

PATROLLING

September 2023 75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC. Volume 35 Issue III



Open House Provided by the 2nd Ranger Battalion at Lewis-McChord during 75th RRA Reunion— Picture by Hugh Roberts

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



Editor's Corner

Stephen Odin Johnson

Greetings to all!

This will be my last edition of *Patrolling* as editor. Time for Pam and myself to turn the page and hand the magazine off to someone else as we move forward on our journey in life.

As I read the *dashboard* of my mind and body, I know that my gauges are running low. To assure our readers out there in the Ranger Community that the magazine continues at a high level, all information and suggestions on selecting a new editor have been given to President Art Attaway in a timely fashion.

An announcement from him should be forthcoming in the very near future naming a new editor.

Most importantly, the heartbeat of *Patrolling* lies within those that continue to send articles every quarter. Judging from the quantity and high quality of their submissions, suggests that *Patrolling* will continue to flourish with a beacon of meaningful information, leading the way and then some!

I will continue writing and submitting articles to the new *Patrolling* editor, including the Best Ranger Competition and other important events that both Pam and I can attend. RLTW!



L-R Tom Sove, Myself, and CSM 2nd Ranger Battalion CSM Mortensen-Ranger Ball

Thanks to Tom Sove for spearheading this year's 75th RRA Reunion!

75th Ranger Regiment Association

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The opinions expressed by the Officers, Unit Directors, Editor and other writers are entirely their own and are not to be considered an official expression or position of the Association.

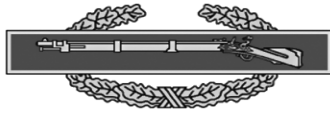
Advertisements for products or services do not constitute an endorsement by the Association. Manuscripts, photographs, and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics.

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



WHO WE ARE: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., is a registered 501©19 corporation, registered in the state of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F Co 58th, (LRP) and L Co 75 (Ranger) Inf. The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION:

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible members of the 75th Infantry Rangers and those who served in the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Companies, Long-Range Patrol (LRP) Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ). Also eligible are those members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Long Range Patrol Companies that were attached to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the members of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

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

3. To assist, when possible, those active units and their members who bear the colors and lineage of the 5307th Composite Provisional Unit (CPU), 475th Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Companies (Merrill's Marauders), 1st and 2nd Battalions (Ranger) 75th Infantry, the 75th Ranger Regiment, consisting of Regimental Headquarters 1st, 2nd, 3rd, STB, and MIB Ranger Battalions, successor units, or any additions that are activated and assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

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

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

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

Section 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

Co F (LRP) 52nd Infantry
Co C (LRP) 58th Infantry
Co E (LRP) 58th Infantry
Co F (LRP) 58th Infantry
70th Infantry DET (LRP)
71st Infantry DET (LRP)
74th Infantry DET (LRP)
78th Infantry DET (LRP)
79th Infantry DET (LRP)
Co. D (LRP) 151st Infantry
Co A (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co B (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co C (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co D (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co E (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co F (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co G (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co H (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co I (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co K (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co L (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co M (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.
Co P (RANGER) 75th Inf.



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

We hold biennial reunions (in conjunction with the 75th Ranger Regiment Rendezvous) and business meetings. The association officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer), are elected at the biennial association business meeting. This reunion is held at Columbus/Fort Moore, 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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75TH RANGER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION

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O/75-78th LRP

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The following individuals are appointed by the President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association to their respective positions in order to facilitate the day-to-day operation of the Association.

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Fellow Ranger Brothers!

It is a privilege and an honor to have been reelected to represent the 75th Ranger Regiment Association as President for the next 2 years, and for the past 2 years. I plan to make these count as it will probably be my last volunteer work for associations.

I am listing below my plans and goals for the upcoming years, and a brief summary of what we have accomplished.

New

CGM - While obtaining the CGM for VN era LRRP 75th INF Ranger units has been discussed, I intend to make a focused effort over the upcoming 2 years. Recently the Merrill's Marauders and WW II Rangers (Darby's Rangers) were awarded this recognition.

Tab - New and old, thanks to Steve Johnson and supporting committee members, an initiative was introduced to obtain a Ranger Tab for all LRRP units. This effort stalled and is very complex and bureaucratic, and I can make no promises but will continue the fight. Opponents say that since Ranger School was created in 1952, VN era Rangers could have attended. Our response is that only career soldiers had that chance, and that draftees that volunteered for the LRRP units were deployed in combat and did not have this chance. This is going to be a tough nut I believe.

Membership - We intend to make a major membership push and feel confident that now that we have 2 VP's and 4 UD's that served in GWOT, we will have better access to the younger generation of Rangers. The association needs to grow membership and the only real focus to do this is the younger Rangers. We need to pass the baton completely, for leadership, to this generation, and the only way to do that is through having Officers, UD's, and new members from that era.

Communications - We are old and set in our ways, and not really Social Media savvy, but the GWOT Ranger is. We are seeking to hire a "Virtual Assistant" (administrative help) to maintain a communications calendar and manage the membership email broadcast as well as event planning, and Social Media Management.

Ranger History Book - While not officially sponsored by the association, we want to support the creation of the "Coffee Table" book that represents Rangers through history, and our association possesses the stories and photos that capture the Viet Nam Rangers and LRRPS through the 90's and up to GWOT. Please support this effort by sending your stories and photos to our internal editor through the link.

Patrolling Magazine - It is our goal to again begin selling advertising in the Magazine and use it as a fundraising and income producing device for the association. If you are aware of Ranger or other quality military-oriented companies that would benefit from advertising, please pass the information directly to me for distribution to the appropriate people.

(attaway75thrra@gmail.com, or art.attaway@75thrra.org)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ART "DOC" ATTAWAY



Elections and By-law changes - Over the upcoming 6 months we will be establishing a voting system for ALL

members and changing our By-laws to allow this, rather than only the Rangers that attend the General meeting every 2 years. All members should be able to vote regardless of the desire or ability to attend the bi-annual meeting that includes the election of officers. This system will also be used for surveys and any other voting needs required. Please make sure we have your current email information.

Old

Bi-annual meeting - Thanks primarily to Tom Sove and Roger Crunk, we had a brilliant week in Olympia, Washington, and were hosted by the 2ND BN, 75th Ranger Regiment. While it was a small turnout, it was just full of content and value. From the mini-Rendezvous sponsored by 2/75 to the excellence of our 2 Guest Speakers, BG (RET), Joe Stringham (VN through Panama) and MOH recipient and GWOT Ranger, Leroy Petry; they were outstanding. The speeches can be viewed on our website. I recommend everyone makes the next one, which we have changed from Ft. Moore to a rotational schedule to accommodate more of our membership and give love to ALL the current Ranger units. This opportunity was presented to us by the abnormal 3-year rotation of the Regimental Change of Command, which Rendezvous at Ft. Moore (Benning) is always associated with. So, we now can go to Rendezvous, but also elsewhere to comply with our by-laws requiring a bi-annual meeting. Look forward to some in Savannah and maybe elsewhere soon.

New Officers from GWOT era - CGM (RET) and RHOF Inductee Rick Merritt has been 2nd VP for the past 2 years. Through his recruiting efforts we now have another VP, 2nd VP Kurt Bucha (bio listed below), and Rick has been elected as 1ST VP for the upcoming 2 years. Special and many thanks to Pete Denckner who represented us as 1st and 2nd VP for over 4 years.

Website - We did create a new website that is more membership friendly and simply more current technology. A new membership database has been created and you can search membership information as a member, as well as do updates, pay annual dues, etc. New membership applications can be taken online and even their proof of 75th Ranger service uploaded.

Store - While an old project, we are just now bringing the new store online. Run by GWOT Rangers, this store offers our members a much greater selection and eliminates having the association carry inventory and handling shipping, but still provides income for the association! Watch for an email announcement with the new link.

General

Steve Johnson - We want to recognize Steve Johnson for all his contribution to the association as Past President, 1st Vice President, Unit Director, and editor of Patrolling magazine.

Continued on the next page

Steve had decided that he cannot dedicate the time needed as the editor of *Patrolling*. He will be greatly missed. Godspeed! We will be looking for a new volunteer editor if a member is interested or knows someone we should contact.

Cross Membership – This idea has been tabled. We will look for other ways to collaborate with the other Ranger organizations.

RLTW!



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Tom Sove

GENERAL Membership Meeting OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON JUNE 30, 2023

President Attaway opened the meeting at 11:01 am PDT. The first item was the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mitsch, seconded by Burke, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last General Member Meeting. No discussion ensued. The motions passed unanimously by voice vote.

Secretary Sove was directed to conduct a roll call of all units present. The units present were 1/75, 2/75, 3/75, A/75, B/75, G/75, H/75, K/75, L/75, N/75, and P/75.

Crunk gave a brief Treasurer Report. He passed out a synopsis of our bank balances as of the end of May, 2023.

Sove followed with the Secretary Report, which consisted primarily of reunion matters. Volunteers were solicited to give specific toasts during the banquet, as well as volunteers to answer the Fallen Warrior Roll Call. This was followed by a brief discussion of our ability to arrange for the meeting to be on Zoom. Unfortunately, despite sending a mass email advance notice, no one was taking advantage and attending virtually.

Attaway gave his President's message, starting with information of our efforts to join the modern information age, citing our change in the web site and acknowledgement of Zoom capability. He confirmed our intent to use Google Cloud for saving secretary documents, financial records, and any other records. He also announced our intent to amend the bylaws to allow for officer elections to be conducted electronically, thereby allowing for full member participation in elections. Currently, only members in attendance at the General Member Meeting may cast votes. He commented it was important for members to make sure emails from the association do not go to "junk" folders.

Steve Johnson was asked to give an update on the Ranger Hall of Fame. He disclosed the make-up of our Committee, being himself, President Attaway, Richard Barela, and 2nd VP Rick Merritt. All were appointed by our president. The primary duty of this Committee is to cull all applicant packages prior to formal presentation to the Hall of Fame. He noted the Committee is not allowed to make changes in packets, and urged members to submit complete packets in the future. Another function of the Committee is to assist in the development of writing packets where they can, noting the whole selection process is very com-

petitive. A brief discussion ensued on the prospects of Terry Roderick's induction next year, noting they are good; however, the packet could use a bit of improvement. Merritt added a comment about the ability of individuals to submit nominations, thus side-stepping the culling process of organizations. He is hoping this flaw can be changed in the future.

Attaway continued with a comment about the restructuring of our Scholarship Program, in that we decided to go with the Ranger Scholarship Fund.

His next comment was about our intent to out-source our merchandise sales with American Trigger Pullers. This is an organization made up of GWOT Ranger veterans, and they have an excellent reputation in their field. All our current inventory will be handled by them, and our members may easily purchase their products.

Attaway brought up our budget. The association has been functioning very profitably, but expenses are starting to increase. Thus, we will need to be more diligent in preparing our budget. A comment was made to put the budget on the web site.

He then announced our speakers for the banquet, BG(RET) Joe Stringham, and MSGT(RET) and MOH recipient Leroy Petry. He gave a bio of each.

Under New Business, Attaway shared information on the attempt to attain the Ranger Tab for our Vietnam LRRPs and Rangers. This is still a hard subject, but we will continue current efforts.

Along with this recognition for our Vietnam veterans is the effort to procure the Congressional Gold Medal for them. This will be easier for us to obtain because we have experience in the process resulting from our efforts with the Merrill's Marauders.

Our membership solicitations will continue to focus on the post-Vietnam era. We now have the assets to enhance our efforts in getting audiences in the battalions. We also will be using social media, pushing programs for the younger Rangers to help recruit them. Social media is a very quick way to transmit information.

The next topic was Attaway's efforts to publish a Ranger history book. He shared a 1st Cavalry coffee table history book for comparison. The book is to be comprehensive, and he urged all to contribute content. Attaway has a publisher who will ultimately make editing decisions, but Attaway will be the main contact right now to receive content. *Continued on the next page*

The time frame for publishing the book is six months.

This was followed by a discussion of the possibility of having a cross-member arrangement with USARA. It was noted USARA is merging with WAR, and that the Mountain Ranger Association still stands alone. Details of the cross-member arrangement are still pending.

Discussion then segued to the prospect that we do not do enough for our wives during our reunions. This led to the possibility of creating a Women's Auxiliary for the Association. A few names were offered as possible leaders. This will be put on the agenda for the Officers.

Reunion venues was the next topic. It has been noted many people are getting tired of traveling to Columbus, GA for every association reunion. This is especially true for many wives. We go there to pay homage to the Regimental Change of Command, as well as the Ranger Hall of Fame induction ceremony. This is important, but it still is getting stale. It was further noted when we go to the separate battalions, they do more to entertain us. This is probably true because they appreciate us coming around and since the reunion is the center of attention rather than Regimental obligations, they can offer us more. During the Regimental Ranger Rendezvous, because of the tight travel schedules of the battalions, it is more difficult to meet with the troops. Going to them enhances socialization.

Another reason to travel to each battalion is to enhance our member recruitment efforts. By being present we can get up close and personal with the younger Rangers and disperse the living Ranger history and do some face-to-face recruiting.

The former reunion cycle of combining our reunion with the Regimental Ranger Rendezvous in Columbus every two years on the odd years was disrupted this year due to the postponement of the Regimental Change of Command to 2024, an even year. This gives us the window of opportunity to affect a reunion cycle change, by maintaining the two-year, odd-year cycle, but changing the venue each time. We can still offer a room block and hospitality suite during Ranger Rendezvous and Hall of Fame, thus maintaining a presence just as we did this year with the Hall of Fame activities.

Sove made a motion, seconded by Williams, to maintain the current two-year, odd-year reunion cycle, but to rotate venues between each of the three infantry battalions, starting with 1/75

in 2025. Discussion centered on the inclusion of the RSTB and MI battalions when the reunion is held with 3/75. It is noted currently, during Ranger Rendezvous, we never socialize with them. The vote was conducted by voice and the motion passed unanimously.

Our patrolling editor, Steve Johnson, has expressed his intent to step down, stating the September issue of Patrolling will be his last. Attaway implored members to help in the search for a replacement. He also commended Johnson on his performance.

Next up was election of officers. Secretary Sove announced the slate of nominees attained over the past few months, and solicited nominations from the floor for each position. There were none forthcoming. There were no nominees opposing the positions of President, 1st Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Williams made a motion, seconded by Tilson, to accept the slate of officers for these four positions by acclamation. No discussion ensued. The voice vote was unanimous.

This left the position of 2nd Vice President to elect. There were two nominees, Kurt Buchta, and Sans Gilmore. Buchta gave a campaign statement in person, while Sans was represented by two members. The vote was conducted by a show of hands, with the result being Buchta was elected.

The officers for the next two years are as follows:

President	Art Attaway
1 st Vice President	Rick Merritt
2 nd Vice President	Kurt Buchta
Secretary	Tom Sove
Treasurer	Roger Crunk

Attaway's parting statement concerned the positive change in leadership to a younger generation and commended the Vietnam-era LRRPs/Rangers for starting this organization and for being mentors to those who followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm PDT.

Tom Sove

Secretary

7-13-23

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!



75th RRA

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Roger Crunk



Statement of Activity

June 2023

Cash Basis Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:48 AM GMT-06:00
1/2

TOTAL

Revenue

4000 Program income - DNP
4002 Membership dues 1,635.00
4006 Reunion income 3,200.00
4008 Patrolling ads 150.00
4020 Miscellaneous revenue
4021 Association Patch 23.80
4022 Association Sticker 17.85

Total 4020 Miscellaneous revenue 41.65

4050 Assoc. Patch Bumper Sticker 11.90
4052 Assoc. Pin 40.00

Total 4000 Program income - DNP 5,078.55

4100 Member donations - DNP
4104 Goldstar contributions 40.00
4110 Operations contributions 100.00
4120 Scholarship 5.00

Total 4100 Member donations - DNP 145.00

4900 Interest income 123.44
4960 Uncategorized Revenue - DNP 183.66

Total Revenue \$5,530.65

GROSS PROFIT \$5,530.65

Expenditures

6000 Program expenses - DNP
6016 Reunion costs 5,228.54
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 55.00

Total 6025 Intuit Subscription 75.00

6030 Advertising/Promotional
Rifle Raffle 329.00

Total 6030 Advertising/Promotional 329.00

Google Suites 10.80

Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP 5,688.34

6100 Patrolling expense - DNP
6104 Patrolling postage 1,951.00

Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP 1,951.00

75th RRA

Statement of Activity

June 2023

Cash Basis Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:48 AM GMT-06:00
2/2

TOTAL

6500 Operations - DNP
6502 Bank and merchant fees 115.31

6510 Insurance - D&O liability 250.00

6540 Postage-Secretary 26.81

6552 Treasurer Postage 25.37

Total 6500 Operations - DNP 417.49

Total Expenditures \$8,056.83

NET OPERATING REVENUE \$ -2,526.18

NET REVENUE \$ -2,526.18

75th Ranger Regiment Association

Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2023

Cash Basis Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:55 AM GMT-06:00
1/1

TOTAL

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1000 Affinity / Operations 20,396.84

Paypal legacy Transfer 1,885.45

Total 1000 Affinity / Operations 22,282.29

1002 Affinity / Family fund 13,723.59

1030 Affinity / Savings 63,654.44

1040 Benevolent funds MM 44,260.48

1041 Legacy funds MM 8,972.16

1042 Life funds MM 22,406.40

1050 Paypal funds 1,188.74

Total Bank Accounts \$176,488.10

Total Current Assets \$176,488.10

TOTAL ASSETS \$176,488.10

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

Equity

3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted 199,953.02

Net Revenue -23,464.92

Total Equity \$176,488.10

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$176,488.10

The PACT Act

If you served in the **Vietnam, Gulf War, or Post-9/11 eras**, and experienced toxic exposures, you may now be eligible for expanded benefits from the **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**. The **PACT Act** provides disability compensation, health care, free toxic exposure screenings, and more to Veterans who were exposed to toxins during their military service.

Even if you have previously applied and have been denied, submit a new claim! New conditions have been added....and you can do it yourself.....on line.

Since the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our **Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxic Act (PACT Act)** was signed into law, the VA has delivered more than \$1.85 Billion in earned PACT Act benefits to Veterans and Survivors.

The PACT Act brings these changes:

- ✦ Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras,
 - ✦ Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures,
 - ✦ Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation,
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care, and helps the VA improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

The **PACT Act** makes it easier for Vietnam Veterans to receive

benefits for illnesses linked to Agent Orange exposure. Over 20 new health conditions are now presumed to have been caused by exposure to hazardous substances while serving in the military.

A Veteran only needs to prove they have one of these "presumptive conditions" and served during a qualifying time period in a specific location to receive compensation.

A "presumptive condition" is one that is established by law or regulation. If you have been diagnosed with a "presumptive condition", you don't have to prove it started during, or got worse because of your military service.

Two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions added based on the **PACT Act** are:

High blood pressure (also called hypertension), and
Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS).

Five new Agent Orange presumptive locations have also been added.

There's no deadline to apply for PACT Act benefits.

Marshall Huckaby,
25th ID LRRPs 66-67

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ST. LUKE CHURCH
EST. 2021

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Partnering with GallantFew & Cru Military Ministry to serve active duty service members, veterans, & their families.

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EST. 2021



The scholarships for the 2023-24 scholastic year have been chosen and the recipients notified. With the help of the Rangers Scholarship Fund, we are proud to announce the following scholarships:

John Cogbill, Jr., a Junior ROTC cadet at Harvard University, with a 3.5 GPA majoring in Computer Science. He is planning a career as an Army officer. His scholarship is given in the name of SSG Robert Oaks, M/75, 199th Inf. BDE, KIA Nov 11, 1969.

Isabella Charter, a sophomore at Boise State, with a 4.0 GPA majoring in Business Administration, headed to obtaining an MBA. She is planning a career in business in the Pacific North

west. Her scholarship is given in the name of PFC Michael Banta, H/75, 1st Cavalry Division, KIA Oct 2, 1970.

Sydney King, a sophomore at Baylor University, with a 3.5 GPA majoring in Business Administration. She is planning to obtain an MBA and a business career. Her scholarship is given in the name of SGT David L. Barber, P/75, 5th Infantry Division (Mech), KIA Dec 12, 1969.

Our thanks to the Rangers Scholarship Fund.



**THE NATIONAL RANGER MONUMENT
FORT BENNING, GA**

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



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NATIONALRANGERFOUNDATION.COM**



What if you could fly a kite so high you could pull a star down and have a meaningful conversation with it? The wisdom it shared with you would be life changing and you would never see the world the same. What if all the stars that we can see represent the souls of our loved ones who have gone before us to Heaven? Perhaps they shine their lights to keep watch over us and to let us know they are waiting in perfect peace for us to join them.

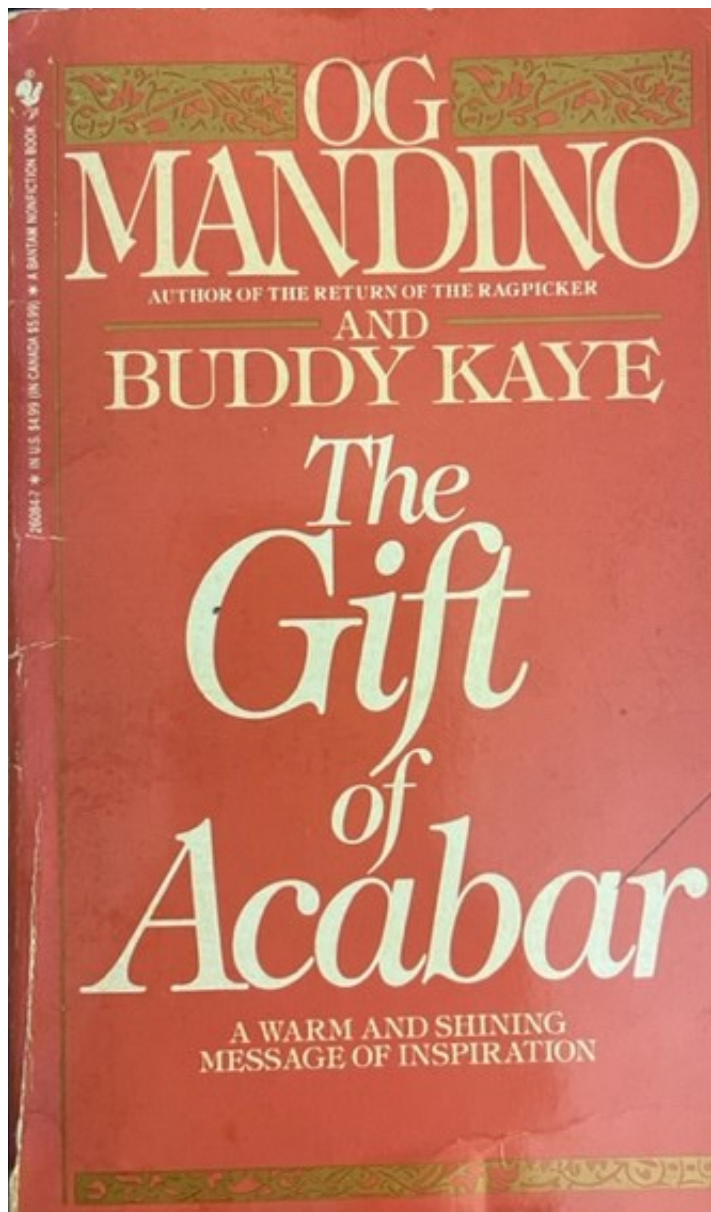
This scenario may seem like a bit of a fantasy, but it came from a book that I have read several times and is one of my favorites. It's called *The Gift of Acabar* by Og Mandino. I started reading to my Ben when he was a baby. It became our nightly ritual and bonding time during his younger years. He developed a love for reading at an early age and quickly became an avid reader. As late as his middle school years we would often read a book out loud together taking turns with chapters. *The Gift of Acabar* was one of those books. It was a favorite for both of us. It's a simple story about a young Scandinavian boy who constructs a giant kite and manages to pull two stars from the sky with it. The stars share wisdom and life lessons that change his community and his family's future. It's heartwarming and thought provoking. As with all of my favorite books, many of its pages have selected highlights so I can easily scan through and be reminded of the things I felt were worth remembering.

I recently attended an event to honor fallen soldiers and was asked to share a sentimental item that represented Ben. I was unsure of what to share and then...

A Gift of Acabar popped into my head. It was a story that Ben loved and we had read together. It was an appropriate reminder of our close relationship and one of many special books we shared. I had to go in search of it in my tote of favorite books. I was in the midst of a move, so the tote was pushed against the back wall of my garage. I would have to move things out of the



way to get to it and once I did, I would have to sift through all the books to find it. Not a big deal, it was just going to take some work to get to it. When I opened the tote, low and behold, the book was right on top! I took it as a sign that it was meant to be in my hands again at this moment. It felt like being reunited with a treasured friend. I took a quick glance through and found some of my highlights. The timeless wisdom on those pages made me smile. A tear formed as I reminisced about the memories of reading this favorite story while laying next to a preteenaged Ben.



It was another reminder that the pain of grief never goes away. I was anxious to read the book again but decided to pack it with my belongings for an upcoming trip. It would be a good friend to bring along.

Despite being fourteen years out from losing my Ben, the trials of grief are still ever present. These last several years have been more challenging than I would have imagined while looking forward from being in years one through five of my grief journey. Re-reading *A Gift of Acabar* was a gift I needed. The insightfulness of its words were just what the doctor ordered. For example, "It is not necessary that you be wealthy or famous or a genius in order to fulfill your own destiny. All that is asked is that you use whatever gifts you have to the best of your ability."

Also, "Adversity is not a curse, it is a blessing. The brightest stars in Heaven are those who have been tested in the furnace of tribulation. To struggle is the only certain way for anyone to achieve his full potential."

I needed these reminders; to be humbled and continue to trust that through my trials, many

blessings have come and shined a light on things I would have never seen had I not walked where I have now walked. One of the brightest lights is the one that burns inside myself. I believe Acabar's gift came in front of me again because I needed it - and something greater than myself led me back to it.

Continued on the next page

I have much to look forward to. I have been greatly blessed and know that the best is yet to come. The pages of this little treasure felt like the arms of Heaven reached down and gave me a big hug. The premise of the book is about a Credenda that is shared with the main character that he is to share with the world. A *credenda* is a latin word for matters of faith or doctrines to be believed. It comes from the verb *credere* which means to trust or believe. Here it is as written in the book.

Credenda

Turn away from the crowd and its fruitless pursuit of fame and gold. Never look back as you close your door to the sorry tumult of greed and ambition. Wipe away your tears of failure and misfortune. Lay aside your heavy load and rest until your heart is still. Be at peace. Already it is later than you think, for your earthly life, at best, is only the blink of an eye between two eternities. Be unafraid. Nothing here can harm you except yourself. Do that which you dread and cherish those victories with pride. Concentrate your energy. To be everywhere is to be nowhere. Be jealous of your time, since it is your greatest treasure. Reconsider your goals. Before you set your heart too much on anything, examine how happy they are who already possess what you desire. Love your family and count your blessings. Reflect on how eagerly they would be sought if you did not have them. Put aside your impossible dreams and complete the task at hand no matter how distasteful. All great achievements come from working and waiting. Be patient. God's delays are never God's denials. Hold on. Hold fast. Know that your paymaster is always near. What you sow, good or evil, that you will reap. Never blame your condition on others. You are what you are through choice alone. Learn to live with honest poverty, if you must, and turn to more important matters than transporting gold to your grave. Never meet trouble halfway. Anxiety is the rust of life; when you add tomorrow's burdens to today's their weight becomes unbearable. Avoid the mourners bench and give thanks, instead for your defeats. You would not receive them if you did not need them. Always learn from others. He who teaches himself has a fool for a master. Be careful. Do not overload your conscience. Conduct your life as if it were sent in an arena filled with tattlers. Avoid boasting. If you see anything in you that puffs you with pride look closer and you will find more than enough to make you humble. Be wise. Realize that all men are not created equal, for

there is no equality in nature, yet no man was ever born whose work was not born with him. Work every day as if it were your first, yet tenderly treat the lives you touch as if they will all end at midnight. Love everyone, even those who deny you, for hate is a luxury you cannot afford. Seek out those in need. Learn that he who delivers with one hand will always gather with two. Be of good cheer. Above all, remember that very little is needed to make a happy life. Look up. Reach out. Cling simply to God and journey quietly on your pathway to forever with charity and a smile. When you depart it will be said by all that your legacy was a better world than the one you found.

Whew! A lot to absorb, but completely true and worthy of being framed! I think the last line sums it up perfectly. *When you depart it will be said by all that your legacy was a better world than the one you found.* Isn't that really all we should do while we're here?

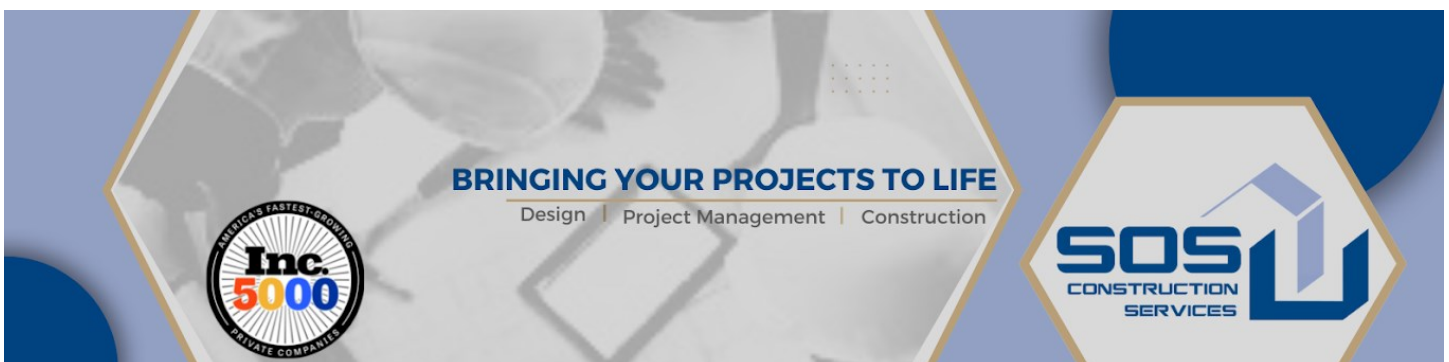
The end of the book pays homage to the main character. He left the earth much sooner than anybody wanted, yet he left it better than what it was. His legacy continued to inspire and bless those he loved long after he was gone.

I think I can safely say that this resonates with more than it does not.

Do not grudge your brother his rest. He has at last become free, safe and immortal, and ranges joyous through the boundless heavens; he has left this low-lying region and has soared upwards to that place which receives in its happy bosom the souls set free from the chains of matter. Your brother has not lost the light of day, but has obtained a more enduring light. He has not left us, but has gone on before. -Seneca.

The Gift of Acabar is a paperback of only 114 pages. Most of Og Mandino's books are this length. Each one packs persuasive and impressive wallops of life lessons to savor and share. I can say this with one hundred percent certainty. My first reading of Acabar was more than twenty-five years ago and it continues to shine a light for and within me. I highly recommend any of his books!

Be well and blessed my friends. RLTW!



A Ranger Hero

"WHAT'S THE STANDARD, RANGER?"

As a Ranger private in the 2nd Ranger Battalion, these four words would strike fear into the heart of many a Ranger, especially when it was uttered by an NCO with a serious *southern drawl*, and crooked arm from being shot up in a VC ambush.

My one mission in life was to stay off this NCO's radar. However, during a deployment to Panama for Jungle Operations Training (JOTC) rotation, this NCO achieved radar lock, I heard those dreaded four words uttered in that southern drawl. "Shit! I was now on this NCO's radar."

Little did I know, while in the front leaning rest this NCO that I feared Would become a mentor, an example in great leadership, and a person I would grow to respect and love. This Ranger NCO was CSM James Voyles.

CSM(RET) James E. Voyles enlisted in the United States Army in September 1962 as an Airborne infantry man. Upon completion of initial training, he was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion (Airborne) 505th Parachute Regiment. Ranger Voyles (RV) attended Ranger School class of 9-65.

In May of 1966, RV deployed to the Republic of Vietnam serving as a Squad Leader and Platoon Sgt in 2nd Bn (ABN) 503rd 173rd Airborne Brigade. During combat operations RV was severely wounded and was evacuated to Japan. After six months in the hospital and several surgeries RV returned to active duty where he was awarded The Silver Star for Valor and Purple Heart. After returning to active-duty RV was assigned to The Ranger department at Ft Benning as a Ranger Instructor. RV deployed back to Vietnam in September of 1970 and was assigned to Charlie Company Rangers.

RV is a founding member of both 1/75 and 2/75. RV was initially assigned to B Company Rangers 75th Inf at Ft. Carson Colorado

and eventually moved with the Company to Ft Lewis Washington in 1973.

RV was then assigned to 1/75 as one of the original cadres to stand up that Bn at Ft Stewart Ga in 1974. RV was subsequently assigned to 2/75 Rangers at Ft Lewis WA. from September 1976 to July 1979.

CSM Voyles graduated from the Sergeants Major Academy and again was assigned to 2/75 Rangers as the units Command Sergeants Major. As the 2nd BN, CSM RV lead the Bn on numerous deployments to include Operation Urgent Fury Grenada where he was the primary Jump Master on the lead aircraft.

CSM Voyles always ensured Ranger Standards were enforced regardless of rank, from the lowest Ranking Private to the BN Commander the same standard applied to every Ranger.

CSM Voyles could be found at all training events sharing his experience from combat operations or mentoring young leaders. CSM Voyles truly set the example for others to follow.



CSM Voyles and Hugh Roberts, 2nd Battalion UD

CSM Voyles retired from active duty in October 1992 after 30 years and seven days of service. His awards and decorations include The Legion of Merit, The Silver Star, Bronze Star with "V" device 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Purple Heart.

RV is a lifelong member of the 75th RRA and he currently resides in Lakewood, Washington with his wife, the former Jane Fry, of Oklahoma.

Seeing my beloved 2nd BN, I am so proud of how far they have come and their achievements and dedication to defending our country, but none of it would have been possible without founding members like RV and so many of you who set and enforced high standards. You all are the foundation that the Regiment is built on. Be proud!

If you know any Rangers, regardless of rank or position you would like to see profiled, send me their info and I will feature them in an upcoming issue.

All,

This year is the 30th Anniversary of Operation Gothic Serpent. To honor the service and sacrifice of Task Force Ranger, 3d Ranger Battalion invites you to attend the annual MOG Mile 5K race at Woodruff River Front Park, Columbus GA on 30 September 2023.

This year's events will include a B Co 3/75 open house, no host social, and fast rope demonstration to kick off the MOG Mile 5k.

WHO: All are welcome

WHAT: MOG Mile 5K

WHEN: 29-30 September 2023

WHERE: Woodruff Riverfront Park, Columbus GA

TIMELINE:

29 SEP

B Co 3/75 Open House:

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

B Co COF, 7820 Sightseeing Rd, BLDG 2910, Fort Moore GA 31905

POC: SSG Chase Howard (775) 815-5406 or chase.n.howard.mil@socom.mil

No Host Social:

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm est.

Scofflaw Brewing Company, 1421 6th Ave. Columbus GA 31906

30 SEP

5K Opening Remarks / Ranger Creed Recitation

5:30 p.m.

Woodruff River Front Park, Columbus GA 31906

ARSOA/75th RR Fast Rope Demonstration:

5:55 p.m.

Woodruff River Front Park, Columbus GA 31906

5K Race Start

6:00 p.m.

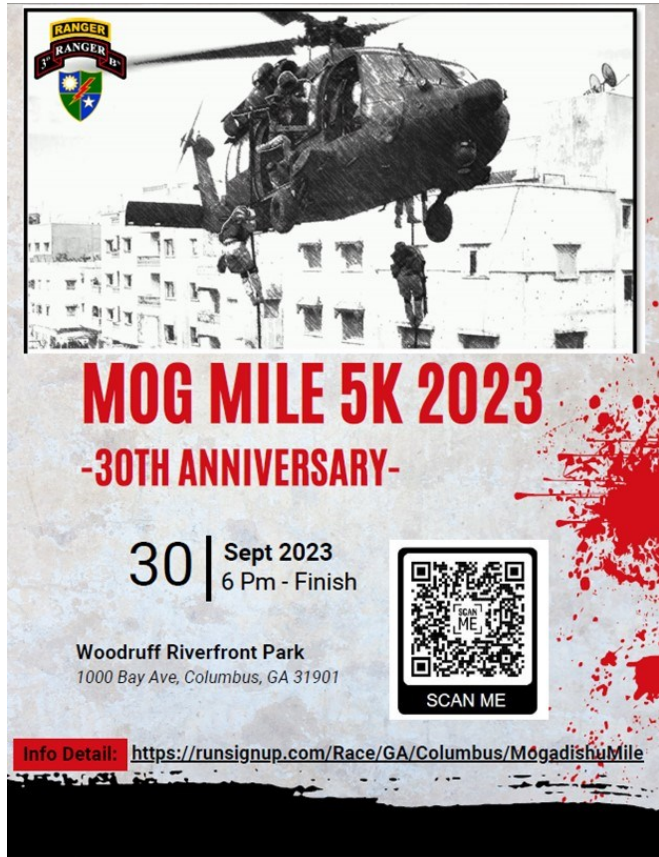
Woodruff River Front Park, Columbus GA 31906

Static Display

6:15 pm - 8:30 pm est.

Woodruff River Front Park, Columbus GA 31906

3/75 POC: CPT Trevor Hamm, S5 OIC, trevor.w.hamm.mil@socom.mil or (440) 409-6610.



<https://75thrra.org/>



Loneliness for adults has become pervasive in our society.

(<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-general-social-connection-advisory.pdf>)

Add a recent pandemic and forced isolation into that mix and it appears as though loneliness is a different kind of pandemic. The article above distinguishes between social isolation and loneliness, citing that, "On the other hand, loneliness is a subjective internal state. It's the distressing experience that results from perceived isolation or unmet need between an individual's preferred and actual experience." It sounds like Dr. Glasser, Choice Theory, 1998, pg. 28, had it right all along, "Therefore, besides survival, which depends a lot on our physiology, I believe we are genetically programmed to try to satisfy four psychological needs: love and belonging, power, freedom, and fun. All our behavior is always our best choice, at the time we make the choice, to satisfy one or more of these needs." Dr Glasser continues with, "To achieve a good relationship, most of us are willing to suffer pain, even a lot of pain, because the relationship is more important to us than the suffering." In addition, Dr Glasser posited that, "Whatever behavior we choose is generated inside our brain. Choice Theory explains that we are, as all living creatures are, internally motivated." To move this article forward I would like to take a leap out of what loneliness is to how to move us towards connections. How do we move from loneliness to social/personal connections? As a counselor I get that question more often than anyone realizes. Another way of asking, "How do I make a friend?" Most people want to caveat that question with, "without getting hurt" at the end. It is implied, even though it is not uttered aloud. No one wants to be hurt and relationships can be difficult.

It might be easy to assume that the older population experiences loneliness more than other demographics, but the surgeon general's report posits that, "For example, while the highest rates of social isolation are found among older adults, young adults are almost twice as likely to report feeling lonely than those over 65. The rate of loneliness among young adults has increased every year between 1976 and 2019." This was before the pandemic. I am curious to know statistics today as I listen to bantering of employees and employers about requiring workers to come back to the office to work. What are businesses doing to encourage relationships in the workplace?

Many research articles focus on what we are looking for in a friend. If we are internally motivated the lens could be reversed. How can we be the type of person that someone would want as a friend? What values are we looking for in others that we might possess or need to cultivate?

In the article, How many hours does it take to make a friend, Journal of Social and Personal Relationships 2019, Vol. 36(4) 1278–1296, Jeffery Hall posits, "This investigation demonstrates the importance of particular forms of everyday talk, specifically catching up, checking in, joking around, and meaningful conversation." Time together is important in establishing quality relationships.

Basic Training, and military training in general, seems to en-

courage lifelong relationships. Quality relationships in the military may make an impact on PTSD outcomes during combat. M. Nevarez, Hannah Lee and Robert Waldinger, Friendship in War: Camaraderie and PTSD Prevention, J Trauma Stress. 2017 October; 30(5): 512–520. doi:10.1002/jts.22224 report that, "Results suggest that better peer relationship quality during deployment may reduce the likelihood of subsequent PTSD symptom development, and that the quality of early relationships may set the stage for better relationships during stressful contexts such as war. These findings have implications for PTSD risk factor screening prior to deployment and underscore the importance of interpersonal support among soldiers during deployment." Research seems to suggest that creating quality relationships may have an impact on positive mental health especially during critical life events, such as war.

Dr William Glasser was extremely interested in personal relationships and what behaviors helped create a quality relationship. He proposed 7 caring habits that may help in building quality relationships:

- 1) Supporting
- 2) Encouraging
- 3) Listening
- 4) Accepting
- 5) Trusting
- 6) Respecting
- 7) Negotiating Differences

Self-Evaluation helps us ask ourselves if we are doing these behaviors to help nurture and maintain healthy relationships. "Is what I am about to do (or say) going to bring me closer to this person or push me away? We cannot control anyone else but ourselves. Are we behaving in ways that help us be good friends to others? Are we cultivating quality relationships that can last throughout our lives? What can we do to acquire these relationships?"

Please read the surgeon general's report. I found the information to be extremely enlightening.

<https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-general-social-connection-advisory.pdf>

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

<https://janet-morgan.clientsecure.me/>

<https://drjanetmorgan.com/>

Dr. Janet Morgan



ARTB Commander COL Chris Hammonds presents
Merrill's Marauder Congressional Gold Medal to
Gold Star Widow Eleanor Stark in honor of
MIA husband Luther "Buck" Bagley

COL Chris Hammonds presented Gold Star Widow and Rosie the Riveter Eleanor Stark with a Merrill's Marauder Congressional Gold Medal June 3, 2023, in honor of her husband Luther "Buck" Bagley **Killed In Action** July 25, 1944, in Burma and is still **Missing in Action** after 79 years. The ceremony for Eleanor, who turns 99 in September, was part of the 30th "Rosie Day" Anniversary celebrations at Roosevelt's Little White House in Warm Springs, GA. She was one of six WWII Rosie the Riveters from Georgia and Alabama scheduled to watch "Rosie" reenactor Carol Cain perform her one-woman "Rosie" show for the 30th year. It was a magical day for the "Rosies" who signed 175 specially-created programs by the "Baker's Dozen Chapter of the national American Rosie the Riveter Association whose honorary headquarters is the Little White House Below are WW II photos of the "Rosies."



Mabel Myrick could not attend.



Barbara Esler, 89
Georgia



Mabel Myrick, 97,
Alabama



Earline Gaither, 97,
Georgia



Eleanor Stark,
99 in SEPT - Georgia



Elizabeth "Liz" Minton,
99 in SEPT - Georgia



Jane Tucker, 96,
Georgia

Carol Cain, a
"Rosie" reenactor from
LaGrange, GA who's
performed her "one-
woman" show for 30
years at the Little White
House, kneels (Center)
beside Farah Dewsbury,
American Legion Post
330, Columbus, GA.
(Standing L-R)
Patricia Liddell,
American Legion, Post
330, and "Rosies"
"Liz" Minton, 99 in SEPT
Barbara Esler, 89,
Eleanor Stark, 99 in SEPT
Earline Gaither, 97,
Jane Tucker, 96.



There was a
Merrill's Marauder presence at
this year's Family Day & Change
of Command at Camp Frank D.
Merrill. Seen (L to R) are Bob
Howland, and his sister, Mary
Howland Wolf from New Jersey,
children of Marauder Gilbert
Howland; LTC Nathan Showman
and LTC Chris Green, who
relinquished command to
LTC Showman.



The **FOUR MARAUDERS** who died
in 2022 were honored at the 2023
Camp Merrill Ball where their
photos were table displays. (Top
& Clockwise) Raleigh Naves, 99;
Gabriel Kinney, 101; Bob Passanisi;
98 and Gilbert Howland, 99.

Last Merrill's Marauder
Russell Hamler in Pennsylvania
turned 99 June 24, 2023



RUSSELL HAMLER the last living
Merrill's Marauder celebrated his 99th
birthday with family and friends ---
who have chosen NOT to tell him
he is the last Marauder.

HQ 75th RANGER HHC

UNIT DIRECTOR—Tom Maier



Distinguished & Honorary Members of the Regiment:

<u>Aron, Roberto Mr. - Honorary 2023</u>
<u>Bannerman, David 1SG- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Barnett, Yuma MSG- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Brawley, Christopher COL- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Brown, Bobby Mr.- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Brown, Donald Mr.- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Chavez, Julian CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Chou, Kao Bin COL- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Ferriter, Daniel LTC- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Ferrusi, Michael CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Fisher, Andrew MAJ- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Garza, Enrique Mr. Honorary 2023 2023</u>
<u>Goshen, Nicholas LTC- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Graham, Edward LTC- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Harlan, Janet Mrs.- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Heflin, Terry Mr.- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Hernandez, Joel CW3- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Jordan, Yvonne Ms.- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Kinsey, John CW3- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Kitching, Brian LTC- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Lasseter, Adam MSG- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Lopata, James MAJ- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Menendez, Manuel LTC- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Navarro, Jesse CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>O'Brien, Nicholas- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Pairmore, James COL- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Pospisl, Quint CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Rice, Chris MAJ- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Spencer, James CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Uthlaut, David COL- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Usie, Clay CSM- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Van Cleave, Joseph 1SG- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Wagner, Scott Mr. Honorary 2023</u>
<u>Welde, Marc COL- Distinguished 2023</u>
<u>Yeend, David Mr.- Distinguished 2023</u>

Continued on the next page

During the Last Quarter:

Rangers from RHQ focused on Battalion Change of Command week, participating in 1/75 Expert Infantry Badge testing at HAAF and leading the Rangers from across the Regiment to Normandy, France to celebrate the 79th Anniversary of D-Day.

Ranger School Graduation:

A big congratulations to our newly minted Ranger School Graduates: SPC Gunner Hunsucker (RFM), SPC Steven Sullivan (RS1) and SGT Paul Won (RPAO)

Battalion Change of Command Week

Rangers from across the staff helped plan and enable BN CoC Week 2023. The weeks' worth of great Ranger events would not have been possible without the work of MSG Smentek, SSG Fallon, CPT Cheshire, CPT Dones, SGM Archibeque, RS1, RCHAP/SPARTA, the RAID, and countless others. Congratulations to CPT Zach Wall (RHHC XO) for taking 2nd place in the COL Ralph Puckett Leadership Award Competition (Best Junior Officer/Warrant Officer in the Regiment)

1st Ranger Battalion Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) Testing:

SPC Nicholas Farra (RHHC) OPS) and PFC Jacob Hinds (RHHC OPS) earned their EIB (True Blue) at Hunter Army Airfield.

D-Day 79th Anniversary:

CPT Berlin (RS3 Air) led Rangers from across the Regiment on a trip to Normandy, France to celebrate the 79th Anniversary of D-Day. The efforts of the RS3 Air Team enable Rangers to enjoy the various ceremonies and history. Thanks for shouldering more than your share of the task and ensuring all the Regiments equities were represented during planning of the weeks events.

CSM Craig Bishops Retirement:

During the last quarter, former RSM Craig Bishop retired from the Army as the Command Sergeant Major of the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). Former RCO now MG Marcus Evans was the presiding official and the Commanding Officer of JSOC, VADM Mitch Bradley hosted. A great reunion time as numerous Rangers and friends gathered to bid farewell to CSM Bishop and his family as they embark on their next fashion. CSM Bishop in his speech challenged us to take the Command to the next level and to be ready when the nation called.



Above- Bishop Retirement; Below- Bishop Speaking



Tom Maier J7 Exercise Division NORTHCOM/SOUTHCOM Exercise Planner

Red: 425-3322 SVOIP: 706-425-3322

Black: 910-951-3322

SIPR: maierth.ctr@soc.smil.mil

NIPR: thomas.l.maier.ctr@socom.mil

SOIS: jsh1236@sois.ic.gov

75th RANGER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION

UNIT DIRECTOR—LEE GARCIA

The 75th Ranger Regiment's Military Intelligence Battalion (RMIB) was provisionally activated on 22 May 2017 under the command team of Maj Ryan Irwin and MSG Lee Garcia. The Battalion was officially activated on 16 June 2020 under the command team of LTC Tim Sikora and CSM Brett Johnson. The current command team is LTC Ricardo Henry and CSM Kevin Foutz.

The battalion's mission is to recruit, train, develop, and employ highly trained and specialized Rangers to conduct full spectrum intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, cyber, and electronic warfare operations in order to enhance the Regimental Commander's situational awareness and inform his decision-making process. Presently, the RMIB consists of a headquarters detachment and two companies.

The battalion is comprised of three companies the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, the Military Intelligence Company, and the Cyber Electromagnetic Activities (CEMA) Company. The creation of the RMIB and the integration of the CEMA company was the first of its kind for the Army. As a true testament to Abrams and Sullivans Charter the RMIB has led the way in organizational, technical, and operational innovations that have been adopted by the Army and the Special Operations Community.

The Military Intelligence Company is comprised of All Source Analyst, Geospatial Analyst, Geospatial Engineers, Human Intelligence Collectors, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Operators, and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairer. The Military Intelligence Company is charged with supporting operations worldwide to support the 75th Ranger Regiment and other Special Operations Forces. The company continues to deploy and support operations with technically proficient intelligence and aviation Rangers.



The Cyber Electromagnetic Activities (CEMA) Company is comprised of Signals Intelligence Voice Interceptor, Signals Intelligence Analyst, Infantrymen, Electronic Warfare Specialist, and Cyber Operations Specialist. The CEMA Company, like its sister company, continues to deploy and provides technical surveillance, technical collection, and cyber support to the 75th Ranger Regiment and other Special Operations Units. The CEMA company like the RMIB is truly a first and one of a kind in the Army.



RMIB Change of Command between LTC Hopper (outgoing) and LTC Henry (incoming) 21 June 2023

The RMIB draws its roots from a rich tradition of intelligence collection, analysis, and targeting to support training and operation against the enemies of our Nation. The Rangers of the RMIB will continue to innovate and develop tactics to find, fix and exploit our adversaries as well as provide world class intelligence support to help the Commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment and Special Operations community to make informed decision and policies.

Past Commanders

LTC Ryan Irwin (Provisional)

LTC Timothy Sikora

LTC Ben Hopper

LTC Ricardo Henry (current)

Past Command Sergeant Major

MSG Lee Garcia (Provisional)

CSM Christopher Clapin (Provisional)

CSM Brett Johnson

CSM Tyree Tucker

CSM Kevin Foutz (current)



1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICK MERRITT

79th D-Day Remembrance: 1st Battalion sent Rangers to Normandy, France in remembrance of the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944. The team toured historic sites, attended ceremonies, and met with a multitude of WWII veterans and other Distinguished Visitors. The trip included a two-day staff ride to Omaha Beach, Utah Beach, Point du Hoc, and La Fiere Bridge led by COL(R) Nightingale. The Rangers were afforded the opportunity to eat dinner in the home of a local Normandy family during an exchange program.

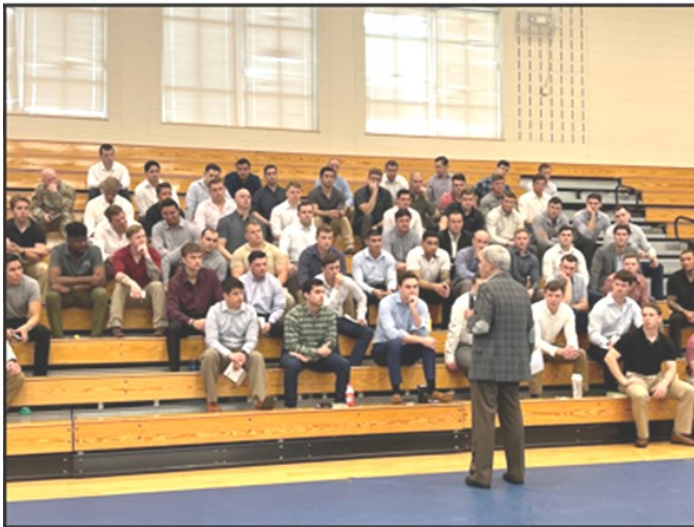


81st Anniversary of Darby's Rangers: On 19 June, Rangers from 1st Battalion commemorated the 81st Anniversary of the establishment of Darby's Rangers in Carrickfergus, Ireland. Rangers spent the weekend with local officials and family members of the original Darby Rangers, surveying historic sites in Belfast and the Sunnylands Camp. The official commemoration included a representative of the Crown, the Mayor of Carrickfergus, WWII historians, family members of Darby Rangers, and local officials.



Continued on the next page

1/75 conducted a three-day Ranger for Life Symposium to educate the formation on the transition process and provide Rangers access to the full array of resources available to set conditions for success in the next phase of their lives. A range of guest speakers, which included CSM (R) Mike Hall, Tony Mayne, Jeff Wright, and Doug Philippone (founder and head of Global Defense at Palantir) spoke to Ranger leaders about the benefits of service and methods of communication with Rangers considering transitioning.



1/75 at NTC: 1st Ranger Battalion conducted training while attending the National Training Center in April.



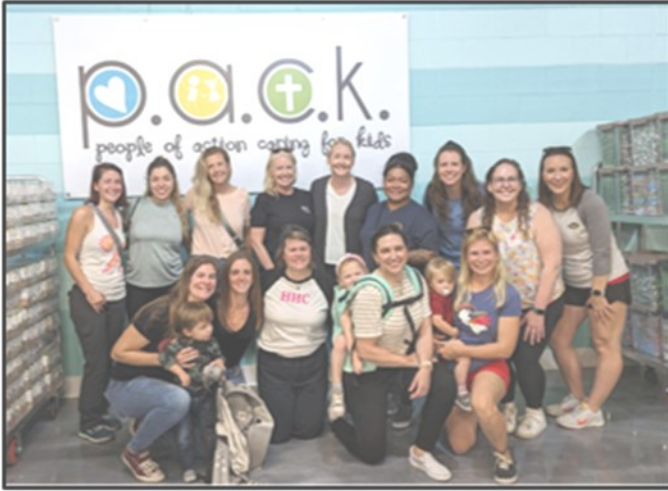
Memorial Day Ceremony: 1st Ranger Battalion honored its fallen comrades by passing memorial bracelets to be worn over the next year to honor our fallen and ensure we never forget their sacrifice. The event memorialized all those killed in both training and combat over the last 49 years of service. We were happy to host several battalion alumni, along with four Gold Star families attended.



We continue to honor the legacy and sacrifice of our Fallen.

Continued on the next page

SPARTA Events: The 1/75 UMT and FRSA teams led engagement events for Ranger Spouses in support of the local community. 12 spouses volunteered to support the People of Action Caring for Kids organization in Savannah, GA. They packed lunches for local schools and community centers. Additionally, 20 spouses participated in the Create Your Way to Contentment painting event.



Battalion Marriage Retreat: 24 couples attended a marriage retreat on St. Simon's Island from 07-09 JUL to provide families a chance to enrich and enhance the resiliency of their relationships. Chaplain Chris Davis lead multiple blocks of instruction, followed by breakout sessions to allow couples to practice what was taught. We will hold our SPARTA event at the same resort from 4-6 August.



<https://suaspontefoundation.org/memorial/donate/>

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SUA SPONTE FOUNDATION

www.75thrra.org—September Issue-2023



2nd BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—HUGH ROBERTS



Hooah, Rangers,

Editor's note: Thanks for the great photos, Hugh!

Well, the Ranger Regimental Reunion (RRA) hosted by 2nd Battalion was a huge success. The week began with an overview of our 75th Ranger Regiment Association given by Tom Sove to the NCOs and officers of 2nd BN, followed by an open house where 2nd BN Rangers gave tours of their facilities and showed off their “toys”, to include a Blackhawk helicopter which they landed in the quad.

Highlights for me, besides being back at 2/75, were breakfast in the dining facility, the K9 demo, and reconnecting with old Ranger buddies. Shout out to my Ranger buddy Dennis Dunn who I had not seen in years.

There was a 75th RRA Banquet with General (Ret) Joe Stringham as the guest speaker along with Medal of Honor recipient Leroy Petry.

Overall, this was an awesome event! If you missed it, you will have another chance next year when the 2/75 celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Here are some pictures I took from the week's events.









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

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Ranger Tom Weir on July 1st, 2023. Tom had had a stroke in 2022 and took a bad spill down the road. He stayed in a health care facility for a while and then went back home where his son, Zach, was helping with his care. Zach was staying at Tom's at the time anyway, so it worked out. Earlier this year, Tom took a turn for the worse and wound up back in the health care system. He fell and broke his hip and never really recovered. Wade Peterson had stayed in touch with Tom over the years and they both came to the hilltop at Mark Carlise's around March/April 2004. I have included a picture of that trip. Tom's funeral will be August 26th, at 10am at Terpening Funeral Home in Artesia, NM. Tom was my roommate in A company for several months. I have included a picture of us on patrol, it's the back of Tom's head and Bain Smith tending our little cookfire (below photo). Sad picture, both are gone now.



Roy Bissey reported back from the 2023 Rendezvous in Washington with the 2nd Batt that the young Rangers are alive and well and appear to be well trained and have plenty of toys to play with. The 2025 Rendezvous will be in Savannah, then back to Columbus in '27. I'm sure other UD's will give accounts of the events, but glad Roy was able to go and attend the UD meeting and the Banquet. General Joe Stringham and MOH recipient Leroy Petry were the keynote speakers. They raffled off a couple of rifles that raised \$6,000 for the Association. I donated one of my rifle pens for the cause and it raised \$65.

A segway into this next submission, Bill Bowman regularly attends our Mid-Indiana Ranger Breakfast at The Dutch Café. At the March or April, Bill's oldest son Joshua also attended. He



made the announcement that he had left Pizza King, a job he had held for several years and was going to hike the Appalachian Trail. **START TO FINISH!!** Now for Bill Bowman's story: **Part ¼** On April 4, I picked up my firstborn to drive him to Apalachicola to begin his trek to hike the Appalachian Trail. His mother cried and told me she feared the dangers that he would face (wild animals, crazies, and falling down the mountain). I laughed and replied, "The greater the danger, the better the adventure." Just before we arrived at the hotel, we drove past Dahlonega, GA where fifty years earlier, I attended the Mountain Phase of Ranger

School. That primed my mind for nostalgia and reminiscence. We spent the night; ate breakfast, shook hands, and said our good-byes. After he disappeared into the woods, I was overwhelmed by a profound sense of emptiness; feeling I would never see "that" boy again. Whether he hiked 1 mile or 2,190 miles, he would be changed by the experience. This would be Joshua's Ranger School. On June 10, we linked up in Roanoke, VA. He was ~1/3 of the way through and had lost 25 pounds and looked like he was in his twenties. I was blown away. His mind had been purged of the complacency, apathy, and negativism that he had been living in and he was alive again. For the first time I felt an aura of confidence surrounding him. We spent a couple of days together; we shook hands; and I said, "I'm proud of you boy." And he was off in the woods again. **2/4.** On Joshua's Adventure. Ranger Alexander commented, "We are proud of that boy as well." Many "A Company 75th Rangers" make up the "we" EJ referred to. When the boys were little, I started taking them camping with Carlisle in the hills of Tennessee. He became their second father and had a profound influence on their lives and character.

Over time, more A Company boys started attending these annual Hilltop Reunions. The boys invited their friends, who were also influenced by the stories, behaviors, and examples set by the Rangers. Just as decades before, when we young Rangers sat, transfixed as the old soldiers told their stories, these young men listened intently around the crackling campfire under those star-filled skies to our stories. As we were influenced by those warriors, we influenced our boys (and their friends). When my grandson, Blaine attended in March 2017 reunion, he commented as we were returning to the firing line, "I feel free here." What an honor to have three generations of Bowmans on the Hilltop, fellowshiping with patriots who proudly served their country! Rangers, thank you for positively contributing to the development of all these young men. Here is a list of Rangers I can remember who attended those reunions. They are all part of the "we" EJ referred to. I will try to remember the names of the boys' friends who attended and post them. They all took stories home from the Hilltop.

Continued on the next page

And the cycle continues.

Carlisle, Herman, Ross, Bissey, Bain Smith, Tom Wier, Fisher, Stan Jones, Cantrell, Peterson, Rothrock, Jim Savell, Theisen, EJ, DJ. Apologies if I missed anyone. (my add: Brizendine, Kampass). 3/4

Last week Joshua told me he had gotten stung by a yellow wasp on the trail, very painful. Rather than empathize, I laughed recalling an encounter I had with that wasp's ancestors 50 years earlier. In Ranger School, I was the patrol leader in these same mountains when we were ambushed by relentless, aggressive yellow wasps, much meaner than a standard city yellow jacket. The guys who stirred them up got multiple stings and ran helter-skelter, screaming "Bees!" and flailing their arms furiously. In the pandemonium, I had lost total control of the patrol and was about to fail. It was a disaster. One guy got nailed in the lower lip and it swelled up like an overinflated bicycle inner tube. I

thought it was going to split wide open. The Ranger Advisor, who was grading my patrol, looked at me and asked, "Well what are you gonna do now Ranger?!" Long story short, I took a deep breath, composed myself and led us out of the emergency situation (Evacuate the AO, epinephrine, command & control, perimeter, secure LZ, medivac, Charlie Mike, etc.). RLTW. Ironically, I received the highest grade possible on that patrol. (Scale: Average, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, and Very Unsatisfactory). Later, in the Florida phase, I experienced a debilitating and shameful failure on a patrol (Very Unsat. plus, a "Minus 25" for losing a map). Without the positive offset from the Wasp Ambush Patrol grade, I would not have graduated Ranger School. This equanimity born and raised in Jump School and Ranger School and A/75th became a faithful companion throughout my career.

I learned that a disaster can often be turned into a positive event if it is managed properly. One of the products I designed at GM had a flaw that went undetected until Start of Production. Every car they built failed in the plant, and I had shut down a car division, an unpardonable and terminatable offense. The night after I discovered it was all my fault, I cried in my hotel room over my abject failure [another debilitating and shameful experience (Very Unsat and Minus 25)]. The next day "I took a deep breath, composed myself and led us out of the emergency situation." Ironically, six months later, I was offered a promotion by

the same people my design flaw had hurt. They knew there would always be bad problems that needed leaders who can maintain composure and rational thought during the crisis and lead the team "out of the ambush." After I left GM a few years later, I became a free-lance problem solver looking for the ugliest of ugly automotive problems to solve like: spontaneous combustion of vehicles in garages, parking lots, and rail cars... But that is another story. 4/4 In the first post, I told how Joshua beamed

with confidence after he had finished hiking over 750 miles (with a 40 lb backpack). Never having done anything of great significance, challenge, or consequence, he did not have much of a foundation on which to build self-confidence. Last March, "self-confidence" came up in a discussion during a two-week mission I was on with a young engineer. He asked me what personal characteristic I thought contributed most to my career success



Stan Jones, Bill Bowman, Mike Cantrell, Bain Smith, Mike Fisher, Tom Weir, Wade Peterson and CECE camp dog.

and why. I told him, "Self-confidence," because it allowed me to focus on the mission and not spend any mental energy worrying about failing. Like Joshua, when I graduated High School, I didn't have much self-confidence. My first high dose inoculation of confidence was Jump School. On the first day of Jump School, the Black Hats permanently instilled in us, "confidence" in our parachute. They stuffed a parachute into a paper grocery bag; strapped a dummy into the harness; and dropped it from the 250-foot tower. The parachute deployed; the dummy lived (metaphorically). [Conclusion: If that chute opens at 250 ft, a properly packed chute will surely open at 1,250 (standard jump altitude)].

There are plenty of things to think about when you are jumping into pitch darkness with full equipment from a plane going 150 mph. Because of confidence, worrying about the chute is not on the list. I have a pathological fear of heights. Conquering that fear by jumping out of planes gave me confidence. Graduating from Ranger School built on that self-confidence. This confidence was transferrable from the military to my professional career. I knew there would be nothing harder in the civilian world to compare with what I went through as a soldier. The Tab was my talisman, and still is.

Continued on the next page

Joshua is building self-confidence by hiking 2,175 miles and is in the "Jump School/Ranger School" phase of his life now. He told me the hardest part of the trail, where most people quit, is within the first 7 miles. He was not in shape for this adventure, and it kicked his butt. But he didn't quit, he crawled (metaphorically). It took him about 6 weeks to find his legs and hit his stride. Now he is averaging over 20 miles per day. What drives him to continually increase his daily miles is the confidence he has built. When confidence feeds upon itself, magic happens. He is in that zone now. Before the trip, I doubt that Joshua thought much about what it would do for his self-confidence. Here is something else he didn't think of. Once a person builds up enough self-confidence, it won't leave him or her alone. It will drive its possessor to do more and bigger. When he finishes this adventure, I don't think he will be working at Pizza King in Kokomo. BTW: He is over half-way finished with the hike. https://youtu.be/QVK-H_VBRp4

Ron Kiser contacted me. We hadn't talked in a couple of years; I'll have more on that in the next issue. Some interesting stories

from our Germany legacy.

Sharing this from Facebook on the Ranger Breakfast: Roy Hash said it best! RLW/DOL find a location, set a date & time and post on FB. Many of us will share throughout Special Forces & Ranger Community links & contacts we have. Somebody is bound to show, worst case, you eat a good breakfast alone and try again the next month or the one after. Rinse & repeat until breakfast becomes a regular activity.

That's all for now. Send me some more stuff. Don't forget to check out the new and improved 75th RRA website <https://75thrra.org/>

Stan Jones

UD A/75; D17; V Corps LRRP



USARA'S RANGER BASES ARE GROUPS OF RANGERS WHO MEET REGULARLY AND HAVE FORMALIZED WITHIN USARA IN ORDER TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATION. WE BELIEVE YOU'LL FIND THAT GATHERING WITH FELLOW RANGERS WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR MONTH.

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**JOHN MINATRA RANGER BASE
LOCATED IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE**

**GABRIEL KINNEY RANGER BASE
LOCATED IN PENSACOLA, FLORIDA**



VISIT RANGER.ORG TO LEARN MORE

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

I am sad to have to inform you of the passing of a great Ranger. A Ranger's Ranger.

Command Sergeant Major Michael N. Martin of Tullahoma Tennessee passed this life on Wednesday, June 7th, 2023, at Vanderbilt Tullahoma-Harton Hospital at the age of 85. CSM Martin was born in Tullahoma to the late Harold and Mary Ruth Banks Martin. He served his country proudly in the United States Army before retiring after over 30 years of service, having attained the rank of Command Sergeant Major. During his time in the military, he served as a US Army Ranger, a Green Beret and worked with the CIA in Vietnam. CSM Martin was a highly decorated Veteran, having earned several Bronze Stars, a Silver Star, Legion of Merit, a Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Combat Infantry Badge, along with a Master Parachutist Badge, and a multitude of other accolades.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Rima Honea. CSM Martin is survived by his wife Hildegard Martin, and numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and cousins. Visitation was June 13, 2023, at Kilgore Funeral Home with burial immediately following.

What the obituary did not say:

Mike started his airborne career working for the US Forest Department as a smoke jumper before entering the Army in 1957. Mike spent 21 of his 30 years of service overseas. Mike was the First Sergeant of seven units to include one of the four original First Sergeants of the 1st Battalion of the 75th Ranger when formed. CSM Martin was the Command Sergeants Major of eight units (Airborne and Infantry Battalions, Brigades and Groups) and the United Nations Honor Guard. Mike was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame in 1995 and in 1999 he was made a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment. In 2006 Mike was made a Distinguished Member of the Ranger Training Brigade. He was also a founder of the Vietnamese Ranger Society. Mike was a historian and wrote several books. He co-authored "**The Black Tigers Rangers of the Second Indochina War**," **Biet Dong Quan**," **Warriors of the Sea**, Marines of the Second Indochina War, "**Thuy Quan Luc Chien**," He was commissioned by the United States Air Force to write a detailed Coffee Table Book "**Flight of Excellence**" **United States Air Force Academy 50th Anniversary**.

CSM Mike Martin was a true soldier's soldier, a mentor and a friend and I will surely miss him. God Bless you Mike. Rest in Peace.



Leave No Man Behind

Vietnam 1971

Sergeant Clark

I am writing this not to glorify what I did, but rather to record an incident that demonstrates the value we Americans place on human life, "dead or alive."

In 1971, the 1st Battalion of the 12 Cavalry, 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) was conducting operations to locate the enemy in War Zone D. Then LTC Guy S. Meloy was the battalion commander, and I was his S3. LTC Meloy was a great innovative commander, and one mission was to discover enemy Song Dong Nai (river) crossings. To do this, we secured engineer rubber rafts and the Scout/Reconnaissance Platoon with a couple of engineers took to the river on the east side of the zone where the river flowed southerly. When the river turned westerly the platoon with engineers on board hit rapids and a large whirlpool. Four soldiers went overboard! The first in was the machine gunner in the first raft. When he floundered, an engineer jumped in to help. I believe that engineer was Sergeant Clark. Both perished in the giant whirlpool. I don't know the circumstances of the other three who drowned. Within a day we recovered three soldiers but wasn't until the fourth day that Sergeant Clark's body surfaced. He was hung up on an outcropping of shale in the middle of the river. From the shale about 30-40 yards from the body LTC Meloy, Lt. John Austin (scout/recon platoon leader) and Lt. Mike Henderson (S2), attempted to retrieve Sergeant Clark. Mike, a competitive swimmer, had tried to swim out but the current was too swift and dangerous. I was above all this in the Command-and-Control helicopter. I don't know what possessed me, but my gut said I could get him. My pilot was a gutsy and skillful flyer, and he agreed to the attempt. I radioed LTC Meloy that we could hover over his position, catch the rope, and fly out to Sergeant Clark. Initially LTC Meloy said "no," but then realized how hopeless the situation was and changed his mind. I would step out of the Huey onto the skid to the shale, tie off Sergeant Clark and return to the bird.

We got the rope with a joint effort with the door gunner. I took off my watch and stashed it with my wallet in my boots. I stepped onto the skid with rope in hand. George, the pilot, maneuvered the Huey over the shale and I stepped out only to fall across Sergeant Clark. I was now face to face with a bloated and buoyant and distorted human being—My Man! I held on to save my life while tying the rope to Sergeant Clark. Somehow the pilot brought the helicopter back and I grabbed hold of the skid and then the door still holding the rope.

Continued on the next page

Still not in the bird, I lifted Sergeant Clark free of the shale and the shore party pulled him in. This was not rehearsed. It just happened. To this day I can't get Sergeant Clark out of my mind. Somehow God had a hand in all this and gave us the strength to bring home one of our own.

LTC Guy S. Meloy retired as Commanding General 82nd Airborne Division and is now with the "Big Ranger in the sky".

LT's Austin and Henderson; I've lost them to somewhere in USA. Both were Citadel grads.

Bob Reitz

Quotes:

From Abraham Lincoln

While visiting a wounded soldier, Lincoln noticed a young woman asking the injured man where he had been shot. The soldier had been shot through the testicles and didn't want to give the woman an answer. After talking with the soldier, Lincoln gave the woman this delicate explanation.

"My dear girl, the ball that hit him, would have missed you."

Mu Nau

Bill Miller

Unit Director

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Antiqued, silver coin has a place to engrave her Name and comes in a velvet bag

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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

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

Greetings and Salutations fellow LRRPs, Rangers, and Jayhawks... Stay safe, and stay healthy.

THE LRRP COMPANIES AND DETACHMENTS

FACEBOOK GROUP DESCRIPTION: VII Corps Long Range Recon Group

As early as 1958, the Seventh Army in Europe published a Training Circular 20-1 that directed each Division to maintain Long Range Patrols. In February 1958, the first Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol evaluation tests using Provisional Units were conducted in FTX "SABRE HAWK".

"They assembled a group of personnel. They were given two- or three-weeks training and were then sent to the field. There was one problem with all the Provisional Units, they failed to establish satisfactory communications!" —Major Hunt

After initial testing using Provisional Units, a Table of Distribution was approved and issued on 15 July 1961 and under TOE 7-157 the Corps LRRP Companies in the Seventh Army were activated. With DOA approval, Major Maltese proceeded to set up the VII Corps LRRP Company (ABN), APO 46. Major Maltese became, at his request, the first Commanding Officer and Paddy Flynn was selected to be the company's 1SG. The new company's designation would be "USA LRRP Co (ABN) 3780".

A search of the VII Corps area for suitable quarters for the new company was found at Nellingen Barracks located southeast of Stuttgart, Germany. SP/4 Louis Durnavich, of the 558th ORD Company, recalls the day in 1961 when Major Maltese and 1SG Flynn walked in with orders to take over their barracks. Louis' recollections of this day can be found in a document in the LRRP CD.

With the takeover of these barracks, the pre-WWII building was now the new home of the VII Corps LRRP Company. Major Maltese and 1SG Flynn now began the search for suitable personnel, and a call went out for volunteers. Many of those who responded were veterans of WWII and/or the Korean conflict. Some had already served in the Army's Special Forces. Others were American or German Ranger qualified. Still others were veterans of other US armed forces; a few had served in foreign armies or had been born and raised overseas and were fluent in other languages. Many of these men were former Army Paratroopers who saw an opportunity to get back on jump status by volunteering for the new company of LRRPs. The "Assignments NCO" at VII Corps would give Major Maltese a call once a month and say,



"I've got a list of people you might be interested in."

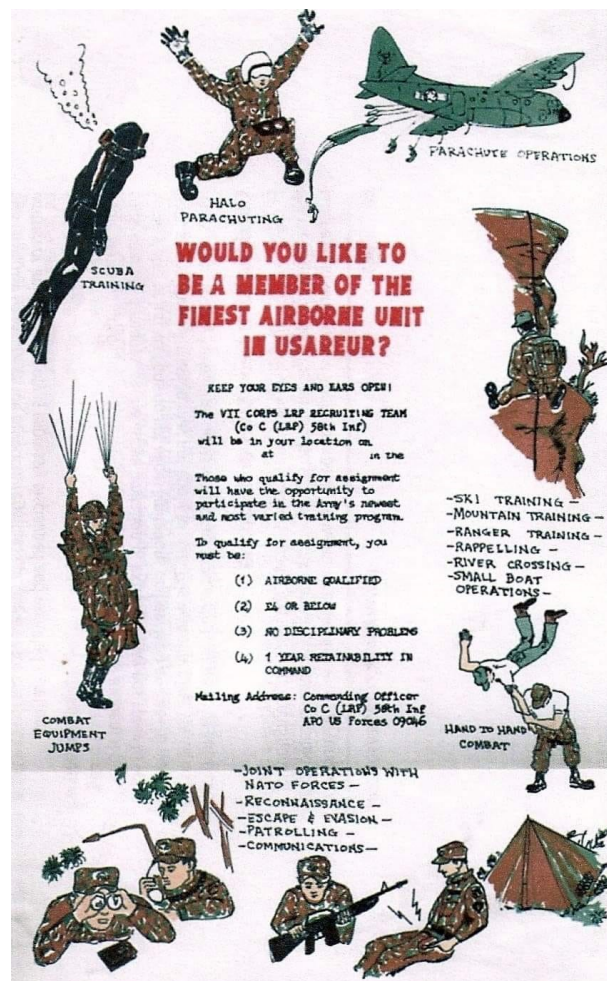
Major Maltese would go over the list and pick out the ones he wanted.

"We had a full company - it really filled up well. We got permission to recruit - most of them came from the "505". I remember old Herb something from B Co./ 505, he tried to discourage them, called us a bunch of candy-asses, so I went up there - hell, I'm about forty-one years old, but in pretty good shape, and I said, "I'll take you out and we'll see who comes back."

"That was the end of that discussion."

— Col. Maltese

OLD 1960's RECRUITING POSTER FOR VII CORPS LRRPs



Continued on the next page

In case you have difficulty reading the content of the Poster, here are the "bullet points":

KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS OPEN!

The VII CORPS LRP RECRUITING TEAM (Co C (LRP) 58th Inf) will be in your location on ~DATE TBD~ at ~TIME TBD~ in the ~LOCATION TBD~.

Those who qualify for assignment will have the opportunity to participate in the Army's newest and most varied training program.

To qualify for assignment, you must be:

- (1) AIRBORNE QUALIFIED
- (2) E4 OR BELOW
- (3) NO DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS
- (4) 1 YEAR RETAINABILITY IN COMMAND

- PARACHUTE OPERATIONS
- HALO PARACHUTING
- SCUBA TRAINING
- COMBAT EQUIPMENT JUMPS
- HAND TO HAND COMBAT
- SKI TRAINING
- MOUNTAIN TRAINING
- RANGER TRAINING
- RAPPELLING
- RIVER CROSSING
- SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS
- JOINT OPERATIONS WITH NATO FORCES
- RECONNAISSANCE
- ESCAPE & EVASION
- PATROLLING
- COMMUNICATIONS

EDITOR'S NOTE: They must have decided to omit from the poster:

"JUMPING FROM AIRCRAFT WITH BACKPACK NUCLEAR WEAPONS" ... - for some reason – Haha!

2023 RENDEZVOUS REPORTS

Dave Cummings provided us with a report on the 2023 Rendezvous at the 2nd Battalion location.

We had hoped to get one from the VII Corps attendees, but no luck so far.

Dave relocated from Georgia to Fresno, California in 2019, and ventured north to the Rendezvous.

He said that 2/75 did a terrific job, despite sparse attendance overall.

Dave didn't happen to see anyone else from B/75, although he did run into a couple of A/75 members.

He repeated his description of the wonderful treatment by 2/75, opening their entire Battalion area and barracks, eating in their mess hall, firing weapons on the range, and the Family Day they hosted.

Plus – the weather in Tacoma was much more bearable in the summer than the weather in Georgia.

Thanks for the AAR, Dave!

MG BARGEWELL MEMORIAL SERVICE

We had also hoped to receive an AAR on the Memorial dedication for MG Bargewell, but will try to rectify that oversight in time for the next article.

RANGER VOYLES TURNS 80 – AND FAMILY REQUEST



Photo Courtesy of Sandy Voyles

FROM: Sandi Voyles, 11 August

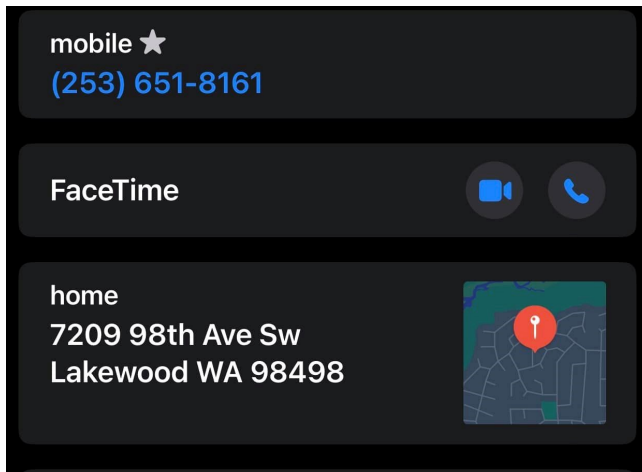
The Man. The Myth. The Legend. CSM (Ret.) James E Voyles is turning 80 on 20 August. I ask you to encourage beg any and all to either drop him a note or call him on his special day.

Continued on the next page

We are flying into SeaTac Wednesday to be with him to celebrate!

NOTE: If you missed it – give him a call or drop him a text.

U.D. NOTE: We duplicated the contact info in the Facebook groups.



SELECTED COMMENTS:

- Victor Aviles Sr.: Voyles and Brinker were my Ranger TAC NCOs. Served with CSM Voyles in 1-75. Outstanding role model. Enjoyed watching him leading BN PT and doing the Turn and Bounce. Only those who were in 1/75 know what I am talking about 😊😊
- WB Wear: B-75th INF (LRRP) FT CARSON & FT LEWIS (loved his morning uniform inspections....in the morning....in the dark.....with a flashlight...).

Cliff Ranger Lewis: I saw a Ranger coin check 1SG Voyles as he walked to the latrine after PT. The Ranger clearly thought he had the 1SG unprepared as he was wrapped in a towel post-PT. Instead, the 1SG reached down into a pocket sewn on the towel and pulled his coin out and said "Do pushups, Ranger" & kept walking to the shower.

FACEBOOK GROUPS UPDATES

Added Willie Mack (VII Corps LRRP). Added Jim Reynolds (B/75 - 3rd PLT).

C/58 LAST PARADE IN GERMANY



Photo courtesy Bill Mathiak

A HARSH MISTRESS

From a Valentines speech to Officers and wives at a Ft Knox Valentines Dinner:

(The author heard a lot about this later - including an officer telling him it played a role in saving his marriage).

"I remember having an affair with the woman in a camouflage dress. I adored her.

She was beautiful and enchanting, and she made promises to me telling me how special I was:

I was "More important than others" to her.

She said she loved me, and I didn't care that She told me what to wear. I didn't complain when She told me how to look - how much I could weigh - and demanded peak physical performance from me, and how She enforced mental and emotional toughness on me in her games. It didn't matter when She called to take me away from my family late at night to go with her to distant places – alone, with her.

She would break me, and my wife would bring me home, put me back together and I would try and put her in the right – in a balanced place.

Then, the woman in the camouflage dress would call and I would leave my wife and children again for "her" ... on another adventure. We shared evening Dining Ins and out, parades and adventures together. She would give me love notes in her evaluations of me, and gifts of medals and citations I could wear on my chest for all to see that "She loved me" ...

Her former lovers warned me about her.

But I desired her until it broke me.

In my heart of hearts, I always knew they were right, that the woman in a camouflage dress was a lecherous woman who "was always looking for a younger man".

And... She would replace me in a moment, after She had broken me having her fun.

She sent me a Dear John letter - Dated 14 February.

No more time together - for She had found a younger man.

I'm one of the fortunate ones... My wife took me back, and through love worked to help put me back together again... despite my having spent the best of my youth with and for the amazing woman in the camouflage dress.

This Valentines Day...

Remember the woman who stuck by you or the one who put you back together after the woman in the camouflage dress was through with you.

Still, I think of her often - She enchants my dreams still. That woman with the camouflage dress.

But remember when she tells you to go - she has a new lover – begone.

Continued on the next page

Why not start now and understand she is a lecherous woman - be Professional - be Honorable - meet her standards but keep your heart with the woman that will be there putting you back together when the camouflage dress lecher has found a younger man.

And she will...she always does.

(FROM GREG PHILLIPS:)

It all turned out to be true, I think of her almost every day... and I left her 28 years ago....

"Men, Special Forces is a mistress.

Your wives will envy her because she will have your hearts.

Your wives will be jealous of her because of the power to pull you away.

This mistress will show you things never before seen, and experience things never before felt.

She will love you, but only a little, seducing you to want more, to give more, to die for her.

She will take you away from the ones you love, and you will hate her for it, but leave her you never will, but if you must, you will miss her, for she has a part of you that will never be returned intact.

And in the end, she will leave you for a younger man." James R. Ward, OSS.

UNIFORM OF THE DAY



The Good Old Days. Photo courtesy Bill Mathiak

The Good Old Days. The person squatting in the middle is Gary Bauer. He later became the CSM of 3rd Special Forces Group. (Photo courtesy Bill Mathiak)

Tom Forde's comment: The Best Years of our Lives. Thank you, Colonel Maltese, for rescuing us from the 504 and Kasavubu.

Until next time... High Speed, Low Drag...

V/R:

Marc L. Thompson, Unit Director

georgiawwiiitrail.org

GEORGIA
WORLD WAR II
Heritage Trail

**FOLLOW THE
GEORGIA
WORLD WAR II
Heritage Trail**

**LEARN HOW GEORGIANS
HELPED WIN THE WAR**



**GREAT FOR
FAMILIES**

**BE INSPIRED
BY THE PAST!**

**INTERACTIVE
EXPERIENCES**



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROBERT HERNANDEZ

Gentlemen, Family, and Friends,

As the final preparations are being put in place for our 2023 Green Bay, WI, reunion, I would like to point out that our unit is not the only one interested in preserving our legacy. On my recent visit to the Army's National Museum in Washington DC. I learned that they are requesting donations of artifacts and materials such as uniforms, pictures, equipment, weapons, accoutrements, archival documents, and original artwork. LRRP/Ranger artifacts are in high demand and all items accepted into the collection will be preserved and cared for in perpetuity.

To donate to the museum, you must fill out a form since they accept most artifacts along with a history of the item and good quality pictures. You can request a form at usar-my.beivoir.hqda.mbx.exhibts-division@army.mil.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association is also requesting information about your LRRP/Ranger experience for a hardcover book to be published by OnPoint 1-1. The book will be a hardcover historical capture of the Rangers beginning with Robert Rogers and featuring every Ranger unit in every action since the 1600's.

Each unit director is asked to provide a summary of the unit history so if there is something you would like to see in the book please let me know. This is a great opportunity to work on our legacy so please let's all make an effort to *tell your story* and help put together an accurate history of E company before more of it is lost through time.

I was accompanied to Washington DC by my youngest grandson, Jessie Simmons, age 23, as well as John Cox, one of the original LRRPs from Fort Riley and former Company Commander Jerry Johnson. My grandson was instrumental in guiding us around the Capital with his smart phone. He arranged our rides on uber, directed us to the museums, restaurants, and other places of interest. We would have been lost without him.

We were in Washington DC to join Papa company to celebrate the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War, and to attend the internment for Terry Rodrick at Arlington National Cemetery. Terry was past president of the 75th Ranger Association (1998-2000).

The Papa company guys are a great bunch of guys and really treated us well. I have invited them to attend our reunion in Green Bay and their unit director Jerry Yonko said that he would make the trip to Green Bay.

I took the opportunity at the Branson Rally in 2021 to invite our friends from E Co 60th INF/9th ID Scouts LRS to join us in Green Bay. LRU doctrine developers studied the Vietnam LRRP/Ranger



experience when developing the missions for LRS E/Co 60th and they take their lineage directly from E/50 LRRP/Rangers. They are extremely interested in our legacy. I encourage you all to pass on your stories to them as they are greatly interested in hearing them firsthand.

By now everyone should have received a "Unit Directory" put together before the last reunion in Mobile. AL., by Pattie and Dave "Stoney" Stone. They did an outstanding job of gathering the information of most of the unit members at their own cost. Every effort was made to find more of our long-lost brothers but there are still a few missing.

At the present time they are in the process of putting together an updated version and need your help. Please be sure to notify them when your information changes. Please also include a relative or friend to notify us in case of an emergency. The unit treasure Roy Barley will see to it that flowers are sent, or a donation is made to their favorite charity. The unit fund will also purchase a brick at the Ranger Memorial at Fort Moore (the former Fort Benning) if they don't already have one.

LEST WE FORGET – John Henry Berg

"Once an Eagle.... I am sad to report that our Brother John Henry Berg has reported to a Higher Authority." This is the quote from a Facebook post by one of John's closest friends, Ken McConkey. A man larger than life and never new a stranger. John passed away at home on August 8, 2023. He was a good man with a loving and caring personality. He had a great sense of humor and a big heart. He will be missed.

Bob Hernandez

Unit Director

E50/E75 LRRP/Rangers

LRRPs Led The Way/Rangers Lead The Way



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN MCGEE

Just a short article for this edition. The highlight of the summer took place in late June the 22nd to be exact, when 40 of our F company brothers and families made the trip to Fort Moore (Benning) to watch Marshall Huckaby inducted into the US Army Ranger Hall of Fame. The F company family never lets you down, the turnout was tremendous. It was a demonstration of what Marshall Huckaby means to our family. Marshall is a humble man and I know how much it meant to him to see all his Brothers in Arms and their families show up to honor him.

The members of the Company voted to have our off-year reunion next summer in Branson, MO. We are going to have it in conjunction with the LRRP reunion in June. More information to follow in the coming issues.

Earlier this summer I had the honor to accompany my beautiful wife to Washington D.C. as she represented the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the 50th Anniversary of the ending of the War in Vietnam. It was a three-day affair celebrated on the National Mall and was attended by thousands of Vietnam Veterans and their families.

During the three days in D.C. I had the chance to speak with lots of the people and even got interviewed a couple of times. What still amazes me is how little the American public knows about the Vietnam War and the men who served there. The myths that began 50 years ago are still believed by a large portion of our population. The looks on people's faces when I would tell them that a majority of the service members who were in country were volunteers not draftees was astonishing. That two thirds of the of the names on the wall were volunteers not draftees. That we were not all under privileged, poverty stricken, uneducated dope smoking malcontents that could not function in society.

I don't know if history will ever get it right about the Vietnam Veteran and who we were, but I know that we have precious little time left to tell our story. We must keep telling our story or we will be lost in the annals of history. We will never be called



the Greatest Generation and held in the esteem that our fathers who fought in WWII are, but I am convinced that The Vietnam Veterans are the Greatest of our Generation. Why do I say that? Well stop and think about the service members that have served in the conflicts since Vietnam. They have all been welcomed home as heroes. Who made that happen? We did, the Vietnam Veterans. All across this country Vietnam veterans took the lead in Operation Welcome Home celebrations.

Think about what VA medical care looked like back in the late 60s and early 70s, it was a disgrace. Now VA medical care is some of the finest medical care in the country. Why, because

Vietnam Veterans began to take over all the Veterans Organizations, the VFW, the DAV, the American Legion and all the others and pressured the Federal Government to pony up the dollars to improve the VA.

Think about the state of the United States Military after we left Vietnam. It was in crisis. The lack of focus, discipline, drug use, low retention, unable to meet recruiting goals. It was those Vietnam veterans in both the Officer Corp and NCO Corps that stayed in the military that rebuilt it to the force that went to Grenada, Panama, Desert Shield and Desert Storm and the War on Terror.

The Vietnam veterans have greatly contributed to the American society. We can hold our heads high knowing how much positive impact we have had on our country. We should not take second place to any generation of American Patriots, but we need to keep telling our story.



On a lighter note, the 75th RRA is going to be using American Trigger Pullers for our unit shirts in the future this is a sample of what they have done for F Company.

Watch for an email announcement with the new link.

RLTW!



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



This edition of *Patrolling*, like several others, begins with the sad announcements of the deaths of members of the E 51st-G/75th organization. We learned of the death of CSM Franklin T. Williams from his son, Eric Williams. CSM Williams passed away on April 19, 2021 in Columbus, Georgia.

We also learned via George Beach that Bruce Lewis of Brookfield, Illinois passed away in 2021. Unfortunately, he made no arrangements and an insurance company contacted George to determine to who the insurance policy should be paid. George has often been the “go to” guy for information regarding our personnel due to the fact that he served “in-country” for so long and knew so many of us over the years.

I’m certain that we have others in our fold who have died, and their families had no information on how to contact our organization to pass along the information. Please do your families a favor by having your affairs in order, including a will and information regarding who to contact. Our family of comrades shrinks at a progressive rate and without proper planning, final wishes may be lost or ignored. If you don’t have a will and a means by which your survivors will know where you want to be buried or where your ashes should be scattered, everything will be left to chance. I suggest you contact an Elder Care attorney to best determine how these matters can be addressed. Don’t leave your family wondering what to do and who to notify. A durable power of attorney and guidelines for the cessation of life-prolonging procedures are important.

Each State is different in how to handle these issues, but it is certainly helpful.....and thoughtful to your living spouse or children to have these issues in order.

I need to remind each of you that most of the newsletters on our company level, and the information that is published in “*Patrolling*,” would never happen if not for Steve “Tower” Johnson. For years, Steve has taken on the responsibility and the work required as editor to get things done for both “*Patrolling*” and for our unit newsletter. We take these things for granted, but without Steve’s dedication and work, these publications would have never been done. It appears Steve is going to hand off this responsibility to get these things done to someone else. In many cases, only by Steve’s prodding do we get the information done on time for publication. We all owe Steve our thanks for taking on these tasks for such a long time.

I would appreciate information or stories from our members that would be far more interesting than me simply sending out the “who died” report. Old photos and tales of daring events (true or not) would be more fun to read.

Remember to reach out to your “friends for life” and stay in touch. An email or call from an old friend can make big difference in our outlook on life.

Knowing that we will soon (maybe 3 years max?) be shutting down our organization, it should be an important issue for the Board to recommend options as to what we will do with our funds at the point we shut down. As I understand it, legally, we will have to distribute all funds (once all liabilities are satisfied) to another 501 (3) C organization. As I understand it, the Board will present recommendations for where the money goes, and the membership will vote to complete the process. There are numerous Veterans and Ranger organizations that would be qualified for the funds. I don’t know what the organizations similar to ours have done and I also don’t know if the similar organizations have discussed this issue, but for most of the Vietnam LRP/Ranger organizations, they must be facing the same issues.

I am looking forward to our next reunion in Tennessee.

RLTW!



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—BENNIE GENTRY



Pete Dencker

Wanted to start this issue honoring one of our Brothers who didn't make it home - Thomas E. Smith or as most of us knew him - Smitty. Thomas Emings Smith was born on June 27, 1952. Accord-

ing to the records I've located, Smitty's home

of record was the town of Evert in Osceola County, MI. After graduating from Osceola High School, Smitty entered the service via the Selective Service System. He began his tour in RVN on July 5, 1971, and at the time held the rank of Spec 4, and his military occupation specialty was Light Weapons Infantry.

I was unable to find much information on the web – but really the best information these days seems to flow from those who knew and served with him – in this case thank you John David Floyd for your remembrance of Smitty.

"To Smitty - You my Friend were the best of the best. America sent us, and You and I met there in a very unfriendly environment but became the "Best of Best Friends". "Smitty and I met at Camp Bearcat while I was in training, he was Rear Scout on my first 8 missions. We made contact on the first, fourth & fifth, he was the consummate professional through it all. I couldn't have had a better role model for the task at hand. When H Co moved from Camp Bearcat to Bien

Ho, Smitty asked if I wanted to share a hooch, being new in the company, that made me feel welcome. It was the beginning of a truly great friendship. I came to love Tom like a kid brother. He was genuine and what you saw was what you got. Beautiful kid. Losing him at such a young age was a horrible loss to his family and friends, to H Company and his Ranger brothers and to the world, he had so much potential and so much to give. Once while I was in the bush, the Rangers' rear area was hit by enemy rockets. Tom grabbed my brand-new reel-to-reel player/recorder and ran it out to the bunker to protect it from being destroyed in case of a direct hit. Crazy kid, that should have been the last thing on his mind, but that's the kind of Friend he was, looking out for me when he should have been protecting himself. This



Thomas E. Smith AKA "Smitty"

world needs more folks like Smitty today!

One of Smitty's most prized possessions was a picture from a VETERAN'S DAY PARADE in his hometown, it was of his dad, himself and his two brothers ALL IN UNIFORM walking together. That photo meant the world to him. He was a true Patriot and walked the walk. I stayed in touch with Tom's Mother and Father until their deaths. After they died, I began communication with his two older brothers (both Vietnam Veterans), We still are in communication to this day.

Tom had many friends in the Unit. EVERYONE loved Tom! He was just that sort of a man. His humor and steady demeanor endeared him to us all. I am proud to say that I had the distinct honor

of sharing our hooch, and the daily friendship that brought. It was like we were oblivious to the fact there was a war going on, and just enjoyed where we were, waiting for the next big thing to come along. Tom was truly a Friend's Friend!"

Thanks, John, for that tribute – RIP Ranger Smith

Reunion-

Next, I wanted to talk about the reunion -

Brothers – thanks to all who made it to Louisville to celebrate the H Company reunion – a reunion that took place approximately 51 years after the last H Company Ranger turned out the lights in the Republic of Vietnam.

There's no question that Louisville is a "draw" as once again attendance at this reunion was exceptional, so we are looking forward to an even larger representation next year, when the reunion is once again in Louisville.

Thanks to all who made the pilgrimage!

One of the most important activities at the reunion was announcing the new board members, so let's take a minute to recognize and offer congratulations to the incoming board!

Judging from the current flurry of emails it appears that the new board is ready to move forward. *Continued on the next page*

Reunion 2023

Congratulations again to:

Doug Matze - President
 Charlie Ochoa – Vice President
 Stan Freeborn – Secretary
 Bill Hornbuckle – Treasurer
 Pat Lyons – Sergeant-at-Arms
 Benny Gentry – Board of Trustees
 Howard Shute – Board of Trustees
 Dan Roberts – Board of trustees
 Past President – Bob Raab
 75th RRA Rep – Pete Dencker

A big THANK YOU to Bob Raab who held the gavel for a lot longer than he expected and through some turbulent years.

Another big THANK YOU to Joe Dilger – who sponsored the Unit dinner. There's actually a lot more to the story – as originally this was supposed to be a dinner cruise, which Joe had organized until a last minute request for extra money (I don't know the whole story here) but I do know that Joe was not happy with this and the result was the dinner at the hotel – which I know was enjoyed by all – Thanks Joe for the effort, the funding, and a great opportunity for all to break bread together.

The new board will have lots of challenges – starting with complaints about the hospitality room and our relationship with the

Thank You, Joe!

1st Cav reunion. Do we entertain reunions with the 75th Ranger Regiment Assn, the membership list – accuracy and completeness, the newsletter – although Pete will assume responsibility for publishing do we bring the format into the 21st century, is this truly a “last man standing” organization or do we entertain the idea of bringing in younger Rangers. There are plenty of topics to keep the board busy and out of trouble.

Lastly, I know I speak for all recognizing that each year we lose members and at an increasing pace. The reunions going forward will become more important – more valuable to all - with regard to connecting with those we served with. Let's all do our best to reach out and try to add to the great attendance and participation we had this year.

Since the reunion there has been a number of emails discussing the Company “newsletter”. During the meeting, and with the passing of Bill Carpenter, I volunteered to take on that responsibility. It seems like the current process for accumulating all of the content, actually putting the newsletter together and subsequently getting it printed and mailed could use some updating. I sent a copy of my Company (SOS Construction) newsletter to the board. This is a web-based version that is easily updated once a template has been created, that will provide us with the same information, stories, submissions, pictures etc etc. as the printed version except there will be no major production, printing, or mailing charges. The obvious difference is it will arrive in your “in box” rather than your “mailbox”.

Another real difference is that it will eliminate the current prep, printing and mailing costs, saving the Company \$\$\$. For those who want to hold something in their hand while reading, it will be in PDF format so it can be printed and then read like the current newsletter. For those who don't have email capability – and hopefully that number will be small – I can print and mail you a copy.

Continued on the next page

A Special Dinner

The key to the success of such a program is an up to date/ accurate mailing list and participation by all. There have been a number of emails lately from board members and those who have supported Bill previously on how we can make this work. I know there are lots of stories and features provided by all of you in each newsletter, so the next question revolves around the process - were they sent in during the time between the newsletters or was info pulled from a publication such as the LeBrun/ Carpenter Historical Occurrences book? I know there were "regular" contributors, so once we have a working group, we will also touch base with those regular contributors to see what their involvement was and to continue that important input. With a little work and coordination, we can pick up where Bill left off – which I'm sure he'd want us to do – so in his honor – let's all make this work!

The next major project that will require input from all - is an updated mailing list. It's the easiest and most efficient way for us all to stay in touch and disseminate information to all. My

guess based on the number of "bounce backs" I get when I send out an "All Company" email is that it's time for us all to ensure all our own information is correct and then to see if everyone we know is included. If you are aware of someone that has changed email carrier's, moved, or if that person has passed, that those names be taken off the list (unless their spouse or significant other want to continue to stay in touch), or the contact updated as necessary. Once we have a legitimate working email list of all the concept of a web-based version of the newsletter along with the capability for the board to connect with all, when necessary, becomes a reality. I'm guessing there may be some out there that rely only on snail mail. It would be great to recognize who is out there that belongs in that group so that we can still connect.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



Battle Buddies Larry Taylor and Dave Hill's Half Century Journey

In the early evening on or about July 8, 2023 approximately 6pm Larry Taylor received a personal telephone call from the president of the United States stating that he will become one of the newest Medal of Honor recipients for actions related to heroism "above and beyond the call of duty" that occurred in the steamy jungles of Vietnam during a life or death excursion of a Combat LRRP team that was facing annihilation and thus the story begins as told by Dave Hill.

It was my first month in-country. The LRRP/Ranger Base Camp at Lai Khe was buzzing with talk of one of our teams going to be overrun. The team was on patrol and was compromised by a much larger Enemy unit. Artillery was called. Artillery was then lifted as hasty ambushes were set up by the LRRP team. Gun ships were then called for support and support they did. The small team doing reconnaissance was compromised and had to break contact with a superior numbered enemy force.

The team marked their positions with white phosphorus grenades and shared coordinates and azimuths with the gun ships. They also shared that it may be too late as they were surrounded and going to be over-run. The Cobra Gunships were running out of ammo after firing 152 rockets and 16,000 rounds. The LRRP team was also in an increasingly dangerous situation as they were out of ammunition. Next, the commander of the gun ships made a command decision in that he was going to extract the team on the skids and rocket pods of his Cobra Gun ship. (Note- the Cobra Gun ship is a two-man aircraft with NO space for additional personnel. Therefore, Life saving or Kamikaze decisions were made in seconds - one gunship will come in hot blasting their rockets and the second gun ship will come in cold seeking extraction- "every member of the team must grab onto the ship as we fly out and over the jungle, calmly commanded by the Pilot Larry Taylor".

The men listening to the radio communications in the Tactical Operations Center all looked at each other with faces of fear. "So many things could go wrong for this mission to go right - it is a suicide mission for the chopper pilots and the LRRP team - and the comments continued....."

The next thing we heard were the euphoric words of the rescue pilot "we got 'em and are heading over the treetops at present time - all safe and accounted for Hope they can hold on to the ship until we find a safe Landing Zone"! Joy and fear took over all the personnel in the TOC because no one knew IF the men could physically weather the journey of hanging onto the outside of a gunship flying over 100mph away from enemy Rock-



et Propelled Grenades and automatic weapons fire. The men in the TOC were silent and many held their breaths because success meant that all aspects of this rescue would turn out successfully. To everyone's surprise the rescue was an overwhelming success because the gunship, the pilots and the LRRPs involved survived. And it became the talk of the entire First Infantry Division. The "Stars and Stripes" newspaper of American and Allied Armies of Vietnam all read about the amazing rescue "above and beyond the call". However, Military rules and Regulations became the rule of what to do with the decisions and actions of Pilot Larry Taylor. Many actions of valor and awards for valor can be interpreted as operating "outside the

Box" or outside your Mission, etc, etc... America's three highest Valor awards are often put into this category or a balance test - "an act of Valor or a Reckless action"?

The Pilot that made the daring extraction was put into this precarious situation by some of the Air Command. To all the men that listened and especially to the men that were rescued they felt that Pilot Larry Taylor acted above and beyond and should receive the Medal of Honor. His Air Command leaders felt differently and wanted to end the "rescue talk". The question of punishment or Valor Award was swept under the radar with a decision for Larry Taylor to receive a Silver Star and transfer him out of the unit.

And **Thus Begins a Half Century Journey** led by one of the rescued LRRP's. Dave Hill made it his lifelong journey correct the award situation by thanking the man that saved his life in the steamy jungle of Vietnam, this lifelong journey and reads as follows:

Nomination: Upgrade Silver Star Medal to Medal of Honor for Larry L. Taylor

[Mr. Taylor's unit: D Troop (Air), 1st Sq/4th US Cav., 1st Infantry Division, 1967-68]

Chronology of Engagement with US Department of The Army

1. 1/2017: Request sent by Nominator, Mr. David Hill, sent to Sen. Bob Corker requesting he provide the required Congressional sponsorship for the nomination/recommendation for upgrade of Capt. Larry L. Taylor's Silver Star Medal to the Medal of Honor. Sen. Corker agreed and opened communications with the Army HRC, Awards and Decorations Branch.
 2. 2/2017: Staci Willoughby, Constituent Affairs L.A. for Corker assigned as liaison between Recommender and HRC for upgrade effort.
- Continued on the next page*

Army regulations criteria for upgrade were sent to Mr. Hill for nomination packet preparation.

3. 3/2017: Requests for Witness Statements sent to prospective witnesses to support the nomination. Per Army regulations, at least two direct eyewitness statements are required for upgrade to the Medal of Honor. As among the participants/witnesses to Mr. Taylor's actions on the night of 18 June 1968, only Mr. Hill (the Assistant Team Leader of the Long-Range Patrol (LRP) team involved) and Capt. Taylor's Co-Pilot, Chief Warrant Officer J.O. Ratliff, are still alive, their Witness Statements are key to fulfilling the regulatory requirements for the nomination.

4. 10 May 2017: The DA Form 638 and all other required supporting documents (except a Witness Statement from Mr. Ratliff) were sent to Sen. Corker's office and immediately forwarded from Sen. Corker to Army Human Resources Command (HRC), Awards and Decorations Branch.

5. Over the course of the succeeding eight months, requests for further information were relayed to Nominator/Recommender and quickly fulfilled. In addition, Nominator continued to try to contact Mr. Ratliff in order to request an Eyewitness Statement from him.

6. 25 February 2017: Sen. Corker's office received a letter from the (then) Chief, Awards and Decorations Branch, LTC Aaron Lummer, advising that the nomination for upgrade to the MOH could not proceed, stating: "As we are now nearly 50 years removed from this event and without the benefit of personal knowledge of his [Taylor's] actions, nor of the circumstances on the ground, we are not in a position to question the decisions of his commanders". This was, of course, baseless, as with my own direct eyewitness statement, as one "on the ground" during the entire battle, it was quite clear what Taylor's "actions" had been that night and precisely what therefore had been the "situation on the ground". In addition to my statement, we had also submitted numerous other Witness Statements from those who had followed the battle via UHF and VHF radio from the cavalry's and division headquarters Tactical Operations Centers (TOC) and that of F Co.'s own TOC, from start to finish of the battle.

7. 2 March 2017: Nominator responded directly to LTC Lummer, addressing issues raised and again providing witness to Taylor's actions and elaborating on "circumstances on the ground".

8. Nothing further was heard by the Nominator for the remainder of 2017 and most of 2018. Meanwhile, in order to move the issue forward, a Taylor Nomination Task Force was formed in Chattanooga, Tennessee under the auspices of the Medal of Honor Historical Society to support that renewed effort. It was chaired by the Society's Chairman, William Raines (MG, USA-Ret.) Sen. Corker had by then retired from the Senate, but new Congressional support was now led by Mr. Taylor's own Congressman, Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (Tenn-3), as well as Sen. Lamar Alexander and Sen. Marsha Blackburn. It was determined that a "face-to-face" meeting with HRC in Fort Knox, Kentucky, between Mr. Hill and Col. Steve Harmon, and LTC Daffin (LTC

Lummer's successor). That meeting was agreed to, and the nominating team met with HRC on 21 March 2019.

9. 5 June 2019: Sen. Blackburn's received a letter from LTC Daffin stating that "the actions (of Mr. Taylor] ...could not be substantiated beyond a reasonable doubt". In addition, LTC Daffin that "we will be unable to take any further action on this award recommendation with a sworn statement from Mr. Ratliff, affirming Captain Taylor's actions beyond a reasonable doubt".

10. Since clearly a Witness Statement from Mr. Ratliff was required, we made a renewed effort to get in contact with him or his family. Finally, in August 2019 we were able to establish contact with Mr. Ratliff who submitted his Eyewitness Statement to HRC on 2 September 2019. We felt sure at that time that all Army and DOD requirements had been met.

11. In October 2019, Col. Harmon again visited with HRC at Fort Knox, to "hand-carry" Mr. Ratliff's letter, a new letter from LTC Lewis Ray (who had been the "Awards and Decorations" Office in D Troop at the time of Larry Taylor's actions) and some additional updated information per regulations. At this point, it was clear that having the two Eyewitness Statements (from Mr. Hill and Mr. Ratliff), providing not only "the situation on the ground" but also that in the air, that all Army and DOD regulatory requirements for the upgrade had been provided. Though that meeting, again, had been quite cordial and seemed to have advanced the nomination, it still was not moved forward to the Pentagon for the final part of the approval process.

12. B.B. Bell (GenUSA-Ret.) becomes part of the Nomination Team, infusing it with new energy and guidance and a review of all efforts (and all documents heretofore submitted) was begun "to light a fire" under the nomination effort.

13. Finally, after hearing no further from HRC, Gen. Bell contacted MG Calloway, Commander, Human Resources Command (HRC) and was advised that: "These regulations require the presentation of new, substantive, and relevant material information that was not available at the time the original recommendation was considered." He further stated that the updated nomination packet did not provide that information. I could unequivocally state that not myself nor any other member of our LRP Team, Wildcat 2, was ever contacted for eyewitness accounts from those who were "on the ground" during that battle. So, everything to which I had testified is clearly "information not known to Larry Taylor's commanders" at the time they made their recommendation for Taylor to receive only the Silver Star Medal, rather than the Medal of Honor which he so richly deserved. That proved to be a key point of rebuttal to the HRC position.

14. 12/2020: At the behest of Gen. Calloway, the nomination packet was sent to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR), with its attendant DD Form 149, for consideration for correction. Accordingly, the nominator submitted that packet on 15 January 2020.

Continued on the next page

15. 2 July 2020: Nominator received telephoned contact from Mr. Pat Lister, ABCMR, advising him that he had received the 300-pages file on Mr. Taylor's upgrade from HRC and would be acting on it. He advised that a new, modified DD-149 should be completed and submitted, which was done on 13 July 2020.

16. 8 August 2020: Received advisory email from Mr. Lister advising that nomination "is in quality control and moving along nicely" to a vote by the Board.

17. The initial request was nonetheless, again, denied.

18. Since the ABCMR allows for a "Request for Reconsideration", a new request was prepared by Gen. Bell and Dave Hill—this time taking a differ tack in order to address the continuing view, even at ABCMR, that no "new and substantive information not known to Mr. Taylor's command at the time it made its award-level decision".

19. On 23 July 2023, a "Request for Reconsideration", signed by Dave Hill, was submitted to ABCMR.

A key provision of the new submittal was, in effect, a mea culpa of sorts, in which Dave Hill stated that: "He, alone, had been remiss in not clarifying to either HRC or the ABCMR that the new and substantive information not known to Mr. Taylor's commanders at time of their award decision had been clearly identified to them during the entire preceding nomination process." It was specifically pointed out that "the fact that none of the Long Ranger Patrolters (LRP)—not their Team Leader, Commanding Officer, nor any of the rest of the LRP Team had been able to provide their input to Mr. Taylor's commanding officers nor any other higher headquarters within the 1st Infantry Division, as the Division was making its determination regarding the appropriate level of award he was to receive. This time, the "logjam" over the nomination was finally broken. Within a month, the ABCMR approved the "Request for Consideration" and unanimously found that "Mr. Taylor's actions on the night of 18 June 1968 clearly met all of the criteria for upgrade from his original Silver Star Medal to that of The Medal of Honor and would be sent back to the Department of The Army for action."

EPILOGUE:

On 7 July 2023, Capt. Taylor received a personal telephone call from President Joseph Biden, informing him that he had signed his approval for Taylor's upgrade to the Medal of Honor. The ceremony will occur at 1 PM, September 5, 2023, in the White House with many of "I" Company Veterans present.

2023 TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDIES

Under tragedies we lost an entire team of LRRP/Rangers with the passing of the following members since October 2022: Ron Crews, Buzz Busby, Gary Kellog, Greg Bennett, and John Douglas.

John Douglas LRRP/Ranger RIP

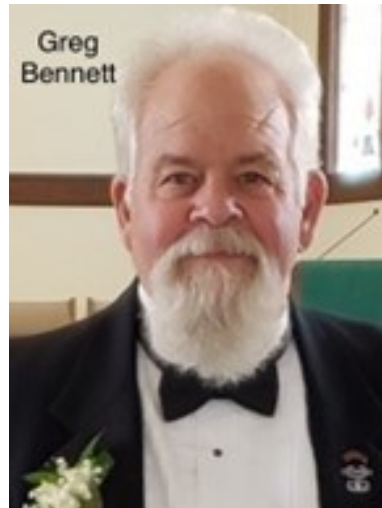
John was a wonderful Family man, Soldier, Friend, Dog lover, Husband,,,,, etc., etc.,

John passed away at home on Saturday, July 15, 2023, in the



arms of his wife.

We saw John at every reunion with his wife, his dog, and his smile. He was laid to rest on August 8 with full Military Honors at 1315 hours at DFW National Cemetery, Dallas Texas.



Gregory Bennett LRRP/Ranger RIP

Gregory the man with the white beard and the smile died peacefully with his family by his side in Mequon, WI on June 4, 2023. Greg was a Regular Army (RA) enlisting in Detroit, MI. He served with the LRRP/Rangers 1968 and 1969. He received the coveted Combat Infantry Badge on the same First Division Orders as MOH recipient Rob Law.

Both John and Greg passed after the last publication of Patroling Magazine. And it is to be noted that it is a tragedy for our unit to lose all of the above individuals.

Unit Election Results

President, Dave Hill;

Vice President, Dave Flores,

Treasurer, John Candiloro

Unit Director, David A. Christian

Secretary, Cheryl Allday

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K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Brothers,

I must apologize for being out of touch the last couple of months. I have had ongoing medical issues that have put me out of commission for a while. At present I have to use a wheelchair due to severe back pain.

I can sit at the computer for a couple of minutes, so this is short. Without going into a lot of detail it has been a struggle for three months now.



At present the VA is taking its sweet time approving an MRI and seeing an outside neurosurgeon. I know there are others who have medical issues that are just as bad or worse, so I won't complain too loud.

I am hoping to be upright soon.

Roger

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

UNIT DIRECTOR—CHARLES "CHUCK" REILLY



*Recently a group of men met
for several days,*

*honoring the time they wore
the Black Beret.*

*A little heavier, hair turned
gray,*

*They served in the Nam back in
the day.*

*Volunteers, all warriors at
heart,*

*wearing the Black Beret, they
stood apart.*

*In six-man teams, infiltrating far and
wide,
survival dependent on those by your
side.*

*Silver wings pinned on
their chest,*

*another honor, they
were the best.*

*Young men of all colors,
brothers all,*

*as "L" Company Rang-
ers, they all stood tall.*

*So proud of the scroll
donned on their shoul-
ders,*

*many years have
passed, all gotten older.*



*Between hugs and war stories,
there were*

*shedding of tears, as they re-
member*

*and learn of those past over
the years.*

*Their pride in their legacy was
easy to see,*

*these are the type of Rangers
that others strive to be.*

*This was a pride filled reunion
in so many ways,*

These were "L" Company Rangers....

They led the way.



The Poet— Mike Monfrooe

Continued on the next page

If there's one part of my job as Unit Director that I feel uncomfortable with, it's reporting on the deaths of our Ranger Brother members. So, I'm sorry to report to you that David Quigley passed away last month (July 2023) after a long illness. Even during times when he was far from healthy, Quigley made it a point to attend Ranger reunions, and though these trips obviously took a toll on his physical being, he made it there. We last saw him in Moline two years ago and he was greeted warmly by all his Ranger brothers. He was not in the best of shape at that time, and I was surprised that he was in attendance. In 2017, he attended the reunion we had in Columbus, Georgia, and even at that earlier date, his health was starting to fail him. But he always was an intrepid character, and he had a big heart.



I have included some photos of Dave for this article. One is from our reunion in Columbus, Georgia six years ago where he is flanked by Marvin Duren and John Perez (above). The other is a group photo from our reunion in Moline two years ago where



he is the only one in a tan shirt (above).

Dave was a true Californian and lived his entire life in the Southern California area, and mainly in the "Inland Empire," that being Riverside and San Bernardino counties. He was originally a qualified Pathfinder who came to the company near the tail end of 1970. He distinguished himself on a number of missions, but never more so than the operation that would become to be known as the "Fight on Hill 809" in April of 1971. It was there that as a member of Capt. David Ohle's rescue mission, he was the first to discover badly wounded Medivac Pilot Fred Behrens and give him some much-needed assistance (i.e., desperately needed water). Anyone who ever went to the bush with Quigley will attest to the fact that he was cool under fire, and nothing seemed to rattle his nerves. All in all, a great man to have by your side during the worst of times. He will be severely missed by his Ranger brothers and his family and friends, including his wife, Aline.



In the last issue of *Patrolling*, I included a photo of Steve Barr (sitting with Ron "Fido" Vodden), but I neglected to mention him as one of the attendees at the reunion in Scott, Louisiana. That was definitely an error on my part, and I apologize to all. I'm glad I was able to at least get his picture into the story and didn't leave him out completely. Just to make up for my bonehead mistake, I have included several photos of Mr. Barr for this article.



He definitely deserves the recognition. For those of you out there who are unfamiliar with Barr, he was an integral part of the Rangers of "L" Company during most of 1971 and after many successful missions, ended up in the company's Tactical Operations Center (TOC) where he continued doing a fine job. As you all know, a well-run TOC is a key to success for any team out in the field. The TOC was basically in control of any support forthcoming from the division when a team was in trouble. Over

the years, I've heard nothing but good things about the way he and his partner, Dave "Muldoon" Rothwell, ran operations in TOC during some crucial months in 1971. Steve has been a fixture at all of our reunions for many years now and it was great to see him in Scott, Louisiana, once again.

Continued on the next page

On a sad note, former "L" Company Ranger Harold "Neb" Schmitt, is in the last stages of his fight with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). I know many of you are unfamiliar with Neb, so I've included a picture of him when he was attending a fishing trip in Alaska with a number of Rangers from the company. Neb is on the far right and the other men in the picture are Dave "Muldoon" Rothwell, Kenneth "Pugsly" Hardy, Billy Nix and Jimmy Sheppard. From a personal standpoint, Neb was a great friend of mine during my time in "L" Company and I remember him well.



Above— Quigley photos

I would like to report on any stories from our LRRP brothers from "F" Company 58th Infantry, but I haven't heard from any of those fellows for years. Ron "Mother" Rucker showed up at our last reunion a few months back in Scott, Louisiana, and he was heartily welcomed by all his Ranger brothers and I'm sure he had a great time, as did everyone else. But he was the only one in attendance from back in the LRRP era.

Lately, my only contact with LRRPs has been an occasional call to Gary Linderer in Missouri. Besides being in the Ranger Hall of Fame, he was also a long-time Unit Director for our group, and he usually has some information and news-of-the-day. Linderer was one of the few men who was in both the LRRPs and Rangers as he was in the company when the transition was made in February of 1969. Which brings me to my main point for this article. I really think it's long past time for the Rangers and LRRPs to finally coordinate their reunions with each other and get these groups together while it's still possible. At this late date, there really should be no rivalries between the two entities, and certainly no animosity. I would like to see this happen as soon as possible. If anyone out there has any suggestions on how to make this work, please let me know. In our early reunions back in the 1980s, former LRRPs and Rangers all attended as "ONE UNIT," but somehow that spirit of brotherhood didn't last and, slowly but surely, we began to separate.



Hardy, Nix, Rothwell, Shep and Neb



The new company website put together by Chuck Rupe has everyone (LRRPs and Rangers) listed with photos of all. At least that's a start. Anyway, it's been a long time since both groups have been together at a reunion. I think it's time to rectify that situation---while we're all still young. For what it's worth, this is just my own opinion and I'm always open to hearing other points of view on this matter.

Mike "Poet" Monfrooe wrote another one of his fine poems and I have included it in this article. He always has something interesting to say. The dog days of August are here, and the weather has heated up more than usual, especially in the Los Angeles area. Luckily, I'm only a few blocks from the Pacific Ocean, so if it gets too hot, I can always jump in and cool off. I hope you all can stay out of the heat and that you enjoy the rest of the summer months. And boy, have they flown by.

As always, Rangers Lead the Way!



L-R Quigley is shown with Lt. Bob Suchke and Dixie, the company dog, unidentified on the right



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—RUDY TEODOSIO



PICTURE: 74TH LRP

RVN

**L-R: SSG Patrick Tadena,
SSG Laszlo Rabel, Unknown



75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

RANGER RENDEZVOUS 2023

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GROUP PICTURE: L-R: Doc Kirk (74th LRP), Bill Jang (74th LRP), Rudy Teodosio (N-75), Big Dave Cummings RHOF (N-75), Dave Mononey (N-75), Joe Marquez (N-75), (Not Picture) Thomas Honan



Above Photo- RANGER HALL OF FAME 2023

LTC(R) Dick James Former Commander 74th LRP / N Company
(Ranger) 75th Infantry.



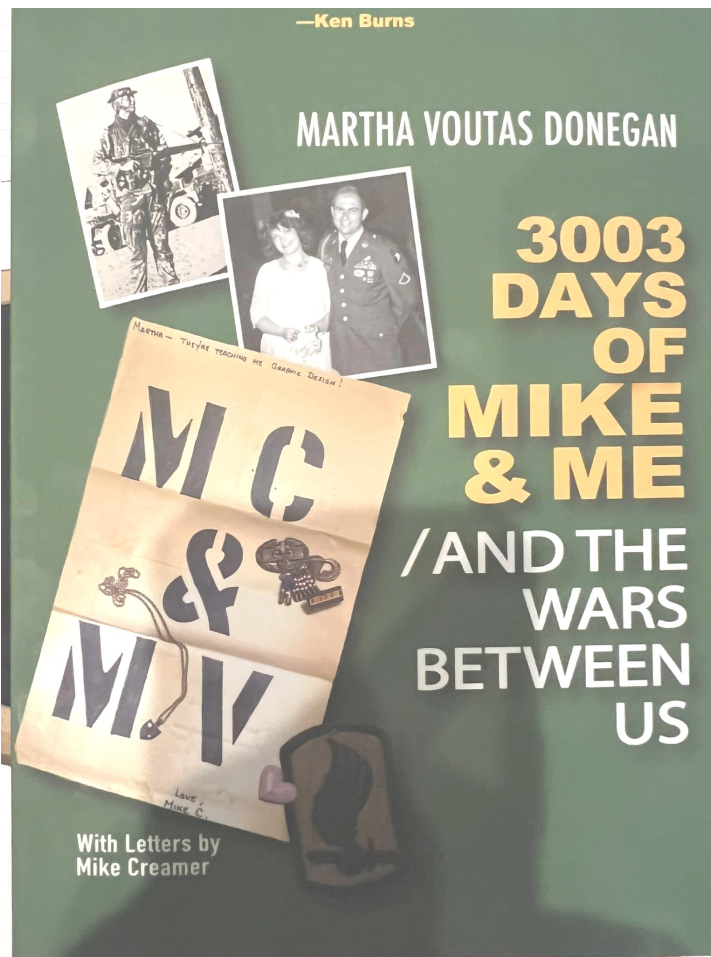
L-R: Bergy, Dick Davis (RHOF), Rick Jones, Campbell, Matt DeZee, LTC(R) Dick James—Linkup after 55 years 23 RHOF



Above Photo L-R MSG(R) Leroy Petry MOH (D 2-75),
Dave Mononey.

Continued on the next page

Book Cover 3003 Days of Mike & Me /And the War Between Us



Below- Tourists on the wrong side of the fence



2nd Battalion Briefing



Below- INVITE FOR WEDDING OF JOANIE & BIG DAVE





P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JERRY YONKO

A TALE OF TWO COMPANIES

From the time I first arrived in Vietnam and was processed and sent north to Quang Tri and the 1st of the 5th Mech, I was in genuine awe of all that was going on and what was about to happen to me. Upon arrival, I got off the plane and was trucked to the Replacement Detachment (repo/depot) where I was again processed prior to being sent to the 1st of the 11th Inf. There was a formation in the morning and the crowd was informed by a rather, loud Leg SSgt that anyone who was airborne qualified and crazy enough to want to be a Ranger, there would be a truck available to transport you to the Ranger company area for an interview. I looked around me and saw who I was soon going to be forced to depend on my life and made a quick decision to at least see what it was all about. I really don't think the subject of Ranger Companies was even discussed at Smoke Bomb Hill where I had just arrived from, and if indeed it was, I do not recall, but right there on Camp Red Devil was Papa Company Rangers, 75th Infantry, Airborne.

I arrived in Papa Company in August of 1970, and was assigned to Team 1-1. Papa Co was activated on Feb. 1, 1969, while I was still a senior in high school. Formed from the short lived 79th Infantry Detachment (LRP), the unit folded into the 75th with thirteen companies serving throughout Vietnam during the war. From the start, those who had served with the 79th were looked at differently from those who came later, all the way until the summer of 1970 when the company was moved to a new location close to the TOC in the center of the base, and was supported by the HHC for rations and supplies. The change of location was the line of demarcation suddenly evolving from the old company into the new company and bringing with it a change in personnel, but retaining the professionalism and dedication to the mission which has come to be expected of and relied on. Most of the fellows who



had served during the initial months and operations of the unit and who had set the bar very high for those of us who followed, now were ready to DEROS back to the states, if they hadn't already done so. Papa Company was shorthanded as usual, but I must have made an impression on the first Sargent who offered me a slot. I returned to the repo/depot, got my gear, and started life again, now as a Ranger.

I was not the only one who was new arriving into the unit, which at that particular time was exclusively for Airborne only and we were being paid for jump status which was an additional \$55 a month. Quite a lot for a country

boy like me. As the months went by, we said goodbye to many of the guys (old company) who had finished their tours and who were now going home as legends to us. The company evolved further to the rough and ready gang that worked the Khe Sahn plains prior to the start of operation Lom Sahn 719 in the spring of 1971. There seemed to be lull in enemy action the latter part of 70 and



Heading out on patrol

into early 71, but it did not last long after the first ARVN crossed the border into Laos.

We started seeing enemy activity and contacts became more frequent resulting in both NVA and Ranger casualties.

I had the good fortune recently to share reflections of Papa Company with one of the Old Company Rangers, John Beckwith. I inquired of him: Could I ask that you write a few paragraphs for me about patrolling in the DMZ? My next patrolling article is about the two different: old and new Papa companies. How they operated and were perceived by the rest of the Brigade. Your insight would really help my efforts. I would truly appreciate your thoughts. John sent me the following which says much.

Continued on the next page

Typically, brigade S2 would identify a likely area of enemy activity (from Air Force or Navy recon photos) and, after warning orders were issued, the TL, company CO, and perhaps one or two others would recon the AO via helicopter to provide a decent sense of the area in which the team would be operating. We weren't too worried about booby traps since the area we generally operated in was the DMZ which the NVA used to transit to the south. Also, we never walked on trails. Most of the missions in the "Z" were LRP/ambush missions although occasionally we were on BDA (bomb damage assessment) missions. Extraction after ambushes was always by chopper, as were insertions (except for one stay-behind mission that ended with no contact). The terrain where we operated in the DMZ was mostly flat

staff were less than enthusiastic about approving valor awards, believing Papa Company troopers might be getting "more than their share".

I've also attached a couple of debriefing documents that you may find interesting. A1 and A2 go together, as do B1 and B2. The one that notes the 150 NVA walking past our position, heading south, illustrates the peril Ranger teams could be in by initiating an ambush on what would turn out to be an enemy point element. As you might expect, as the number of troops walking by increased, so did our anxiety level. 150 or so against five would not favor the fewer number. Note, too, the extraction method. As I recall, the weather precluded a helicopter extraction, hence the tanks. The other form, showing a "walk in" extraction illustrates

the proximity and seemingly semi-permanent presence either the NVA or VC were to Firebase A-4, given the large 225 square foot punji pit and numerous man-size spider holes. The other file was about a K-18 ambush. I don't know if you knew this story that appeared, I recall, in either Stars and Stripes or the Red Devil rag.

I don't know if you've heard K1-4's tiger story. We were in the Z, as usual, and our #2 sensor started beeping.

Then #1 went off so

we were anticipating an enemy patrol. Then #2 went off again, followed by #3 and #2. At the time we began to think our claymores or sensors had been spotted and the NVA were about to discover us, so we prepared to blow the ambush.

With hands on clackers, we readied ourselves. Then, the head of a Bengal tiger appeared through the bush, barely five yards from us. We looked at him; he looked at us, and, without another sound, the tiger left. William "Shorty" Kastendieck was so unnerved by the event, he volunteered to pull guard for the rest of the night, allowing the other four of us to get a good night's sleep.

I don't know if you were in country when we started using phantom teams (man-shaped cardboard silhouettes that were folded flat after the Huey made an "insertion"). The idea was to give the NVA pause as to where a team might have been inserted.



A few familiar faces in the old company

with thin brush. (The exception to that terrain was the Bai Long valley which was pretty dense with wait-a-minute vines and thicker jungle).

Like other teams, in the new or old Papa Company, once establishing our site and informing the company we were in our RON, we set out claymores (each man carried two except for the RTO) and the four sensors, set the watch (one hour each from dusk to dawn, meaning one or two men would be awakened twice), and settled in for the night. I don't know how that "process" would differ between the old and new Papa Company.

I think brigade respected us, demonstrating this by having Huey's on standby whenever teams were in the field and, on a lighter note, allowing the mess hall to open in the middle of the night after a team returned from contact, and by not requiring company members to perform any of the so-called shit details (guard, KP, etc.). We also had our own ammo bunker and Heli pad. The one negative I heard was that some on the brigade

Continued on the next page

I don't know how much of this is useful, but it was interesting and nostalgic to look through my box of "Army stuff". Anecdotally, while going through the box, I found an M-16 magazine with 18 rounds in it. I think I must have dropped it in with personal things when I turned in my weapon.

when a 75-year-old Papa Ranger says, let's let the young guys do it, young meaning 73 years old. We have all found a common middle ground by being a Papa Ranger. This designation has been the central focus of my adult life and I am glad to have lived and survived the experience.

Rangers Lead The Way



The Beauty of Vietnam

This testimony tells a lot about the activities and relationship between the company and HQ. Note, John mentioned the silhouettes used to throw off the enemy on the ground. I don't know if it worked but the same tactics were in use while I was there, again with questionable results being recorded. It couldn't have hurt though. I well remember walking off of fire base Alpha 4 into the high elephant grass where you couldn't see a thing and knew that there were bad guys all around waiting on you or your team to make a mistake.

It was past time to put on your war face and now it is time to pay full attention to what was going on around you. The new or the old company personnel would have found comfort in each other and would have seamlessly blended skills and strength to form a strong unit. It is funny now, many years after the fact, to think that any of us were actually that young once and can laugh





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