha and Utah beaches, as possibly best epitomizing the Ranger elan.

On June 6, 1944, the Rangers' mission was "one of the most difficult and daring of the invasion: to climb these sheer and desolate cliffs and take out the enemy guns," Reagan said. "Rangers looked up and saw the enemy soldiers at the edge of the cliffs, shooting down at them with machine guns and throwing grenades. And the American Rangers began to climb."

"They shot rope ladders over the face of these cliffs and began to pull themselves up. When one Ranger fell, another would take his place. When one rope was cut, a Ranger would grab another and begin his climb again," he continued. "Soon, one by one, the Rangers pulled themselves over the top, and in seizing the firm land at the top of these cliffs, they began to seize back the continent of Europe," Reagan said.

Rangers have shown our country the ultimate sacrifice, and it is time for Congress to award them this well-deserved Gold Medal.

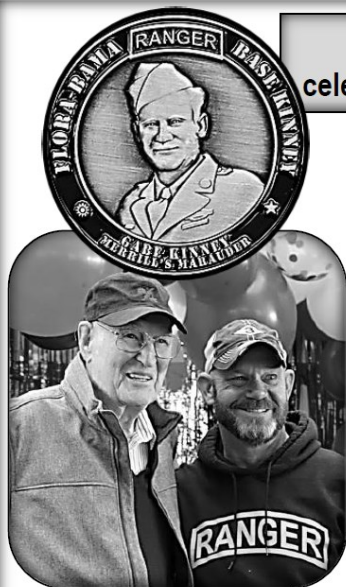
For more information on this or any other issues concerning Rangers, don't hesitate to contact EANGUS's legislative and military policy director, Kevin Hollinger, at (202) 670-1826 [kevin@eangus.org](mailto:kevin@eangus.org).

Sincerely,

Kevin Hollinger



How does a 101-year-old Merrill's Marauder celebrate his birthday ..... surrounded by Rangers and family



Merrill's Marauder Gabriel "Gabe" Kinney celebrated his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday at the U.S. Army Ranger Association's "Gabe Kinney Flori-Bama Chapter," named after him, surrounded by family, Rangers and friends. He is seen (R – Center) with his wife of 77 years, Elena. He is flanked (Above L to R) by his children; Richard Kinney, Patricia Nelson, Carol Crawford and Philip Kinney. In the group photo, (L-Center) he stands (L to R) with Rangers Chris Rivers, Joe Stringham, Cam Price and Art Attaway. Rivers, Price and Pat Kelly (R) were instrumental in renaming the USARA chapter after Kinney. Some of Kinney's many surprises (Top L & Center) included a specially-made challenge coin and birthday cake with a map of Burma and Marauder insignia.



created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen

### SIX Merrill's Marauders have lived past the age of 100

They are a testament to the Army's WW II stipulation that all 1943 volunteers for the "dangerous and hazardous" mission that would become known as Merrill's Marauders "will be of a high state of physical ruggedness." Roy Matsumoto and Milton Pilcher lived to 100. Everett Stanke and John M. Jones lived to 101. Tom Tsubota lived to 102. Gabriel Kinney turned 101 Feb. 2, 2022. Kinney and Tsubota have been the oldest Army Ranger during two separate time periods.

Roy Matsumoto



100 years old  
May 1, 1913 - April 21, 2014  
Washington

Everett W. Stanke



101 years old  
Nov. 28, 1913 - Aug. 12, 2015  
Wisconsin

John M. Jones



101 years old  
Dec. 11, 1914 - July 26, 2016  
Tennessee

Tom Tsubota



102 years old  
Jan. 14, 1915 - Feb. 14, 2017  
Hawaii

Milton A. Pilcher



100 years old  
Nov. 13, 1916 - April 16, 2017  
Virginia



There is so much to say about Vic Power. Most know him from Kevin Barry's, an Irish Bar on River Street in Savannah where he was the proprietor. Early on Rangers were "persona non grata" and not welcome there, but one day a few Rangers intervened in settling a situation for Vic. He began to see the many qualities Rangers possessed and understand the creed they lived. And so it began, a friendship that lasted decades and continues today. He just couldn't do enough for the Rangers. Kevin Barry's became the venue for meetings like Hail and Farewell, reunions, bachelor parties, to mention a few. Vic saw the 1/75 off before deployments and welcomed them back when they returned. The upstairs bar became the Heroes Bar and displayed flags and pictures from WWII up to and including the Global War on Terror, where "The Wall" took center stage— the pictures saluting the Fallen 1/75 Rangers showed that this was THE Ranger Bar.

I knew who Vic was just from coming to Savannah to visit my son, who served in the 1/75, but I did not know the "Man" until Sandrino died. Vic's establishment also hosted funerals and the memorials for the fallen when the families were invited to HAAF. A while after Sandrino's memorial, it so happened that Sandro (Sandrino's dad) and I walked into Kevin Barry's early one morning to say goodbye to our Ranger.

There was Vic, putting the KIA bracelets on the pictures (to hold shots glasses) and when he saw me and really had a chance to meet Sandro (Sandrino's dad), they both sat down for a drink and cried. They spoke quite awhile, Vic suffered his own loss




when his son died from a fall after slipping while trying to straighten the flag that hung from the balcony. I think a part of Vic is in every picture he hung; in a way the Rangers are his sons too.

Some were fortunate to spend time with Vic in his lair upstairs, where he was their confidant and counselor. They shared births, deaths, marriages or divorces—tears and laughter. He knew how saddened everyone was with Kevin Barry's closing, but he and 1/75 carefully protected "The Wall" and contacted the families of the fallen and


sent them the pictures of their Ranger, if they wanted them. I'm not sure what happened to his magnificent memorabilia. Rumors keep bouncing around that Vic is looking for a new establishment. However, I'm not sure I believe them. I think losing the bar hit Vic hard-- because he loved it-- imagine 40 years of your life being taken away by progress? For me, Kevin Barry's closing was like losing Sandrino again--It was a place that I, my daughter and her husband (Ranger) would go and take my grandkids to see Uncle Sandrino--have a drink with him, tell stories and write to him in the visitor log.

Vic supported Rangers financially but he was also emotionally engaged with the 1/75. He opened his home recently for quite a few Rangers across all eras who came to honor CSM Bill Acebes who now resides in Valhalla.

Vic Power is a friend to many, unselfish and kind, a gentleman.



*Isaiah 6:8*  
I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
"Whom shall I send, and who  
will go for us?"  
**Then I said, Here I am; send me."**



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Make Checks Payable to:  
**Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund**

Mail To:  
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Pitman, NJ 08071

**Honoring  
Sandrino's Sacrifice  
Golf Outing 2022**

Friday, May 13, 2022  
Pitman Golf Course &  
Bogey's Clubhouse and Cafe  
Pitman, NJ

AM Tournament &  
Lunch for Golfers Only  
PM Tournament &  
Dinner for Golfers Only



11th Annual Memorial Golf Outing - 2022

Tell me a story, please. I want to listen. I want to hear what you have to say. This could be me speaking to whomever is reading this. "Tell me a story, please" could be anyone one of us as a child asking the adult tucking us into bed to stay a little longer. We have been lost in the imagination of fables and fairytales.

We have been lost in the stories shared with us from the time we were very young until, well, maybe even yesterday or today. Life is one big ol' storybook. Maybe one thick volume of Aesop's Fables? Maybe a book of poems or prose by Thoreau, Wordsworth, Twain, Whitman, Emerson, Longfellow, Cummings, etc, take your pick! The point is we all have a story. We don't just have a story, we ARE a story! We are more than just the cover of a book. Our lives are written in the pages.

I want to open the pages of your life and read your story. I actually don't want to read it, I want you to tell it to me in your voice! I know that doing that is a far cry from reality because how could I possibly be in the presence of all who will read this? I have an alternative! Tell your story to your family, your friends, your brothers in arms. Tell someone!

*Storytelling is the oldest form of education.* -Terry Tempest Williams

*People think that stories are shaped by people. In fact, it's the other way around.* -Terry Pratchett

It's no secret that if you don't share your story, then it becomes just that, secret - locked away for none to hear. I bring this up for two reasons. One, your life matters. Two, your life matters. Let me unpack those.

First, I am referring to your military service. If you're a family member reading this then I am referring to your loved one. Your experiences as a veteran are a piece of America's history and should be preserved either formally or informally. Each is equal in value. Formally it can be shared with a historian in your city, county or state. Informally, you can share your story with your descendants. Both can be done via written word, recording or to be kept in the memories of those you share with.

Second, I am referring to your life outside of the military. That part of your life is worthy too.

As time marches on and we move farther away from WWII, Korea and Vietnam, the number of living veterans to speak to has and will continue to decline. The untold stories will die with those who are unwilling to share or aren't given the opportunity to. I make no judgment on those unwilling and I make no claim to understanding why as I have not walked in their shoes. In today's world, the opportunities to preserve a story along with the options available to do so, can make the process a lot speedier than putting pen to paper or banging the keys of an old typewriter.

*We are our stories. We tell them to stay alive or keep alive those who only live now in the telling.* -Niall Williams



I have learned a handful of what I call "pillar lessons" over the past twelve years. One of them is not to judge a book by its cover. In spending time with people from all over the country, I came to know that you cannot tell a thing about someone by what you see on the outside only. To learn someone's story, you have to do two things, ask and listen. First, you ask them to open their book and second, they begin to tell, which, in a sense is reading the pages out loud. There is a WWII veteran named Hollis Stabler who served in Africa, Italy

and France. He was a Native American member of the Omaha Tribe from Oklahoma. He stood on Omaha Beach and reflected on the fact that he was an Omaha Indian but no one ever asked him what tribe he was from.

During his service he earned numerous medals including a Purple Heart, French Victory Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Arrowhead, French Medal of Freedom, THREE Bronze Stars and a Silver Star. His brother Bob, who was Killed In Action also earned a Silver Star (posthumously). In 2005, the autobiography of his life entitled, 'No One Ever Asked Me: The World War II Memoirs of an Omaha Indian Soldier' was released. He died two years later at the age of 89. I have read the book. His story is humble, heroic and compelling. I found out about the book because Stabler is the uncle of a friend of a Ranger I know. I bring this up because of the title of the book. Had no one asked him, his story would have died with him. As part of my family history, I know that my grandfather served in the same areas as Stabler. Reading his book made me wonder if perhaps they were in the same places at the same time. To be honest, I imagined they were, but I wouldn't have wondered this had I not known either of their stories.

*There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside of you.* -Maya Angelou

For the twentieth anniversary of September 11th last year, I had the privilege of being a member of a Task Force appointed to honor those who died that day, those who have been killed in action since then and all who have served in the military in this era known as The Global War on Terrorism. This Task Force was focused solely in the state of Minnesota. One of the organizations that partnered with us was the Minnesota Military Museum. Reaching the twentieth anniversary of 9/11 shined a light on the depth of service and sacrifice made by our military during GWOT. The Director of the MMM has endeavored to record and preserve the stories of this era through personal interviews. All of the interviews will be archived in the Museum to safeguard and honor the importance of what they represent historically for the state of Minnesota. If you are Minnesotan (or know someone who is) that served during GWOT, please visit the MMM to find out how you can share the story of your service.

<https://www.mnmilitarymuseum.org/exhibits/test-gallery/share-your-story/>

*Continued on the next page*



This type of oral history preservation is not unique to Minnesota. Please think about who you can share your story with in your own community. As you read this, you are a living storybook with a history of service that is worthy of honoring and remembering. As I said earlier, your life matters and your military service is an important part of it.

*Every time you share your story it's a reminder that you have lived and that has value.*

-Heather Greenwood Davis

Dust off your covers, open your books and tell me a story, please! Thank you all for your service.  
I hope this finds you well and blessed. RLTW!

Jill Stephenson



## Janet Morgan

## POWERFUL QUESTIONS



### Part One

As a therapist, I ask many questions to get to know my clients. I am interested in who they are as people, what motivates them, and what might be in the way of them moving forward in life. I ask lots of questions. I listen

to the answers, what is said, what isn't said, and I look at body language as the person is answering my question. Forming a quality relationship at the beginning of counseling is imperative for trust between us both. I must trust the person is honest with their answers and the client must trust me with honoring their story. That mutual trust is the foundation of a therapeutic relationship essential for change or growth to take place, usually a goal of therapy.

In Reality Therapy, there are 5 Powerful Questions that help form a relationship between therapist and client.

The first question opens a conversation that never ends; "What do you want?"

What do you want in this situation?

What do you want from me (as your therapist)?

What do you want from your job?

What do you want from your spouse?

What do you want from your marriage?

What do you want from your children?

What do you want from yourself?

I could go on and on.... but the point of that first question is that we have to look inward, at our basic needs and really focus on what we want. Knowing what we want is the most important step we make in moving forward.

"If you don't know where you are going, you might end up someplace else" Yogi Berra

And the adverse can help...

"If you don't know what you want avoid what you don't want, that in itself is a good start."

— Lamine Pearlheart, [Aether](#)

**In order to know your strongest Basic Need please fill out the following Basic Needs Assessment on the next page.**

Dr Janet Morgan, LPC, NCC, CT/RT, EMDR, MFLC, BC-TMH

<https://drjanetmorgan.com/>

706-892-8583

*Dr. Janet Morgan*

Although we share the same basic human needs, we differ in the amount of each need we require. For example, while some people have a high need for social connections, (love & belonging), others are more driven by the need to achieve (competency, or power), the need to play (fun), the need for independence (freedom), or the need to be healthy and/or financially secure (survival).

## HOW TO USE THIS CHART:

1. In the "WANT" column for each need, place an "W" in the box corresponding to the strength you believe you hold for that need in relation to the other needs. For example, you may have an "X" in the 9 box for Love and Belonging, in the "7" box for Power, in the 5 box for Freedom, and in the 6 box for Fun. That, then, would be your needs profile.
2. In the "HAVE" column for each need, place an "H" to represent how much of that need you think you are currently getting in your life.
3. In the "ENERGY" column, place an "E" to represent the amount of time and energy you are currently expending to satisfy that need

SURVIVAL			LOVE & BELONGING			COMPETENCY/POWER			FUN			FREEDOM			
(health or financial security)			(social connections)			(achievement)			(play)			(independence)			
<b>ARE YOU:</b> Conservative, Cautious, Predictable, A Long-term planner, Prepared for emergencies, Concerned about finances, A Saver, Organized, Punctual, Responsible, Loyal, Dependable <b>DO YOU:</b> Value tradition, Focus on safety, Have a disaster plan in place, Invest wisely, Know self defense, Exercise daily, Get routine physicals, Get adequate rest, Have long-term relationships			<b>ARE YOU:</b> Social, Genuine, Contributing, Generous, Helpful, Compassionate, Caring, Kind, Hospitable, Family Oriented, Affectionate, Cooperative, Out-going, Empathic, Diplomatic, Collaborative, Trustworthy, Team Player <b>DO YOU:</b> Join groups, Participate, Communicate clearly, Listen, Share			<b>ARE YOU:</b> Achievement oriented, Driven by success, Committed, Persistent, Purposeful, Competent, Competitive, Confident, Decisive, Determined <b>DO YOU:</b> Enjoy competition, Desire approval, Seek regard from others, Seek proficiency, Value recognition, Seek attention/fame, Must win, Challenge yourself, Set high standards/goals			<b>ARE YOU:</b> Joyful, Witty, Spontaneous, Playful, Cheerful, Positive, Spirited, Enthusiastic, Engaging, Amusing, Innovative, Light-Hearted, Creative, Adventurous, Never bored, Curious, Open-Minded <b>DO YOU:</b> Celebrate Life, Laugh frequently, Seek novelty & variety, Play games, Watch/Attend/Participate in sports events, Enjoy art & music, Love learning, Enjoy parties, Hike, explore nature			<b>ARE YOU:</b> Independent, Self-reliant, Liberated, Autonomous, Energized, Excitable, Flexible, Creative, Peaceful, Adventurous, Not time-constricted, Courageous <b>DO YOU:</b> Question Rules, Take risks, Seek alternatives, Welcome change, Resist restraints			
(HIGH)															
10															
9															
8															
7															
6															
5															
4															
3															
2															
1															
(LOW)	WANT	HAVE	ENERGY	WANT	HAVE	ENERGY	WANT	HAVE	ENERGY	WANT	HAVE	ENERGY	WANT	HAVE	ENERGY



My flight arrived in Hanoi late that night. Everything I needed was in a rucksack on my back. I did have a long list of unanswered questions. Like what happened to South Vietnam's soldiers after the war? MIAs? Could I take photos? Did the NVA kill the Montagnard's after we left?

From Noi Bai Airport to Hanoi City is a 40-minute taxi ride on a modern four-lane highway. It was overcast and dark, which made the lights of Hanoi glow above the cityscape; dozens of modern hotels, floodlit buildings and sounds of traffic jammed streets. I didn't expect that, even after reading about Hanoi in the latest version of the *Lonely Planet Vietnam* guidebook.

My first night was spent in the Hanoi Sheraton, with cafés, a lap swimming pool and its own nightclub. I got the last room. They were sold out because of the international building convention. My biggest concern then shifted to trying to convert their money. The process is impossible to do it in your head. I wanted to buy some shaving cream and wasn't sure if I overpaid by a hundred dollars. That next morning after I checked my bank balance which was stated in Vietnamese Dong 84,854,880.39? Even though my balance left me feeling even more confused, I also kind of felt rich.

I will admit that I had a perverse curiosity about how things had turned out for our former enemy. I expected to find a little leftover rubble, maybe a few bullet holes in a wall, or a broken bridge railing, but I couldn't find the tell-tale signs of war.

What I found was a modern city. Maybe it's their hybrid cross-over model between the free-markets and centrally controlled government—but, for whatever reason today's Vietnam is the Asian equivalent of an economic shooting star; the model of prosperity, experiencing double digit economic growth, practically no unemployment, no poverty, and a literacy rate that is the embarrassment of every other country in Southeast Asia.

Everyone seemed to be happy, friendly and content and I felt safe wherever I went, day or night, and was sort of taken back by how nice everyone was to me. It was obvious that I was an American. At night I would walk by groups of young Vietnamese huddled together, the boys were eating sunflower seeds and drinking Tiger beer while the girls were busy updating their Facebook pages or texting each other's cell phones.

Hanoi's city center has long, open boulevards, tree-fringed side-

walks, ancient pagodas, restaurants, cafés and the constant press of traffic as motor scooters jam every street in every direction. The Vietnam I remembered (1968-69) everyone was poor, they rode bicycles, and the only traffic jams were caused when some villager's water buffalo got stuck in front of a Marine Corps truck convoy.

U.S. Vets are welcomed back to Vietnam. I had read about similar reactions that American soldiers had during the occupation of Japan, after the war, how the Japanese seemed to harbor no resentment. Buddhist teachings called the Doctrine of Mutual Arising propounds that no one or no thing is to blame for whatever occurs, because all is mutually arising. The basic belief follows that your enemies and friends are both parts of one whole.

The east shore of West Lake is lined with new apartment buildings. The locals call it the "Beverly Hills" of Hanoi; it's where the best and brightest of the city live.

I especially liked the National Museum of Vietnamese History which is an exhaustive repository of ancient and historical relics with explanations in both Vietnamese and in English. Outside the museum is a line-up of cannons; one for every dynasty, going back thousands of years. I thought that maybe we should make it a rule to never go to war with a country that has a col-

lection of antique cannon dating back to the first century.

The Ho Chi Minh Trail Museum is not on any guided tours, but it was the highlight of the Hanoi part of my trip. The museum was closed but I found a young female NVA officer and told her we were Americans who had fought in the war and she opened it up just for us. Imagine a government worker staying after and opening the Smithsonian-



ian then taking you on a private tour after you told them you had been a soldier on the other side of one of our wars? Don't think so.

My big discovery — the picture to the right is what most people believe was the Ho Chi Minh Trail. But on the next page, the photo is what the real trail looked like this.

Ho Chi Minh Trail →

*Continued on the next page*







Ho Chi Minh Trail

In one room they had built a scale mock-up of the Ho Chi Minh trail that ran from Hanoi through Laos and Cambodia. In the early days, it took six months to travel from North Vietnam to Saigon on the Ho Chi Minh Trail. By 1970, regular North Vietnamese Army soldiers could make the journey in six weeks. By the end of the war, with motorized transportation the trip might take a week. It is estimated that as many as 20,000 soldiers a month marched south at the height of the trail's use.

Side note: every flight I took anywhere in South

East Asia was on a new Airbus with an American in the cockpit. In 2005 an international law was passed requiring that one of the pilots in the cockpit speak English, so to comply, Asia recruited American pilots.

In Hue City my questions about what had happened to the South Vietnamese soldiers after the South was defeated. I had been told they were sent to prison, killed or tortured. My taxi driver was a former ARVN officer who had worked with the 101st Airborne Division in 1969 the same time I was there. He told me after his surrender, he was sent to a reeducation camp for six years, then he was released and went back to his life. His only restriction is not being allowed to work next to government offices—that's a problem because they're everywhere and he drives a taxi.



Author with HO VAN DIU, the local scout. Don't get the wrong idea, the Vietnamese are very hands on people

*The A Shau Valley*— In order to get back there I would need a guide, a driver, local Montagnard scout, plus government permits one to enter the valley another to climb Hamburger Hill.

We left Hue at 05:30 for the three-hour trip to the remote village town of Aluoi located at the entrance of the A Shau Valley. Aluoi has a modern boulevard, homes, hotels, cafés and a school built over the place where the old Special Forces camp and runway had been located. I couldn't see (Hamburger Hill) because it was covered in clouds, but on a clear day AP BIA dominates the northern end of the valley.

After our guide got the permits, we ate lunch in town, then drove to where the road ends, parked the SUV. A huge outdoor map erected to memorialize the 1969 battle showed the locations of engagements, tunnels, bunkers and caves, all neatly numbered and labeled in Vietnamese with English subtitles.

The mountains have grown back and are covered with trees, jungle vines and climbing plants. The hike was rugged, but

worth it; surrounded with color, fragrance and one sound I had never forgot. It was that familiar Jungle buzzing that sounds like an electric razor. I found out it is called a Cicada, an ugly looking insect with a wide, blunt head, protruding eyes, and two pairs of membranous wings.

Anyway, they have built 890 concrete steps to the top of the Hamburger Hill where they constructed a shrine dedicated to

their great victory of the NVA (North Vietnam Army) over the American Army. (Of course, I remembered that battle had a different outcome.)

I tried to visualize all those young paratroopers (in the 3/187) had to endure. In some places they would have had to climb almost straight up in mud and rain, carrying all their gear as NVA bullets rained down on them.

My guide (Mr. Duy) spoke perfect English told me that in fifteen years of taking people on private tours of Hamburger Hill, I was the first 101st soldier he'd taken up to the top. That just shows you how much we hated that place.

I happened to mention to Mr. Duy that we'd been here in 1969 hunting for a hidden NVA radio broadcasting station but instead we'd been hit by lightning, which triggered what became known as the battle for Hamburger Hill.

*Continued on the next page*



After I finished my story he stood up then pointed his hand to the valley below.

"I know where this radio station was hidden," Mr. Duy said. "You want to go there next?"

After the climb down we all boarded the SUV and drove to the far side of the valley, turned down a dirt road, parked in the yard of an old farmhouse with a monkey chained to the shed like a guard dog. Mr. Duy knew the family and introduced us. In the back room was a 90-year-old former NVA potter who was sick but kept his eyes on me the whole time I was there.

Behind the house we found a worn footpath along a creek then had to traverse a side hill until we came to a trail marker at the entrance of a cave. From 1967-'70 this cave housed a powerful radio interception and broadcast station. From their vantage point they could have seen our every movement in and out of the valley.

*I wanted to report that Ranger Team Two had finally located its*

*primary objective, only I'm not sure who to report back too.*



What I found on my journey back to Vietnam has forced me to reevaluate everything I once believed as true. Going back did more to help heal my psyche than any 100 therapists, because I got to see the Vietnamese as loving people with families, and not as the enemy; the VC, zips, gooks, body count or someone to fear. I believe hatred, resentments, and fears get trapped in our collective experience and unknowingly passed down to the next generations. The same way that toxic shame gets passed down in a dys-

functional family.

I believe there are tens of thousands of Vets like myself who are at the same stage in life, who have begun to face their own mortality are now looking to do something with their lives that is going to add purpose and make their work meaningful. My objective now is to reconnect with Vietnam, and restore mutual respect between our people and encourage other Vets to go back to Vietnam and see for themselves.

*Larry Chambers is an award-winning artist (First place winner in the 2011 National Veterans Creative Arts Contest) who has authored/coauthored 50 published books and over a thousand trade magazine articles.*

*Chambers served with F Co 58th Inf LRP and L Co 75th Rangers 101st Abn, one of the thirteen LRRP (long-range reconnaissance patrol) companies in Vietnam. (68-69)*

*His first book Recondo - LRRPs in The 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne was one in a group of true story combat books that were mandatory reading for U.S. Army Rangers.*

*Currently living in Santa Cruz for the last nine years, he had been living in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.*

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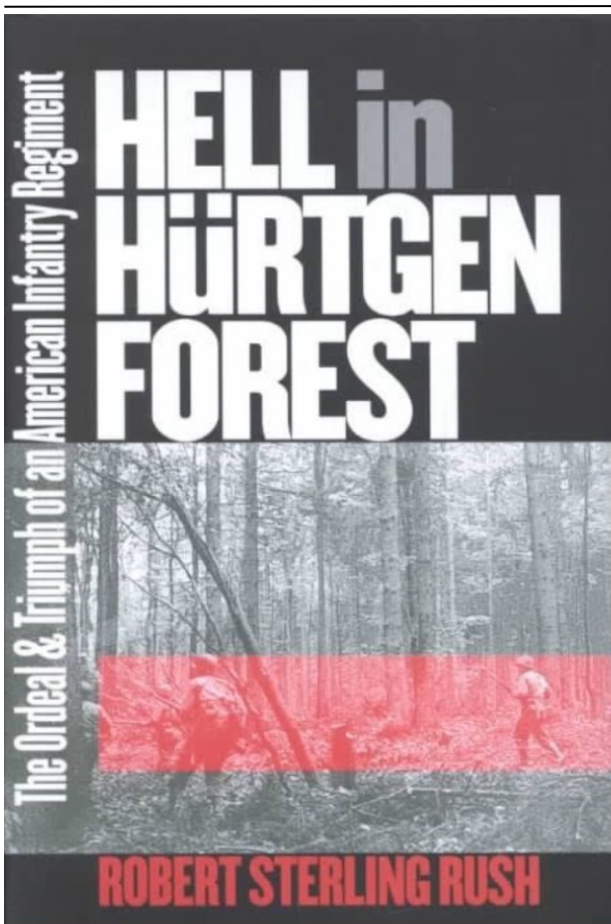
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### ***Hell in Hürtgen Forest***

Examines the combat performance of small units and their reaction to heavy losses using the U.S. 22d Infantry Regiment and units of the opposing LXXIV Korps during the intense combat in the Hürtgen Forest.

Organizationally, there are two issues.

*The first* is that a unit with combat experience had a significant initial advantage over ones without, no matter how well trained the latter.

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### **About the Author**

Robert Sterling Rush, Ph.D., Command Sergeant Major, USA, (retired) served at every organizational level from squad to continental army command sergeant major, including 1-75 Ranger, 1-22 Light, and 3-36 Mechanized Infantry Battalions. Rush received his bachelor's degree while serving as a CSM of a light infantry battalion, and upon retirement in 1999, CSM Rush took his Ph.D. at The Ohio State University. He joined the Army History Program in 2001 and coordinated the Army's international military history programs for ten years. Rush deployed to Iraq in 2006 as a command historian for the USACE Gulf Region Division and again in 2009-2010 as command historian for MNC-I. In addition to the above book, he authored *GI: The US Infantryman in World War II* as well as editions of the *NCO Guide* and the *Soldier's Guide*.



*Vic Power (Center) Holds an "Irish Wake" for Bill Acebes' Friends Throughout The Night After Bill's Memorial Service*

[www.75thrra.org](http://www.75thrra.org)—March Issue-2022





# 1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICK MERRITT

Over the last few months, the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion has deployed in support of contingency operations and focused on the improvement of the Battalion's training and support infrastructure. Thanks to the help of their supporters over the last year, as the Battalion's footprint has grown exponentially to support the growth of our Rangers from human performance and physical training, combat and operational training, and the mechanisms involved with making our Rangers the most lethal fighting force in the world. Our Imperial Battalion Command Team, COL Brawley & CSM Spenser, ask me to share with you, "they are humbled and honored to serve in the Regiment and want to personally thank all of you for your continued support and dedication to our Rangers".

The first item is near and dear to our hearts, as it serves to honor those Rangers before us who've paid the ultimate sacrifice.



The Hall of Heroes at the Battalion Headquarters is being updated to encapsulate the history and traditions of the 1st Ranger Battalion and to honor our fallen. The significant updates are set for completion in time for Memorial Day 2022. Each Ranger Killed in Action portrait is being individually painted and will be displayed on an updated Killed in Action wall with

plans to complete the same for our Killed in Training in the future.

## SFC Christopher Celiz Medal of Honor:

SFC Christopher Celiz was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by President Joe Biden on December 16, 2021. It was presented to his wife and daughter, Katherine and Shannon Celiz. During the ceremony, the President called Celiz "courage made flesh," and thanked his family for his service. On July 12, 2018, Celiz was leading an operation in Paktia Province, Afghanistan to clear an area of enemy forces. As they neared its completion, the unit came under fire by an enemy force equipped with ma-



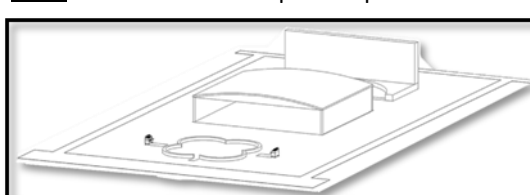
chine guns and small-arms weapons. The attack was so effective it prevented them from mounting a counterattack. Realizing the danger his team was in, Celiz put his life on the line to retrieve and use a heavy weapons system. This allowed his unit to regain control and move to a secure location, where they began medical treatment on a wounded partnered soldier. The enemy continued its barrage as a MEDEVAC helicopter arrived. Knowing it was crucial to get his injured comrade out,

Celiz exposed himself to enemy fire and used his body as a shield as he was moved onto the helicopter. As it lifted off, he was hit by enemy fire. However, instead of having the aircraft remain, he motioned for it to leave. He was treated on the ground and transported to a nearby medical facility, where he died of his injuries. SFC Christopher Celiz is the 19<sup>th</sup> individual award-



ed the Medal of Honor for Actions in Afghanistan.

## Memorial Extension Project and Resiliency and Heritage Foundation:



structure and development of their facilities is absolutely amazing. The lengths and depths of the creativity from within their circle impress upon the foundational work set aside this last year.

*Next Page*

The Battalion Memorial Extension project is an addition to the existing Ranger Memorial. The area development is underway and will sit abreast of the current Ranger Memorial behind the Battalion. Between the Barracks, the Resiliency and Heritage Building and outdoor BBQ area will allow Rangers to celebrate and reflect on the legacy of brotherhood within the many years of our lineage. The Resiliency and Heritage Building will house the formerly frequented Kevin Barry's Pub and an indoor seating/dining area for Rangers to use for events and gatherings. A smoke pit and BBQ area will sit in the open area with multiple tables and chairs constructed to seat a Company's worth of Rangers. The Shamrock and DUI will welcome all to the Heritage Memorial in true Savannah fashion.

#### Intestinal Fortitude Gym:

Adjacent to the Headquarters, between the Ranger Training Facility and Donovan Gym, the Battalion finished construction of the outdoor Intestinal Fortitude Gym. Outfitted with \$40k in

new bars, weights, and storage equipment, the outdoor gym provides another opportunity for Rangers to creatively train their elements. With the help of their human performance coaches, our Rangers are the most physically fit and versatile athletes in the Army. The addition of an overhang is set to be installed in early March to offer additional protection from the elements for the Intestinal Fortitude Gym.



#### Ranger William "Doc" Donovan Gym, Rehabilitation, Reconditioning and Recovery Center

The Donovan Gym is making vast improvements to the development of Ranger injury prevention and treatment. The Rehabilitation and Recovery Center is the means by which Ranger will serve longer. Our Rangers are expected to 'move further, faster, and fight harder than any other Soldier'. The Battalion aims to provide each Ranger the tools necessary to meet those expectations daily. They have grown and strengthened our Rangers to endure the stress of combat. The dedicated Human Performance Coaches utilize a multitude of ways to accomplish this goal; blood flow restriction training, anti-gravity treadmills, in-body metrics testing, and the new addition of Dream Pods all vessel the training to achieve optimum performance goals. On

their Human Performance Staff, they hired a nutritionist dedicated to the attention of "how" they are fueling our Rangers, and what Rangers can do to better improve and reach their goals faster. The Human Performance pillar for our Rangers is nested inside a larger operation, known as

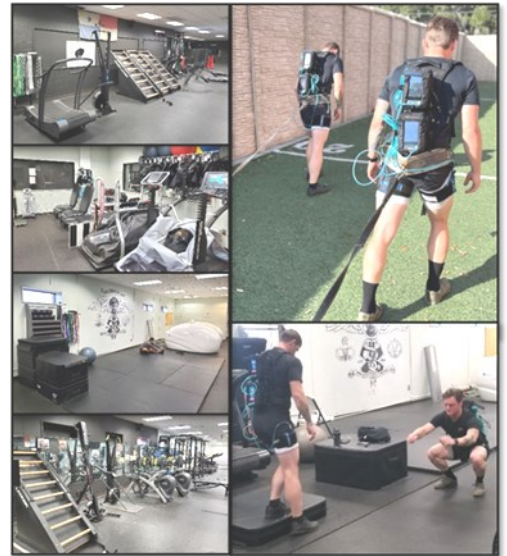
"PHALANX". Named after the historic battle of Thermopylae, PHALANX desires to invest in our greatest resource – Rangers. Human Performance, Career, and Education are the three essential pillars that comprise PHALNAX. Internal and external resources provide Ranger's development, information and resource sharing, and healthy decompression. They hope to enhance every Ranger's longevity in Service, health, and acuity in these domains. Through the execution of Human Performance Courses, Executive Coaching, Financial Planning counseling, and education briefs, Rangers are holistically increasing operational readiness. Focusing on these critical pillars minimizes distractions in training, strengthens families, and provides essential tools to identify, build, and maintain successful life habits transcending their time in service to this Nation.

#### Celiz Training Area

The 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion's Training and Innovation Cell focuses on modernization of facilities, capabilities, and courses in Hunter Army Airfield, with the goal of further increasing our Rangers' readiness in response to global contingency operations.



Key areas of emphasis include the development of monthly courses led by the Battalion Master Breacher, Master Marksman-ship and Master Driver instructors; enabling companies to continue to master the fundamentals and share new TTPs across the formation – in addition to their regularly scheduled training. These courses are executed primarily on Hunter Army Airfield's newly developed training areas, specifically our Afghanistan Village Compounds, Subterranean Trainer, Enhanced Breaching Pit, Breaching Locker and our Virtual Marksmanship Trainer.



*Continued Next Page*



Unique to the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion is the Virtual Marksmanship Trainer, located in our compound allowing Rangers to train 24/7 on basic and advanced marksmanship drills. Over the course of the last year, Rangers have fired hundreds-of-thousands of rounds and executed thousands of marksmanship drills in the Virtual Marksmanship Trainer, that otherwise would not have been fired if not for the availability of an on-site Marksmanship Trainer.



I want to personally thank COL Brawley & CSM Spenser and their Rangers for all the support for Bill's memorial service.

CSM(R) William Acebes served as an original cadre member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Ranger), 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry and was inducted in the Hall of Fame in 2003. Over 100 former Rangers and members of the greater Savannah Community came to pay their respects to the life of CSM(R) Acebes. We are truly humbled and honored to have known such a fantastic person and inspirational Ranger Leader.

I proudly salute the hard work of the Battalion, it was a very honorable memorial and as a man who unfortunately had to conduct way to many, it was flawless. You only get one chance to get these right...and they did just that, well done.

#### Upcoming Events:

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Takur Ghar and Roberts Ridge is approaching, on March 4<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> Ranger Battalion will conduct a

moment of remembrance for those from that day not-so long ago.

See the related article describing the hard fought battle over two decades ago in the early days of our Global War on Terrorism fought in eastern Afghanistan in this issue.

#### CSM(R) William Acebes Memorial Service:





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES

Christmas and 2021 has passed. Hopefully 2022 will not be 2020too as some have stated. I went in on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and got my left knee replaced. The right one went so well last year; thought I'd get this one out of the way. So far so good, should be good to go by Waco time.

From Roy Bissey: Merry Christmas and high hopes for a Happy New Year to you all. It is just three months until we meet again in Waco, Texas to throw another log on the fires of memory and enjoy the company of our brothers from long ago. We will have at least one LRRP from the V Corps days, Bill Bohte, with us to shed some light on the very beginnings of the LRRP job. Hopefully he can persuade some of his comrades to join the fun. We younger Rangers would welcome the opportunity to honor the men who were the foundation of the LRRP concept in the US Army. Those dates are 24-26 March 2022 with the main event to be held on Saturday the 26th at the property of Jason and Jim Savell, 280 Possum's End in Woodway, Texas. We will be headquartered at the Springhill Suites, 200 Colonnade Parkway, Woodway, Texas which is, according to Google Earth, 8.3 road miles from the Savell spread. We have a block of 20 rooms set aside for us at the Springhill at a rate of \$149.00 per night with breakfast included. As of yesterday, there were 16 of the 20 rooms reserved leaving only four. There is a link for the purpose of making reservations online appended later in this email. You can also call 254-732-7979 if you prefer to make a reservation by phone. Bill Bohte reported that he had difficulty making a reservation and was told that all of our rooms had been reserved but the director of sales confirmed to me yesterday that there are four rooms remaining and I tried the link today with no trouble. We will have a large hospitality room for our use starting mid-day on Thursday the 24th and extending through Sunday morning the 27th. We gathered in this room in 2019 until the wee hours of the morning and no fights erupted, the MP's were not called and the bartenders kept us from going thirsty. Did I mention that there is a well stocked bar with friendly, smiling bartenders located in the hotel, just a few steps from our meeting room? On Friday afternoon and evening we will have appetizers catered by George's Restaurant to stave off starvation. Saturday the 26th will be a big day hosted by the Savell family with lots of room to spread out (or congregate) and visit. Lunch will be catered and there will be plenty of fluids provided at hydration stations including a well stocked bar complete with friendly bartender. Jim said he had to find a replacement for the bartender he hired in 2019 because she was in prison....or something like that.

RANGERS EJ Alexander and Bill Bowman will present a memorial service for our brothers who have gone on to work for the Big Ranger on Saturday afternoon. EJ did this solo in 2019 and did an outstanding job. Unfortunately the list of deceased has grown



by quite a bit since then but that is inevitable for we are all headed to that rally point in the sky. That is why it is very important for us all to gather and remember old times as well as share where and what we have been since 1974.

There are a couple of pieces of business to address at this point: 1. Two more members of the company have recently been found and contacted. SSG Marty Martinez from comco platoon lives in Harker Heights, TX and was recently contacted by John McNeill who lives in Killeen. He has stated his intention to attend the reunion. I re-

cently tracked down via Facebook, Paul Akscin who was a third platoon member and currently lives in Clarksville, Tennessee. I have contact information for both these gentlemen if anyone is interested in visiting with them. Paul has not committed to making the reunion at this time but he could probably be swayed by a few phone calls or emails. 2. Ed Thurman has recently posted the collection of pictures he got from all over prior to the 2019 reunion on YouTube. He made an excellent video slideshow, complete with music, from the collection and put it on DVD's, which he handed out, free of charge to everyone who wanted one. To find this video on YouTube, search A/75 Ranger. Ed is also working on posting videos and pictures from the 2019 reunion to YouTube. There were cameras everywhere and second platoon Eddie Davis was quite prolific in the recording of our party and then shared that with Ed. Speaking of sharing with Ed, if you still have photographs of your time in the company, whether 3779 Provisional, V Corps, D/17 or A/75 which you have not made available to Ed Thurman, please send them to him at ethurman01@gmail.com.

EJ Alexander is collecting contributions for the purpose of financing this shindig. You may send yours to EJ at 235 Weoka Ct., Ellijay, Georgia 30540 or by PAYPAL using his mobile phone number. His instructional words follow:

If you have a Pay Pal account, enter 404-545-6533 as friend or family (this saves us a couple of bucks). Please follow up with an E-Mail to: alexanderej@bellsouth.net and copy Roy Bissey at r\_bissey@yahoo.com telling us how much you sent and how it was sent. This will provide dual accountability and allow me to track donations in case they don't show up via PayPal or mail. IMPORTANT! HEADCOUNT! Since we are getting very close to D-day it is time to start making an accurate estimate of the number of folks we can expect. We will use this data to ensure that everyone gets fed on Saturday and also allow the food supply at the hotel hospitality room on Friday to be adequate. Please respond to me, Roy Bissey, at r\_bissey@yahoo.com as soon as possible with your intentions including the number in your party.

*Continued on the next page*



One thing Roy didn't mention is the day starts at the Savell Ranch at or around 10am, with an opening gathering in the big barn. There will be lots of history and items on display both for looking at and for purchase. So far there are 27 Rangers committed to Waco. Plus, friends and families, we are way over 50 and still 8 weeks to go. But those weeks will pass quickly. Ranger Ronnie Suggs, from Commo Platoon has checked in and shared a story.

From Ronnie Suggs: Greetings Rangers. I hope that you guys are off to a great day. Gonna ramble a bit. Rumor has it that that is what us ole timers do. I've done commercial and residential plumbing for twenty-five years now and am still at it at 68 come March 30. I'm a 1954 model. Anyway, I went to the plumb shop awhile back to gather supplies and met a much younger model Ranger who had just started working there. He is like a thirty-year-old model of us old guys. Do you ole geezers remember being 30 some years old? Like we were born not in this century but last century. Anyhow, I was sharing with him some of the things that our guys were doing to stay in touch and he expressed an interest in doing something similar with his unit. Speaking of plumbing. I was wondering if you guys remember our days of low crawl training. That training is still being put to good use. I just spent three days pushing with my feet and pulling with my elbows with my belly hugging the ground as I low crawled under a house laying out plastic and replacing ole galvanized piping. Like Cheech and Chong, I thank GOD for good joints. I think that some are aching that I didn't realize that I had.

I've got four more houses waiting to be re-piped. If any of you guys feel the need to do some low crawl remedial training come join me. PS. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect with nature again. I've encountered all kinds of creatures while crawling around in those crawlspaces. Snakes, rats, possum, spiders, crickets, etc. Sometimes those crickets will bounce onto your face while you lay there working and then they will bounce back off. Went under one house to fix a sewer pipe and I literally killed 24 black widows with a hammer in order to complete my mission to fix the pipe. That's

where that close quartered hand-to-hand combat training paid off. A copperhead snake bit me on the hand about 5 years ago as

I was entering a crawl space door. Here is where my first aid training paid off. I squeezed some of the blood out of the wound to hopefully remove some of the venom and then applied a tourniquet above the wound. In spite of the intense pain, I finished my mission to repair their plumbing and then drove 25 miles to the nearest hospital for treatment. They gave me morphine to suppress the pain. It put me out of work for six weeks but I survived the ordeal. However, the snake had a different outcome. I put him in a bowl and took him with me to the hospital for identification purposes. Unfortunately he died as a result of massive head injuries due to yet another hand-to-hand combat experience. So if you're ready for some excitement, come join me in the crawlspace world. P.S. I was also an eyewitness to a murder while on a plumbing job but I'll leave that story for another time. Plumbing has been an exciting job for me. I'll take some meds now and settle down. Have a very blessed day Rangers

A story about Charlie Fenwick's granddaughter as told by Mark Ross: Jourdan Fenwick joined the Marines in January 2021 and took Basic at Camp Pendleton. She went into aviation as a crew chief on a Huey. While in basic she might have been talking to some of the other Recruits about a cadence her grandfather, Ranger Charlie Fenwick had shared with her. It goes something like Rat sh..t, bat sh.. When she was saying the finale...I'm a F..... Ranger who the hell are you. The DI came down hard on her and said you are NOT a F..... Ranger, Drop and give me 20. Picture below, she is in the middle.



*Continued on the next page*

From Jim Savell: Working in a "grey" environment (part 1). There are secrets that individuals, groups & governments guard. Gathering information/intelligence on your competitor is normal. The different military branches gather intelligence for tactical purposes using their personnel. The Government gathers intelligence for strategic/political reasons. The best at this is the CIA. They have resources & experienced operators. The CIA has one function...to get the info....without fail! The Vietnam Conflict was a complicated affair. Two of the countries bordering South Vietnam were Cambodia & Laos. They were "neutral" countries, meaning other countries couldn't be in their country militarily. Whoever the enforcement arm was they didn't do a good job. When the North Vietnamese were asked if they were operating in Laos/Cambodia...they said no.... case closed. The U S military was operating blind as to what was in Laos/Cambodia. The CIA needed boots on the ground getting intel. They tried it with Viets only but wasn't successful. A unit called Studies Observation Group (SOG) was created. The operators doing the "cross border" thingies were active duty. The CIA controlled their operations. Personnel were not to speak about what/where they were operating. To learn about SOG read John Plaster's book "SOG". You were required a "Top Secret" clearance. Everything we did was classified cause if that enforcement arm asked if we were in Laos/Cambodia....of course not....case closed. At the time everything was very sensitive. Please don't think I am "blowing smoke" & a CIA operator.....I was a pawn for them. Everything

has been declassified & I can tell all. When someone states, "I can't tell you because what I did was classified". I believe they mean they didn't do anything. Our teams were 2/3 U S Special forces & 7/9 SCU (Special Commando Unit) Teams consisted of Cambodian, Nungs & Montagnard. Serving after Nam I never mentioned being in SOG to anyone. Each team we were compartmented to not know what others were doing. As a matter of fact, people reading "SOG" knew more about what I did than me.

I spent some time on the phone talking with Bill Miller, BDQ Unit Director. He was in B Company in Colorado, 70-71 time frame. During that time, members from A Co. went up there to train with them. Bill sent me some stories and history of 7<sup>th</sup> Corps and it's evolvement to B Co. I will put some of it together and share as space allows. Bill also sent in Doug Nolen for the RHOF for the Class of 2022. He sent it in last year, and is trying again this year.

Hopefully have some great Waco stories to share for the next edition. Take care and do your buddy check, it might just make someone's day.

That's all for now

Stan

## LOOKING TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION INVOLVED?



Our **Community Partners** are businesses and fellow non-profit organizations that we've teamed up with to assist transitioning and transitioned Rangers through avenues like finding employment, getting into grad school, navigating VA benefits, etc. These are groups that actively value Rangers and see their worth. Similarly, our **Ranger-Friendly Careers** are companies who go beyond saying they are "veteran-friendly" but actively want to hire veterans- and many specifically seek out former Rangers.

**Email [info@threerangersfoundation.org](mailto:info@threerangersfoundation.org) to learn more!**



# ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

*Reader discretion advised*

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Feature:

A Soldiers Story as told by Col. Bob Reitz Senior Advisor 35<sup>th</sup> ARVN Ranger Battalion:

Eugene Djikowski from Detroit Michigan was my RTO for the 35<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion ARVN Ranger Advisory Team. His story to me is a real life story worth telling. So, as I know it, here it goes.

I arrived at Bien Hoa 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Group as the 35<sup>th</sup> had stood down awaiting orders and a new Senior Advisor, Me! I had to build a team to effectively work with the ARVN Rangers. Soon, a young 19-year-old PFC, Polack (no disrespect) reported for an interview and volunteered to be the team's RTO. The team's lifeblood. Ski as we called him, quickly established that all he wanted to do was fight the NV/VC. Since we were on alert and time was of the essence, I showed him an ANPRC 25 and asked him to turn it on and set a frequency. He didn't know how! After asking my boss, Major John M. Moses if this was all I had to work with. I found out it was. So, back to the interviewee to begin training.

In a year, the 35<sup>th</sup> fought in four campaigns and a lot more skirmishes all over III Corps in 1967-68, but of course, the 68 Tet Offensive was the worst 13 days of my tour. I thought we were losing.

On 8 February 68 fighting just west of the Han Quan Pagoda, roughly three blocks west of the Cholon US PX the whole battalion was committed to free the Pagoda from enemy use. We knew the VC were using it for medical purposes and supply. It was heavily defended! Our approach to get through their defenses was somewhat like the "Hammer and Anvil" with a fire support element on the roof of the Korean and Philippine hotel (five stories up). I was with this element with my counterpart Day Uy (Capt) Ho Van Hoa. I had left "Ski" with a force closest to the hotel to communicate information on VC activities and "Stew", my PSG, with the XO Dai Uy Thong about 2 blocks north. After we climbed up 5 stories the order was given to attack. Unexpectedly, the Thieu Uy with Ski lead a linear attack towards the pagoda, and as usual Ski was right there in front. Taking heavy machine gun and rifle fire, the attack split in half and a Ranger carrying a BAR was shot in the chest. Bravely "Ski" grabbed the Ranger and his BAR and rushed him to the security of a partially destroyed house. Ski was now cut off from the rest of the force except for 4 or 5 Rangers who followed him. He wasn't wounded but some of the Rangers who followed him were.

Back to our rooftop, I was able to see all the way to the Pagoda,



and I could clearly see what Ski was doing. As the support element we fired all around the building where Ski was holed up which suppressed any round attack. But, our fire attracted the attention of VC snipers who poured fire on us to include B40 rockets. Three Rangers were shot in the head; two died immediately, the third had luck with the bullet passed through his helmet above his head. Our helmets had the black panther on a white star, which was (for the VC) a great aiming point. This all got personal when a bullet came through the two-foot high wall surrounding the roof top and hit me in the crouch. Not bad but scary! As dark came we had the Rangers secure by fire those cut off

with Ski now in command. He had organized his defenses and tended to the wounded, but couldn't exit the building still under sniper fire. My group felt it prudent to leave the rooftop and join the force on the ground. It was nightfall and B40's were incoming on us with the building next door on fire. We were stymied keeping us from a move forward, which was the same for Dai Uy Thong's force. And so, we exchanged fire all night. Neither effective.

The area between the pagoda and us had been bombed and there were too many places for snipers to hide. However, Hoe gave the order to attack at sunrise, and indeed we did shouting "Biet Dong Quan Sat!" (Rangers Kill) As we passed Ski's hideout, he emerged unscathed and joined me as we rushed toward the pagoda. This was one of several fights at pagoda's where the unarmed monks had no weapons and were oath bound to care for the sick and injured. We suffered several casualties but captured a ton of weapons and prisoners.

I put "Ski" in for the Bronze Star w/V device, and the board upgraded it to a Silver Star. Ski stayed with the 35<sup>th</sup> for three more years, attained the rank of Staff Sergeant and rotated home with his Vietnamese wife and kids. As with a lot of soldiers of all ranks and the poor welcome home, Ski suffered PTSD and turned to alcohol resulting in his early death. He was a "Helluva Guy, and I can't forget him."

Millers Musings:

"I often wonder what happened to people who asked me for directions?"

Saw on a tee shirt— "Now that we know how to wash our hands properly, can we now work on turn signals!"

Mu Nau

Bill Miller

Unit Director



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

Greetings and Salutations fellow LRRPs, Rangers, and Jayhawks...

Please stay safe, and stay healthy.

We received Status Reports from various people, and will try to refer to some of the ones not covered in the emails and Facebook groups. Mike Moser's Memorial tribute to Jim Broyles was not as well attended, as he would have liked, due to both prior commitments on the part of many, as well as the predations of COVID. Laura Moore and one other attended the service in Missouri, but the pandemic may have interfered to some extent. We will report on some of the other memorial services next time.

Mike had participated in the sprinkling of Jim's ashes in Ruidoso, NM, and will be returning to sprinkle Bonnie's ashes there probably sometime this summer. We had a long conversation remembering all the missing in our ranks, and he will continue to check with Judy (Clarence Faught's widow). He stays in touch with Herbie, Marty Patterson, and Jeff Horne.

Mike had been planning to retire from his hunting business, but circumstances compelled him to put his 6 grandchildren to work rebuilding his barn, so now he is un-retired again, with a revitalized woodworking shop, and ramping up Moser's Pheasant Creek yet again. He still plans to visit Gettysburg, possibly some time this year, so we will keep everyone posted, in case anyone else wants to pile on.

Since our most recent past plans for a memorial jump for Richard Stutsman's ashes fell through, we are checking to see if anyone in the SF community who does base jumps for ashes in Ruidoso might be able to assist us with that.

Mike related another story that I had not known. When his Ranger class (1-73) graduated but had not yet departed the Ranger compound, he and at least one other newly graduated Ranger from B/75 donned their uniform black t-shirts, berets, and fatigues. The new class had just reported in, and was sleeping in the barracks. A little past 2400, they roused them, fell them out in the street, smoked them for a few hours, and left them standing in formation outside the barracks just before the RI's would report in for the morning. Years later, talking with some RI's from the committee, one of them remembered that, and had never understood why there was an exhausted incoming class standing in formation before the RI's arrived.

Ranger Voyles and his wife Jayne report on the wellbeing of the West Coast contingent and others: Tony Richardson and Bob Lund have been in touch, hunting, and



helping each other out, as well as Chris Christopher. Bill Walter continues his recovery from cancer with assistance from his wife, Karon.

RV is checking on the progress of LG (CSM (Ret.) Leon-Guerrero) who also lives in the area, and sees his brother, Tony Richardson and Ron Harrison of F/75, among others in the Seattle/Lakewood/Tacoma area. Dirty Eddie White continues his work with veterans in Colorado Springs, as well as pursuing his potting. RV linked up via phone with Doc Jeans and his wife, who continue to do well in their new home in NM. I had not known that RV had attended high school in Nuremberg, Germany, but he did – and was nick-

named "RA" by his classmates (for "Regular Army"). That's back in the Dark Ages for all you youngsters who did not know that draftees had serial numbers beginning with "US", and enlistees had theirs begin with "RA". There's a story that goes with that – later.

HEARD FROM: (alphabetically only, by first name): Al Gonyea, Alfredo Moncayo Sr., Andrew Pancho, Anthony Lorren Roberts, Bert Smith, Beth Ryan, Bill Graham, Bill Ryan, Bill Walter, Bill Waterhouse, Bob Kraus, Bob Lund, Bob Woolstrum, Chris Don Roach, Chris Maxfield, Christine Toney, Chuck Simpson, Chuck Straehl, Craig Vega, CSM Dave Clark, Dave Cummings, Debbie Rapp, Don Carroll, Donald Bruce, Ed Yarbrough, Edward White, Frank Reda, Frank Thompson, Gary L Baura, Gary O'Neal, Gary Scott, Gene Kauffman, Greg Phillips, Harold Miller, Howard Stokes, Jack Voyles, James Ardwan, James Parker, Jeff Rice, Jerry Lee Mason, Jim Reynolds, Joe Chetwynd, Joe Picanco, Joe Touchon, John DeCosta, John Evans, John Repecko Jr, Jose Zapien, Kim Maxin, Leo B Starkey, Lydia Kaufmann Saavedra, Lynn Thompson, Mauro Deriu, Mike Moser, Neil A. Lofgren, Paul Carlisle Sr., Peggy Fee, Peter McLaughlin, Ricardo Torres, Richard Foster, Richard R. Cole, Robert Lee Smith, Ron McElliott, Sally/Kirk Gibson, Sam Wentzel, Scott E Sherwood, Shannon Bond Rippey, Stan Harrell, Stephen Foote, Steve Lengel, Steve Murphy, Tammy Smith, Thomas Gould, Tim Grzelka, Tim Leadbetter, Toby Ivey, Tom Forde, Tom Turner, Tommy R. Wright, Tony Harley, Tony Richardson, Wade Farnsworth, WB Wear, William Bils, and Willie Mack. My apologies if I missed anyone.

Until next time... High Speed, Low Drag... V/R:

Marc L. Thompson, Unit Director

*Continued on the next page*



I hope this finds you all surviving the weather and climate mayhem in your section of the Country! Worry not, though, you'll survive it all; that is all except old age and its infirmities. With that in mind, I'll move on to sick call and stuff.

TAPS:

SGT. TOM LAKE: Sergeant Tom Lake passed away from lung cancer after a long illness that saw him surviving tours of Vietnam War fighting, and airplane crashes. RIP Tom.

CSM Winston (Paddy) Flynn: Passed away in December 2021, at age 92. With 3 CIBs (WWII, Korea, & Vietnam) he was too beat up to attend any of our reunions. RIP, Sir.

CSM (Ret.) Lloyd Cain: Passed away 4 February 2022 at home. He fell at home and subsequently left us. Cause unknown. Lloyd came to LRRPs from the 101st Airborne and Special Forces, and served with MACV-SOG in Vietnam alongside Zeke (per SGM Z. Evaro).

SICK CALL

Sam Storey continues to mend slowly. Of course everything he does is slow, so don't expect a speedy recovery from his fall; but recover, he will.

Bill Mathiak is hobbling around the house when he can get out of his power chair. A bad set of knees has slowed him down so much that he does not anticipate making our '22 Rendezvous in Nashville.

WhupAss Yarbrough is still plagued with leg problems. He's a hard person to connect with (just like he says of Fatback).

Al Moncayo called. He's gonna try to make the reunion. He survived Covid long time ago and last week, had brain strokes that led to a brain aneurism. Happy to report that he's on the mend, so we'll have to wait and see. He related that one time while traveling in DC with his family, he recognized the driver in the vehicle in front of him as our original Company Commander, Major Maltese, for whom he drove before crashing the Major's jeep. There's a cool story behind the results of that but I'll save for those of you who attend.

2022 REUNION: June LRRP Reunion, Nashville, TN

As for the reunion, you surely must remember the dates of June 14-17, 2022. We've got Bob Vanasse as point man checking out the best hotel we can afford. Worry not! You get there and we'll pass the plate to assure that you'll have a pillow upon which to lay your tired lying heads. I'll get back to you all then.

FOSTER SAYS: I've spoken with Touchon, Forde, Evaro, Storey, Chetwynd, Moncayo, Lengel, Fee, Mathiak, and Ivey.

I've tried to keep this short and timely since the last time I waited way too long and Marc Thompson (B Co.) and Steve Johnson had to edit and save my ass. I'm sure people are getting tired of that cuz it's been going on since 1961 (according to my assistant patrol leader, Sp4. Evaro). Thank you Steve and Marc. Ohh, Marc, we hope all is going well in your battle with your cancer. Stay healthy guys by taking care of yourselves. Start by eating

right, moving more, and saying your prayers (stop smoking, too!).

With so very much respect, I remain,

Pfc E-10 Dick Foster (El Guapo), Your Most Unworthy Presidente

REQUIEM - FROM ZEKE EVARO

Command Sergeant Major Lloyd Cain, US Army (Retired)

The Airborne School, Ft. Benning, Georgia

U.S. Army LRRP (ABN), & U.S. Army Special Forces

5th Special Forces Group, Republic of Vietnam

Studies and Observation Group; U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV-SOG)

When SGM Lloyd Cain (Then a SFC) signed out of our unit (C Company, 58th Inf. LRP (ABN)), in Nellingen, Germany in the year 1966, our Unit lost one of its very best soldiers... bar none. When CSM Lloyd Cain retired from the U.S. Army, the Army lost one of its very best Non-Commissioned Officers... bar none.

I first met Lloyd when he came into the Company, and if my memory serves me well it was midyear 1963. The expertise that Lloyd brought into the Company was above reproach, with his experience as an instructor at the Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA, and his military expertise. His service to the Company as the Platoon Sergeant for the Signal Platoon, and as an Acting First Sergeant was above exceptional. It didn't take long for anyone to realize that he was a Soldier above reproach, top notch at everything that he did, and above all you could take his leadership to the bank. His conduct, his leadership skills, his Military bearing left no doubt in anyone's mind that Command Sergeant Major Lloyd Cain was one of the best soldiers the Army ever produced, if not the very best.

Upon completion of our tour in Germany, both of us were assigned to the U.S. Army Special Forces Training Group, Fort Bragg, NC. As all of you know, at that time, there was a brush fire going on in a place called Vietnam that was wiping out a lot of good men. Subsequently, we both received orders to the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam, and we were dearly blessed as we were assigned to the Studies and Observation Group (MACV-SOG). I didn't see Lloyd again until I was sent TDY to Ft. Benning, Georgia to attend the Advanced NCOES course. We had a nice reunion at Fort Benning, and later we went our own ways, but stayed in touch over the years.

Lloyd loved bluegrass music, which has always been my favorite music since I was a kid. When I was a child, I would listen to the drunken local farmers on Saturday nights, when they would get together and have a bluegrass jamboree. Lloyd had a large beautiful RV, and he and his wife enjoyed traveling. They visited with me a couple of times at my home in North Carolina.

In the fall of 2002, Lloyd lost his wife and mother of his four children. I was in the Hanging Rock Mountains, setting up a Climbing and Rappelling course for a local High School JROTC Program when I received a call from Lloyd: over." *Continued on next page*

"I need you Zeke, please come over."

I turned the operation over to my assistant, went home, packed my bags, and headed to Clinton, SC. CSM Dave Clark and I conducted the service for Lloyd and his family.

The loss of his wife took a toll on Lloyd. Eventually he recovered, and a few years later he was blessed with a lady from his local Church, when she became his second wife.

In October of 2019, I received a call from Lloyd and we made plans to meet halfway between Winston Salem, NC and Clinton, SC. My wife and I met them halfway and we had an enjoyable mini re-union. To my surprise, when we were saying goodbye, Lloyd handed me a box, which contained a brand new 9mm Beretta 92fs along with a plaque.

"Zeke..." said Lloyd, "A better friend no one could ask for. This is for you, for the true friend you have been over the years".

Lloyd and I had made plans to meet this coming July, but God had other plans.

I hope to turn this Pistol over to his son as I can also see the sunset in the distance.

I write this with pain in my heart and tears in my eyes.

Rest in peace, my friend; our loss is God's gain.

Lloyd, many have come before you and many will come after you, but none will ever be close to being the Soldier, the Gentleman, the Friend, and Father, and Husband that you were.

A SALUTE FROM ALL YOUR FRIENDS!!

Signed: Zeke B. Evaro, SGM, U.S. Army (Retired)

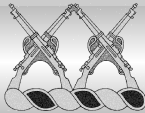
AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY!!



## USARA MEMBER BENEFITS

The US Army Ranger Association is creating a member benefits page to showcase companies and provide value to our members. If you're interested in offering a member discount while gaining exposure, please email [caroline.white@ranger.org](mailto:caroline.white@ranger.org) to learn more!





## C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director—Darryl "Bones" Benton

Wow, another few months have gone by and its once again time to write up a report to send to Steve.

Happy New year everyone here is wishing all you new and old Rangers a great 2022. Fifty-two years ago, I didn't think I would see the end of 1970. However, God is great, and I was smart enough to volunteer to be with the best. I had the best OJT instructors, qualified hard charging Team Leaders, and I was surrounded by like-minded battle brothers.

Fortunately, quite a few of us are still around even though we lose a bunch every year. Since my last Report, we lost Ranger Bill Payne, C/75<sup>th</sup> and Bill Wilkinson N/75<sup>th</sup> and C/75<sup>th</sup>. That is why reunions are so important to attend. Most of you know we only meet officially every two years at Ft. Benning. Our next Benning reunion will be in 2023 and when we get to 2023, I'll get the word out with all the information.

Let's talk about this "off" year. Usually, we try and have an unofficial reunion somewhere more centrally located in the USA so as to make it easier on the folks from the far west coast or we vote on our off-year location at the end of our Official meeting. This past year we decided the LRP reunion in Branson Mo. between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June would be fun, plus, it is located in the middle of the country.

The LRP, LRRP, LRS reunion is put on by the Long Range Reconnaissance Association. This Association is open to all present and past 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers, LRP's, LRRP's and LRS members. You must be a member of the Association to attend. Go to Face Book or just Google Long Range Reconnaissance Association, go to their web page and you can learn more. To attend this reunion, you must first join this Association (cost involved) then you must sign up for the reunion which is of course at an additional cost, but what the heck we are old and can't take it with us, spend the dollars. This Association has been around since 2015. I have been to this reunion for the past four years along with quite a few other E/20<sup>th</sup> and C/75<sup>th</sup> RVN folks. If you have problems locating them online, contact me and I will assist you in any way I can.

I found a few pictures I wanted to include in this month's report. The group picture in Ahn Khe, Vietnam is Worth Bolton doing some explaining to myself, Warner, Rodriques, Nania and Guthrie. — *Upper Right Photo*

Ahn Khe 70-71



Center Picture-Ranger Breakfast, Cocoa Florida 2020. L-R, Benton, Walker, Roderick, Russell, McKnight, SF ?, and Smith. Unfortunately, P/Ranger Roderick, and 173/LRP Smith have since joined the Warriors in Valhalla.

Well folks not much else going on. I hope to see some of you at Best Ranger competition in 8-11 April at Ft. Benning. On another note, if it's still cold up north and you want to warm up early you can always come down to Melbourne Florida for the Vietnam and all Veterans reunion held at Wickham Park. May 5-8. It's free. Just pay for a campsite.



Wong and Benton, Ahn Khe



Darryl Bones Benton  
C/75th, RVN

## D/151st/LRP/LRS

Unit Director Bob McIntire

### DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

I am using the "Rabbit Hole", symbolically as my brain, my thoughts, and my misguided interpretations. Now I wonder if that is a place anyone would choose to go and wonder if that is even a place I want to go. Well I am going there anyway and you have been forewarned. If you don't want to go there, now is the time to turn the page and avoid the rabbit hole.

I remember a story about one of Co. D's outstanding team members, but since I have not asked permission to tell this I will call him Ben (not his name). Ben was enjoying a much-deserved two-day break from the field. Maybe a little alcohol, probably some musical entertainment and definitely some comradery. Well after an evening with the guys, he decided to walk back to the barracks accompanied by his team leader and some end of the evening conversation before crashing in his bunk. Now I don't know if your compound had bathrooms, but ours at Atterbury East did not. What we had was a buried 55 gal drum with a mysterious two inch pipe sticking out of the top of the open end and a metal screen in a cone shape over the top. The biggest mystery was how it was supposed to work (or not work) in a country whose earth does not percolate, but that is for smarter minds than mine. Anyway, the Army Engineers in charge of piss had decided to dig new holes for new or used piss barrels. But then they decided to go have a beer and finish at some later date, leaving these open holes with no protection.

Do you see this coming? For a soldier that spends his working days looking for trip wires, bungee traps, and IEDs in a hostile environment, walking in the dark (no street lights) the same repercussions did not apply. About twenty or so steps further on the team leader realized he was now alone. You see it now don't you? Ben was gone. The team leader decided to retrace his steps to locate Ben. Sure enough Ben's head and shoulders were sticking out of one of the new pisser holes. Uninjured, but unable to remove himself and in a state of confusion he had remained silent. With some help, Team Leader Ben was removed from the trap and continued on his way, with a promise to not mention the somewhat embarrassing event.

I vividly remember those smelly, often flooded, urinals. Surrounded on three sides with plywood, painted blue with the words "DON'T BUY VD" stenciled on the front. The open side was where you stood holding your breath and relieving yourself as rapidly as possible before having to take a breath of pure piss smell. Usually there was a trail of planks or wood pallets leading up to the action spot because since the ground did not percolate, it was surrounded by a lake of urine; usually several feet in diameter and you had on flip-flops.

The things we did for Uncle Sam, and the demonstrating Ameri-



cans that chose to call us "Baby Killer", on our return to a less than welcoming United States. We had a picnic area, and I use the term loosely, more or less in the center of Camp Atterbury East.

I don't know who came up with the idea, but we put up a telephone type pole, buried it in the ground. Next a T10 canopy was placed over the pole with the apex attached, somehow to the top of the pole. The risers were then attached to the ground in some manner resulting in a twenty-foot circle of shade in a treeless company area.

As dangerous as this was (OSHA would definitely not have approved) we quickly learned to negotiate the risers, even in the dark or we avoided the area completely. I remember that although we were elite "LURPs" we still had to pull KP.

### *Reader discretion advised*

I was pulling KP on one occasion, probably in a more skilled area of pots and pans, when I was summoned outside for a photo op of sorts. The opportunity for this was directly related to a severed ear. I don't remember checking to see if the possessor of the ear still had both of his, but I am relatively sure 50 plus years later that it was not his. I kept that photograph for several years, for the shock effect it had on certain people that I chose to avoid in the future. I don't know whatever happened to the picture, it might still be in some forgotten place around here. When I pass, my children may run across it and finally destroy it. It would be hard to tell what the picture was, as I was wet from cleaning pots and pans and had various chunks of food stuck to a faded green t-shirt, holding at arm's length something that might be an ear removed with a pair of dull toe nail clippers.

You might be asking yourself at this point what does an elite company of fighting "LURPs" do for entertainment after playing cards all night, swilling down large quantities of skunked beer, enjoying American songs sung by scantily clothed French bread Vietnamese females, backed by an equally halloween clothed three piece rock and roll band. Well set in your seats and I will tell you. I had found a live trap made of wire and refurbished it to catch rats. Small rats, as it was too small a trap to catch big ones. Those caught were of the large mouse size not the plentiful cat size. Anyway my success as a trapper was legendary (maybe that be a small exaggeration) lets just say I caught some. We had "fire barrels" (used by one soldier to bathe in) which were 55 gallon barrels full of water, where did all these 55 gallon barrels come from? (Were they really shipping containers for Agent Orange? No, our Army would never have put us at risk like that). A piece of plywood covered the top and a gallon can hung from each corner of the square top. The idea was to fill the cans with water from the barrels and throw it on a fire.

*Continued on the next page*



We were never actually instructed on how to use them, but to super intelligent “LURPs” it was not hard to figure out, as they were painted red and had “FIRE BARREL” stenciled on the outside. Anyway, back to the story. We would gather around the fire barrel with the live trapped rat and bet on how many times the rat could swim to the surface before exhaustion would cause the rat to stop swimming to the surface, usually 4 to 9 times. No actual money changed hands. It was not that type of betting. It was more of an educational/ trivia type thing.

Are you still with me? Are you still glad you came down the rabbit hole with me? I remember our firing pit; it consisted of a swimming pool style hole, scooped out by a bulldozer. It was level to the ground at one end (the shallow end) and went about 30 feet tapering down ward to maybe 5 or 6 feet. The earth removed was piled up behind the deep end as a kind of backstop so as to keep the bullets from escaping. We would be saddened if anyone outside our compound was to be injured by a stray round. That is no fun unless you are actually aiming at them. We were all very safety conscious, not causing harm, until we got back to the good old US of A and decided to shoot ourselves in the hand or foot. Anyway, as I explained before, the ground in Vietnam did not percolate, but the country had a rainy season in place of winter. I ask you, “What happens to a large swimming pool shaped hole when it rains continuously for weeks on end?” If you're at least near rocket scientist IQ, you can guess that the hole would fill with water and in the case of Vietnam would never soak in or evaporate. What the Army Engineers (yes the same ones that dug the pisser holes) had made in their infinite wisdom was in fact a swimming pool of really dirty water. Who could have guessed? Did anyone think to pump the water out? Well that is a “negatory”. But was it still used as a firing pit? You bet your olive drab underwear it was. Has anyone ever heard that a bullet fired into water may change directions uncontrollably? That is why at least in Indiana it is against the law to fire a bullet into any body of water except in legal pursuit of game. Did we care? Hell no, we are “LURPs”. The only thing that can hurt us is enemy fire.

That being said, I remember an event that happened in the building (again I use the term loosely) we watched movies in and staged our equipment for going to the field. At this time it was being used as a staging area, we didn't get many movies. A young “LURP” want-to-be, loaded up a grenade launcher and in his infinite wisdom pulled the trigger. He probably wanted to be sure it worked if he needed to use it in his first jungle escapade. No one in the staging area said a word, you could hear the proverbial pin drop (grenade in this case), Luckily for everyone in the staging area, a M79 round must rotate a fixed number of times before being armed to explode. The round hit the inside of the roof of the staging area and fell harmlessly to the ground, saving the lives of several “LURPs” from friendly fire. Hey, along those same lines, I remember a similar event in the same place with far different results. This time the young “LURP” want-to-be was packing for his first venture into the jungle when he decided to show his knowledge and balance. I must assume, because I was not able to interview him after the event. He had loaded his Claymores into his ruck and not knowing exactly what to do with

his blasting caps was swinging around on its electrical wire when he stumbled onto his Claymore trigger device, causing the device to activate the blasting cap in a surprisingly explosive manor (at least it surprised him). He instantly acquired the physical aspects of someone with chickenpox. Shortly thereafter he was delivered by jeep to the hospital. I don't know where he went from there. Hopefully for the well being of the rest of us in Co. D it was not back to Atterbury East.

Okay, just one more, then I will move on. We all know the best way to heat water to hydrate a “LURP” ration is over a ping-pong size ball of C4. We all carried it in our rucks just for that purpose. You might also know that some of the food prepared by the mess hall, on rare occasions, might not suit an individual's taste. On those rare occasions, an individual might hydrate a “LURP” ration by the same method in the barracks. Well on this particular occasion one of those soldiers was heating water on the barrack floor when along comes an E6 sergeant and proving the fact that rank does not always go along with intelligence decided to put out the C4 fire by stomping on it. As was to be expected, the fire went out with a load bang. No more fire, no more C4 and no more leg. The Sergeant, whether intentional or through ignorance, instantly turned himself into a one-legged handicap person. It seems that I was earmarked as someone who would be good with individuals accused of wrongdoings.

While in AIT, I was placed next to a young man that was awaiting an Article 15 hearing for being AWOL. Then in Vietnam, after an evening at the all ranks Co. D pub, I returned to my bunk to find a young man I was not familiar with lying in the bunk below mine. Seeing my curious looks he offered this explanation; he had been assigned the bunk while waiting for his murder or attempted murder Court Marshal. I don't know anymore about that except he did offer that if I didn't bother him he would reciprocate. He was quiet and spent his evenings out on the berm with the smokers. In a few weeks he disappeared and I never heard about him again. To the best of my knowledge he was not a Co. D member.

I am not a big book reader, but my son read a book, that after finishing the book gave it to me. His recommendation was that it was a different type of book about Vietnam. It is about a young Marine that had been released from active duty after serving his time in Vietnam. He was drinking in a neighborhood pub with his buddies from the area. The guys were discussing how Americans were sending a message overseas of the disgust they felt for American servicemen serving in Vietnam. They felt something should be done to let them know there were still Americans supporting their efforts. It was decided (with the support of alcohol) that someone from the neighborhood should go back to Vietnam with beer, look each of them up and share a beer with them. This guy offered to do that and did. It is his story and it is a true story. Like my son told me, it is a different type of story.

Here is some very interesting trivia. Don Blevins sent this to me taken from a newspaper article by John Rowe. There is no date on the article but I am sure it is circa 1968.

*Continued on the next page*

"We Are All Brothers", Indiana Guard Unit Claims.

A company of approximately 210 men with six sets of brothers is unique. But even more unique is the same company that has a brothers act as its commanding officer and executive officer. Capts. Kenneth W. and Ronald Himsel, as commanding officer and executive officer, add a novel touch to Co. D (LRP), 151 Inf., a recently activated Indiana National Guard unit, as they form one sixth of the company's brothers' club. Also, dotting the company's roster, which might look like a set of typing duplications to someone unfamiliar with the situation, Ind.; Spec. 4 Donald E. and Thomas J. Worthington of Indianapolis; Spec. 4 Harold and PFC Jerry L. Backus of Indianapolis and Spec. 4 David and PFC Marvin L. Boling of Martinsville. Last but not least, comes the sixth set Spec. 4 Donald R. and Spec. 4 Ronald K. Blevins, residents of New Castle, who are not only brothers, but are twins...

The Himsels are natives of Jasper, Ind., and are members of the Indiana National Guard unit that was activated May 13 and attached to the 5th Ba., 31 Inf., as part of the 197th Inf. Bde., on Kelly Hill...", Ft. Benning, GA.

I would agree that six sets of brothers are pretty unique. I would be remiss if I didn't raise homage to the men we lost in 2021. I contacted Gary Bussell to find out the official count. Those RANGERS lost are William "Billy" Waters March 7, Jack E. Loyd April 25, Michael Hart May 5, James "J.B." Boykin, Keith O. "Lurch" Morris November

This year we lost LTC. James Johnson (a Lieutenant in Vietnam). Gary gave me the number of 91 as a total of Co. D Vietnam RANGERS lost to date. We are closing in on the half way mark. Our Association is what Big John Ellis told me the Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club is a dinosaur club. Meaning that when the last Co. D Ranger is gone, our Association will stop existing. Sad but true and it was due to end that way from the beginning. The United State's military exited Vietnam in 1973 and with Afghanistan as the most recent example; did not learn anything about war, enemies, and winning.

This is, as always, Team 2-1 RTO, Out.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROBERT HERNANDEZ

Patrolling Magazine Spring 2022

Gentlemen, Family and Friends,

2023 Green Bay, Wisconsin Reunion

Plans for the 2023 reunion in Green Bay, Wisconsin are well underway. Dan Stouffer and his son-in-law, Joe Moehle, are presently searching for the best hotel location as well as the best points of interest for us to visit. The actual dates have not yet been determined but I will keep you posted. Dan and Joe both assured me that the reunion will not be held during cold weather and I for one was glad to hear that!

### COVID-19-RELATED DEATHS

FEMA may now help with funeral expenses in some cases. To help ease some of the financial burden caused by the pandemic, FEMA has implemented the funeral assistance program nationwide. The program is intended to assist with expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation. This program is limited to a maximum financial amount of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,000 per application. To apply for assistance check out the COVID-19-Funeral Assistance/FEMA.gov web site for more information.

### FREE ENTRANCE TO NATIONAL PARKS

Gold Star Families and all U.S. military veterans are now eligible to receive free lifetime access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including national parks, wildlife refuges and forests. The new lifetime passes will be available to distribute later this year. Free access is for the veteran or holder of the Military Pass-Gold Star Family voucher as well as traveling companions who are occupants of a single, private non-commercial vehicle or the veteran or voucher-holder and three persons (16 and older) where per-person fees are charged.

### ANOTHER PIECE OF GREAT LRRP HISTORY: BY GENE BOYD

The following is a short recollection of the event. Two teams, Sgt Frost's team, and mine were outside the USS Benewah on the large pontoon attached to the side of the ship cleaning weapons and just hanging out. Sgt Frost had two guys on his team, one from New York and one from Texas, as I remember he was called "Tex," and for some reason they could not get along. After about half a bottle of Jack Daniels, Frosty decided that the BS was going to stop and they were to solve their differences. They chose to fight. It was the damndest fight that I had seen in a while. Frosty and I sat calmly as the fight progressed. As I looked upward toward the top of the ship, I could see almost the entire third brigade hanging over the side of the ship watching the fight. Sgt Frost refused to let anyone break up the fight. At that time he was in total control. Within minutes I saw a small guy coming at a very fast rate down the stairs that had been built up



the side of the Benewah to allow access from the pontoon to the ship and told Frost that he needed to stop the fight. Naturally, he refused and the little guy jumped into the middle of the circle and shouted, "Who is in charge here?" Frosty replied that he was and what was going on was none of anyone's business. The little guy who only came up to about Frosty's shoulders was either the 3rd brigade Sgt Major or the First Sgt, I don't remember which. The little guy started chewing Frost's ass out bad. Of course I knew what was going to happen. Frosty took a swing at the little guy that missed and the little guy started running back up the ladder that he had come down on. Now I am not going to say it was

smart because I knew that what he was doing was serious, but I'll tell you that watching Sgt Frost chase that little guy up the ladder about two steps behind him and cussing all the way was the funniest damn thing that I had seen since I entered that damn hell hole. I honestly believe that had Frosty caught the little guy, he would have thrown him overboard. After they broke over the top of the ship we could not see anymore, however, I was told the following: Sgt Frost chased the little guy all the way into the Commanding Officer's office before he came to his senses. At that time he was asked to leave the office. A short time after that, we received orders from CPT Dickey to leave and come back to Dong Tam. When we got back to Dong Tam, Frosty made the two guys continue the fight until both of their faces looked like hamburger meat!

### NOTE:

Frosty managed to get the LRRP teams kicked off the Mobile Riverine Force and the Navy did not allow LRRP teams back on the MRF until after an enemy sapper team swam out to the USS Westchester County with a big load of plastic explosives and blew two massive holes in the side of the ship. Then the Navy relented and once again let LRRPs return to pull missions off the ships.

Sergeant Herb Frost was killed in action on June 21, 1969 after spending almost two years in continuous combat duty. He was a great team leader and a hell of a guy.



*Continued on  
the next page*

## LEST WE FORGET

Ed Chaffin passed away on January 12, 2022 after a long battle with the Covid-19 virus. Ed was in and out of the ICU with the virus but just after testing negative, he developed bacterial pneumonia. Ed was a damn good man and warrior in Vietnam. He had a huge heart and cared immensely for his fellow man. Ed volunteered for 20 years in hospice at a VA hospital so that no one would die alone. He will be greatly missed.

From time to time his wife Joan (of 50 years) would join Ed at the hospital when he would take time to re-group at a nearby park. He had a favorite spot at the park that he found serene and hoped that someday he could have a bench placed there.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, a donation be made to have a bench placed in Ed's honor. The unit will make a \$100 donation towards the bench in memory of Ed. If you would like to donate for the bench to honor our brother, Ed Chaffin, please send your donation to Roy Barley, P.O. Box 233, Springville, NY 14141. Please make out your check to: "E/50 E/75"

Stay Safe

Bob H

Unit Director

E50/E75th Rangers

LRRPs Led The Way/ Rangers Lead The Way

DAVID E. GRANGE, JR.  
Best Ranger  
COMPETITION

**BEST RANGER**  
COMPETITION

**NEVER SHALL I FAIL.**

**APRIL 8TH-11TH, 2022**

THE NATIONAL  
RLTW  
RANGER  
Association





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN McGEE

A short article this quarter, mostly about the upcoming Company F 25<sup>th</sup> ID LRRP/LRP/RANGER planned OFF-Year Reunion. The Reunion will be held on October 9-14- 2022, at the Alexis Park All Suite Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The phone number for reservations is 1-(800)-582-2228. We have a block of rooms at a special rate under F Company 75<sup>th</sup>. Be sure and tell them that who you are with to get the special rate. This is the first reunion we have had out west in a long time. Looking forward to seeing our West Coast brethren that have not been able to make it to Fort Benning in recent years. Soldiers we are not getting any younger.

This is an opportunity to reconnect with YOUR, F company family. F Company is a family. Even if you have never attended any of our reunions, the minute you and your family show up you will understand what I mean. I am not sure how it is in other organizations but when our unit gets together it is just outstanding. We usually have one of, if not the largest turn out of any of the LRRP companies. We tend to take over the hospitality rooms just



so we can get together and talk and socialize with each other. These reunions become more and more important each passing year. We want you to come, if for any reason you might face any difficulty in coming and we can assist, please let us know. We have a very generous company. We take care of our own, so please don't let something that we can help you with stand in the way of being at the reunion.

I would be remiss if I did not tell you the outstanding job PHIL DAVIS did walking point in this operation. He has been boots on the ground for over two years now. Through his efforts this event is going to take place unless the Chinese release something else into the

atmosphere. He is still coordinating some activities to take place for everyone's enjoyment. Once again, please join us in Las Vegas in October!

Here is a quick Patrol Warning Order. You might want to plan to be at Fort Benning in June or July this year. Something may take place that you probably won't want to miss. More information on the operation to follow later.



## F/50th-F75th Unit Reunion (Sunday) 9-14 October, 2022 (Friday)

We have a block under **FC075TH**

*Be sure and use that code and verify your (our) rate of **\$85.04**  
when calling to make your reservation.*

**Alexis Park All Suite Resort**  
**375 East Harmon Las Vegas 89169**  
**Phone: 800.582.2228/702.796.3540**  
**<https://www.alexispark.com/>**





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



For the more senior members of our group, there is probably some new information in this segment of our history. Since I am only in my early 70's, my experience in G Company was different from the guys who built G Company from the ground up, starting with the early LRRPs. I have written a few articles on the late history of G Company over the years, but I haven't always named some of the important players.

Sometime around April of 1971, G Company was split into two units; G Company in Chu Lai located at Rosemary's Point, and G/2 Company in Da Nang on Brigade Ridge. The Company command staff in Chu Lai as I recall, was Captain Matis, Lt. Gillette, Lt. Magby and I believe Lt. Epting. Again, I am writing from memory with a significant loss of brain cells.

The G/2 Company command group in Da Nang was Captain O'Hara, Lt Anderson and 1SGT Smith. I know this only from a photograph of the CQ Office where the command staff was listed on the wall and I never met any of these people other than 1SGT Smith who I believe was still there after September of 71 when G Company stood down and the company resources all went to the G/2 area in Da Nang and became the 196<sup>th</sup> Ranger Platoon which existed until December of 71. As I recall, Lt Harkness was the Platoon leader and the only officer I remember but 1SGT Smith was still there as well.

As I mentioned, Captain Ted Matis, Jr. was the Commanding Officer when I arrived at G Company in Chu Lai. He came to G



Company on his third extension in RVN after serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, an Advisor with the ARVN Airborne during Lam Son 719, and an Advisor to a Montagnard Battalion. I can't really talk about Ted Jr. without first mentioning Ted Sr. Theodore C. Matis, Sr. enlisted into the Washington Army National Guard in 1939 as a private. I can't give you a detailed account of his entire career because I don't have enough time in my life to put it all into words. The Cliff Notes version takes him from private to Brigadier General and along the way, he was one of the very few to earn the Combat Infantryman's Badge in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. He was an amazing 32-year career officer serving in many varied roles, one of which was the Assistant Division Commander for the 23<sup>rd</sup> (Americal) Infantry Division RVN. General Matis served over five years in various roles in RVN. Rumor has it that even after his retirement, in the 1980's this old

war horse was walking the mountains of Afghanistan advising the Afghanistan freedom fighters in their efforts to defeat the Russians.

Hopefully, there will be a book at some time in the future that gives a much broader picture than I have provided. Now, I will switch to G-Company Commander, Ted Matis, Jr. who many of our Association people have not met. I recall that LTC Ted Matis, Jr. attended our second, but first large reunion in 1990 in Washington D. C. Not many got to see him because Special Forces LTC Matis was called away shortly after he arrived because Saddam Hussain's Iraqi Army invaded Kuwait and he and his Special Forces outfit had a role to play in reversing the invasion.

Like his Father, Ted Jr. started out as an enlisted soldier and had a full and eventful career that would also command more pages than I am prepared to write. In addition to one long tour in Vietnam, his Special Forces career beginning in 1962 and ending in 1993, Ted spent some time with the Ranger Department and actually had a few G Company NCO's working for him there (one being Ranger Hall of Fame inductee, Clem Lemke).

When I was working with the military in Iraq, the big push for us was Counter Insurgency (abbreviated as COIN) and I was provided with a number of Field Manuals and subject matter documents. The reading materials touted two highly successful counter insurgency operations conducted by Special Forces, one of which was in El Salvador and commanded by LTC Ted Matis, Jr. Ted left big footprints for others to follow everywhere he served.

*Continued on the next page*



*John Wayne, without his hair piece, receiving an AK-47 in Vietnam, from Brigadier General Ted Matis; father of my Company Commander, Captain Ted Matis, Jr*



After his retirement, Ted became an educator, got his PhD., and traveled much of the world learning how different countries educate their youth. He served as a teacher, a principal and school administrator in his roles as an educator for 20 years. After leaving that chapter in his life, the Army called and needed him in several civilian roles, generally focused in the areas of Special Operations (If you know where to look, you may still be

able to find Ted in an office at Ft. Bragg, not playing the game but certainly still participating as a civilian from an office.)

In case you are interested, yes, there is a LTC Ted Mataxis III also serving who started out as an enlisted soldier. There seems to be a pattern here, but that chapter is yet to be finished. The Mataxis Mataxis legacy continues.

## The Mataxis Legacy

### BG Theodore C. Mataxis (Retired)

DOB: 17 Aug 1917 POB: Seattle, WA

- » Lincoln H.S., Seattle, WA, 1936
- » 41st ID WANG BPED: 18 Oct 39, PVT to CPL, F Co, 116th QM Rgt. & B Btry, 205th Coast Artillery Bn (AA), Camp Murray, Fort Lewis, WA
- » UW '40, RTC NG 2LT 8 Jun 40, PL Co Cdr, 1st Bn S-1, 20th Inf Rgt (Fort Benning, GA) & cadre 6th Rgt, 70th ID, Fort Warren, WY, July 40-Jul 41
- » E Co Cdr & cadre HHC Cdr, Bn XO, and Bn S-3, 361st Inf Regt, 91st ID, Camp White, OR, Jul 41-Feb 43
- » USACGSC, Ft Leavenworth, KS, Feb-Apr 43
- » Asst G-3 & Bn XO & Cdr, 2/276th Inf Rgt, 70th ID, Camp Adair, OR & ETO, Apr 43-Aug 45
- » Bn XO & Cdr (1/3 Inf & 2/3 Inf) & Rgt XO, 3rd ID, Germany, Aug 45-Nov 48
- » 7734th History Det, US Forces European Theater & DCO 7808th SCU, Nov 46-Dec 47
- » G2 & G3 First Army, NY City & Strategic Intelligence School, Jan 48-Jul 50
- » Indian Staff College, New Delhi, India & UN Mil Observer India/Pakistan Border, Jul 50-Jul 52
- » XO to G-2, EUSA & Rgt XO & Cdr 17th Inf, 7th ID, Korea, July 52-Jun 53
- » Infantry Tactics Instructor, Fort Benning, GA, Jul 53-Aug 57
- » Army War College, Aug 57-Jun 58
- » Cof S, 8th ID, Dep Bde Cdr & Cdr, 1st ABG, 505th Inf, Mainz, FRG, Jul 58-Sep 61
- » Dep Chief, US Army Strategic & Tactical Analysis Gp, Bethesda, MD, Sep 61-Jul 62
- » XO, CJCS, Washington, DC, Jul 62-Jul 64
- » DLI Vietnamese & MATA Course, II Corps Sr Advisor, MACV & DCO, 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, RVN, Jul 64-Aug 66
- » Div Chief, ODCSOPS, DA, Washington, DC, Sep 66-Apr 67
- » ADC (M), 82nd Abn Div, Fort Bragg, NC, Apr 67-Apr 68; Army Chief, MAAG-Iran, Apr 68-Jun 70, Tehran, Iran
- » ADC (M), 23rd ID, RVN, Jun 70-Feb 71
- » Chief, Military Equipment Deployment Team, Cambodia (MEDTC), Feb 71-Feb 72.

### LTC Theodore C. Mataxis Jr. (Retired)

DOB: 6 Sep 1944 POB: Seattle, WA

- » H.S.: Walter Johnson, Bethesda, MD, 1963
- » USAR BPED: 20 Oct 1962, 2nd, 11th, 18th, and 20th SFGs (USAR)
- » BCT: Jun 1963, Ft Knox, KY
- » AIT & Abn School: Sep 1963-Jan 1964, Ft Benning, GA
- » SFEQC, Ft Bragg, NC, May-Aug 1966
- » Gordon Military College 1967, commissioned 2LT USAR; IOBC, Rgr School & PL, A Co, 1/504 Inf, 82nd Abn Div, Ft Bragg, NC, Jan-Oct 69
- » PL, B Co, Bn S-5, S-2, D Co Cdr, 3/187th, 101st Abn Div
- » ARVN Abn Div advisor
- » G Rgr Co Cdr, 23rd ID
- » ARVN Border Rgr advisor, Nov 69-Jan 72, RVN
- » S-3 & ODA Cdr, MFF, A Co, 3/5th SFG, Ft Bragg, NC, Jan 72-Jul 74
- » IOAC 7-74 then Rgr Dept, Camp Darby & S-3 Ops, 1975-78
- » Iran FAO (Ft Bragg) & DLI Farsi, 1978-79
- » CSC Cdr & Bn S-3, 1/18th Inf, G-3 Current Ops, 1st ID, Ft Riley, KS, 1979-1981
- » AFSC, Norfolk, VA, 1982
- » JSOC J-3 Exercises & Evaluations, Ft Bragg, NC, & Grenada; 1982-87
- » XO & DCO, 7th SFG, 1987-88, Senior OPATT, El Salvador, 1988-89
- » 3rd SFG Activation Cell & USASOC Current Ops, Fort Bragg, NC, Jun 89-Jun 90
- » XO & DCO, 3rd SFG, Ft Bragg, NC, Jun 90-Jun 93

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Submitted Photo and Columns

Clearer version can be downloaded at the above link





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—BENNIE GENTRY



Pete Dencker

I wanted to start by honoring 3 of our brothers who were killed on June 24, 1969, the result of an accident in the barracks. It was a tragic event that we probably don't talk about much – but they were our brothers, and they need to be remembered. Also want to send a "thank you" to John Lebrun and especially Guy McConnell for helping me out with some detail. Guy was in the barracks when this happened.

"I had pulled CQ duties the night before and so had napped for a while until mid-morning, taken a shower, and returned to a lawn chair next to my bunk to read a paperback



Stan Lento

with my back toward the rear of the barracks. My bunk was on the same side of the barracks as Stan Lento's and about one-third of the barracks length from the front entrance. Stan was toward the rear of the barracks exercising his team in quick reaction drills in the isle that ran down the middle of the barracks. His team was preparing for a "dog and pony show" for some field-grade officers. They were in full field gear, packs and all. After numerous repetitions of "enemy front, enemy right, etc." I heard Stan say something to the effect of "that's enough for now," followed by the sound of packs sliding over fabric and gear rattling as the men shucked off their gear. I heard a "pop" that didn't sound very loud and there was a roaring in my ears from concussion. My first impression was "firecracker," then I saw what looked like white phosphorus trails past my bunk and revised my impression to "WP grenade." I stood there wearing just fatigue trousers and one shower shoe and in a mental fog as men ran past. I finally decided I should go too and followed down the smoke-filled isle toward the front door, ears still roaring. I got almost to the door before I felt a twinge in my back. When I checked it my hand and arm came away bloody, so I knew I had caught some shrapnel, but everything still worked". This incident resulted in 3 Ranger



deaths and a number of Rangers wounded.

Stanley John Lento was born in Blaine, Maine on Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, 1949. He began his tour in RVN in October of 1969, achieved the rank of Sergeant and was a TL. Archie Hugh McDaniel was born on June 9<sup>th</sup> 1949, in Kirkland, WA, achieved the rank of Corporal and was a Silver Star recipient.

Paul John Salminen was born in Ferndale MI on November 23, 1943. He began his tour in RVN in January 1969 and achieved the rank of Sergeant. →

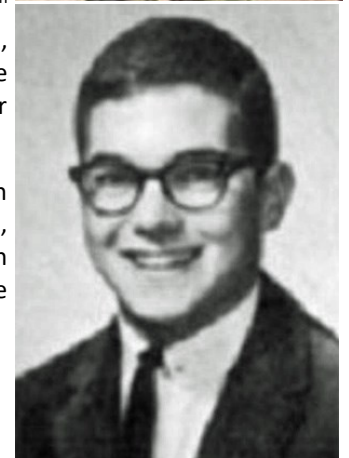
Rest in peace Brothers...

This next section will be a bit different than normal. During the Ranger Rendezvous this past summer, specifically during the final banquet the Regiment brought in a speaker that had supported Ranger operations as a pilot during his tour in Vietnam. His speech was incredible and his respect and admiration for Rangers was front and center. Since the Rendezvous I kept thinking about Tom and his speech and thought it would be appropriate to share as it is all about who we were/are, what we were able to accomplish and what it meant to those who worked around and for us. Hope you enjoy.

"It has been 51 years since I left Vietnam LZ Betty Phan Thiet, II Corps Central highlands, and much has happened since that time, one of the more important things that happened to me was I authored a book called Check Ride. It's my memories of being an army helicopter pilot from June of '69 to June a '70. Check Ride includes a few Ranger stories that took place during my time in Vietnam. But - who am I to come down here and address the 75th Ranger regiment reunion? Well, I'm going to tell you I'm "That Guy"! Yes, the proverbial "THAT GUY"! Who when I entered the army just after my 20th birthday, knew nothing about Army Rangers? Nada, zero, zilch. I'm "That Guy" who had to travel 9000 miles to the Vietnam Conflict/War to learn about the Rangers, specifically the 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers, their bravery, their skills, and their commitment. *Continued on the next page*



Hugh McDaniel





I am "That Guy" who would have to take those Ranger/LRRP teams out into the mountains and drop them into triple canopy jungle and believe me those Hills were crawling with the enemy. I've seen the enemy from the air and thank GOD I was a pilot. To put some perspective on this, Army helicopters back then were the manned drones of their day; and now I'm delivering our rangers. I would have to peek back at their faces as they sat in my cargo compartment, you just had to look, only now they were in my precious cargo compartment. They all bore heavy rucksacks and always plenty of ammunition. Their war faces were sometimes painted wearing do rags or soft caps. Every team member had that 1000-mile stare. Not the 1000-mile stare from battle fatigue but the 1000-mile stare of total concentration on the mission that was coming, the mission that they had to complete, they were a team, and they are America's team. And! I am "That same Guy" that would have to go back into those mountains and pick those teams up. Sometimes the mission was a planned extraction and sometimes it was not. Now

using the spin words of today's news that we so often hear on numerous news channels, "Full disclosure" "transparency" (love that one)" "honesty" and "truthfulness" I preferred the planned pickups/ extractions, but hey, that's just me and my personal selfish reasons. I'm sure many of you guys did also. Often you go into those PZs/LZs to pick these Rangers up and sometimes the vegetation is right up to the top of the rotor blades and suddenly as you touch

the aircraft down there's a painted face at your cockpit window, it's a real live "Chucky" moment! (You all know Chucky the horror doll) and it just scares the living crap out of you. I mean your heart stops for that microsecond of the unknown, WHO KNEW! THAT CHUCKY WAS A RANGER. Being the trained professionals, they all were, they quickly boarded as the crew chief now transmits over the ICS (inter comm system) and gives me a good to go. Instantly starting our climb out over those 150-foot jungle trees. Now for all of listening 150-foot trees are God's fences and mountains are God's walls. If you don't clear them, you will have accelerated your meeting with GOD! As we come out my door gunner and crew chief open up with their M60 machine guns ripping the PZ up with covering fire, simultaneously the Ranger LRRP team also opened up with their weapons, every gun on full automatic. GOD, I LOVE THAT SOUND!! Protecting our departure while thinking of anything that was stupid enough to follow the Rangers to the PZ. We climb up and get good air over God's walls. I'd again, as my practice, peek back into our cargo compartment, my precious cargo! They were dirty, sweaty and smelled of the jungle. Yes, you can smell them, but their faces were different now, you could see the smiles breaking out,

you could see the tension being relieved from their bodies, because yeah they were coming back to the normal world, where it is as normal as you can be in a war zone, and they knew they were going to go back to a shower, BTW that would be my first recommendation! They were ripe. Also a good meal, maybe a few beers followed by a safe night's sleep, maybe several nights without the darkness of the unknown. I don't know what the cycle was before they had to go back out again, I never really got to talk to them because I flew practically every day. They are in my mind America's team forever.

I learned so many life lessons from the Rangers and I wish we could pass these lessons onto our grade school children and high school students of today, even our college students. I am pleased to tell you the lasting messages you gave to me.

My first Ranger mission, I was the copilot, and we were taking a team out to the mountains Again as I mentioned those mountains crawling with the enemy, and we did a false insertion and

then we proceeded to the actual drop LZ. Rangers taught me many lessons of life in that year. As we proceeded to the LZ we got down as low as we could, another hell hole (hell hole is that term used for it's so small things can go to hell quickly). The LZ was quite steep with a slope which went from the nose of the aircraft downward toward the tail of the aircraft and it is very steep. The vegetation underneath our machine was beautiful - it was that em-

erald green color and looked like a little piece of Ireland was planted in the jungle. The team leader made his decision and then he jumped, and I was shocked because it looked like it was only a 3-foot jump an easy leap, but he punched a man size hole right through that vegetation carpet and had to go down another 13 or 14 feet to a slope. Painting the picture for you all, the hole the leader made looked like a shotgun slug fire through a cardboard target only man size. I will tell you all, hell; it hurt me to watch him. I felt like a kid when I tried to jump an entire flight of stairs landing at the bottom and remembering that radiating pain that went up through my legs to my groin feeling like I would vomit, and this is without that extra fifty pounds of equipment strapped on. I could feel the Rangers pain, but here is the lesson I learned, burned into my memory forever, the rest of that team with no hesitation, no thought of injury, went right out that cargo door making that same jump. Rangers taught me commitment, bravery, dedication, perseverance all the adjectives of how to be an iron soldier. Army Aviators have a word for such bravery it's called BAWLZ; that's right, Warrant Officers can't spell.

*Continued on the next page*



Army Rangers also taught me something about our nation, which I have carried through my life to this day. Looking back on this era of the mid-sixties and the early 70s there was a lot of strife in our country, similar to what's going on today, but I would look back at those Rangers observing they were white, black, Hispanic and Asian Rangers but they were all Americans, they were Americas team. After this if you were a good American, you would be my brother and sister forever. I don't care about race or color or where they came from Rangers taught me that lesson about America and how we should look at America and I thank them for that.

Now I'm not going to make this whole discussion or speech without pointing out a few flaws that our Rangers had. We all have flaws,

But you gentlemen, your flaw was faith. Not the Jesus stomping kind of faith which, you should have had a rucksack full of that, (just saying)! No! Rangers your flaw was over confidence in aviation. You always thought army helicopter pilots were the best - that we could do anything, (a myth I admit we encouraged) and you never seem worried about your Peter Pan ride dangling below the machine in the dark, confident it was going to bring you home. Well, here is the Paul Harvey on your thinking. I hope most of you are familiar with Paul Harvey and his famous saying, "and now you know the other side of the story".

When I went to flight school there was no training in rope ladders, there was no training in repelling, there was no training in McGuire riggs, and no training in STABO. They never even mentioned it. I guess they were afraid that such knowledge would have scared us away increasing the dropout rate.

The time came where I received a Ranger night extraction mission. My platoon commander Captain Boley told me to grab my crew and go to the ship. Lieutenant Hosteller came over and requested if he could be my copilot and would be with me this night. Having arrived at my ship after a briefing from operations I met with our crew and one additional Pac (passenger) was present, Super Ranger. I say Super Ranger because he was an E6 or E7 and an expert/master in his skills and I don't mean that as a derogatory comment to say "Super Ranger", you are all Super Rangers in my book. Now Super Ranger has laid out a very intricate spider web of interconnected rope lines on the cargo compartment floor, woven through multiple cargo rings of our ship. I would say this guy could crochet anything, and it was now attached to a flexible wire ladder, so you just know this mission was going to be difficult, it was not going to be a touchdown mission, nighttime conditions do not improve accomplishment. Super Ranger tells me as the aircraft commander, "Sir if you have any problems or think you may lose the aircraft just give me the order and I will cut this one rope and release the ladder". Whoa! Super Ranger is telling me (emphasis ME!) I must give the Command to cut a team of the world's greatest killers and drop then back through the jungle trees, this being necessitated if I have control problems and think I am losing the aircraft, and I do not want to be "THAT GUY".

If Super Ranger was a high school coach giving his pep talk, he

certainly inspired me with a mental vision of the possible. I must tell you all tonight I made up my mind I was going to be the best pilot in the entire Country of Vietnam that night.

Now here is what never crossed my mind these fifty years later until tonight! I never thought until I prepared to speak this evening and please forgive me for this, about what Super Ranger must have been feeling that night as he related his responsibility. Bravest of the Brave, how do we deserve such men.

Here is the kicker such a mission did happen where a Super Ranger had to cut that rope and drop his combat brothers, friends, and team members through those jungle trees at night. That mission was the first story in my book Check Ride and Jim Scheckler and Bruce Britton were the pilots on that mission and my friends these many years. I had requested Jim's permission to use his story and as I mentioned it was one of the inspirations to author my book. But the incredible emotions Super Ranger must have had as he sliced that cord is a true PTSD moment.

Rangers have a motto "Rangers lead the way". Well Rangers lead the way with good decisions and sometimes Rangers must lead the way with bad good decisions. Bravest of the Brave.

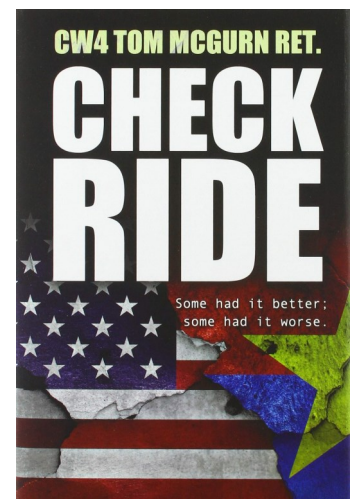
I love history and examine the topography where some battles have taken place. One battle, which is always an outstanding example of a highly trained force of warriors the best of their era, is the Spartans at the battle of Thermopylae. The Spartans through their actions imprinted their name forever through history defining the word Spartan. They held the line to give Greece a chance to organize.

Now I can guarantee when our Nation is facing a military situation that the Joint Chiefs of Staff when discussing the immediacy protocol of action enabling them time to organize, they will have one quality, one word that will guide their decision and that word is "DEPENDABLE"! When you absolutely cannot fail you want DEPENDABLE and that is why they will choose the 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers, their best light Infantry. Highly trained, abundantly motivated, AMERICAN SPARTANS! Bravest of the Brave.

I want to thank you all for this opportunity and I will finish with a gesture. One of honor and respect to the bravest of the brave, American Spartans the 75th Ranger Regiment members."

**Tom Salutes the attendees.**

**Until next time - RLW**







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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



### A STRONG BODY FUELS A STRONG MIND Staying Healthy after Poison and Broken Body

The days, weeks, months and years seem to fly-by. They almost blend together, and not a month goes by without a member seeking prayers or reporting on the sickness of a loved one. Just yesterday are the days of the “monkey bars”, “the pugil sticks”, “Hand to Hand Combat exercises”, “the Low Crawl competitions”, physical training with push ups, pull ups, sit ups, field marches, 2 mile runs before breakfast, bayonet drill, hour long parades in khaki or dress greens, the infiltration course on your back and then on your stomach, more marches and the unique Bivouacs, close combat course, individual tactical training and finally Physical Combat Proficiency test before you graduate Basic

Training in the US Army. Then there was graduation and shipping out to do it all over again but this time the training will be much more accelerated and twice as hard to complete in AIT( Advanced Infantry Training) MOS (Military Occupational Speciality).

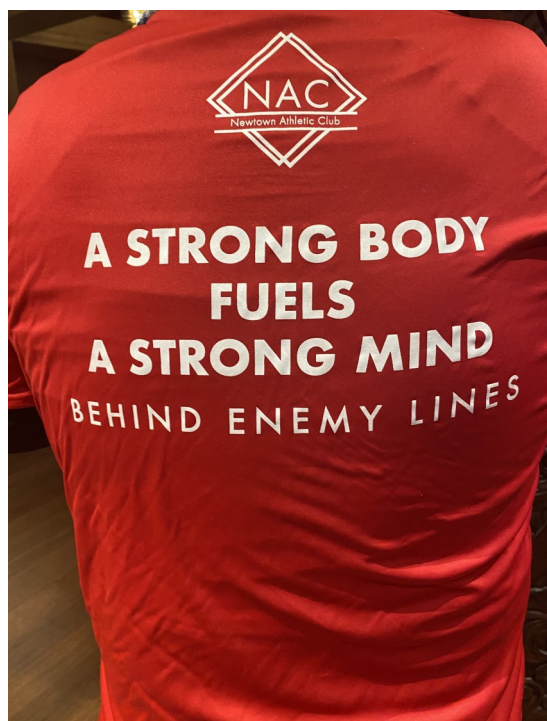
Tough times in our personal history but we can not forget when that Army recruiter asked us if we liked fresh air. We all raised our hands, becoming volunteers for Airborne. We were now instructed to do three times as much exercise along with jumping out of planes after we conquered the PLF (parachute landing fall , the 250 foot tower, the 30 foot towers and jumping out of planes at 1200 feet. And, the reward was to have your new “Jump Wings” with quarter inch spikes crushed into your chest. This ceremonial reward for completing your 5th jump was called receiving your “Blood Wings” . And as the spikes enter the skin over your heart you could feel the warm blood running down your chest hence the appropriate name.

This sounds like enough to make a soldier but many reading today also were sent to Jungle Expert School in Panama, Recondo School in Vietnam and some volunteered for Recon, Air Assault and Rappelling training. Finally there was also offered Special Forces Training at Fort Bragg if you qualified and were selected. Then at the conclusion of all this training/torture/exercise, we felt like we could carry our battle buddy in our rucksack.



We were the professionals. We were in the best shapes of our lives. We were not the everyday units and it was good. Repeat - We were in the best shape of our lives and it was good. When we arrived at our units- although physically ready for combat, we had emotional questions in our heads. Some individuals thought they were going to die in training for the Vietnam War. Many men silently asked if Combat could be tougher?

Our unit F Company 52nd infantry/ Long Range Recon Patrol/LRRP/ Ranger were the painted faces of the First Infantry Division and we could immediately tell that Combat was worse because men (our team mates) could die and many did die in battle.



We would walk under a jungle that had three tiers of trees and it was called triple canopy and planes would fly over and spray herbicide and the jungle would fade before the week was out. I asked the Colonels at Brigade and Division about the herbicide- The question was reasonable “Could this herbicide that is killing living jungle growth hurt the men that were walking under the spraying and drinking water that the spray landed on?”

The answers were “always no problem with human health”. Years later while testifying in Washington,DC the same question was asked. I told the Senators that we were told in Combat that Agent Orange would not hurt us? Senator Arlan Specter stated in a loud voice “the Military Lied”.

I was hurt that day but went on to fight for the rights of Veterans. My brother's name was Douglas Paul Christian and his MOS was chemical Warfare - he spent 9 years in the Army and 4 years in Vietnam. I buried him years ago in the National Cemetery. I helped write the first Agent Orange Legislation that established treatment and compensation for a number of disabilities. Yes, the disabilities were presumptive but the compensation and treatment does not fill the hole in your heart for the loss of a family member.

*Continued on the next page*

We seemed to have a philosophy in Combat “do or die” for the success of the mission. Many men were injured and treated on the battlefield by the Combat Medic and continued to fight. Those that could live and operate with battlefield dressings would often ask their medics to not report their injuries. They wanted to stay and fight for the safety and security of their team members, therefore they would never receive a purple heart medal indicating combat injury. They would walk with their scar from the sting of battle as a badge of honor for life.

Going back to the first paragraph of this article I can tell you that many Soldiers often had the philosophy of “suck it up” when it came to injuries in training and they often applied the same “Suck it up Philosophy to Combat injuries”

I often walk through airports while traveling for business and see former military members (identified by their cap or shirt). The painful part of seeing former soldiers is seeing them out of shape. I realized that there is a reason for them being out of shape. That reason is because of suffering for years with their hidden disabilities. Many tried to mask the emotional and physical pain of Combat with alcohol or medication (most times both).

I could not do anything about the metal fragments in their bodies. I could not do anything about their injuries from training or the Agent Orange poison from Vietnam nor Desert Storm illness or “burn pit” recognition by the Defense Department or the Veterans Administration. Veterans can apply for relief in the form of treatment/compensation. However, financial compensation does not always solve emotional pain. I felt I could do something about their emotional situations because we are brothers in pain from the sting of battle. Some soldiers feel emotional pain is often more complicated and hurtful than physical pain.

An idea came into my mind at the Dallas, Texas airport USO lounge. Most of the physically retired Military were getting out of shape therefore complicating their war +injuries and lowering their self esteem. I researched and gathered all the medical information available about trauma and emotional pain which is often an avenue to suicide. It was just as I thought, lack of exercise leads to depression! And, I could do something about that. I looked at information from Walter Reed, Cleveland Clinic, Deborah and the New England Medical Journals to establish a link to exercise and health.

I volunteered at local gyms developing Veterans Groups and Trainers because believe it or not - Veterans are different. I am going into my 5th year exercising with veteran teams. Yes, there are rules and standards for the classes but we try where possible to modify it if a veteran wants to participate. Gym owners and

trainers are often excited to work with Veterans. During the past five years, I would like to report that we are approaching success for approximately 500 Veterans.

Veterans training is more fun as a unit. We chose our tee shirt colors of red because “Remember Everyone Deployed”. When our teams arrive en masse at their respective gym, there is a great feeling of pride as they drag their hurt and tired bodies through the gym doors. I have tried many gyms but we presently have our 12 week class at the Newtown Athletic Club under the guidance of Jim Worthington, the owner.



David Christian

We all know that the History Channel and the Military Channel are great to watch during the week and sport teams on television on the weekends. But we don't all know that there is a correlation between exercise and health. Walk around your couch while you are watching TV or working on your computer. A dog walk or a stroll with your wife or family member will help you fight many of the following diseases: Cancer; Pulmonary issues; Healthy Heart, Alzheimers disease, arthritis, diabetes, etc, etc.

Exercise will not cure you but it can give you a better quality of life and a longer life, says the leading medical experts in the world.

Six Best Doctors in the World state the following about health:

- Sunlight
- Rest
- Exercise
- Diet
- Self Confidence
- Family and Friends

Finally saying that if we maintain these in all stages of Life we will enjoy a longer healthy life.

Note - when a soldier goes into the operating room he will realize there is one book that he has not read yet - “The Book of Healthy Living before and after Military Life”.\*


Note- We still have Sick Call Prayers for 6 Rangers in our Unit and many calls in other units.

Reunion- Specific Details of Reunion in Louisiana will be in the next edition of Patrolling. Some detail on next page.

\*Note there is no such book but we all wish there was one to guide us as we sometimes Struggle to get out of that “Easy Chair”

*Continued on the next page*





**Hampton Inn & Suites Jennings**

310 W Fred Ruth Zigler Memorial Dr.  
Jennings, Louisiana 70546  
USA

+1 337-824-2699

We're just south of I-10, within walking distance of several restaurants. Get a close-up look at Louisiana's famous alligators at the Gator Chateau across the highway. Start each day with our free hot breakfast. Take a dip in our outdoor pool, and stay connected with free WiFi.

Hotel website

**Amenities**

- Free breakfast
- Free parking
- Free WiFi
- Outdoor pool
- Fitness center
- Business center
- Meeting rooms

**Overview**

<b>Check-in</b> 3:00 PM	<b>Check-out</b> 12:00 PM
<b>Currency</b> US Dollar	<b>Smoking rooms available</b>
<b>Parking</b> Self parking - Complimentary	<b>WiFi</b> Free in-room and lobby Wi-Fi
<b>Service animals only</b>	

**Accessible features**

The reunion plans are set for March 30 - April 3, 2022 at Harry & Shyron's Home. Shyron got a block of rooms from March 28 - April 5, 2022 for those who want to come early and stay late. The Hampton Inn room cost is \$109.00 for double Queen

Beds and \$119.00 for King Studio plus applicable taxes. We hope to see you there. In Jennings, Louisiana- Hampton Inn (337) 824-2699



*Captain David A. Christian, Herschel Walker - Heisman Trophy Winner, and Jim Worthington, President's Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition.*



## K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Greetings my fellow LRRPs and Rangers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Division.

This time I'm not going to complain about being up against the editor's deadline, trying to break this writer's block that seems to affect me every issue. But it is so.

(That was me not complaining)

If you will recall our last K-Co reunion along with the 4<sup>th</sup> Div. Assoc. in Colorado Springs was cancelled due to Covid. This year we were going with the same plan in July. But guess what folks, the hotel that the 4<sup>th</sup> had contracted was sold last month and closed down. (Go Figure!) Turns out there were no other hotels in Colorado Springs able to take over on such short notice. The 4<sup>th</sup> was able to go to Kansas City within the same time frame with the intention of returning to Colorado in 2023. We are left with the options of going with the Kansas City location or go it alone and remain in CO. Springs. A survey revealed that the majority wished to remain in Colorado.

Tom Sove and I traveled to Colorado Springs last week and checked out two hotels that made the best proposals for our group. The Holiday Inn/Airport was best able to meet our needs:

Date: Sept. 7-10 checkout Sept. 11

Room Rate: 139.00+ taxes. Included is a hot breakfast from the menu in the Burger Bar restaurant. We have a block of 20 rooms, but more can be added if needed, double queens or kings. Handicap accessible is also available.

The reservation Number is the hotel direct line (so we don't have to hassle with an 800 number). (1-719-380-8516) Just say you are with K-Company. The address is 1855 Aeroplaza Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80916.

The hotel will comp our hospitality suite, a suite for the Blue Bucket Bar, and the banquet room is also comped, we just pay the cost of the meal. Those details will be worked out later, but the cost should be \$35-\$40. We are in great financial shape so K-Co LRRP/Rangers will pay for the banquet.

There are lots of activities in and around the area. Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Flying W Ranch, Royal Gorge Bridge (if you're not afraid of heights), Air Force Academy, Cripple Creek (an old mining town) where you can gamble if you so choose.

Tom and I also met with the cadre of Camp Kilo (4<sup>th</sup> Division Ranger prep course) This is for those who have applied to Ranger School to give them a leg up on what to expect when they get to Ft. Benning. Tom gave the class a good history of the LRRPs and Rangers of 4<sup>th</sup> Division in Vietnam. We will also plan something with them during the reunion.

When all the details are worked out, we'll get that info out via e-



mail, Facebook, Website, etc. Right now, I would like to get a count of who will be able to attend the reunion for planning purposes. If you haven't already, please let me or Wayne Mitsch know + number of guests.

Recently it was decided that our website needed to be upgraded to a new look, make it more user friendly and fix some issues with the current page. Wayne (our webmaster) researched and found a company that he feels would do a good job with what we need. He sent out a mass e-mail to inform the group and asked if any who wished to donate to the

cost. As of this writing Wayne tells me he has received over \$6000.00 in donations. GOOD Grief guys! I cannot express how much I appreciate your ongoing support of our Unit. You always come through.

The cost will be \$2500.00-3000.00. The remainder will go into the piggy bank.

I'm sorry to report the passing of two of our Brothers. Robert McCarthy (2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade LRRP) passed away Nov. 17, 2021. George Carrelli (K-75/E-58 passed away Dec.19 2021. I have no other information at this time. If any of you served with these men and have pictures or would like to write a memorial, please let me or Wayne Mitsch know. We would like to post something on our memorial page.

A few final thoughts: Is it just me being sentimental in my old age or do others find themselves going back in time to the 50s and 60s. I'm mature enough to know that it wasn't as idealistic I remember. But it sure brings back a lot of pleasant memories. More and more I find myself floating back on the clouds of the music of our youth.

I was listening to "Against the Wind" by Bob Seger and I was struck by how some of the lyrics fit us as LRRPs and Rangers of Vietnam. These lines are in no particular order:

*It seems like yesterday but it was a long time ago*

*Wish I didn't know now what I didn't know then*

*We were young and strong, we were runnin against the wind*

*See the young man run, against the wind*

*I'm still runnin against the wind*

*Searching for shelter again and again*

*A little something against the wind*

*Well I'm older now and still runnin against the wind*





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—CHARLES “CHUCK” REILLY



Greetings to all my fellow Rangers and LURPS from the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. Because of the advancing years of our members, these pages are now running the risk of becoming something akin to an obituary column. I really don't enjoy that these types of notices are the “news of the day,” but I feel that it's necessary to report all deaths and illnesses as they pertain to the unit. Sad to say, but it's that time in our lives and we have to accept the reality of it all. So, if I have to be the harbinger of bad news, that will just have to be the way it is. First off---a former Ranger and LURP who most of our members are very familiar with, Riley “Dozer” Cox, passed away in January of this year from a massive heart attack. He had been a member of both “F” Company 58<sup>th</sup> LRP and “L” Company Rangers, but didn't get that distinction by being in the unit when it changed names. He was actually in the unit at two different times. As an “F” Company LURP, he had been wounded during a mission with a 12-man “heavy” team in 1968. Former LURP and Ranger Gary Linderer, who knew Riley like his



blast tore open his stomach causing his small intestines to bulge out into the open. In addition, his right arm was broken at the forearm and was hanging loosely. He also suffered a penetration wound to his upper chest. Although in immense pain, Cox used a towel to push his intestines back into his abdominal cavity. Then he tied his broken arm back with field dressing into a makeshift sling and continued to fight the NVA while firing 40 rounds of buckshot from his Ithaca Pump Shotgun. After finally running out of ammo, he recovered a stray Car-15 from one of his dead teammates and continued to fight until a Ready Reaction force landed and reached his team---two hours later. Riley was medevacked back to the States and spent 8 months in an Army hospital being treated for his multiple wounds. He was offered a medical discharge but refused, and instead, volunteered to return to his prior unit, now “L” Company Rangers, for a second tour. He was awarded a Silver Star for his actions on November 20, 1968.” Riley Cox passed away at his Colorado residence from a massive heart attack on January 27, 2022. He leaves behind

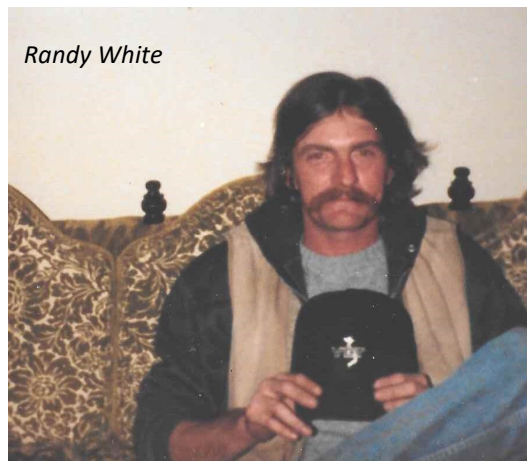


Riley “Dozer” Cox



own brother, relayed this information to me regarding his time in the war zone. “Riley Cox was a member of F/58<sup>th</sup> LRP from May 1968 to November 1968. On a mission in the Ruong Valley and as a member of a 12-man heavy team, they had earlier ambushed an NVA patrol, but soon found themselves surrounded and fighting for their lives. *Reader Discretion:* Cox was horribly wounded by a Chicom Claymore Mine during this action. The

his loving wife Linda in Baily, Colorado, and a host of friends and former LRP/Ranger comrades. Riley was one of the most well regarded men from the unit and will be sorely missed by all who knew him well. I have included several pictures of Riley for this column. One picture is basically a collage of photos from his life. Rest in peace, Ranger.



Randy White

In other news.... Randy White, another Ranger who is well known to his fellow comrades, has been moved to a VA hospice in Michigan and, from all accounts, he is very ill. Randy

was in “L” Company through most of 1970 and has attended numerous reunions over the years. He tragically lost his son Troy several years ago, but has been able to persevere through that terrible blow to his family. I have included a photo of Randy at our first Ranger/LRRP reunion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky in 1986. *Continued on the next page*



*In the photo, L-R are Glen Alvarez, Paul "Blinky" Morgucz, Randy, Tom Sweetnam, Rick "The Kid" Butler and "Jungle Jim" Rodarte*

Blinky, Tom, Rick and Jim have all passed now. I have also included another photo (photo previous page) of Randy during his younger and healthier times. I'll pray that Randy White will hang on and somehow weather this storm.

Company "L" Rangers had its share of disasters during 1971 and, over the years, they've all been extensively documented; the Fight on Hill 809 is one well-known example. But our unit also had many successful operations and I would like to relate one interesting and very accomplished mission in May of 1971 that was pulled off without a hitch. Former Lieutenant Bob Suchke (ret. LTC), a key participant in this operation, relayed this story about recovering enemy rockets near Fire Support Base Pistol. These were not just "any old rockets" but Soviet-made fin-stabilized 122mm rockets with 4 folding fins attached at the base of the rocket motor. These 6-foot-long rockets had a warhead that contained a high-explosive compound and detonated on impact, scattering shaped pieces of shrapnel with a burst radius of 30 meters. They could be fired from a single or multiple shot launcher tube mounted on a truck or from an inclined earth mound. The range of this weapon was approximately 10 miles or about the same as our own 105 howitzers. These enemy rockets (officially known as the DKZ-Bs) were used primarily against our base camps and Fire Support Bases. It was fired by an electrical device, usually powered by a discarded battery.



This cache of weapons was initially discovered by Ranger Team 15. The team was led by SSG Charles Ebelhare. The other members were SP4 Charles Cantrell, SP4 Donald Noble, Sgt. Terry Mikkelson and Sgt. Louie Distretti. As soon as Division Intelligence (G-2) heard about their discovery, the mission to recover them was immediately put into action. Unfortunately, the recovery site for these weapons was in the thick triple-canopy jungle associated with most of I Corps and they had to be extracted (both men and rockets) by other than normal means. For the rockets, (eight of them and each weighing over 100 lbs.), the men had to hook them up with a cargo net delivery sling attached from a cable dangling from a hovering UH-1H Huey. After securing this payload, the Huey would hoist up the net and slowly pull it straight up out of the jungle until it cleared the top canopy. While this was going on, Lt. Suchke was in the Huey making sure that everything was hooked up properly with the chopper's cargo floor rings. He mentioned how the rescue chopper made a great target for any NVA in the area with an RPG. He and the helicopter crew couldn't get away fast enough. Two more HUEYs flew in after that to extract the men of Team 15, but not by the usual McGuire Rig technique. They were pulled out with the new STABO extraction method. Named after the initials of several of its inventors, the STABO employed a parachute-type harness with which the troops hopped into and there was more than one safety rope and cable attached per each man to the floor of the Huey. Unfortunately, during this type of extraction operation, only three men could come at one time.

Naturally, with all this activity, the team's position was completely compromised and they had to get out of the jungle as fast as possible. The good news was that this STABO method was far safer than the old McGuire Rig way. Surprisingly, the operation went off with lightning speed and without a hitch. Both men and rockets were safely back at Camp Eagle in record-breaking time. Everybody was happy about that, and especially Ranger commander Captain David Ohle (ret. Lt. Gen.). I have included a picture of him with Lt. Suchke and Lt. David Grange (ret. Major Gen.) and two unidentified "B" Troopers from the 2/17<sup>th</sup> Cavalry proudly kneeling over the captured ordnance. Unfortunately, at this time, I have no photo of Ranger

Team 15. As 1971 wore on, there would be plenty more dangerous missions for "L" Company Rangers and more casualties, but considering the number of losses earlier in the year, the worst was over.

I am finishing this article a few days before Super Bowl Sunday. Although I live in the Los Angeles area, I find myself rooting for Joe Burrow and the Cincinnati Bengals. Here's hoping I win a few dollars by betting against the City of the Angels. If that doesn't work out, I can always take a quick trip to Las Vegas.





# N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—RUDY TEODOSIO



*Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is a more elite soldier who arrives at the cutting edge of battle by land, sea or air, I accept the fact that as a Ranger, my country expects me to move further, faster, and fight harder than any other soldier.*

## Joe Marquez

8 November @ 1422 hours

A memory from three years ago: My Son is now retired from the USMC with over twenty years of service to our nation.

Last year my son Daniel, a career Marine with half a dozen deployments in his eighteen years of service, had the opportunity to speak at a Veteran's day program at a nearby middle school.

Tomorrow I will have the same responsibility

What can be said to these young Americans that will help them to face both present and future challenges in their lives.

I think of the privilege that I and my eight brothers had in being born, four of them overseas, but remaining Americans, and growing up on the United States Air Force bases in the US, Europe and Panama.

Because my Father, having been drafted into the Army Air Corp in 1943-1946 after serving in the Philippines during WWII, went back to New Mexico and again worked as he had before the War, as a farm laborer.

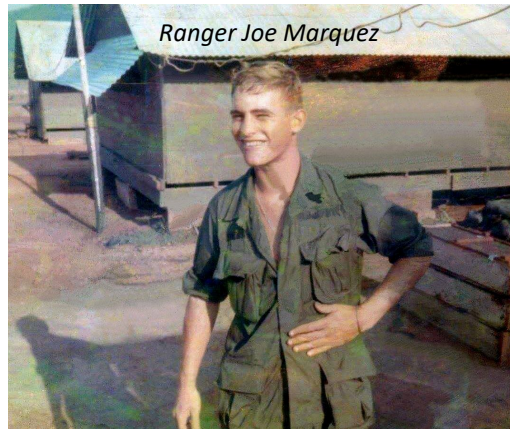
Finding no future there he decided to re-enlist and made a career of it, retiring after twenty years of honorable service.

At his death at age eighty-seven he wanted to, and fulfilled his wish that he, be buried in his uniform in the National Cemetery in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

To some it seemed strange that he didn't want to be buried in the family cemetery in Albuquerque.

But I think that his allegiance was to his nation before even his own hometown and family.

He was first generation American, We, his sons are second generation. Our sons and daughters the third, and their sons are



Ranger Joe Marquez

daughters are fourth. Dad was willing to risk his life for this country.

He then signed the permission form for my brother Julian to enlist at age seventeen, not knowing that his second son, would lose his life serving in Vietnam a year and half later.

Is this country, with all its warts and blemishes and inequalities worth all the blood, treasure and tears spend to preserve it? Millions of those of us who have served in defense of it say yes!

E Pluribus Unum. Out of Many One, is our national motto. The desire of our founders was that for all our differences we find a union of purpose.

Bringing many ingredients to one pot, so providing nourishment and strength for all.

They pledged in defense of an ideal their lives, wealth and sacred honor. For many it cost them all except their honor. And if the ideal is still not reached?

To maintain our national aspirations and not allow the efforts of those who would set us against each other is succeed.

We are not so much a team with the focus of the individual as we are to be a unit.

As my brothers and I born in this country and in other yet remained the members of one family so should we, whether born here or abroad, be One.

The United States of America, One nation under God.

A threefold cord is not easily broken, much more a cord of millions.

May the God of Heaven grant his grace to us in our hour of need.  
Ranger Joe Marquez

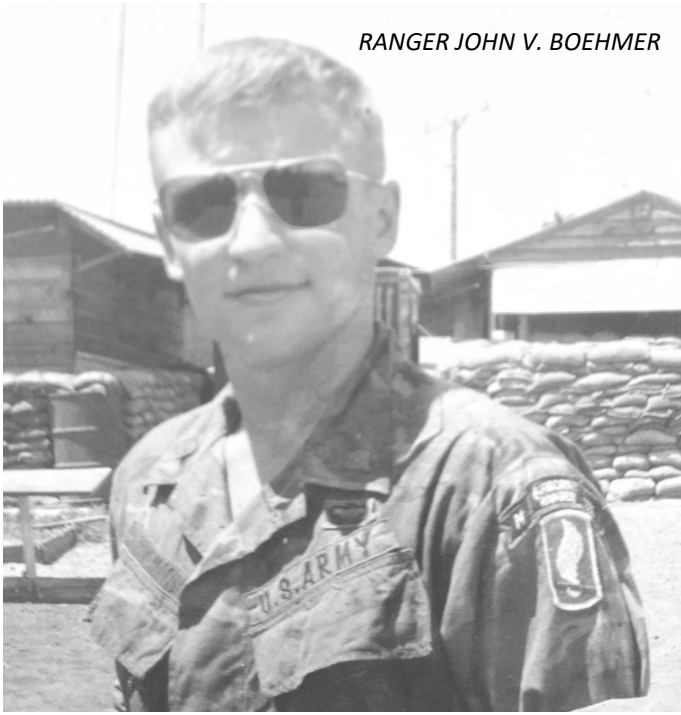
## RANGER JOHN V. BOEHMER

It is my sad duty to inform the Unit that Ranger John V. Boehmer (15 February 1950 – 7 February 2022) Brandon, SD has crossed over to the other side. He had an up and down battle after suffering a stroke for a year and family was with him all the way with his journey on this side of the world.

John served with Kilo Team from 1969-70 November Company (Ranger) 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry.

*Continued on the next page*

RANGER JOHN V. BOEHMER



May the Spirit of Peace entered the hearts of his family and close friends as well as the Brothers in the Rangers that served along side him.

God be with you John, until we see you again.

*Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is a more elite soldier who arrives at the cutting edge of battle by land, sea or air, I accept the fact that as a Ranger, my country expects me to move further, faster, and fight harder than any other soldier.*

#### NIGHT SWEAT

There were times during the night when all the jungle sounds would stop at once. There was no dwindling down or fading away; it was all gone in a single instant as thought some signal had been transmitted out to all the bats, snakes, monkeys, insects, picking up on a frequency that a thousand years in the jungle night condition you receive.

But, leaving you as it was to wonder what you weren't hearing now, straining for any sound, one piece of information.

The thought there were hundreds and thousands of NVA and VC out there, coming and going, moving and waiting, living out there just to do you harm.

The thought that could turn any sudden silence into a space that you'd fill with everything you thought was quiet in you; it could even put you on the approach to clairvoyance.

You thought you heard impossible things: damp roots breathing, fruit sweating, fervid bug action, the heart beat of tiny animals.

You could sustain that sensitivity for a long time, either until the babbling and chittering and shrieking of the jungle had started up again, or until something familiar brought you out of it, a

chopper flying around above the canopy or the strangely reassuring sound next to you of one going into the chamber.

Sometimes you'd get so tired that you'd forget where you were and sleep the way you hadn't slept since you were a child. I knew a lot of people that never got up from that kind of sleep; some called them lucky (Never knew what hit him), some called them \*\*\*\*\* (If he'd been on the stick...) but that was worse than academic; everyone's death got talked about. It was a way of constantly touching and turning the odds, and real sleep was a premium.



I knew a guy at Kontum who could go to sleep just like that. Say, "Guess I'll get some", close his eyes and be there, day or night. Sitting or lying down, sleeping through things but not others, a loud radio or a one-five-five firing off in the distance wouldn't wake him, but a rustle in the bushes fifty

feet away would.

Mostly at night what you had was on the agitated side of a half-sleep. You thought you were sleeping but you were really just waiting. Nights there were harsh functioning's of conciseness, drifting in and out of your head, looking up through the trees at the glimmering night sky of a combat zone.

One night I woke up and heard the sounds of a firefight going on several clicks from us. We knew it was one of our patrols but we were too faraway to help. All we could do was listen to the gunfire and call for help on the radio. Muffled by distance it sounded like the noises we made playing war games as children; it enriched the game and this game was the same.

Only way out of hand at least, too rich for all but a few serious players.

Night Sweat and instant involuntary weight control.

By: CSM(R) Franklin D. Miller (MOH Recipient) Team Leader RT Vermont

*Continued on the next page*



## GRUNTS

*Author Unknown*

Grunts choose to live a savage and Spartan life. You become intimate with violence, killing, pain, and suffering. Your acquaintances are the cold, the dirt, filth, and loneliness.

You live in a perpetual state of exhaustion. Your bonds are deeper; the losses are greater.

The one thing you can always embrace; the suck. It's constant and omnipresent. Grunts don't merely survive; we thrive in the chaos. This is all part of Infantryman's Symphony.

It's beautiful, it's horrible, and It's the Grunt Life.



*Flora-Bama Photos with Marauder Kinney celebrating his 101st birthday*





## P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JERRY YONKO



Good evening all members of the Papa Ranger Tribe. We are a very exclusive group and we are getting ready to have one heck of a reunion in Branson MO June 8-12. As of this writing, I have 20 people or couples either former Papa Rangers or their families planning on coming and I have not finished calling everyone yet. I will attach the list for you to see who is currently planning on coming as well as those listed as possible and I will update it going forward so you can see which of your friends and brothers you are going to miss if you don't attend. I have been calling every phone number on the spreadsheet and have reconnected with many folks I have not heard from in a while. I have found that many of the names had phone numbers that were landlines and many of those have been replaced with cell numbers, which we no longer have. I have the SS numbers of most of the members of our company and will attempt to locate some of the lost by that means. If you have any suggestions to try and find our missing Brothers, please reach out to me and tell me how to do it.

I have been asked how we are going to relate to the LRRP Association and if we will have to join it to attend their rally. No, you do not have to join the Association to attend the rally but yes, you do if you want to eat the meals they are providing for dinner and if you wish to participate in the golf tournament and annual meeting. I joined and paid \$100.00 for a five-year membership, which I hope to use to become a part of the group. They are our heritage and the Vietnam Ranger Companies developed directly from the former LRRP Teams that preceded us. We are LRRP's and have been welcomed to their fold. Thank you Terry Roderick for blazing that trail for us. If you look at the LRRP Association website you can find the Rally registration information and costs. It will be \$125.00 for a member and spouse or significant other and for children under 18. If you bring a guest above the first two, it is also \$125.00 for them. I am bringing a popup cover to set up for our use while we are at the rally, which we will identify as Papa Co HQ. Please remember to bring your own chairs to sit on when you get tired or just want to flop. There will be vendors with good stuff to buy and lot's to see. I am having new Papa Co t-shirts made up to further identify us from the rest of the group.

We are now planning, for those who are attending the reunion, some activities we can all share and enjoy. I have reached out to the Branson Veterans office that tries to find and help book suitable entertainment for visiting veteran groups and together we are looking for something fun to do where we can all relax and have a great time. For instance, there is an evening dinner show boat where we could cruise the river and be entertained by professional musicians and performers, there is a classic automobile museum with attached farm tractor and implement collection,

and there are many shopping and spa opportunities as well as some of the best dining venues in the country. Don't forget, this is Branson and there are hundreds of entertainment venues to hear and enjoy singing and dancing acts that are as good as they get. I'm asking that we all take the time to look up Branson MO on the internet and see what is available, and when something cranks your motor, let me know so I can pursue booking it for us for an evening, or even during the day. Branson goes all out for the veterans and I intend to allow them to roll out the red carpet for us.

Also, please remember to let me know when you make your reservations so I can go ahead and work with the Plaza on the banquet planning. We are going to have a buffet dinner and cash bar. The plaza is also providing us with a meeting room for the whole time we are there for us to have our own gathering place close to our rooms. I think we are going to enjoy ourselves and have some well-deserved downtime relaxing and becoming reacquainted and hopefully meeting some new folks. When the final plans are made, I will share with you what the cost for the dinner and any group entertainment we book will be.

I finally got the dates for the 2022 Mountain Ranger Critter Cookout in Dahlonga GA this coming April. The Cookout and ceremonies will be on Friday April 29th and the open house on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup>. I have been recently one of the regular attendees and like Terry told us all, it is one of the best activities to attend throughout the year. I have met many of our compadres from the Vietnam era as well as both older and younger Rangers who share our common backgrounds. Last year I took my Grandson with me and I am going to try to do the same this year if possible. I do not know yet if they are planning on having the event in the same location as last year or if they are going back to the original locations (I hope so) we have all become familiar with. It doesn't matter to me; I'm going to the Cookout and I hope to see you there.

Over the past couple of decades we have had some remarkable reunions where we were able to reunite with our past, and to rekindle the flames of brotherhood we knew in country when times were tough and the chips were down. So many of our friends from then are no longer with us and I think we owe it to them to keep the Papa Company flames burning by staying in touch. I remember the first reunion I put together in Biloxi MS. It wasn't fancy but it sure was fun. Remember New Orleans and the French Quarter, the airboat trips through the swamps where there were thousands of alligators just waiting on one of us to fall out of the boats. How about Cripple Creek CO where our Company were the honored guests in the parade?

*Continued on the next page*



We all just about collapsed marching as a group up that darn hill but no one dropped out. RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!! Maggie Valley was fun as were Cherokee and Rhode Island I'm told. There have been veteran groups from all American wars and conflicts and we are not any different from the others except that we were special as the smallest Vietnam Ranger Company in a bad Area of Operation. We do not have to meet and greet any of the folks at the LRRP Rally holding our caps in our hands hoping to be accepted. We are the *Papa Ranger Tribe*, and I, for one, am proud to tell anyone who will listen, who we are and what we did.

I hope all of you who have not given thought to coming to Branson to please think it over and come if at all possible. You will be welcomed and appreciated by everyone. I again ask that you take a look at the Branson entertainment opportunities and let me know what you want to do. I'll try to set it up for you.

See you in Branson in June.

Best regards and RLW

Jerry Yonko 601-826-2788

## BEST RANGER SCHEDULED FOR 8 - 11 APRIL 2022 FORT BENNING, GA

The Best Ranger Competition 2022, is the 38th annual celebration of this grueling competition, starting the best soldiers of the world, our United States Army, RANGERS! The Best Ranger Competition was started in 1982 after Dick Leandri found a way to honor his personal friend, Lieutenant General David E. Grange, Jr. This years Best Ranger is on and scheduled from 8-11 April 2022. As COVID measures are actively being taken



and the status changes, please visit the [Infantry Week website](#) for up to date guidance on COVID conditions and restrictions. Our thoughts and hopes are with our entire team of Supporters, Competitors, and community that

make the entire Team Ranger come together every year and "Lead The Way".

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

## 2022 CRITTER COOKOUT

The USMRA Critter Cookout will be conducted Friday, April 29 at the usual location around the Overhang Club on Camp Merrill. We will eat between 1700 and 1900.

The Fallen Ranger Memorial ceremony, scholarship presentations, and Planning Bay honors



will begin at 1900. Live music will follow.

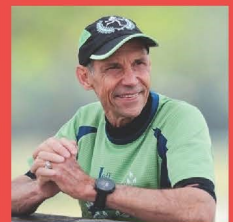
The 5th RTB Open House will be conducted Saturday, April 30.

In the event the Open House is cancelled, the Critter Cookout will still be conducted but at a location just outside of Camp Merrill.

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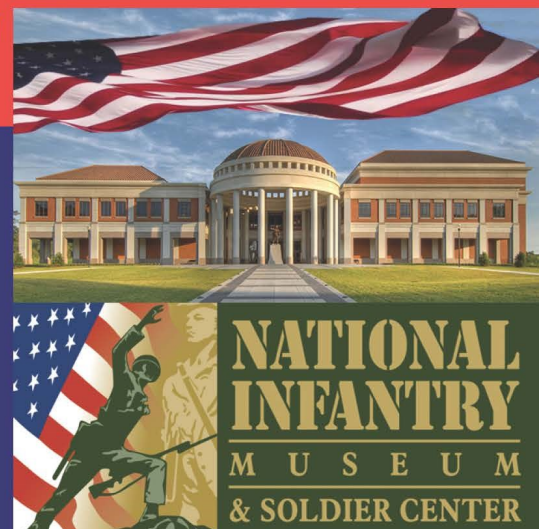
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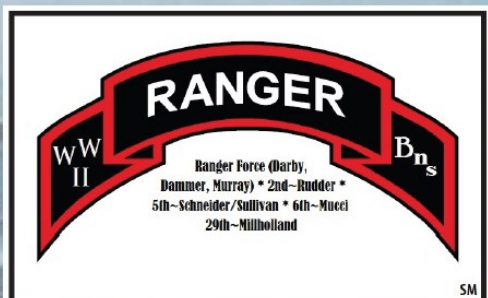
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*All proceeds are evenly divided between the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and ONPOINT 1-1*