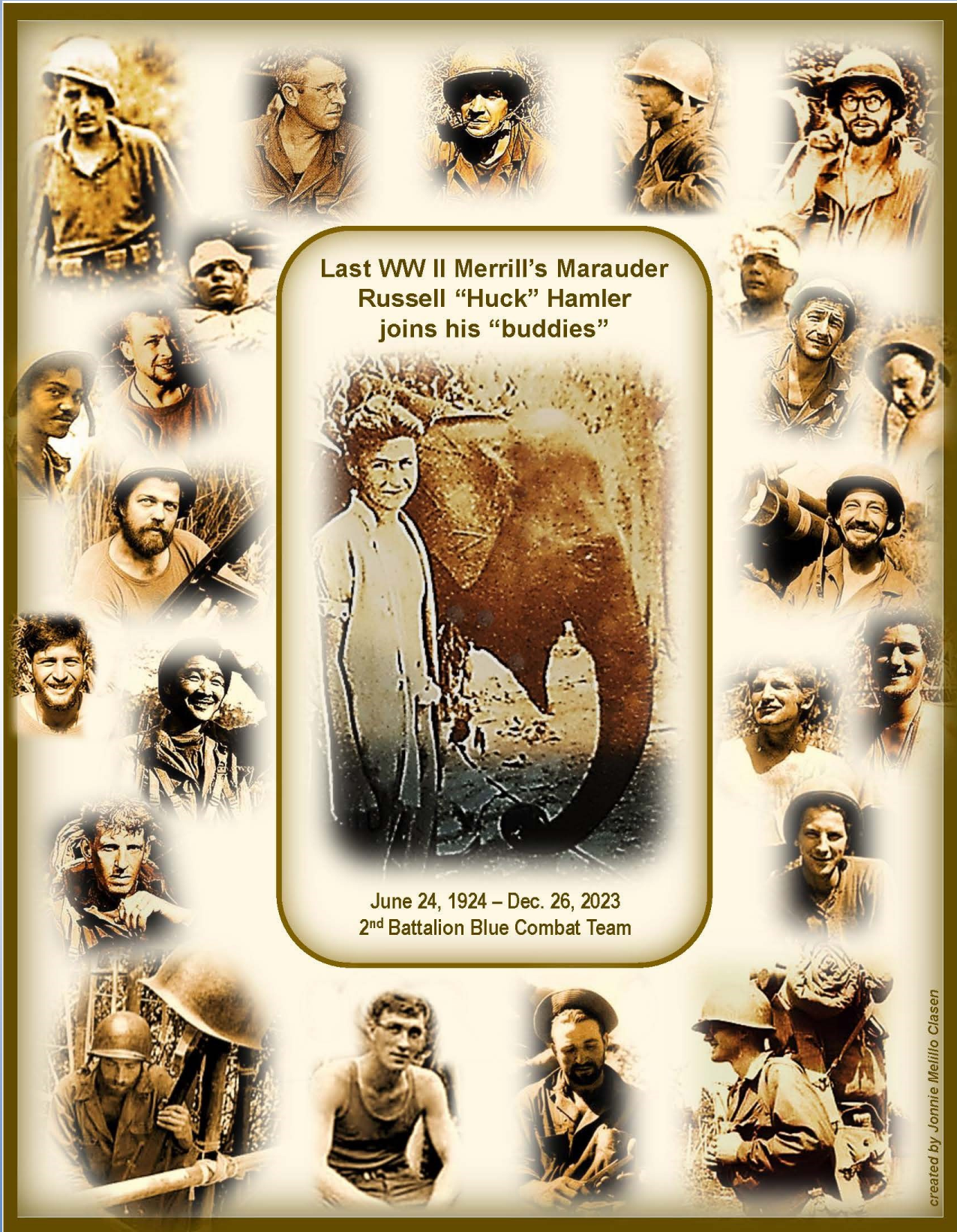


PATROLLING

March 2024 75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC. Volume 36 Issue 1



Last WW II Merrill's Marauder
Russell "Huck" Hamler
joins his "buddies"

June 24, 1924 – Dec. 26, 2023
2nd Battalion Blue Combat Team

created by Jonnie Mellito Clasen

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Editor's Corner

Greetings, 75th RRA! First, I want to thank all our readers for your unending patience and grace you have unknowingly extended to me as I navigate my role as your editor. This issue will again be published too late for my comfort. I am still working on streamlining this process and I know I have some big shoes to fill! Your former editor and Ranger brother, Steve Johnson has been a big support to me through this in offering his guidance, but he also had this process down! So again, I thank you and will commit to June's edition to be sent to you IN JUNE.

As I begin to learn about the unique brotherhood the 75th RRA has, I am thoroughly enjoying meeting you through your submissions and the rich history the 75th Ranger Regiment and its predecessors has. I would also like to honor all of you in my attention to detail as I make any necessary edits. I am a bit of a perfectionist and try to be very conscious of crossing my t's and dotting my i's. With that said, it was brought to my attention I had some misinformation published in our last print I would like to correct. A member sent this along and I greatly appreciate this information as I would have never known it was incorrect:

"In the interest of maintaining historical accuracy, Hal Moore, CO of 1st Battalion, 7th Cav of the 1st Cav Division, was a full Lt. Col. at the time of The Battle of LZ Xray. Also known as the Battle of the Ia Drang River Valley. Therefore, it was in the Ia Drang valley. Never heard of I Chang Valley. It occurred Nov 1965, not 1967. (It was the first time the American Army met the North Vietnam Army in combat)"

If anyone happens to notice such misprints, PLEASE send them along so I may correct my oversight.

In perusing this issue, you may notice this edition is full of mentions of Russell Hamler's recent passing, honoring him as the last standing member of the Merrill's Marauders. It has been my delight getting to know Jonnie Clasen and she had sent me the names of the members of the honor guard at "Uncle Huck's service. I would like to close with listing those names:

Flag Detail:

1. SGM Michael Smith
2. SFC Christopher Wilson
3. SSG Ryan Smith
4. SGT James Palmer
5. Chaplain (Captain) Bryce Wiltermood

Firing Party:

6. MSG Brian Hayman
7. SFC Tyler Minick
8. SFC Nathaniel De Pretis
9. SSG Andre Ewing
10. SSG Alfred McKeown
11. SPC Blake Colliver
12. PFC Jon Gilbert
13. PFC Maxim Colley

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.

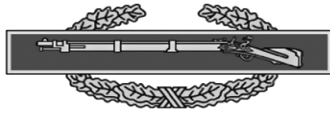
Advertisements for products or services do not constitute an endorsement by the Association. Manuscripts, photographs, and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics.

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 7th of February, May, August, and November for the four yearly issues of March, June, September, and December respectively.

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to:
Patrolling
PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662



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- Present	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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M/75-71st LRP-199th LRRP

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805.824.2133

N/75-74th LRP-173rd LRRP

Rudy Teodosio
404.386.9331
sfoda184@hotmail.com

O/75-78th LRP

We Need A New O/75-78th LRP
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Please Contact Art "Doc" Attaway
248-568-8232 Cell Phone or Text
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P/75-79th LRP

Jerry Yonko
Paparanger71@gmail.com

601.826.2788

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Bill Miller
H: 803.641.9504
C: 803.292.2571
bietdongquan@yahoo.com

LRRP DETACHMENT-3rd ID

We Need A New LRRP Detachment –
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F/51 LRP

Russell Dillon
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russlrp51@gmail.com

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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Chaplain

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Association Artist

Dave Walker
In Memory

Patrolling

Amanda Neet
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Website

Www.75thrra.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ART "DOC" ATTAWAY

Rangers,

This will be a busy year for the Ranger world and those that do not go downrange anymore. We will have the **50th Reunion of both the 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions**, and the **40th Anniversary and Reunion of the 3rd Ranger Battalion and the 75th Ranger Regiment**. Honoring all Regimental Rangers and our heritage, lineage, and "Esprit de Corps". The 75th Ranger Regiment Association will have senior officer representation at all these events.



In addition, there will be a **Ranger Rendezvous** at Fort Moore in late June, which will include a CoC for the Regiment, mass tactical airborne operations, static displays, Distinguished Member of the Regiment, Ranger Hall of Fame inductions, and the other activities usually associated with a Rendezvous. The association will have a room block and a hospitality room at the Doubletree Hotel, as well as host a hospitality night. Remember when all the young Rangers would come and sit with us and listen to the history we provide? I believe that will return this year, as we now have all the UD positions for the active-duty units filled. We are coordinating the overall outside activities for the event with the other Ranger Foundations and Associations. Details will be broadcast via newsletter later this month and posted on our website.

Best Ranger Competition will be held in April at Fort Moore. The Regiment has had numerous top teams in the immediate past 2 to 3 BRC's. Now that the Regiment is not constantly totally deployed, we can produce competitive teams that were otherwise doing it for real. The 75th RRA will have a room block in Columbus for this event as well but will not host any events. The hotel link will be distributed in a newsletter along with a schedule of events.

Our **Mission Statement** is being updated to represent our current mission as an Association.

Membership increases of younger Rangers are on the move. With the newest and younger UD's that represent the Regimental Units, we now have a greater presence in and around the younger Rangers. In a combination of the new website, greater presence and visibility at active-duty units, and the creation of a membership development group, we had approximately 50 more contemporary Rangers join from JUN to DEC 2023. Special thanks to Rick Merritt, Kurt Buchta, Lee Garcia, and Rick Baier for their leadership and efforts. Our Social Media presence has been amplified by these younger Rangers as well, assisting our presence and value in the Regimental Ranger community. This will ensure the strength and relevance of our association in the future.

We lost our last original **Merrill's Marauder** in December of 2023. In honor of the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional {Merrill's Marauders}, the association assisted in and led a wreath laying ceremony at the Ranger Monument at Fort Moore. See the detailed articles and photos contained in Patrolling Magazine.

Newsletters will begin to be sent monthly to provide more timely and current information dissemination, keep membership updated and informed about ongoing and dynamic activities. Please open and read them!

Patrolling Magazine will revive our outside advertising program to conduct fundraising for the association. If you know of a company that would benefit from being represented in our community, please link them up with Mandy at amanda.neet@75thrra.org.

I hope all of us have a healthy and blessed 2024. Godspeed.

Peter Parker, 2/75, recently passed away. Many of you knew him. For those who didn't, Peter served the Association as our photographer. He has continued to serve the Association by leaving us a sizeable part of his legacy. We were recently informed by his sister, Sharon Januzzi, after settling other aspects of his estate, the balance of his assets were to be split among four named organizations of the Ranger community, which included our 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. Thus, we were the recipient of a generous deposit of \$120,000. Right now, the funds are in our Operations account as they are unrestricted. The officers will determine how they will eventually be allocated. We thank Peter for his service to his country and his benevolence to his Ranger brothers.

We are now firmly entrenched in our new database, Wild Apricot. It allows for submission of new applications through our website. New member applications are on an upward tick through this method. This can be directly attributed to the efforts of six of our Unit Directors of the Regimental units: 1/75 Rick Merritt, 2/75 Hugh Roberts, 3/75 Kurt Buchta, RHQ Tom Maier, RSTB Rob Ciaccio, and MI Lee Garcia. All are either past CSMs or Officers in the Regiment and are steadfast and motivated to ensure the 75th RRA remains a vibrant and productive part of the Ranger community. Their number one goal is to increase the memberships of their peers. Each of these UD's have access to the commands of their respective battalions and are taking advantage by personally visiting the premises of each battalion and giving PR regarding our Association as well soliciting memberships. They have our Association banner and a canopy and will be present at all Ranger community functions. Look for them and help them where you can, because Rangers Lead The Way!

Some years ago, we started offering a one-year free membership to entice the Regiment-era veterans to join the Association. It had nominal success. At the request of the afore-mentioned group of six Regimental UD's, we have done away with the one-year free offer. They feel the cost of membership is not a deterrent to join, but rather a lack of information about us is more significant. Further, they feel the free Active-Duty class of membership is similarly non-functional, as the cost of dues is, again, not an issue for these young Rangers in joining. To that point, we have less than ten such members on the books. There will be a bylaw amendment vote coming soon that will include this change.

Every year as we near July 1 and our normal membership renewal date, you all receive in the mail a physical dues reminder and return envelope. These come in real handy for Vietnam-era members who have not been particularly adept at hi-tech functions. But hi-tech is here and it is over-running our perimeters. Our new members can join electronically and pay dues electronically. In fact, when a new member selects the Regular 1-Year membership level his dues are automatically set up to be paid every July 1. This option will soon be available for everyone and I urge you all to take advantage of it. But for now, you will still be receiving those renewal envelopes, even for the grandfathered-in Life Members. They serve as vehicles to submit donations as well as dues; plus, I receive these envelopes year-round. They do not have a use-by date and are extremely serviceable. If you choose to use them, remember the glue on the return envelope is super helpful and, PLEASE, do not put tape on the seal.

Tom Sove
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rifle Raffle 2,179.00

75th RRA

Statement of Activity

October 1, 2023 - February 11, 2024

TOTAL

Revenue

4000 Program income - DNP

4002 Membership dues 2,385.00

4015 Quartermaster sales 2,076.96

Rifle Raffle 13,103.02

Total 4000 Program income - DNP 17,564.98

4100 Member donations - DNP 100.00

4102 Family fund contributions 9,264.43

4104 Goldstar contributions 90.00

4110 Operations contributions 120,335.00

4120 Scholarship 390.00

Total 4100 Member donations - DNP 130,179.43

4900 Interest income 477.49

4910 Billable Expenditure Revenue 556.27

Total Revenue \$148,778.17

GROSS PROFIT \$148,778.17 Expenditures

6000 Program expenses - DNP

6002 Cash awards & grants - Battalions 7,000.00

6005 Cash awards & grants - Members 700.00

6020 Website maintenance 300.00

6025 Intuit Subscription

6026 Go Payment 60.00

6027 Quickbooks Online 180.00

Total 6025 Intuit Subscription 240.00

6030 Advertising/Promotional

Total 6030 Advertising/Promotional 2,179.00

Benevolent Contributions 1,000.00

EIG powerweb 47.98

Google Suites 32.40

Reimbursement 750.00

Website Subscription 150.00

Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP 12,399.38

6100 Patrolling expense - DNP

6102 Patrolling printing 6,894.06

Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP 6,894.06

6500 Operations - DNP

6502 Bank and merchant fees 68.72

6510 Insurance - D&O liability 1,263.00

6516 Postage and mailing service 556.27

75th RRA

Statement of Activity

October 1, 2023 - February 11, 2024

TOTAL

6540 Postage-Secretary 605.32

6550 Treasurer Supplies 149.74

6552 Treasurer Postage 28.75

Office Supplies Secretary 287.65

Virtual Assistant 1,441.08

Total

6500 Operations - DNP 4,400.53

Total Expenditures \$23,693.97

NET OPERATING REVENUE \$125,084.20

TREASURER'S REPORT

NET REVENUE **\$125,084.20**

75th RRA

Statement of Financial Position

As of February 11, 2024

TOTAL

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1000 Affinity / Operations 22,891.81

Paypal legacy Transfer 1,835.45

Total 1000 Affinity / Operations 24,727.26

1002 Affinity / Family fund 19,916.77

1030 Affinity / Savings 189,537.42

1040 Benevolent funds MM 44,521.97

1041 Legacy funds MM 8,994.43

1042 Life funds MM 20,034.73

1050 Paypal funds -414.04

Total Bank Accounts \$307,318.54

Accounts Receivable

1100 Accounts receivable 0.00

Total Accounts Receivable \$0.00

Total Current Assets \$307,318.54

TOTAL ASSETS \$307,318.54

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

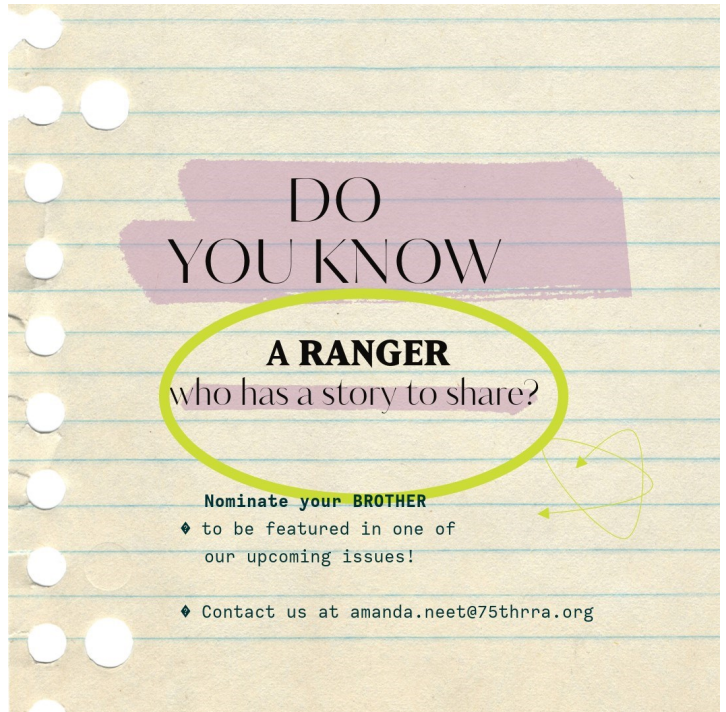
Equity

3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted 185,710.81

Net Revenue 121,607.73

Total Equity \$307,318.54

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$307,318.54



BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SALUTES RUSSELL HAMLER

Russell “Huck” Hamler PFC WWII Congressional Gold Medal Recipient

Carole Ortenzo

Baldwin Township resident Russell Hamler was recently honored with the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM), the most distinguished form of recognition bestowed by Congress for outstanding achievement. On April 24, 2022, he was presented the CGM for his service as a member of an elite WWII jungle warfare unit nicknamed Merrill’s Marauders, after its commander, Brigadier General Frank Merrill.

At the age of only 19, Mr. Hamler joined the nearly 3,000 men who volunteered for a top-secret mission that was devised by President Franklin Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill in August 1943. The soldiers did not know where they would be going or what the mission was. They were only told it was “a dangerous and hazardous mission,” and few, if any, were expected to survive.

In fact, the soldiers who volunteered for this mission were referred to as “expendable.” A plan existed to get them to the secret location.

A cavalryman answers the call to volunteer for a mission few were expected to survive:

When the call went out for volunteers, Mr. Hamler, who enlisted in the Army on his 18th birthday, was stationed with the 27th Cavalry Troop in Puerto Rico. He requested the cavalry when he enlisted because, while growing up in neighboring Mt. Lebanon, he worked on farms and took care of horses from about age 9 to 11. Interestingly, one of the farms where he worked, the Hatch family farm, was located where the Baldwin Township Administration Building is today.

Hamler completed basic training at Ft. Riley, KS and then advanced to cavalry training there. However, he did not work with horses as he had anticipated. Instead, his class was the first to be trained in mechanized



But there was no plan to get them out.

*Russell “Huck” Hamler in 1945 at age 20 while
serving as an MP in Pittsburgh, PA*

cavalry. In fact, when he learned of the top-secret mission, he was hospitalized with a left arm injury he had sustained in a jeep accident while on a night patrol in Puerto Rico. Although he had not yet regained full use of his left arm, he asked to be discharged from the hospital immediately so he could volunteer.

When asked why he volunteered for a mission so few were expected to survive, Mr. Hamler's first answer was because the men were promised a furlough to their location of choice after the mission, provided they survived. But, he also added that he was "in the Army, and that was what you did. You joined the Army to fight the war. But, after you volunteered once for something like that, you'd never volunteer a second time."

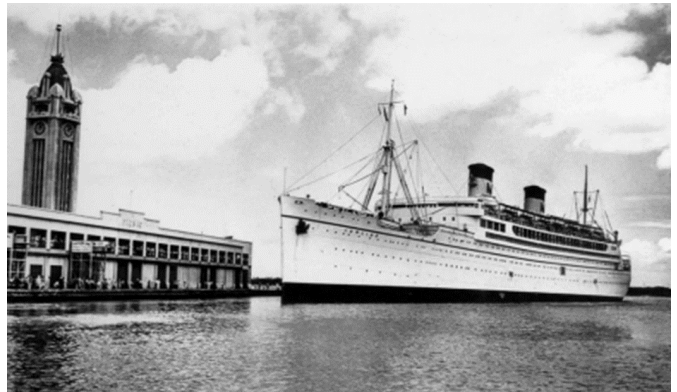


*Russell "Huck" Hamler in 1942 at age 18
after completing basic training at Ft. Riley, KS*

Journey to the undisclosed location, training for the top-secret mission, and transfer from British to U.S. Command:

About 2,000 of the volunteers assembled at a major WWII staging area called Camp Stoneman, in Pittsburg, PA. Hamler, who had hoped to go on furlough to Pittsburgh, PA after the mission, likes to joke, "I got to Pittsburg all right. But, it was the wrong one." From there, they went to San Francisco to board the SS Lurline, a former luxury liner converted to a troopship, for an approximately-one-month passage to Bombay (now Mumbai), India, picking up more

volunteers along the way. Hamler recalls being astonished by how massive the Lurline was and how far it extended up out of the water. He said the men did chores to help maintain the ship. They also ate very well, slept on berths that were about 12 to a room, and played poker with four or five games going on in one room. Once, a priest whom they called "Padre" caught them. He closed the door to the room and said, "We're going to have church." Hamler said that that priest later became a bishop in the Boston area.



SS Lurline; From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Lurline_\(1932\)#/media/File:SS_Lurline_at_Honolulu_in_the_1930s.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Lurline_(1932)#/media/File:SS_Lurline_at_Honolulu_in_the_1930s.jpg)

When the men first assembled in India on October 29, 1943, they actually had no official name or insignia. Moreover, they were originally a British unit and part of the Southeast Asia Command under Lord Louis Mountbatten. They were trained by Chindits, a long-range penetration special forces unit formed by

British Army Major General Orde Wingate and comprised of Indian, British, and Burmese soldiers. Hamler recalls being trained by all three ethnic groups and also remembers how rigorous the training was.

He said, "Bullets weren't flying at you. But, in some ways, the training was harder than the fighting." He remembers trekking for three or four days at a time in oppressive heat while their water was rationed to one canteen per day. For food, they cut slabs of raw meat from a supply in the mess hall before leaving for an exercise and carried them in a sack. When it was time to eat, they skewered the meat with a small branch and cooked it over a fire. When asked if the men became ill from eating meat that had been carried raw and unrefrigerated for days at a time in hot weather, Hamler said he did not know of any. He added, "It was food. So, we ate it."

The men were under British command for only about two months when, on December 31, 1943, Lord Mountbatten transferred them to the command of U.S. Army Lt. Gen. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, because Stilwell "wanted them." Mountbatten famously had misgivings about this transfer and regarded it as Stilwell having "stolen" the unit that, at that time, was code-named "Galahad." In fact, Mountbatten expressed this sentiment directly to Mr. Hamler when the two met in 1968 at the (then) Greater Pittsburgh Airport, when Mountbatten traveled to Pittsburgh for a fundraiser. Hamler was working as a mechanic for Trans World Airlines at the time. Because of his service as a Marauder, he was assigned to flag in the plane so he could meet Mountbatten. After the plane landed, Hamler stood at the bottom of the steps as the passengers deplaned. He introduced himself to Mountbatten, and the two spoke for about 20 minutes.

For decades, Hamler recounted that conversation to his son, Jeffrey. And, per Jeffrey, his father consistently quoted Mountbatten as saying, "If the unit had remained under my command, not as many men would have been lost."

Eventually, Unit Galahad was officially designated the U.S. Army 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional)



Pittsburgh Post Gazette news article- 1968; Hamler (left) speaking with Lord Mountbatten (right) at the Greater Pittsburgh Airport

and later nicknamed Merrill's Marauders.

After completing intensive jungle warfare training in India between late November 1943 and late January 1944, the Marauders set out on foot to engage in "the toughest Special Forces mission of WWII," according to award-winning historian Gavin Mortimer. Hamler remembers well their trek along the Ledo Road through the Patkai Hills, a sub-mountain range of the Himalayas, to the combat area in Burma. Their assignment was to disrupt Japanese supply lines and communications in Burma (now Myanmar), free northern Burma from Japanese forces, and capture the Japanese-held airfield in Myitkyina. The eventual capture of the airfield and later the town of Myitkyina allowed supplies to be flown in to complete a critical Allied land supply route from India to China.

(To Be Continued in June 2024, Vol.36; Issue II)

Over the past ten years, I've thought a lot about if my father, 1SGT Glenn Harris, were here with us today, what his thoughts and guidance for me would be throughout this journey I've embarked on. A journey that began when my mother, Sandy Harris, gave me my father's entire military career paper trail, items from his office at 3rd Battalion and everything pertaining to his trainin accident. Items such as the Department of the Army's full & final investigation of the accident to personal handwritten letters from his Rangers to my mother right after his death. Soon after, is when I began the journey of getting to know who my father was, realizing how healing it can be to reconnect and the power of being intentional and persistent. But most importantly and most surprisingly, I've been able to redirect buried grief into something good, and bigger than me, which in turn has given the loss purpose.

My father's military service spanned 16 years from his initial entry training at Fort Bliss, Texas to his final assignment as the First Sergeant of B Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. He filled a variety of leadership positions to include: Rifle Platoon SGT, Squad Leader, Ranger Instructor, S-2 NCOIC and company First Sergeant to name a few. But throughout his career, he continued to hone his skills as a Ranger and light infantryman by graduating from all the required courses, continued his own self development by completing all the Noncommissioned Officer Courses. As well as earning his Associates Degree in General Education. I know he would not want this included but I'm a very proud daughter; some of his awards included the Ranger Tab, Expert and Combat Infantryman's Badges, Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit. My father epitomized what a professional non-commissioned officer IS AND DOES. He also epitomized what a dedicated & unwavering loving husband and father IS AND DOES.



My sister and I “grew-up Ranger”... I was born in Vicenza, Italy then from there it was Fairbanks, Alaska where my sister, Heather, was born. Pretty sure, Anchorage was the preferred destination so it's been jokingly said, my father must have angered someone for us to end up in Fairbanks. In May 1987, our last and final move was to Ft. Benning, GA (now Ft. Moore). As we all know, being a Ranger is not the Monday-Friday/8-5 profession, dad was gone a lot. Never knowing where he was or when he'd be home, was all Heather and I knew. It was our normal. So, the rare snippets of opportunity to spend time with him, we would. From watching Saturday practice jumps onto Fryer Drop Zone, or our favorite, dad would sometimes take us to work with him. We loved it. We'd get to watch Disney movies in the day room, where at times, the day room would slowly fill with Rangers who would watch *The Little Mermaid* with us. Now as an adult, remembering the times we spent “playing” at battalion, I can't help but cringe a little and also laugh at an Army Ranger would bring his young daughters to work. Again, we absolutely loved it. There were many holiday dinners, where young Rangers that couldn't/didn't go home, dad would invite them to our house. Heather and I have very fond memories of this time together. Mom on the other hand was typically the last to know about the invites so her memories are slightly different, but she always made the headcount work and graciously welcomed them with open arms. We were a Ranger family surrounded by our extended Ranger family of 3rd Battalion.

Dad died in a training accident December 4, 1994 barely a year after returning home from the Battle of Mogadishu, Somalia, October 1993. It was a typical Sunday for us and a typical jump they've done a thousand times. A six second delay and everything that could have gone wrong, did go wrong, immediately changed the trajectory of our lives. Not only did we lose our father/husband, we immediately lost the only life we

knew. We lost our normalcy, our identity as a Ranger family...We were now immediately civilians and a Gold Star family.



Never for a second did our 3rd Battalion Ranger family make us feel forgotten; however, the nature of the profession and being the pre-internet, pre-social media, etc. era, it seemed impossible to stay connected. Columbus had been home for many years, so Mom felt it was in our best interest to stay, even though she desperately wanted to go back home to Texas. By no means was the road easy but she was right. It also helped that her strong-will and determination made sure we stayed on the right path. We can laugh about this now but during our teenage years she was the “regulator” and, as my sister would say, “the warden”. Again, by no means an easy road, but it worked. And at the same time, she went back to school and earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting and later her Master’s Degree in Forensic Accounting. As time moved on, we became more and more removed from the Ranger world we once knew. Civilian life is drastically different so the normalcy & familiarity of being a Ranger family began to fade and started to feel more like that life was just a dream.

Fast forward to ten years ago, while sorting and organizing the items mom gave me, I read a letter written two days after dad’s death by PFC Brian Heard. He wanted mom to know how much dad affected his life. He wrote about their first-time meeting “found out I was married, he had me doing push-ups...” to a fast-moving road march “he walked past me and said, ‘Good job, Heard’, I wonder if he knew how proud I felt that night?”. Reading his letter inspired me to start reaching out to other Rangers asking if they had any memories, stories, photos, anything about dad and willing to share them. Rangers from the 1987 – 1994 time period have not been the easiest to find (if any are reading this, I’d love to connect) but with zero

hesitation and willingness to help from the Rangers I did find, I now have an amazing, abundant collection that is still growing. I am forever grateful.

Dad was with these Rangers a whole lot more than with us, so this journey of collecting has given us the opportunity to get to know who he was through their words and photos shared. Remember, we’re talking pre-internet, pre-social media, etc., a digital collection of any type does not exist. So, the effort & zero hesitation to go through old boxes of photos and share with us what they have has been incredibly healing. These guys are a direct conduit to our father, but at times, I have felt that I’m a direct conduit for them to 1SGT Glenn Harris. Probably because I’ve been told a couple of times now “without question, you are your fathers’ daughter.” But in all seriousness, being a direct link for them I can feel how healing it was for the Ranger sharing. I had no idea how good for the soul all this would be.

This journey has also led me down paths I never knew existed, down paths that needed someone specific to ensure a legacy of Rangers is preserved, and down paths that had a lot of questions that deserved answers. Zero hesitation, I have and will continue to go down each and every path presented. A Rangers daughter leads the way, right?

Most importantly, this journey has taught me how to help others, specifically “pre-internet” Gold Star children. If seeing old Polaroid photos, watching a digitized VHS tape, or reading an email is incredibly healing for me then I know it would be for them as well.

In closing, if dad were still with us today, I think he would say how proud he is of mom for all that she has done and proud of the women Heather and I have become. RLTW!

Sincerely
Grateful,

Tara Harris





Vietnam War Commemoration: Honoring Service Valor Sacrifice Are You a Vietnam Vet Living in Colorado

Commemoration Objective: To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.

Who's eligible to receive a Certificate and Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin? Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of location. ***The Vietnam War Commemoration organization makes no distinction between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or who were stationed elsewhere during the Vietnam War period.*** All were called to serve, no uniformed soldier could self-determine where they were stationed, and all were seen in the same way by a country that could not separate the war from the warrior, as we do today.

The American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.—The Department of Colorado is partnering with The Vietnam War Commemoration. We want to thank you for your service in a ceremony to take place in November 2024 in Colorado Springs, CO.

If you haven't received your official certificate and pin, please fill out ALL the info below.

Official Name Used by the Military:

**First
Middle
Last**

Branch of Service:

Rank:

Dates (Years) Served:

Birthday:

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Address:

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City:

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Phone Number:

Home:

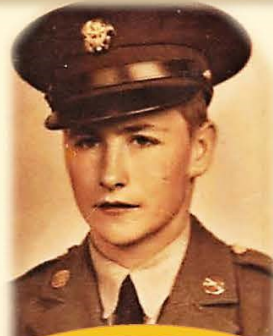
Cell:

Mail This Form to Scotti Domeij, Proud Gold Star Mom of Sgt. First Class Kristoffer Domeij
5209 Del Paz Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Or Email all the required information above to cogsmpres@yahoo.com

Commemorative Partner: www.coloradogoldstarmothers.org
For more details, log on to: www.vietnamwar50th.com



Last WW II Merrill's Marauder Russell "Huck" Hamler Makes final "Roll Call"



RANGER

Russell "Huck" Hamler
June 24, 1924 – Dec. 26, 2023
2nd BN Blue Combat Team

Walawbum – Shadazup – Myitkyina

Strange words to the tongue
... and breath
Yet to every last one,
... when this campaign is done.
They will be as familiar
... as death.

Like sun on the Irrawaddy
... Dissolves the morning mist,
The campaign won,
... Their task is done,
As Marauders, they cease to exist.

Gone now to the pages of history
With the Armies of by-gone years,
Where history's pen
... records deeds of men
In Blood mixed with Sweat
... and Tears.

*"The Ballad of Merrill's Marauders"
(Excerpts) by John E. Devine - 1965*

**Russell "Huck" Hamler
Interment & Wreath laying**

Snow and cold temperatures didn't stop a large crowd of family, friends and Army Rangers from paying their final farewell to the last Merrill's Marauder survivor Jan. 19, 2024, at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies near Pittsburgh, PA. A lone bagpiper led attendees to the funeral location. The solemn "Once an Eagle" ceremony was performed by Rangers. A 75th Ranger Regiment honor guard was present. Almost two weeks later, about 60 active-duty and retired Rangers attended a simple wreath-laying ceremony January 31st held by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association at the Marauder pedestal of the Ft. Moore (Ft. Benning) National Ranger Monument. (See photo below.)



Kassy Carpenter photo

created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen



AN INVITATION TO PRESERVE YOUR LEGACY OF SERVICE! 75TH RANGER REGIMENT COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Be Part of This Exciting New Book...

Attn: All 75th Ranger Veterans and Their Families—

We've had a great start to our *History of the 75th Ranger Regiment & Its Veterans* legacy book! We have received many biography submissions and stories, but we know there are many, many more Rangers who did not submit their FREE personal biography and two photos. Our publisher, Acclaim Press, the nation's leading publisher for military and law enforcement history books, recognizes this and is graciously allowing the submission period to be extended until 30 April! See below for more information, and page two for a sample biography and questionnaire form to assist you in writing your biography.

In addition to the 75th Regiment's colorful history, this exciting book will feature a special section showcasing biographies of 75th Ranger Regiment veterans, with "then and now" photographs, and YOU are invited to be included (*see sample biography inside*). There will be no cost to have your biography included!

Our book will feature veterans from all eras, from World War II, to the jungles of Southeast Asia, and our on-going action in Iraq and Afghanistan. **Note: all 75th Ranger Regiment veterans are encouraged to participate, even those who were active in peacetime — all served with honor and distinction.**

The book will also include special after action reports, stories and photographs from the membership.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Submit your personal biography. Biographies are brief vignettes (up to 150 words) detailing the person's military career and life after the military (see example inside), and also may include up to two (2) photographs of each individual, one from the service and a current picture.

You may also submit historic photos and general interest stories of up to 1,000 words for the editor's review. When sending photos, please include your name, address and a caption on the back.

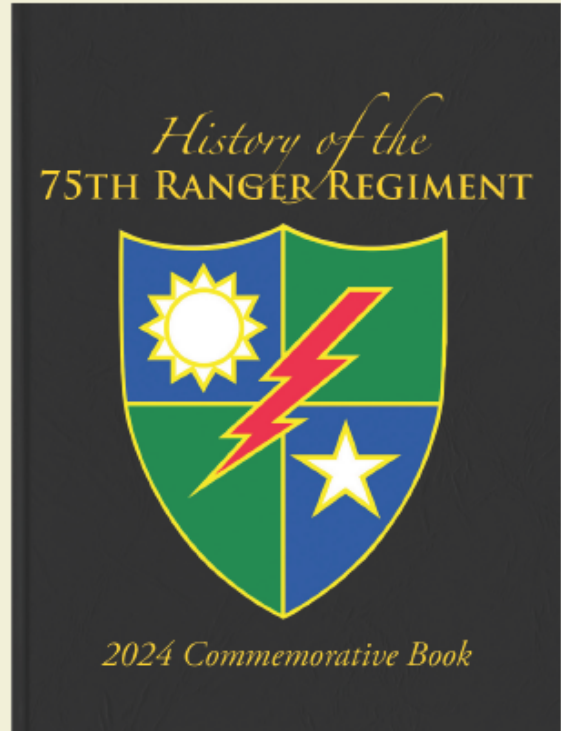
In addition, you are encouraged to provide a memorable story or quote from your time of service. This unique book will give us the opportunity to record our Regiment's rich heritage, inspiring and educating future generations. Please send us your information so this book may be as complete as possible. **IT IS FREE TO BE INCLUDED!**

Widows, friends and family members are also encouraged to send in biographical portraits and materials for their loved ones now passed on—a perfect tribute to your veteran's service to our nation.

75th Rangers young and old, along with their families, may order their personal copy of this keepsake for only \$59.95 (see details inside). This will be a limited edition printing and only those who order now, before it goes to press, will be assured of receiving a copy. Therefore, you are encouraged to order by the 30 April 2024 deadline.

Please take advantage of this special opportunity and help us document the rich legacy of the 75th Ranger Regiment!

Art Attaway, President, 75th Ranger Regiment Association



Pictured above is a rendering of the book cover. This will be a 9x12-inch "coffee-table" volume including hundreds of pages with contemporary and full-color photographs!



EXTENDED DEADLINE: 30 APRIL 2024

SAMPLE BIOGRAPHY FOR THE 75TH RANGER REGIMENT COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

Use the example below as a guide in writing your biography, or answer the questions at right and a professional editor will compose your biography for you!

You may include up to 2 photographs, one from your glory days with the Division plus a current photo (suggested). Note: your 150-word biography will be included for FREE; however, a 15¢ charge per word applies after the first 150 words.

DAVID L. BRISTOL was born on November 18, 1948, in Grand Junction, Colorado. He grew up in Fruita, Colorado with his parents, Lee and Wanda. He has a brother, Don, and sisters, Janice and Lisa. When Army flight school ended in failure, he was assigned to Advanced Infantry Training. After AIT he graduated from Non-commissioned Officer Candidate School, Ranger School, and jump school.



He received orders for Vietnam and was assigned to K Co, 75th Rangers, serving as a Long-Range Recon Patrol Leader, earning a CIB, Bronze Star (meritorious service) and Air Medal. Operating mostly from An Khe in the central highlands, he participated in over twenty-five LRRP missions, including one attempted POW rescue mission.

After returning from Vietnam, Dave completed his education and taught math and physics, coached wrestling, and football until retirement in 2005. He lost his first wife, Ethel, to cancer in 1984. He and his wife Janet have four children, Derek, Paige, Amanda, and Brian. They have seven grandchildren. He considers himself to be a very blessed man.

75TH RANGER REGIMENT COMMEMORATIVE BOOK – BIOGRAPHY QUESTIONNAIRE

Send Your Materials To: 75th Ranger Regiment Book c/o Acclaim Press
P.O. Box 238 • Morley, MO 63767

*Stories & photos may also be emailed to 75thrangerbook@acclaimpress.com
Questions? Call Acclaim Press at (573) 472-9800.*

PERSONAL DATA (private information such as your email and address will not be included in the book)

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Association Chapter: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Name of high school & year graduated _____

Name of College(s), Degree(s) & Years Earned _____

MILITARY INFORMATION

Date/Place Enlisted: _____ Boot Camp: _____

Add'l Training/Special Courses: _____

Bases/Locations/Stations: _____

Theatres/Battles/Engagements: _____

Awards/Medals Received: _____

Memorable Experiences During Military service: _____

Date/Place of Discharge: _____ Rank: _____

PROFESSIONAL/RETIRED INFORMATION

Professions/Jobs (Places Worked/Position/Tenure) _____

Professional Affiliations: _____

Year Retired (if applicable): _____

Activities in Retirement: _____

Name of Spouse: _____

Name of Children: _____

Name of Grandchildren: _____

(Use a separate sheet of paper if needed)

75TH RANGER REGIMENT COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

A QUALITY PUBLICATION

Acclaim Press is proud to publish beautiful, commemorative books for organizations across the country, with hundreds of titles in print. Each book is methodically researched and documented, containing scores of high-quality historical images that independently capture the spirit of each organization.

History of the 75th Ranger Regiment & Its Veterans will be printed on number one grade, acid-free, double-coated glossy paper to ensure the highest calibre photo reproduction, and smyth-sewn for longevity, meaning the pages will be stitched together and bound to last.

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Either version may be personalized with your name, or that of a friend or loved one, embossed on the front cover for \$6.00. **NOTE: This hardbound, 9x12-inch commemorative "coffee-table" volume will be a limited edition publication with the number of books printed based upon the number of books ordered in advance. Therefore, you must order now to be assured of receiving a copy!**

ABOUT THE BOOK

- Includes a detailed history of the 75th Ranger Regiment, from WWII, Southeast Asia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the War on Terror, including its founders, training, campaigns, responsibilities today, and more.
- In Memoriam Tribute to Rangers killed in the line of duty.
- Richly illustrated with historic and contemporary photographs, organizational charts and diagrams (*send us your photos.*)
- Personal biographies from 75th Ranger veterans, with "then and now" photographs (*send us your bios and photos*)
- Stories and After Action Reports (*send us your memories*)
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*Name to be embossed on cover (up to 24 spaces)

RANGER HALL OF FAME

The Ranger Hall of Fame voting will be held on Fort Moore with a tentative date set for Friday, 19 April at 1000 hrs. This year the Ranger Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held on 26 June 2024 at 1300 at the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Moore, GA (Formerly known as Bldg. 4, Fort Benning, GA). The voting will be held in April at Fort Moore. Those selected will be informed after the board makes the final selections.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association has submitted three very strong candidates from the association this year and we are hoping that all three will be inducted for the class of 2024. Our candidates are as follows:

Major (Ret) Major (Ret) Anthony W. Mayne who served in both 3rd Ranger Battalion and the 75th Ranger Regiment Headquarters. He now supports our Rangers who are leaving the military service through the Ranger Outreach Center (ROC) located in Columbus GA. He created this organization after his retirement from active service. Ranger Mayne was assigned to C Co., 3/75 where he was sent to Ranger School and graduated after only six months in 3rd Ranger Battalion. Ranger Mayne served as a team leader during the nation's initial response to the 9/11 terrorist attack by parachuting with C Co., 3/75 into Kandahar during the Objective Rhino mission. In 2003, Ranger Mayne participated as a squad leader in a second combat jump with C Co. into western Iraq. After the jump, his platoon joined two platoons from B Co., 3/75 for the seizure of the Haditha Dam in al Anbar Province. Ranger Mayne was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with V device for his decisive action in the face of an enemy near ambush. In 2012, he was assigned to the Regimental Headquarters, serving as the assistant air operations officer and in 2013 transferring to the Public Affairs office. Ranger Mayne grew the RPAO into a premier public affairs team responsible for the Army's largest Brigade-sized combat unit.

SGT Alfred Charles Stewart, Jr. became a member of G Company (Ranger) 75th Infantry in the Republic of Vietnam as a team leader. Ranger Stewart has served as the Chairman of the Board Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association and is a lifetime member; Unit Director 75th Ranger Regiment Association September 2017 to present and is an active life-time member; contributor of more than two dozen articles for the Ranger Community's *Patrolling* magazine. Ranger Stewart continually shared our Ranger Legacy as a featured guest speaker this last Memorial Day at the Carolina Field of Honor, the largest Veterans Memorial on the east coast outside of Washington D.C. Speaking as a Ranger role model, again.

SGT Terry B Roderick began his military career progression from his service commencing with the U.S. Army. His first duty assignment was with Company A (Ranger) 75th Infantry where he volunteered for duty in the Republic of Viet Nam. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and attended technical computer training. Ranger Roderick then reenlisted and joined "P" Company (Ranger) 75th Infantry during his service in Viet Nam. Ranger Roderick served as a Unit Director and Past President for the association. He was there to provide guidance and perspective to the officers of the association on issues that were pertinent to our growth.

Please remember that only 15 slots are available for induction each year. Our board tries to select the best candidates for submission to the full board. The selection committee looks at the individuals military service and his commitment to the Ranger ethos after military service, i.e., what he has done to promote the Ranger ethos and the Ranger community. He has served the community and has supported the organization.

We consider the whole person, not just their military service accomplishments. We've developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the association to submit Ranger Hall of Fame packets. This has been emailed to all elected officers and Unit Directors. There is a link on our association web page where you can download the procedure and a RHoF packet that would need to be filled out.

PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE FONT OR ALLOTTED SPACE REQUIREMENTS! This will make the packet null and void.

Any questions regarding the SOP should be directed to the 75th Ranger Regiment Association RHoF committee.

Board Member	Email Address	Telephone Number
Rick Barela	rangerlogspt@hotmail.com	509-440-1126
Rick Merritt	rick.merritt@75thrra.org	912-332-6692
Steve Johnson	towerg75th@yahoo.com	218-333-1541

I will now introduce to you two rangers who have been inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for their actions in the military and their dedication to our Ranger goals.



CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER WILLIAM D. DONOVAN (Class of 1999)

Ranger Doc Donovan is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his 28-year career as a noncommissioned officer and a Chief Warrant Officer in the U.S. Army. Doc began his career in the jungles of Vietnam with Operational Detachment A-105 from the 5th Special Forces Group where he earned a Purple Heart and was credited with saving numerous lives. He then volunteered for Ranger duty and served with the 1st Ranger Battalion from its inception in 1974 through 1995 when he retired. He came to the battalion with a wealth of combat experience and went from a company medic to the battalion senior medic in less than five years. In 1980, Doc was named the Task Force Ranger Senior Medic for Operation "Desert One", the Iran hostage rescue attempt. He became the first physician's assistant to do a combat airborne assault over Point Salinas, Grenada in 1983 during Operation "Urgent Fury", where he again was credited with saving numerous lives. In 1989, Doc took part in a second airborne assault in Operation "Just Cause" over Torrijos/Tocumen Airfield in Panama. His other combat operations with the 1st Ranger Battalion included: Operation Desert Storm and Operation Restore Hope. In October 1992, while on a training mission in Utah, one of the birds in Doc's lift impacted on the Great Salt Lake and exploded, killing nine Rangers and three crew members. Doc Donovan, along with two others risked their lives by paddling more than a mile in a small rubber boat in stormy weather

to get to the crash site. Ignoring hypothermia and their own personal safety, they were able to recover the bodies and save the injured pilot. Doc Donovan was awarded the Soldier's Medal for his heroic actions. Doc Donovan's loyalty to the Ranger Creed and commitment to the 1st Ranger battalion is unparalleled and serves as an example for others to emulate. His career brings great credit upon himself and the 1st Ranger Battalion, and truly demonstrates the motto: "Rangers Lead the Way".



MASTER SERGEANT EDWARD L. POSEY (Class of 2002)

Master Sergeant Edward L. Posey is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his dedication to duty and his distinguished military career of over 21 years. While serving with the 4th Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne), MSG Posey served combat tours in Korea, Dominican Republic, and Vietnam. He participated in the combat jump at Munsan-ni, Korea on March 23, 1951, as well as all major combat actions of the 2nd Ranger Company. In June 1951, Sergeant Posey was leading his squad against enemy fortifications in a heavily wooded area. During the attack on an enemy bunker, he was wounded in the right arm by enemy grenade fragments.† His right arm useless, he pulled his pistol out of his holster with his left hand, his only weapon, continued to advance on the enemy stronghold.† His squad following his courageous example charged forward and routed the enemy from its position. On his second tour of duty in Korea, MSG Posey was assigned to Company "L", 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division on Pork Chop Hill. A numerically superior enemy force attacked MSG Posey's company exposing him to withering enemy fire, MSG Posey gave encouragement and help to his men in position. When the friendly forces were compelled to withdraw, MSG immediately reformed the men to help lead a successful counterattack that secured the hill. Master Sergeant Posey has been awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star with V Device, Purple Heart with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal, Sixth Award, Army Commendation Medal, Korean Service Medal with 4 Bronze Stars, Bronze Arrowhead, United Nations Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal, 2nd Class, Combat Infantry Badge, 2nd Award, Combat Medical Badge, Master Parachutist Badge with Combat Star, Gliderman's Badge, Five Overseas Bars. Master Sergeant Edward L. Posey retired from the United States Army in 1969.



Ranger Outreach Center

- A Mission of St. Luke Church Military Ministry -



BIG 5 for the Ranger Community



1

1 - DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We kicked off 2024 with a bang at the Ranger Outreach Center in beautiful uptown Columbus, GA! We filled the ROC with our final tenant organization, All About Fitness Family. AAFF is a Veteran-led, community-based fitness and wellness organization modeling servant leadership in South Columbus. We were humbled to be a part of the recent Ranger for Life Symposium in early February. Rangers surely do lead the way in transition thanks to a caring network of Ranger alumni. Our ROC Solid Gym opened just prior to the Three Rangers Foundation Mentor Meet-Up. The facility is a game-changer for our mission to Recruit, Train, and Deploy disciples of Jesus Christ. - Matt 7:24 - Build your house on the rock, Tony



2

2 - RANGER FOR LIFE SYMPOSIUM

More than 200 Fort Moore Rangers received transition education and assistance on Feb. 1 and 2. Events included a question and answer session with Rangers within 18 months of ETS, engagement with leaders SGT and above, and an industry day featuring more than 40 industry professionals.



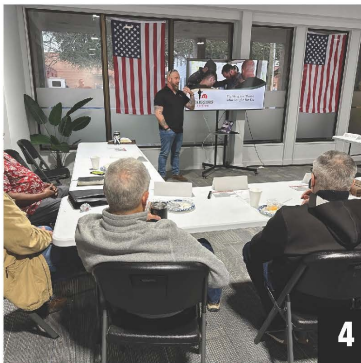
3

3 - ROC SOLID GYM OPENING

ROC community partners gathered to formally open the ROC Solid Gym on Thursday, Feb.1. We are grateful for the work of Veteran-owned Drexel Hamilton, who made this dream a reality. We look forward to hosting Hero WODs in the near future!

4 - CHRISTIAN VETERAN LEADERS - THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

The ROC hosts a monthly Christian Veteran Leaders of Columbus breakfast on the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 7 a.m. February's Spotlight presenter was Eric Brew, GA director of Warriors Set Free. He shared his ministry's impact and opportunities to get involved. Breakfast is provided for all CVL attendees. If you are ever in town, let us know so we can reserve you a seat.



4

5 - FREE MEETING SPACE

The ROC is a wonderful resource for active duty, veterans, and Christian organizations needing meeting space for routine get-togethers and events. Let the ROC be a blessing to your ministry by providing a meeting space free of charge! Contact Candice at candice@gallantfew.org for room availability.



The Ranger Outreach Center recruits, trains, and deploys disciples of Christ through a team of veteran support organizations dedicated to enriching the lives of the Chattahoochee Valley military community.

- RECRUITING. Participating in events and creating partnerships to share the love of Christ with the community.
- TRAINING. Providing Biblically-based education programs to share God's truth and strengthen believers' faith.
- DEPLOYING. Exhibiting the love of Christ through service and discipleship activities.



@rangeroutreachcenter

Stop by and visit us at 1022 2nd ave., Columbus, GA 31901

www.rangeroutreachcenter.org

75th RANGER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION

UNIT DIRECTOR—LEE GARCIA

I have used the phrase "There's no stranger in Ranger" in many recruiting briefs, and during team-building exercises. As cheesy as it may sound, it's a testament to the unyielding bond and camaraderie shared among those who have had the distinct privilege to call themselves an Army Ranger. Whether on deployment or gathered for training, meeting a fellow Ranger feels like reconnecting with a long-lost family member.

Allow me to share an anecdote from years past in San Antonio. During a training exercise, a Ranger's jacket went missing at a bar. Naturally, we rallied together. As we searched, a bouncer approached. Sensing our presence, he inquired if we were Rangers. Reluctantly confirming, we engaged in some butt sniffing to establish each of our bona fides. Once established, the bouncer, a former member of 1/75, offered unwavering support. Despite being "strangers", he pledged assistance without hesitation, even though any trouble we may have gotten into may have cost him his job. This act exemplified the profound commitment to Ranger brotherhood. It's a testament to the selflessness ingrained in every Ranger, transcending time and familiarity. This brotherhood, forged through shared sacrifice and service, defies simple explanation. This story is just one example of the indescribable bond that exists among Rangers.

Recently, I had the privilege of dining with fellow officers from the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. While I only served with one of them, the connection between the four of us was unmistakable. Generations apart; we broke bread as if we were having our own reunion. All of our stories were relatable even though they took place decades apart.

The efforts of the 75RRA to preserve Ranger history and brotherhood are necessary, especially for those that have separated from service and need to touch the magic again. Though I admittedly didn't engage much while



serving, attending Rendezvous events early in my career left a lasting impression. As deployments and duties consumed our time, the tradition waned. But as a 1SG, reintroducing my company to these gatherings reignited the spark of tradition.

Amidst competing interests and the challenges of our time, let us not forget the importance of rekindling these traditions. This year presents an opportunity to reignite the reunion, the storytelling, and the sense of brotherhood that defines us as Rangers. It's time to honor our past, strengthen our bonds, and continue the legacy of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association was established to honor the legacy and uphold the traditions of the Rangers who served before us. Formed by veterans of Ranger Units during Vietnam, its inception aimed to preserve the camaraderie and ethos that define our regiment. As stewards of this legacy, it is our responsibility to ensure its continuity. By participating in the Association's events and supporting its endeavors, we pay homage to those who came before us and pave the way for future generations of Rangers. Upholding the values of service, sacrifice, and solidarity that the Association embodies is not only a tribute to our heritage but also a testament to our commitment to the enduring brotherhood of the 75th Ranger Regiment.



75th RANGER HEAD QUARTERS BATTALION

UNIT DIRECTOR—Thomas Maier

Since the last issue, RHQ has been engaged in numerous activities supporting the Regiment and it's Rangers.



Shop brought home Team of the Year. Ranger Civilians continue to lead the way for ARSOF and the Army.

In the beginning of 2024, the company focused on setting conditions for upcoming events to include change of command, selecting and training teammates for the Best Ranger Competition and Sapper competitors, for D-Day 80 followed by Ranger Rendezvous 24.

Graduations:

SPC Kyle Klaschka (RFM) and SPC Marek Burles (RHHHC OPS) graduated from the Ranger Course

MAJ Kevin Gibbons (RLOC) graduated from the United States Army Jumpmaster School

The Regimental Chaplain hosted 20 Ranger Families at a resort in Panama City Beach, FL. The retreat strengthened relationships and marriages. Awesome event for all those involved.

LTG Braga, the USASOC Commander Ranger Maier presented awards to the distinguished DA civilians from across the ARSOF enterprise. Ms Antonetta Henderson (RFM) took home Employee of the Year and the entire RFM

The Army's Ranger Regiment provided support to the Army Navy game by participating in the Salute to SOF prior to the game. Overall, a great event to promote Rangers, ARSOF, and the Army.

1SG Heller hosted this month's iteration of RSTAFF PT. RHQ Rangers enjoyed a brisk morning of "Viking" PT replete with lots of rowing, ball slamming, hammer swinging and everyone's personal favorite, 100 lb kettle bell carries as a team. No doubt a great event. The event gained worldwide recognition across the 75th RR Human Performance social media page.

The RHQ will be immersed in pairing down 8 best Ranger Teams to 4 teams as they close in on the event planning once again to win the event.

As always, Rangers Lead the Way!



1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICK MERRITT

To all our Veterans from Savannah's Imperial 1st Ranger Battalion, we are looking forward to y'all joining our active duty Rangers & their Families for the upcoming 50th ('74-'24) Reactivation Anniversary celebration in March the week before St. Patty's Day. Speaking of St. Patty's, the upcoming parade is on Saturday 16 March and our Rangers are planning to march this year...keep our fingers crossed they will be home this year!



GEN Rainey Visit: 1st Ranger Battalion hosted GEN Rainey (former 1/75 PL) on 12 DEC to discuss ways that the Ranger Regiment could help thicken relationships with Army Futures Command. As GEN Rainey departed, he said that he was more motivated to come to work after being around Rangers on the line.

** I know this Patrolling Magazine will not be published and mailed in hard copy by the 50th but it will be posted on our website before then! See a detailed 50th schedule of events below in this article.

News & updates from Hunter Army Airfield & our 1st Batt Rangers:

Care Packages: Members of the Battalion and their families packaged and shipped 200 care packages to deployed Rangers. Special thanks to the Sua Sponte Foundation for donating a majority of the items.



Single Ranger Thanksgiving: 1st Ranger Battalion hosted the



Single Ranger Thanksgiving on 21 NOV. This was a chance for leaders in the Battalion to give back to their junior Rangers, and a great opportunity to share a meal prior to the Thanksgiving weekend.



Salute to Service & Army/Navy CAPEX: B Co Rangers supported multiple outreach and recruiting events. They showcased ARSOF weapons, capabilities, and the professionalism of our NCOs to members of the public and prospective recruits. Our Rangers also took to time to support the local Boston community, handing out holiday presents at a local homeless shelter and preparing meals at the Red Cross Food Pantry.



LEFT/CENTER: Patriots and Chargers fans pose with Rangers and their equipment; RIGHT: Local media coverage of the Salute to SOF Event outside Gillette Stadium



LEFT: Rangers prepare meals at the Boston Red Cross Food Pantry; RIGHT: Handing out ice cream and presents at Pine St Inn homeless shelter



Alpha Company OPT: From 04-15 December, Alpha Company traveled to Camp Merrill, GA for a Company OPT. A CO Rangers took part in an extensive Assault Climber POI, Advanced Land Navigation courses, small arms ranges, and a culminating 36-hour Platoon FTX with HAF infil from 3/160.

Battalion Holiday Party Gift Wrapping: On 08DEC, SFRG Leaders, with the help of Art and Patty Gunter, wrapped gifts for the upcoming Holiday Party. The Gunters have donated gifts to the 1st Ranger Battalion Holiday Party since 2000. They were able to recognize their contributions in front of the Battalion at the 19 DEC Christmas Party.



Snipers Limestone Hills Training Area High Angle Shooting Density. During the majority of the D/E CO MT OPT, Snipers spent their time at the Limestone Hills Training Area, about an hour away from Ft. Harrison, MT. During this time

our Snipers took advantage of the near limitless range fans and SDZs of the facilities to conduct High Angle and High Wind Marksmanship training. These facilities truly are world class and they will look to utilize them for future Assault Sniper Courses and next year's Regimental Sniper Competition.

Sniper Section conducted nearly a week of high angle and high wind training at Limestone Hills Training Area IVO Ft. Harrison, MT

Atlanta Hawks Game: Sua Sponte Foundation donated tickets and transportation for Rangers to attend the 18 DEC Hawks game against the Detroit Pistons.



Battalion Holiday Party: 1st Ranger Battalion held our annual Holiday Party on 19 DEC, Featuring reindeer and Santa arriving on a HAAF Fire Truck. Families braved 37 degree weather (hey, that's cold in Savannah) to join in the festivities.



Bravo Company Valorous Awards Ceremony: 1st Ranger Battalion recognized three Bravo Company Rangers on 20 Dec who earned the JSCM-V from the last deployment, in front of the Battalion. They also recognized Rangers who earned their CIB and CAB.



Citadel Recruiting Engagement: On January 18th, key leaders from Bravo Company and Alpha Company were invited by 3/160th to engage with cadets from the Citadel. The engagement included a FRIES demonstration, static displays, and an informational brief/Q&A with the Army ROTC program. The trip provided ample opportunity to highlight the Regiment and allowed each Ranger in attendance to share their story with the future of the Army. One highlight of the trip included a visit to the Citadel War Memorial to remember one of our fallen, SFC Chris Celiz, Medal of Honor Recipient, who attended the Citadel and was awarded an honorary degree last year.

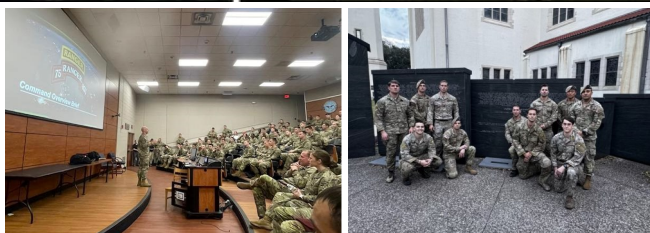
in Isola Bella, Italy which commemorates the Ranger Force's actions during the Battle of Cisterna. The memorial is constructed among battle-damaged walls that stood on the outskirts of Isola Bella approximately 2km south of Cisterna. The group also visited the Anzio Beachhead Museum and the Ranger 6615th Ranger Force landing site on Anzio beach. The trip culminated with a visit to the WWII Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial in Nettuno, Italy.



Above: Rangers at the Battle of Cisterna US Ranger Memorial (Isola Bella, Italy)



Left: Rangers on "Yellow" Beach, the landing site for the 6615th Ranger Force. Pictured behind the Rangers is the Casio that COL Darby occupied as the 6615th Ranger Force headquarters' building.



Right and Below: Rangers at the WWII Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial



Anzio/Cisterna 80th Anniversary: From 28 January – 01 February 2024, twelve senior leaders from 1st Ranger Battalion traveled to Cisterna and Anzio, Italy to conduct a staff ride in honor of the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Cisterna. During the trip, Rangers walked the Cisterna Battlegrounds to include the Pananto Ditch (1st and 3rd BN's Avenue of Approach) and the Nettuno Road (4th BN's Avenue of Approach). The group also visited the US Ranger Memorial



TAP for COL PATRICK EDWARD LOGAN, SR.
A plank holder with Alpha Company 1/75;
Ranger Logan is no longer with us, as he has been called to join the Big Ranger in the Sky. We share our condolences to his family for their (our) loss; may he rest in eternal peace.



COL PATRICK EDWARD LOGAN, SR. March 25, 1951 - January 11, 2024
Colonel, U.S.A. Army (Retired) Patrick Edward Logan, Sr., 72, of Perkasio, PA; formerly of Fairfax Station, VA, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, January 11, 2024.

Burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA. Additional details to follow.



Pat was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut to the late Donald Edward Logan and the late Bernice Veronica (Carty) Logan. He graduated from Staples High School in Westport, CT, class of 1969. He was commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy West Point in 1973.

Pat proudly served his country for 30 years as a member of units in the United States Army Special Operations Command.

March is here and as we had finalized the events I wanted to share the schedule with you, see below:

1st Ranger Battalion 50th Anniversary Celebration. Schedule 6-10 March

6 March – Wednesday: 1400-2100 (T): Icebreaker
1400-2000 Registration opens. American Legion Post 184, 3003 Rowland Avenue, Thunderbolt
S-5 Store will be open on-site

7 March – Thursday: 1000-1500 - Banner Day Events-
Open House-Tours-Static Display of equipment @ 1/75
1200-1400-BBQ Lunch in BN area
1600- 2400 Hospitality – (Tentative) Tailgate Sports Bar and Grill, 11215 Abercorn St. Back up location is the American Legion Post 184, 3003 Rowland Ave, Thunderbolt, GA
Open night Veterans /S5 Store will be open during all BN events

8 March - Friday
Golf Tournament at HAAF supported by SSF. Please let your unit rep know if interested in playing.
Weapons Firing 0900-1300
17 South Gun Club in Richmond Hill, GA
Weapons, ammo, magazines, etc. all provided.
1730-Until End Ranger Ball & 50th Anniversary Ceremony highlighting unique accomplishments. The ball and ceremony will be held at the Savannah Convention Center. Guest Speaker, GEN (R) Tony Thomas, former 1/75 CDR

9 March-Saturday
0900-1500 Open Time/(T) Tours
1700-2300: Outdoor concert at (Family Field across from Bn HQs). Talent from the local area. This is a great time to have Rangers from all eras to get together and have some fun. Lawn chairs and blankets on the ground; best to bring your own.
1700-2200 – Food Trucks/Leopolds Ice Cream
1700-1900 - Chain Reaction Band
1900-2300 – Michael Stacey Band

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY
V/R,
Rick



2nd BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—HUGH ROBERTS



The Battalion has been busy with several highlights to report:

- 50 of 52 Rangers have received their Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB).
- 13 of 23 Rangers have been awarded the Expert Soldier Badge (ESB).
- 90 Rangers participated in

Hooah Rangers,

I hope this edition of "Patrolling" finds all of you well and highly motivated for our upcoming link-up in October for the 2/75 50th Anniversary.


The Ranger Rendezvous is scheduled for June 24th to 28th at Ft. Moore (formerly known as Ft. Benning).

Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Arctic training in Alaska (yikes! LONG JOHNS Please).

The 2/75 Change of Command will take place in Normandy, France, from June 2nd to 7th—a great reason to vacation in France.

The 2/75 50th Anniversary celebration will be held from October 1st to 3rd at JBLM (also known as Ft. Lewis). Above, you will find a tentative timeline and hotel information.





Save the date!
2nd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment
50th Anniversary Celebration
October 1-3 2024, JBLM, WA

Tentative schedule of events:

- Tuesday – October 1
 - Meet and greet / registration
 - State of the Battalion
 - Battalion tour sign ups
 - Static Displays
 - Golf Scramble
 - Food Trucks
- Wednesday – October 2
 - Banner day events
 - Football, tug of war, shooting comp, team RPAT
 - Battalion Tour
 - Company get togethers
- Thursday – October 3
 - Tribute to the fallen
 - 50th Anniversary closing ceremony
 - Battalion BBQ w/ live music

Please scan the below code to be added to the 2/75 contact list. This is **not** an RSVP. The registration link and hotel information will be sent out at a later date. If you have any questions, please email 2drangerbattalion@gmail.com.





**2nd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment
50th Anniversary Celebration
October 1-3 2024, JBLM, WA**

Discounted Hotel rates from 30SEP - 04OCT:

- TownePlace Suites by Marriott Tacoma Lakewood
 - 11725 Pacific Highway SW, Lakewood, WA 98499
 - 30 rooms / \$132 per night
 - (253)582-1055
- Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Tacoma DuPont
 - 1515 Wilmington Drive, DuPont WA 98327
 - 30 rooms / \$132 per night (plus 13.5% for tax)
 - (360)334-3314
- Courtyard Marriott Tacoma Downtown
 - 1515 Commerce Street, Tacoma WA 98402
 - 10 rooms (Will increase amount as they are booked) / \$169 per night (plus 13.5% for tax) / \$19 per night for parking / \$29 per night for Valet parking
 - (360)334-3314
- La Quinta Inn by Wyndam Olympia – Lacey
 - 4704 Park Center Ave NE, Lacey WA 98516
 - \$100 per night / Must say you're there for the 50th Anniversary of 2-75 to get the discount
 - (360)412-1200
- Hampton Inn & Suites Olympia – Lacey
 - 4301 Martin Way E, Olympia, WA 98516
 - \$132 per night
 - (360)459-5000
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Lacey – Olympia (IHG Hotel)
 - 4460 3rd Ave SE, Lacey WA, 98503
 - \$132 per night
 - (360)491-7985

Please scan the below code to be added to the 2/75 contact list. This is **not** an RSVP. The registration link will be sent out at a later date. If you have any questions, please email 2drangerbattalion@gmail.com.



started to snow when I got to Tok Junction, caught a ride with a guy driving a Volkswagen with a German Shepard sitting in the passenger seat. Almost got into a dogfight because that dog did NOT want to give up that seat. Got to the Canadian Border, they stopped me because I had to have enough money. FORGOT TO SAY I HAD Low quarter shoes on. I walked back up the road out of sight and caught a ride with a family. I stayed with them until we got to Dawson Creek and caught a ride with a man in a Land Rover until we reached Washington State, and I caught a Greyhound bus that took me all the way to Merced. WHY DID I DO SUCH A STUPID THING? I was still 17 years old and married. My wife called my mother on the phone and told her that if she wanted our baby, she could come and get him because she was running off with another guy. I filed for divorce and was given full custody, but my mother had full supervision of my son until I came back from overseas. I likely almost froze to death as it took 15 days to hitch hike. Here's more about some strange, odd and just plain crazy people I've met along the way:

1. Alaska...An idiot climbed on a fuel tank. Lit a match to see how much gas was still in the tank. Why the fuel didn't explode, only God knows.

2. ALASKA...Odd looking new guy came to the company. A couple of the guys started harassing him. He said "Don't laugh yet dad told me I'll only be here for a few days." The Company Commander made him his jeep driver, then one day in the motor pool when I was rotating the rear dual tires on my dump truck, I heard someone yell out "LOOK OUT!" I turned around just in time the tire hit where I had been. The idiot took the jeep tire he had taken off with not letting the air out. He thought that tossing and bouncing the tire would leak it down. On another time the Company commander had removed him as his driver and put him on a nonfunctioning dump truck. He got a truck hooking it up to his none functioning truck and was pulling it around

the motor pool trying to start it, while NO ONE WAS IN THE OTHER TRUCK.

3. GERMANY...When the company went on Alert, I loaded up my truck trailer with our duffle bags and went to the area where we parked our trucks and unhooked my trailer. My load had shifted to the rear and when I unhooked the tong of the trailer, it lifted me up catching me between the trailer and bed of the truck. A guy came by saw me hanging up in the air and said "WHATCHA DOING BRIZENDINE?". I said "OH! NOTHING MUCH, JUST THOUGHT I'D HANG AROUND FOR A WHILE."

4. VIETNAM 1968, I had to go back to the company HQ to sign my re-enlistment papers. While I was away one of my "SHAKE AND BAKE" NCOs decided he could find a better place to sleep under a banana grove. Problem: he forgot to take his rifle with him, plus he didn't tell anyone where he had gone just as "UNCLE HO'S BOYS" decided to spray a few rounds. After I got back and found about his stupidity, I figured I COULDN'T trust him to lead a Squad, so I sent him back to the rear with a recommending he be placed on permanent shit burning detail. Back in the late 50's and early 60's, we only got 55 dollars a month for pay. Needless to say, you had to hitch hike if you wanted to go anywhere. I hitch hiked across the United States several times. Can't do that today or you will end up dead. I even hitch hiked from Merced, California to New York City, New York where I caught a Troop Ship (The William O. Darby) and went to Germany. I've had a very fascinating life, I spent 20 years in the Army, 16 of those years overseas, and four in the United states, and those was with the 75th Rangers. I WAS STATIONED IN Germany, Morocco, North Africa, Spain, Yugoslavia (when the Dictator was Tito), and Turkey. Three years in Vietnam 1966/67, 68/69, 71/72, 5 years in Alaska and lived with the Athabaskan Indians at Tannacross. I still have the Alaskan map with the words "TANNACROSS" on it. A REAL LIFE NIGHTMARE! I was transferred to the

the infantry from being a Combat Engineer. The 198th light infantry was short on experience, and I got drafted. I took over a "platoon" of 17 men that is usually manned by 30 men. A platoon that included me and a medic. I had no experience as an infantryman and earned my Combat infantry man badge the first day. The problem was the first day we ran roving ambushes at night. I broke my 17 man platoon into 3 groups of 5 men, our medic and I would go with a different group each night. Two of my men were handicap; one not having boots on and wearing Hochimen sandals, the other one was seeing double from shrapnel wounds to his face, and had to be led by another man. Our Co. refused to take them out of the field. I guess it was after two months we got a new 2nd Lt. First thing he told me was he graduated last in his Officer Candidate Class. He was some kind of person that studied BUGS in college. Sorry to say he didn't help the situation. He tripped a booby trap mine and was medevacked back to the USA."

A Unit Directors meeting was held on Feb 3rd. Not much to report. There will be a Rendezvous in June at Ft Benning coinciding with the 75th Regimental Change of Command. More information to come, look for updates in the magazine or on the 75thRRA.org website.

You can now renew your dues on the Association website. Just understand that this is a recurring renewal until you click the stop button. Dues are still \$40 per year which gets you the quarterly magazine, admission to the Rendezvous and access to the website. They continue to make updates to the website to keep information fresh and easy to use.

They are still working on the book that will give the entire history of the Rangers, from Rogers and earlier to today's Regiment. They are looking for stories from our Viet Nam vets specifically their time in a LRP or Ranger unit. Congressional Gold Medals were presented to WWII and Korean Ranger veterans, now they are working on Viet Nam Rangers and LRP's.

For those of you that went on to the Battalions after A Company, there will be a 40th Anniversary September 30- October 4th this year. More details to come on that.

The last living Merrill's Marauder passed away in December. They will be laying a wreath at the Ranger Memorial during Best Ranger Week.

The association has a new editor for the magazine. Steve Johnson has done the task for many years. Now, Amanda Neet will be the editor of the magazine. She is working hard to get the magazine out in a timely manner and to get more corporate advertising to cut the cost of producing. Apologize for the fact I had to leave a few minutes before the meeting was over, but I had a house full of people wanting to take me out for dinner for my 70th birthday. I will follow up to make sure I didn't miss anything.

Not much else to report. I am sending in the two pictures of Tom Weir again; they didn't make the article last time. Anyone got a story they want to pass on, please send it to me and I will get it in here.

RLTW

Stan Jones
Unit Director
A/75
V Corps LRRPS
D/17 LRPS



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

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Possible Reunion Update:

I have made arrangements with the counterparts' organization and we will hold our reunion with them. I have mailed the invitations, and the events taking place during the reunion. If you have not received your invitation, please call me and I will get one to you. This will be a very nice reunion and I encourage all of you to attend if possible.

Update:

During the holiday season I received the following:

“As many of you may know my husband, John and I moved to the area in 2019 to be closer to Mom & Dad. In 2021, Dad was diagnosed with dementia.

Physically, Dad is in amazing shape along with Mom (after suffering a hemorrhagic Stroke in 2011), but neither are in a place to live completely independent. We are close by and are responsible, for both Mom and Dad's health, finances, day to day needs, etc. Mom and Dad have a caregiver that comes in to help them, as well, and she has been a godsend. As you can imagine it took quite sometime for Dad to embrace the “stranger in the home”. To this day he refers to her as “Elva's friend”, but he has become fond and trusting of her. Her name is Alicia. We are trying to keep Mom and Dad in their home for as long as possible for obvious reasons. An assisted/memory care facility has been chosen for when the time is



right. Prayers are necessary for this to be as easy a transition as possible. Highlights for Mom & Dad in 2023 have included a third great grandchild, Clayton John-Tracy's daughter, Kyndal's son, who lives in the area with her husband Blake. Tracy's youngest daughter, Peyton lives close by as well. Mike and his family live in the area too and Kim and her new husband Adam live in Atlanta with plans to

move to Chattanooga, TN in the near future. Mom and Dad sold their beloved cabin in Centerville, TN this year after 10 + years and many fond memories. Mom and Dad's rambunctious husky, Koda is still alive and Mom & Dad walk her every day for as long as she tolerates.

We are truly blessed to have Mom & Dad in such good health and we continue to make memories knowing this is finite. Please continue to reach out to them (us). We can provide updates when requested. Thank you for your love, support and continued prayers.”

-Tracy Scholes Heller

Mu Nau

Bill Miller
Unit Director



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

75 – C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP

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

There are quite a few topics this time around, so I will try to make them all “fit” (we are limited in our submissions): A/75-B/75 Reunion, 50th of First and Second Battalions (see their appropriate pages/Groups), 2 deceased (Dave Clark, Jim Jackson), 2 on Sick Call (Leo Starkey, James Parker), Tim Leadbeater completes instrument rating.

SITREPS:

JAMES PARKER: Merry Christmas to all my Ranger Family, I did not send cards this year, I had a mild stroke at that time so wasn't quite in the mood, stroke was very mild mainly effected my left hand...everyone have a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, safe, and safe New Years

LEO STARKEY: 8 February 2024: Yesterday I went to the VA Hospital in San Antonio for an appointment with the liver doctor. I was admitted for cancer related pneumonia. What a dirty trick to pull on this old Ranger. (NOTE: Leo is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer, and has surgery scheduled later this month).

STAN HARRELL: I have some sad news for the group. For the members of VII Corp LRRP: **JIM JACKSON** passed away in November at Ft. Benning, I don't know how many of you remember Jim Jackson from the old company, he was my best man at my wedding, I just found out that he passed away on November 25, 2023



and tonight, I found out that our old First Sergeant Dave Clark passed away yesterday.

Condolences go out to both families.

GEORGE CONRAD: RV reports that Don Bruce contacted him, and Ranger Conrad has had to have a pacemaker installed. He is recovering at home in Las Vegas. Either RV or Don are points of contact.

TIM LEADBEATER: Completed his instrument rating certification. Quite an accomplishment! (will post in Group).

8 Feb 2024: Subject: Passed my Instrument checkride today. This is one of the most challenging endeavors I've ever pursued. I am exhausted on a Thursday evening. I had a little bourbon to help me recover. Was I wrong? However, I wouldn't have missed it for the world. Cheers!

JAMES SAVELL

A/75 Rangers will have a 50th year Reunion of deactivation in Waco, TX 7-9 November 2024. We have had 2 so far & this will probably be the last. It is our honor to invite the 3780th LRPS, VII Corps LRRPS, C/58 LRPS & B/75 Rangers to this Reunion. The Reunion is at my compound in Waco. The overall coordinator is Roy Bissey.

SAVELL - UPDATE: 02/10/2024: My neighbor on the other side does T-Shirts. I just left her house. Anything we want to put on a shirt: \$15. This can simplify things. She can print them as the Reunion is going on if needed. Gives us a little wiggle room for those that didn't order ahead. I have given a lot of thought for our T-Shirt for the Reunion. Why don't we do one for the A/75, D/17 & V Corps

LRRPS. LET B/75 & VII CORPS LRRPS DESIGN THEIR OWN. I can have the same option of printing for them. This will simplify the logo. I think the HMFIC's could have polo shirts with monogramed logo. I can get these made for us well before the Reunion. This would allow people to get help by finding someone in a polo shirt....The only "elephant in the room" is the design of the logo for T-shirts (along with color) & (The logo for polo shirts....and color).

A/75 - REUNION & INVITATION - REMINDER - START PLANNING

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO JOIN A/75 FOR 50 YEAR PARTY: 7 to 9 November 2024

From: Roy Bissey; To: Marc L. Thompson, Richard Foster:

Gentlemen,

As you well know 2024 will mark the 50th year since Alpha and Bravo 75th Ranger companies were stood down, the last two Ranger companies of the Vietnam era. Alpha company gathered in 2019 and again in March of 2022, the first large scale reunion efforts since 1974 and we had a ball. Jim Savell and his son Jason (and their families) hosted our parties at their place near Waco, Texas and just days after the March reunion was over, volunteered to do it one more time in 2024. It has been proposed and is supported by the Savell's and the rest of our planning group that we invite Bravo company to join us for this 50-year commemoration, (that is Bravo Company and its predecessor units, C/58 LRP and VII Corps LRRP). Family members are welcome as well. MSG Savell picked 7 to 9 November 2024 as the dates for the gathering. Typically, we begin by arriving in Waco on Thursday, continuing with festivities at our host hotel on Friday and then the all-day party with a midday meal at Savell's on Saturday. We have used Springhill Suites in Woodway, TX as the headquarters for both of the past reunions and they have been very accommodating to our every need. There is a bar in the hotel, and

they allowed us the use of a big meeting room for all three days at no charge. We held raffles on Friday and Saturday with some very nice items donated by members of the company as well as some outside our group. It is still almost one year out and things like the hotel we use may change. Our planning group will stay on top of things and ensure that this last bash will be a success. We would very much like to share this experience with any of your men and their families who might be interested in joining us. If you would throw this idea out for consideration among your membership to judge interest we would appreciate it. You can view videos of the 2019 and 2022 reunions on YouTube by searching A/75 Ranger. If you have questions or suggestions, I am the point of contact and can find answers. RLTW! Roy Bissey: A/75 1972-1974; **UD NOTE: PLEASE CHECK FB GROUPS or contact U.D. for contact phone and email.**

CSM DAVID L. CLARK (RET.) - R.I.P.

On Jan 18, 2024, Joe Chetwynd wrote:

Fellow LRRPs: Today we have learned that Dave Clark has passed away at Fort Bragg, NC. His service and interment in Arlington will be held at a future place and time not yet posted. As soon as this information becomes available, we will post it for all of us remaining LRRPs. Meanwhile, if you Google CSM David L. Clark, Sr's name, you will find a Special Forces profile about him and his remarkable Army Airborne / Special Forces / LRRP career including his continued service to the military during his nearly forty year "retirement". With Dave's passing, America has lost another great soldier. In his wake, he has left many hundreds more, at least - other great soldiers who owe some or much of their success to Dave's mentoring and by his own soldierly example. While he always proudly wore silver wings on his chest, he will now wear white wings on his back. RIP CSM David L Clark, Sr, our beloved First Sergeant,

and a soldier's best friend whenever you most desperately happened to need one. AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY' SUA SPONTE – JTC

[CSMRDavidLamar-ClarkSr](#)

Official Obituary of: David Lamar Clark, Sr.

January 12, 1930 ~ January 18, 2024 (age 94)

CSM (Ret.) Clark, a beloved Patriarch, dedicated servant, and devout follower of Christ, passed away peacefully on 18 January 2024 at the age of 94. His life was a testament to unwavering commitment, faith, and service.

Born on 12 January 1930, in Norman Park GA, CSM (R) grew up with a profound work ethic that would define his entire life. He joined the United States Army at a young age, embarking on a remarkable journey of service that spanned 70 years, with 35 years in Active Duty and another 35 years in Civilian Service. During his career, CSM (R) Clark would serve in a remarkable variety of assignments around the world. Highlights include Long Range Patrol Company; SFODA Team Sergeant in 3rd and 5th Special Forces Group; Military Free-Fall Instructor; Command Sergeant Major assignments in 7th and 10th Special Forces Group; First Enlisted Commandant of the 18th Airborne Corps Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and First Command Sergeant Major of U.S. Central Command. He served his country with valor, proudly defending the freedom we hold so dear.

Beyond his military service, CSM (R) Clark was a man of deep faith and an ordained minister. He lived his life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, demonstrating a dedication to humility, selflessness, forgiveness, and an unwavering trust in God's divine plan. CSM (R) deeply cherished every moment spent with family, imparting priceless lessons, and creating precious memories that will forever live on the hearts of his loved ones.

BY J. T. CHETWYND

It began with Dave plowing Georgia's red soil, behind an old mule. He often saw young men walking by the property wearing shiny brown leather boots, bloused trousers, and folding



An obituary for Dave Clark has been published and can be accessed by Google. Among the particulars are these: Died: Thursday, 18 January at Cape Fear Medical Center.

Visitation: Monday, 22 January; Jernigan-Warren Funeral Home; 545 Ramsey St., Fayetteville, NC.

Funeral Service: Tuesday 23 Jan; Arran Lake Baptist Church; 1130 Bingham Drive, Fayetteville, NC.

Internment: will be Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC (Date, time, and chapel to be determined (usual waiting time for scheduled full military honors, internment nominally a month or so).

CSM Clark's 2008 induction as a Distinguished Member of The Special Forces Regiment:

<https://www.swcs.mil/Regimental-Honors/Special-Forces-Regimental-Honors/>

https://www.swcs.mil/Portals/111/sf_clark.pdf

Additionally, there are several lengthy articles about Dave that have appeared in the Fayetteville Observer Newspapers in recent years, and can be seen online, as well.

<https://www.jerniganwarren.com/obituary/>

caps jauntily askew atop their shaved heads. It was then and there that Dave decided that he wanted nothing more than to become a paratrooper. And did he ever!

When Dave had finally retired at age 86, he had served the United States of America as both an active-duty soldier and an active duty civilian. At his retirement ceremony he said, simply, that he loved his Savior, his family, his country, and that he also loved being around soldiers.

In a matter of “the apple not falling far from the tree”, Dave has twin grandsons. One of those young men not only followed Dave into the army, but he is also now a senior officer in Special Forces and, according to Dave, he is one real “hard assed” but well respected leader and no nonsense soldier who models himself on his true hero, his grandfather, CSM (Ret.) Clark (although he refuses to trade on Dave's well-earned reputation in that elite community of many other great soldiers and warriors).

The single most piece of advice that Dave imparted on his grandson was this: “You cannot attack people shooting at you if you are worried about getting killed. Leave your fear at the bottom of the hill and settle with the guy in charge (God).”

Dave has been blessed with six children, (two predeceased) nineteen grandchildren, and thirty-four great grandchildren. His first wife, Betty, predeceased him about 2005. There must be near legions of soldiers who have been fortunate enough to have come under the discipline and soldierly ways of this great Airborne warrior during his over nearly eight decades of military service. Not the least of whom are the men of the VII Corps Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Company (Airborne) of Nellingen, Germany (1963 - 1965), which unit Dave had the greatest affection for. He sometimes likened them to a herd of mustangs needing to be saddled and ridden, and he always said with greatest pride

that being in the LRRPs made him a much, much better NCO. and soldier. The feelings and respect are mutual. We have all been uncommonly blessed by having Dave in our soldiering years, and in our reunion years, twenty-four to date.

The good Lord is getting one hell of a warrior. In these days of evil rising, Dave will be in the front, leading St. Michael's paratroopers into battle.

RIP David L. Clark. by: Joseph T. Chetwynd.

FROM: Toby Ivey: Joe - I read with regret your email about our First Sergeant's passing. Joe Touchon had called earlier with the same and he plans to attend funeral.



Unfortunately for me my sister-in-law has had a severe stroke and Catherine and I are leaving for Albany, GA tomorrow. If you

can attend, please convey my respects and devotion for the best man I was ever fortunate enough to know. Airborne-LRRP.

By J.T. Chetwynd: In closing, I wish to include a poem, written by Joe Touchon, our “Resident Cowboy-Poet-Laureate”. Please share with Dave's family. Thank you.

ODE TO DAVE CLARK

We say goodbye to you, my friend,

Until we meet again.

We'll be along in a little while.

Don't know exactly when.

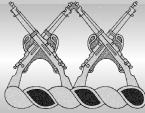
Keep a watch out for us.

We may come stompin' by.

Perhaps we can load up onto a cloud,

And make a jump together into that big ol' sky.

Until next time... V/R:



C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director—Darryl "Bones" Benton



Reunion E/20th/LRP – C/Airborne Ranger/75 2024

Registration Form
15Oct – 17Oct

Reagan Resorts Inn
938 Parkway
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738
865- 436-5607 for Room Reservations
Tell Desk "Charlie Rangers"

Name: _____

of Guest: _____

Registration Fee 25.00 Per person, \$50.00Per couple, includes Registration, Hospitality Room , Reunion T-shirt.

Total Paid _____ T-Shirt Sizes _____

Checks Payable : Darryl Benton, 994 Beacon Rd, Rockledge , FL 32955

Tentative Schedule of Events as of this date :

Schedule of events:

15 October

Registration

Bar Familiarity

Dinner on your own

16 October

10:00 Biannual meeting, election New Officers,

New reunion committee members

17:00 Auction in Hospitality Room

18:00 Dinner on your own, Tennessee Smokey Mountain Brewery suggested

17 October

Checkout

***** Note: Don't forget Auction Items, This is how we fund our Association.**



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DUANE L. ALIRE

Joe wrote: “The knife is a Ka-Bar forged by Mr. Tyler Hackbarth, who owns and operates Wolf River Forge. Tyler was a competitor and winner on the TV show “Forged In Fire”. He won the armed service competition while representing the US Army.

The knife was hand-forged over a period of six weeks; it is a “damascus” blade with In my last article to Patrolling I highlighted our 2023 Reunion in Green Bay, WI. However, I suffered a “senior moment” as I failed to recognize a rather significant donation to our unit - a custom, hand- made, engraved K-Bar knife.

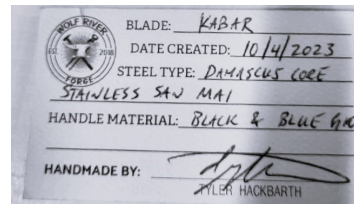
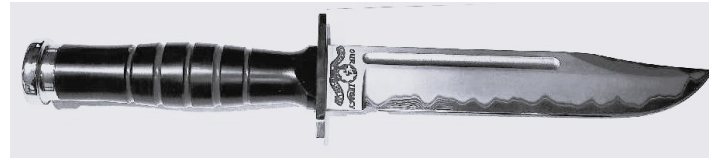
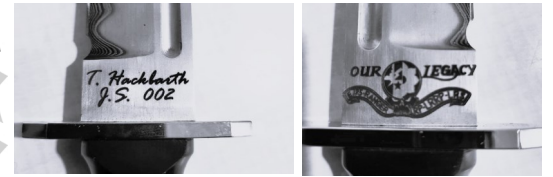
The following description of the knife was provided to me by US Army veteran, Joe Moehle, and our 2023 E50/E75 Reunion coordinator.

typical round Ka-Bar handle. The inlay is infantry blue and then the knife itself was laser engraved by Tyler. It was then bought by a private citizen who donated it to E50/E75 for its reunion live auction.

The knife is described as a “Modern Damascus” blade. The Damascus blade is made from several types of steel and iron slices welded together to form a billet, and currently, the term “Damascus” (although technically incorrect) is widely accepted to describe modern pattern-welded steel blades in the trade. The patterns vary depending on how the smith works the billet. The billet is drawn out and folded until the desired number of layers is formed. To attain a Master Smith rating with the American Blacksmith Society, that Moran founded, the smith must forge a



Damascus blade with a minimum of 300 layers.”



We thank Tyler and the guys who made the donation possible. E50/E75 member, Dennis Lastine, was the successful bidder

for the knife at the 2023 Reunion’s live auction.

E50/E75 Legacy Project: We continue to solicit personal stories from the guys in support of our Legacy Project. In this report we introduce Paul B. Fitzsimons, architect, from Traverse City, Michigan. He volunteered for service in E50/E75 in 1969. In his article, he describes his path from draftee to a staff position at Bear Cat to a field position at Dong Tam and what it took to become a LRRP.

Fitzsimons wrote: “My twin brother and I grew up in suburban Detroit and graduated high school in June of 1966. Because of our less than sterling scholastic accomplishments, we each needed to attend college under academic probation that summer. I went to that Moran founded, the smith must forge a Ferris State College in Big Rapids and my

College in Traverse City.

After a year and a half of college I determined that school was not for me and in December of 1967 I bought a Dodge Dart for \$125 and on the first of January of 1968 I headed for Mammoth Mountain California to work, ski and see what the world was like outside of Michigan.

I did not pay particular attention when my student draft deferment went away and was not of a mind to go back to school just to avoid the draft, and so the inevitable happened and I was gone for boot camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky in August of 1968. From there I went to Fort Polk, Louisiana, which was then called 'The home of the combat infantryman for Vietnam'. It was difficult, but we learned well, as we were assured that we were going into combat and that the skills they were teaching us may ultimately affect our survival.

Having finished 8 weeks of infantry training our unit was ordered to Fort Ord, California for deployment to Vietnam. At our final formation, my name was called and I was informed that I had an appointment the next day and would not be travelling with my unit. The following day I went to the assigned appointment to an overworked and disinterested psychiatrist whose main job was to listen to reasons why soldiers were unfit, or otherwise unable to go to war.

When I was young, I used to walk in my sleep, so, on my induction papers; I checked the appropriate box for this condition. At the session, the psychiatrist informed me that I could not be sent to a combat zone if I actually did walk in my sleep (which I didn't know), but since I didn't have documentation and he wasn't willing to call my Mom to discuss the matter, he quickly dismissed me and off I went to Fort Ord.

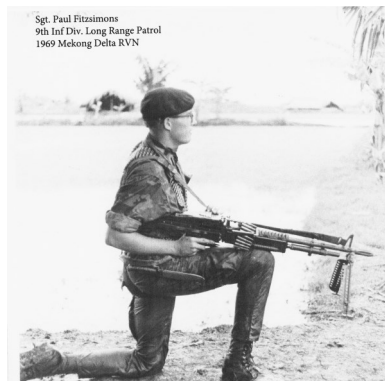
I travelled to Vietnam at the end of January, I spent about 7 months as a machine gunner

1969 and after a short introductory period, was sent to the 9th Infantry Division base camp at Dong Tam which was about 25 miles southwest of Saigon in the Mekong Delta.

Upon arrival I was informed that I was assigned to an administration company and was to work in the officer's records office behind a typewriter and not be sent to an infantry unit.

My family was thrilled, but I was less and less pleased with it as the days went by I knew I was in the wrong place. It took about 2 weeks before I approached the officer-in-charge with my request to go to the field, but he recently had granted that wish to another misplaced infantryman who was killed within days of going into combat and he wasn't about to have me on his conscience as well.

It took a petition to the JAG office to pressure him to allow me to leave and in that interim I discovered that a long range patrol unit was in our base camp and had recently suffered some casualties, so I went to the company clerk and asked if they needed a volunteer. He asked if I would carry a machine gun and when I said yes, the deal was done.



Within days I was a machine gunner on a 6 man LRRP team. My family was not pleased.

Within a several weeks of joining the LRRP's a directive was issued that we were to be incorporated into the 75th Rangers regiment and would generally alter our methods from reconnaissance to attack teams, which I felt was more suited to our missions in the open terrain of the Delta.

and then approached our C.O. about leading the team, which he granted. I learned the trade as an assistant team leader for about a month and then took over for the remainder of my tour, which I extended to 14 months to get the early out that the Army offered. My total service lasted 19 months.

Upon returning to the States on the 1st of April 1970, I was out of the service within days and was thrust into civilian life, which did take some adjustment. Not long after, I started work in a Chevy garage and began going to school on the G.I. bill and fortunately had acquired the maturity and the focus to allow me to reach the goal of a college degree 10 years after I first started.



Vietnam was a life altering experience, but I'm proud to have served and know that I am a better person because of that experience. I also have plenty of boring war stories that are too

fantastic to believe."

Lest We Forget: Dee Bee Cooper wrote: "Timothy "Tim" Allen Bratton, 62 of Hot Springs, Arkansas passed away February 12, 2024. He was born December 21, 1961 in Exeter, California, the 5th child to William and Lucy Bratton.

Tim was a graduate of Cutter Morning Star, Class of 1980 and later attended the University of Washington in Seattle and studied Geology.

Tim served in the US Army in E Company (Scout), 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division* at Fort Lewis, Washington from October 1982 to October 1988 and recorded 48 jumps. During his time of service, he was honored to receive five Army Achievement Medals for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of his duties conducting active

intelligence gathering operations for E Company Scouts.

Tim was a modern day Mountain Man who was an avid hunter, sports shooter and fisherman who loved his family.

He married the love of his life, Kaye (McCaffrey) Bratton on December 31, 2007. Together their family included Joshua Graves (Heather), daughter Megan Mixon-Trotter (Jeffrey) and Drake Bratton.



* With humility and gratitude we welcome the men of E/60 (Scouts), 9th ID and their families to join us at our reunions and on the pages of Patrolling Magazine.

Lrrps Led The Way; Rangers Lead The Way!



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN MCGEE

The last three months have been pretty quiet so this will be a small article. We have finalized the coordination with the LRRRA to conduct our Company F off-year reunion in Branson Missouri with them on June 4- 9, 2024.

Company F headquarters will be the Dutton Inn, 3454 W. HWY 76 Country Blvd. Branson, MO 65616
tel: 888-388-8661
fax: 417-339.4900



two dates, will be \$125.00. After April 30th, registration will be \$150.00. If you don't register online or through the postal system, never fear, you can always register in person at the rally.

I hope that we have a great turnout for our unit. I have spoken to some of our original LRRPs and this is probably the last unit reunion they will attend so it might

be the last time you get to see some of your old friends. **WE ARE NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER!**

We have 30 rooms set aside for your F Company 75th Rangers Reunion group.

Here's the timeline:

Guests may call Valerie or Debbie in the Groups Department to make their reservation - Call us: Mon-Fri. 417-332-2772 Please have them tell us they are with F Company coming to the Dutton Inn, June 2024.

Room rate - \$88/night + tax. Includes hot breakfast 7-9AM each morning. Please have a credit card ready in order to hold your reservation. We do not charge the card until you check in. May 15, 2024 Last day to make a reservation. On May 16th any unreserved rooms will be released.

If you plan on attending, you must register with the LRRRA on the website LRRRA.ORG.

If your membership with the LRRRA is in an Active Status you can expect to receive a separate email with your Rally Registration fee discount (coupon) code very soon. The plan is to open registration for the Rally on February 1st and close registration at midnight, April 30th. The cost of registration, between these

I was fortunate enough to be asked to give a speech about Vietnam Veterans on this past Veterans Day. I basically talked about the myths of about the Vietnam War and those of us who were there. I will end this article with the last things I had to say in that speech

“ 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 same 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.

grace. 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 into 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 and know how much of a positive impact we have had on our country. We will not and should not take second place to any generation of American Patriots.”



EVENTS IN THE RANGER COMMUNITY



As the new year unfolds, it's time to dust off those berets and rally the Ranger spirit! This year is about more than just events. It's about reclaiming those moments of shared missions, shared laughs, and the reassurance of having your Ranger Buddies by your side. Let's prioritize real connections and camaraderie by making 2024 a year of legendary Ranger memories!

Mark your calendars- with 50th anniversary celebrations, Ranger Rendezvous, and TRF Ranger Mentor Network Meet Ups- we've got a mission-filled year ahead, and you're a crucial part of it.

Scan the QR code above or visit www.threerangersfoundation.org/calendar to learn more.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



You might think that I am in the funeral business with all my recent publications being about deaths of our brothers in arms. The fact of the matter is that we are all getting older and like toilet paper running out quicker at the end, it is the same way as we age. Every day, we get closer to the end. I will begin this message with information of the living, rather than the dead.

I received an inquiry as to a possible member of G Company from a gentleman seeking information. He believed that Gregory Dale Dodson may have been a member of G Company and was trying to confirm the information as Gregory Dodson was in bad health and was moving into a Minnesota Veterans Home. After some research of old rosters, I was able to confirm that Gregory “BOXIE” Dodson of North Mankato, MN did serve with G/75. I don’t have any contact information on Greg, AKA “BOXIE” but the inquiry came from David Berridge (drberridge77@gmail.com) and I’m sure he can give you some contact information should you want to reach out to “BOXIE”.

Now for the sad information. We recently received information from a woman living in Port Charlotte, FL. She was getting the Sua Sponte publication in her mailbox, as it was going to the mailing address where she was living. This was the former residence of Patrick D. Laurendine. She was able to advise that Patrick died sometime in 2017. We thanked her for providing the information, as we would probably would never have known of his passing otherwise. A kind lady doing what she believed to be the right thing and another example reminding us to make sure



our next of kin knows how to contact our association to provide similar information.

We also recently learned of the passing of Clifford Manning on September 14, 2023 from his son:

“Good morning,

It is with a heavy heart that I am letting you know that my Dad, Clifford M. Manning passed away from natural causes on Sept 14, 2023. He had been battling stage 4 kidney disease as well as end stage COPD. I apologize for the late notification as I thought I had already done so. I guess with all

of the notifications needed with financial institutions, the VA, DEERS, and all of the probated documents, etc., I missed this. When the Sua Sponte newsletter came out and we received it yesterday is when I realized it.

He lived a full life of 90 years.”

Clifford “Mother” Manning was an icon in G Company and is in the Ranger Hall of Fame. A career soldier, he served as the 1st Sergeant in G Company, and was most proud of his service to our country and all the friendships he made and kept through the years. His wife, Sonja, said he had a wonderful, full life.



On Wednesday, July 18, 2018
1:00 PM at Fort Benning GA
MSG Clifford M. Manning (retired)
will be inducted into the
ARMY RANGER HALL OF FAME



Our most recent passing we are aware of was that of Keith Oney on November 19, 2023. Keith and his wife, LaNelle, attended our last reunion in Pigeon Forge, TN. Keith had been in bad health for years, yet he always managed to get to most of our reunions, generally in a wheelchair. He always had a great attitude, despite his physical issues and was a pleasure to be around. LaNelle was always with him and knew when he was exhausted and would get him in bed. He could not have had a better partner to look after him. Keith was with Company G-2/75th in DaNang until it stood down and then became the 196th Ranger Platoon. Based upon his age (born July 19th, 1952) Keith may have been the youngest person to serve in G Company. A talented and happy soldier who never complained....well maybe a little.



KEITH'S OBITUARY

Early on the morning of November 19, 2023, Keith passed after complications from Chronic Lymphoma Leukemia (CLL) due to Agent Orange exposure. Keith was born in New London, Ohio on July 19, 1952, to Ernest, a blacksmith, and Verlie (Case), a homemaker and factory worker; Oney. Keith attended New London schools graduating from high school and EHOVE vocational school in June 1970. Feeling a strong need to serve his country, he enlisted in the Army and began Basic Training in September 1970 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He then deployed to Vietnam and completed Airborne Ranger school. He served as a Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) for the G 75th Airborne Rangers. His last 18 months in service were spent at Fort Riley, Kansas before being honorably discharged in September 1973. It was during this time that he made friends in the Alma area.

Once he returned to civilian life, he worked various jobs in Nebraska, Ohio and Kansas . Then Keith made the move to California to work with his brother, Buddy, in his auto repair shop in Santa Ana.

Three years after Keith met LaNelle Wegner in Lincoln, Nebraska, they were married in Las Vegas on July 3, 1978. After spending several years in Ohio and then Nebraska, Keith and LaNelle settled in Alma in early 1982 with their 5-month-old son, Brian.

Keith worked as an ASE-certified auto mechanic at various dealerships and independently owned shops in the Junction City-Manhattan-Topeka area. He spent the last 16 years of his working career at the Kansas Turnpike Authority, retiring in 2009. He'd often tell others that "he worked on everything from weed-eaters to bulldozers."

His daughter Kayla was born in January 1986, and completed his family, saying he "got his boy and his girl." Keith will be remembered as mentoring local youth through Kansas Hunter and Fur Harvester Education classes. Summer family vacations to visit relatives, go camping, see historic sites, attend Airborne Ranger reunions and trapping conventions were enjoyed and the source of many family memories. He taught Brian and Kayla to drive stick shift; to fish; and

to hunt as well as to problem-solve and take initiative. His strong work ethic and appreciation for wildlife and the outdoors was passed onto his kids.

Keith had an uncanny knowledge about everything that was mechanical related to vehicles. Often, he would be able to diagnose a problem without even seeing the vehicle. For many years, he loved being outdoors to hunt and trap and tinker with vehicles. He enjoyed driving stock cars and late models on local dirt tracks—even racing with Clint Bowyer. He was also a collector of NASCAR memorabilia and Dale Earnhardt, antiques, coins, tools, cars, trucks, jewelry,

traps, guns—you name it, he probably acquired it.

After being diagnosed with CLL, Keith's wife LaNelle became his fulltime caregiver. Even though they spent many days at doctor's appointments and treatments, they also made time to travel to visit friends and family in multiple states. Keith's grandchildren were the highlight of his final 15 years of life, and they all affectionately referred to him as "Papa." Keith enjoyed having his family at home for Thanksgiving and Christmas. He especially enjoyed giving gifts. It brought Keith great joy seeing each person's appreciation for the gifts he hand-picked.

Keith was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Airborne Rangers, National Rifle Association (lifetime), National Trapper's Association, Fur Takers of America, North American Trap Collectors Association, International Black Powder Hunting Association, Kansas Fur Harvesters, Museum of the Fur Trade, and the Model A Ford Club.

Surviving Keith is his wife of 45 years LaNelle; children--Brian (Stacey) Trophy Club, TX and Kayla (Johnathan) Savage of St. George; grandchildren—Sophia, Connor, Ainsley and Colin Oney and Cooper, Owen Savage; Aunt AnnaLea (Clinton "Tiny") Clark of Tampa, FL; brother-in-law--Fred; sisters-in-law—Sandy, Millie, Tracey; nephews—Bill and Don, Jr. and nieces—Sherry, Jenny, Katie and Mandy. Preceding him in death were his parents; siblings—Tina Inscho, Bill (Buddy) Oney, Don Oney, Roy Oney and grandson, Marv Oney Savage; great nephew, Brian Oney.

The family would like to thank the Alma EMTs, First Responders, AMR and Fire departments who helped with lift assists, medical treatments and transports while Keith resided at home. Our sincere appreciation also goes to the VA staff and Blue Team—Drs. Susan Brosa, James Cowan, Hospitalist Dana Hogan, Dr. Sam Bradshaw, Oncology nurses—Jayne, Maureen

and Lisa; and the staff at Cotton-O'Neil Cancer Center—Dr. Einspahr, Lisa, Scott, Jamie and social worker, Amy. We also want to thank Phoenix in-home care and Hospice staff for their compassion in Keith's final days.



In the past six months or so, I have talked with two neighbors, both elderly and living alone. They are good friends and I suggested they provide me with a list of phone numbers to call if they become sick, or worse. They both have provided me keys to their homes just on the chance that they are unable to come to the door. Fortunately, they are both relatively healthy and likely will outlive me. I mention this as a reminder for us to look after our neighbors and friends.

If you have similar circumstances of elderly, living alone neighbors, it is a good idea to have a conversation with them and have them provide a list of people to call in case they are ill or worse. A key is also a good idea should you call to check on them with no answer. As a 30-year cop, I have had to kick open doors of people either ill and unable to get out of bed, or dead in the house. If you have neighbors like mine, they appreciate being looked after with an occasional call or visit. If you see mail backing up in the mailbox or newspapers in the driveway, it is certainly time to investigate. Of course, they may have simply gone out of town without notifying anyone, but it could be worse.

As we look after our fellow Rangers and their families the best we can from a distance, we should do the same with our elderly neighbors living alone.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—BENNIE GENTRY



Pete Dencker

I'd like to remind everyone that hasn't already started their planning that the Annual Reunion (in Louisville) in conjunction with the 1st Cav, is only a few months away – if you haven't already done so – please check the 1st Cav web site for details and sign up. It is my hope that we have a newsletter out prior to the reunion with more detail – if not I'm sure Doug and the board will provide us with any updated/important info. We had a great turnout last year – let's try to increase the number of attendees in 2024 (we're not getting any younger). With regard to the newsletter – would very much appreciate any input from the field that can be included – I know Bill used to receive lots of input - we have the same ability to include your stories/pics/input in the new format. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!!

A new book was recently published by one of our Company mates from H Company, Charlie Beasley. Charlie served with H Company during 1970 and 1971 and during that time became a Team Leader, a leadership position that has always been earned through consistent demonstration of experience and leadership in general – but especially in the field. In the book, Charlie describes the hardship and sacrifices made by Rangers given the unique type of operational methodologies that were the hallmark of Ranger operations, but also his sense of the bigger picture – including his respect for the adaptability of a determined enemy. I'm including a short chapter that provides some sense of what a standard Ranger mission in RVN was like. Thanks, Charlie, for your hard work putting this together.



Contact with Enemy Troops

We had been firing non-stop for maybe ten minutes, and our M-16's were hot to the touch. Ranger teams came prepared for this by wearing leather gloves with the fingers cut out. I was now yelling into the mike "Yankee, Yankee, this is Talon five two contact over," when the gunship pilot broke in. After refueling and lifting off the fire base the gunship pilot immediately heard my attempts to reach our radio relay. Oh my God, I was so happy to hear him and to know that our team was no longer completely all alone out there.

Hearing the voice of cobra pilots always had a calming effect on me. It was amazing to me during my months in the jungle how calm these pilots always were even when taking fire. I'll never forget how the "wop-wop" of the chopper blades made the pilots voice seem to come in sort of broken but easy to understand. The calm voice of chopper pilots with the sound of chopper blades in the background was one thing that separated Vietnam from other wars. I wish that every American could hear the conversations between gunship pilots and Ranger Teams on the ground in contact with the enemy because nothing in Vietnam was more real than that. Our lives were hanging in the balance. As I spoke with the cobra pilot, I focused on not being distracted by teammate's weapons firing on each side of my head – it felt like there was a lot going on at the time. When the stakes were so high, the tension was something that Ranger training had taught us to control. There were times in Vietnam when I would ponder what my chances for survival might be, but this was not one of those times. I was completely focused on the task at hand with no distractions.

Most people are not familiar with the Bell AH-1 Cobra known by Rangers in Vietnam as "the Snake". AH stands for "attack helicopter" and it flew comfortably at 140 miles per hour. The pilot in the rear fired rockets from wing mounted launchers while the pilot in front controlled what was called a "chin turret" which fired mini guns and a grenade launcher.

The gray cobra, with the sleek blue windshield, was coming fast and as it came overhead, I pulled the pin on a smoke canister. Ranger teams in contact with the enemy did this to mark their location. The conversation went as follows:

“Green Dragon, this is Talon five two, smoke is out. Over”. As the smoke billowed through the trees, I heard “Talon five two, Green Dragon. Roger. I identify ruby red. Over.” We wanted the pilot to identify the color of the smoke in case the enemy popped a smoke trying to confuse him. “Green Dragon, this is Talon five two. Roger. We want you to make your run from November Whiskey to Sierra Echo one zero mikes on the November side of the smoke.” (The Army insisted on this language which was northwest to southeast 10 meters from the smoke). The pilot responded, “Talon five two – Green Dragon, negative. I will hit you if I fire that close to your position” to which I responded “Roger, please remember the enemy is in close over”. I was extremely anxious for him to get to work as quickly as possible in order to discourage the enemy from trying to overrun our position. The next thing I heard was “Talon five two, heads down, I am coming in hot!”

The pilot started his first run from up high coming toward our team at about a forty-five-degree angle with both miniguns blazing, making a loud BRRR sound. It was said that the miniguns were capable of firing ten thousand rounds per minute and the vegetation was being shredded on the north side of our team. Having a gunship make a run close to our position was unforgettable. Small branches were falling, and dirt was kicked up around us. We could hear the whine of bullets everywhere. The pilot could not use his rockets this close to our position. Cobra pilots were so good that I had no qualms about essentially placing our lives in their hands. The gunship ended its run, peeled off and elevated to begin another. That gave me a chance to rise slightly and survey the area immediately to our North. There were two bodies visible about fifteen feet away and I was sure that others had been hit. “Talon five two, Green Dragon: how did I do on that run? Over.” to which I replied, “We have two enemy line ones (KIA) and two friendly line two’s (WIA), our line twos have flesh wounds that are not serious. Night fall is close, and we want our team to be picked up as soon as possible. Over”. It went without saying that once the location of a Ranger team had been compromised, we had to abort the mission.

Maybe two minutes passed, and the pilot came back and said, “I have orders from above back on the fire base – I can’t have the lift ship pick up your team until you have... gathered any weapons for intelligence to inspect back at the base.”

I was not happy to hear that. We had two... fifteen feet away in a clear area that a few minutes before was a hot fire zone and we were asked to step out there to retrieve... weapons. My stress level was already off the charts, but at the same time I know we could not refuse the order. Looking back on the situation I was very proud of my team because no one hesitated or complained when I asked them to join me in the open area.

I already knew that the members of our team had courage. Courage had nothing to do with being unafraid. Courage in Vietnam had everything to do with willingness to do a job while being scared out of your wits.

We stepped out into the clearing and my team dropped to one knee with weapons at the ready. I could almost feel myself being shot as I quickly scanned the wood line of the far side of the clearing. Nothing happened. It was hard to describe the emotional intensity at a time like that. I was so emotionally charged that I needed to get the job done as quickly as possible so that I could get back to a less elevated mental state. I could feel a pounding in my temple area. I could not allow my mind to wander, wishing that I was in another place many miles away. There would be time to think about that later. I have credit to the gunship pilots for forcing the enemy out of the area. I noticed blood trails leading into the dense foliage, so I sensed the presence of enemy close by.

I had to fight the urge to look away as I began my task. The result of a teammates hand grenade exploding close by. Months before I had learned that war in Vietnam was brutal and ugly. I did not want to die in that land, but I got no satisfaction from the death of the enemy either. It was times like this that made me question why I volunteered for the draft. I remember that the cordite smell from all the bullets was still hanging heavy in the air. We called the chopper and as the lift ship approached our position. I remembered that I was carrying the Vietnamese weapons, so I was careful to keep them pointed away from the chopper. One of the weapons had some sort of rocket propelled grenade attached and I had not seen that weapon before. I had no idea if the safety switch was on or off. The last thing I wanted was to accidentally shoot down the chopper. Maybe the threat of the gunship circling overhead might have allowed our team to escape. We had little time to spare because darkness was closing in as our team cleared the treetops on our way out of the landing zone. It would take a few hours for the adrenaline to subside to the point that I would feel anything close to normal. I reminded myself to do something later that I should have already done. I needed to express my appreciation to all the pilots involved in this operation. These guys were so good at what they did, and I would never forget them.

On a sad note, I was told later that an infantry unit came to this spot the next and one soldier was killed by a sniper.

Thanks Charlie – the book was a great read! You can order a copy of this book from Downtown Books, Manteo NC, 252-473-1056.

Until next time - RLTW



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



Unit History

as told by Unit President Dave Hill

The 1st Infantry Division has always lived by its motto: "No Mission Too Difficult; No Sacrifice Too great; Duty First." Organized in 1917 by Major General John J. Pershing, the 1st Infantry Division, later to be known as the "Big Red One", was the first American division to see action in Europe during World War I. Again, in World War II, the Big Red One was the first to reach Britain and then land in North Africa, Sicily, and France (at "Omaha Beach" in Normandy). It held the Elsenborn Ridge northern line against the counter-attacking Germans during the "The Battle of The Bulge" and then pushed them back into Germany, ending the war. It was later to be the second in the entire US. The Army infantry division deployed to Vietnam, the remainder of the division joining its 2nd Brigade "in country" on 1 Oct. 1965.

Faced with aggression from communist North Vietnam and widespread terrorist and guerrilla activities of the Viet Cong, the government of South Vietnam asked the Free World for assistance. By 1965 the situation had reached the point where US units had to be summoned if South Vietnam was not to be overrun by the communists. The bulk of the 1st Infantry Division reached Vietnam in October 1965 after the 2nd Brigade's advance party had arrived in July of that year. The division was established in III Corps (War Zones C and D), with base camps located in Phouc Vinh and Lai Khe and its division headquarters at Di An. Division headquarters was subsequently moved to Lai Khe.



While each maneuver (or "line") battalion in the 1st Infantry Division had its own "Recon" platoon, it soon became clear that a separate, dedicated, long range reconnaissance unit was needed for operations throughout the division's extensive Tactical Area of Operation (TAOR). Accordingly, in April 1966, 1st Div. CO, MG William DePuy, ordered the creation of a provisional Long Range Reconnaissance

Patrol (LRRP) platoon. Since the divisional reconnaissance role was the designated mission of its armored cavalry squadron, 1st Sq/4th US Cavalry, the LRRP platoon was placed under the squadron's D Troop (Air) aerial scout unit, based at its Phu Loi base-camp. It would be directed and supported by D Troop's transport and gunship helicopters and work in concert with its Aerial Rifle Platoon (ARP). In recognition of the unique and solitary combat role of the LRRPs, they were given the radio call-sign "Wildcat", followed by the actual team number. That call-sign had the additional value of letting any division aircraft receiving a call for assistance from any "Wildcat" station, would know it had emanated from a very small infantry team and relief was needed immediately. The D Troop pilots became especially adept at and dedicated to supporting LRRP missions. After initial recruiting and training, the first LRRP teams were created and commenced operation. Another unique aspect of the LRRP detachments and their successor organizations (the LRRP and Ranger companies) was that, regardless of whether they were part of an airborne division or brigade or a non-airborne parent unit (in our case, the 1st Infantry Division), all their 'airborne-

qualified' soldiers were to receive their highly - valued 'jump pay' while in the unit.

Under its first commanding officer, Capt. John Sanders, the LRRPs conducted long range recon patrols within the 1st Div. TAOR (north and west of Saigon to the Cambodia Border), as separate missions or directly in support of large divisional operations. Their missions were conducted as far south as the Mekong Delta and north to Tay Ninh Province, Loc Ninh, and An Loc, near the Cambodian Border and were part of Operations Birmingham, Cedar Falls and many smaller "search-and-destroy" operations. Their doctrine and tactics were developed and tempered by combat during their first year of operation. Through "lessons-learned" from their initial operations, additional teams were formed, and the various specialized team member roles were established. Their regimen of constant training included a focus on air and ground insertion and extraction, ambush tactics, land navigation and use of supporting arms (both air and artillery) as well as the myriad of specialized small unit tactics to their mission. A constant was the practicing of "Immediate Action (IA)" drills, designed to allow them to quickly break contact from enemy forces encountered in what became increasingly frequent "meeting engagements" with numerically superior Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces. Though reconnaissance was still their primary role at this stage, they often had to fight to survive. The LRRPs suffered their first casualty with the death of Sgt. Rudolph Algar Nunez, Killed-In-Action (KIA) on 13 June 1966 near An Loc Special Forces camp. He was to be just the first of a total of twenty-nine LRRP-Rangers killed-in-action over the course of the next nearly four years of the Big Red One's tenure in the Republic of Vietnam.

In September 1967, the 1st Division moved the LRRP platoon from under D Troop and to Lai Khe and placed it directly under the con-

trol of the division's G-2(Intel) command. In recognizing the invaluable LRRP contribution



to overall ground operations, in late November 1967, MACV Commanding Officer, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, directed that each Army infantry division and independent brigade in Vietnam was to augment its "provisional" long range patrol capability to a company-size unit. Accordingly, the new F Co./52nd Inf (LRP) was formed in Lai Khe, and accelerated recruitment and training began (while nonetheless sustaining the current mission). New F Co. recruits had to be either airborne or Ranger-qualified and/or have a minimum of six months infantry combat experience. Many of those who volunteered from the "line" infantry units had decided that "there had to be a better way to fight [the war]. A selection process was quickly implemented, additional LRP teams organized, and team training commenced. As many team leaders and other team members as could be temporarily spared from operations were sent to the 5th Special Forces-operated "Recondo School" in Nha Trang. Its compressed but demanding three-weeks Recondo course (reputedly one of the best schools ever created by the US Army), refined, and improved the combat leadership and tactical skills of experienced LRRPs, while providing new patrollers with the best possible "pre-combat" infantry training available. This training was to prove invaluable. In addition, as the new

patrol teams would now also often pursue a more aggressive, “direct-action” combat posture, the second “R” (reconnaissance) was also dropped from their previous “LRRP” unit designation.

Another insertion tactic which was utilized was the “stay behind” insertion, whereby a team accompanied one of the division’s ‘line infantry’ companies, as part of a standard ‘search and destroy’ sweep into a very remote part of the division’s Area of Operation (AO). The team would then slip away from the larger infantry unit and ‘stay behind’ somewhere along the route and continue with its own mission. It might accompany the line unit as far as that unit’s extraction, wait until they had been extracted, then set up its own ambush/overwatch in the jungle near the extract LZ to see what developed after the NVA thought all Americans had departed the area. It might instead just proceed to the team’s “recon box” to conduct its own mission. This was a highly effective tactic, resulting in the capture of either solid recon information or enemy body count.

Even shorter-range missions frequently resulted in the team’s use of ambush tactics, either employing small arms or, preferably, through directing artillery and air strikes upon enemy forces--engaging them at longer range. One demonstration of the success of this type of mission was on the night of 31 January 1968, when Sgt. Ron Luse team “Wildcat 2”, sitting in an ambush/overwatch position northwest of Phu Loi, observed first a platoon, then an entire enemy battalion crossing the open rice paddies from the village of Tan Phuoc Khanh over to the neighboring An My. Calling the impending contact to the Phu Loi base command, Wildcat 2 directed artillery and heavy-mortar fire upon the enemy formation, badly damaging it as it fled into An My. Thus, was intercepted in the first attack upon Phu Loi of the enemy’s 1968 “TET Offensive”. It was to require three more days of

hard fighting by the division’s infantry and armored cavalry to eliminate that enemy unit, but Phu Loi was spared from a direct ground attack.

As so many of the veteran Lurps had DEROS dates sometime in the July 1968 timeframe, F Co’s officers and senior NCOs/Team Leaders quickly established and implemented a hasty, intensive and thorough Lurp combat training program. While most new LRRPs had previously arrived in the unit largely as individual replacements, this new batch of Lurps eventually numbered over twenty—all to be trained at the same time. The company’s highly experienced Team Leaders and its Training NCO quickly established a much-needed training curriculum. The new volunteers were quickly rotated through classes on topics essential skills including land navigation, field communications, requesting and directing artillery and air support, helicopter insertions and extractions, rappelling, patrolling, team member roles and responsibilities, establishing ambush/overwatch and ‘Remain Overnight (RON)’ positions, rifle marksmanship, deployment of claymore mines, and, of course, countless ‘Immediate Action (IA)’ drills--eventually incorporating ‘live fire’ into the IA drills. Each Team Leader then selected new team members from among the trainees to bolster existing, veteran teams, or to form new ones, retaining at least a couple of veteran Lurps on each ‘new’ team to solidify them. The “new guys” honed their newfound skills through team training, running short-range missions ‘outside the wire’ near Lai Khe. F Co. thus quickly expanded from its current 6-7 operational teams to nearly a dozen. The new guys learned their lessons well and went on to serve with the distinction throughout their tours.

The need to grow F Co. was soon to be quite evident as, for it and the rest of the American military units in Vietnam, 1968 would be the bloodiest year of the war. Of our LRRP-LRP-Ranger unit’s combat losses of twenty-nine

men Killed-In-Action (KIA), seventeen were lost during the fighting in 1968. On 21 October 1968, all six of Sgt. Bill Cohn's team were lost on a single mission, along with the four helicopter crewmen who had attempted to extract them while all were under enemy pursuit. Exactly a month later, five of Sgt. Felix Washington's six-man team (including himself) were lost. On 27 February 1969, three men of SSgt. Enrique Cruz' six-man team were killed, with a fourth succumbing to his wounds a day later (for more information on this mission, refer to Sgt. Bill Goshen's book, *War Paint*).

All our KIA represented grievous losses—but to lose so many men on single missions was particularly devastating. The names, pictures, and other details of each of the wonderful young men we lost can be found at our unit website: <http://www.f52i75.org>, under the tab at top entitled "Our KIA". We toast each of them, individually, at each of our unit reunions, and will do so as long as we can still hoist a glass. RIP guys! You honored us by your brave service and will never be forgotten.

A major change was soon to occur for F Co. Rather than create an entirely new unit designation for such an elite force as the Army's LRP companies had become, the Department of Army looked to its rich heritage and, on 1 February 1969, designated the 75th Infantry Regiment as the parent organization for all Army LRP companies and replaced the parenthetical designation 'LRP' with 'Airborne-Ranger' for these units. Therefore, Company F, 52nd Infantry (LRP) was deactivated, and its members reassigned to Company I/75th Inf (Airborne-Ranger). On 1 February 1969, the 75th Ranger Regiment was reactivated and all LRP Companies in Vietnam became Ranger Companies. 'Same mission/different name'.

In early 1969, Company I continued the shift away from a strictly 'area reconnaissance' tactical doctrine to the employment of aggres-

sive ambushing and use of 'heavy' or 'hunter-killer' (composed of 10-12 men) tactics pioneered in the just-prior LRP era.

The I Co. Rangers continued to operate aggressively and successfully, generally achieving higher enemy 'body counts' (the standard by which combat success was generally measured in the war) than entire line infantry battalions.

A conversation was held at Quan Loi between the division's First Brigade Commander and its Third Brigade Commander shortly before F Company 52nd Infantry (Long Range Patrol) was transformed into Company I (Ranger), 75th Infantry. The conversation concerned the Big Red One LRRP's loss of Sgt. Cohn's team and Sgt. Washington's team. At that time, the Rangers numbered only six active teams. The First Brigade Commander complained that Ranger intelligence had not been very reliable before the enemy had overrun his Quan Loi base camp perimeter. The 3rd Brigade Commander said: "What do you mean that these Rangers did not perform up to expectations? Sgt. Crabtree's Ranger team had warned your staff in advance of that attack and that the enemy was heavily infiltrating the area and Quan Loi was in grave danger, but they rejected his assessment. Don't you know that their (Ranger teams) enemy KIA's exceed any battalions in your Brigade?"

Robert D. Law, Company I (Ranger), was the first member of the 75th Infantry Rangers to receive the Medal of Honor, having willingly sacrificed his own life for his teammates by jumping upon an enemy hand-grenade which had been thrown into their position. Only three Rangers LRRPs received our nation's highest combat valor medal while assigned to these type units.

From 1 January 1969 until deactivation, due to the US Army's 'Phase III Vietnamization' withdrawal scheme, on 7 March 1970, I Company (Ranger) teams conducted 372 classified tactical operations (with 205 recorded sight-

ings of the enemy). The “Iron Rangers” of I Co. directly engaged the enemy 191 times.



New Business

We Highlighted the recent success of Unit President Dave Hill with establishing the much-needed information for Captain Larry Taylor to be awarded the Medal of Honor and five other Rangers. Many family members attended the awards ceremony at the White House in Washington, DC. and the celebrations in Chattanooga, Tennessee. However, we regret to report in this issue that Captain Larry Taylor, age 81 was called home to the Lord and laid to rest on Wednesday February 7, 2024.

Unit President Dave Hill was again called to duty to share the deep respect to Captain Taylor on behalf of the LRRP team that was rescued and all the LRRPS from F Company 52nd/ I Co. 75th Rangers of the 1st Infantry Division. Prayers and salute to Captain Taylor and his family for galvanizing the History of all LRRPs service/sacrifice in Vietnam. As you read this and look at the clouds, please render a hand salute to Captain Taylor for all that he did.

F 52 inf LRRP/ I Co. 75th Ranger Reunion News

The 2024 Colorado Springs Reunion will be Wednesday, May 1st through Saturday, May 4th

EMBASSY SUITES by HILTON

7290 Commerce Center Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Phone: (719) 599-9100 (Please use our contact/phone number below to book reservations)

Fax: (719) 599-4644

Room Rate: \$139.00

2 Room Suite - 1 King Bed or 2 Room Suite - 2 Queen Beds

Please reach out to Veronica Kellerman directly @ (719) 955-6826 to book your reservations. **Please mention that you are booking under a block of rooms with the 75th Ranger Regiment. Also, if you are a Hilton Honors member, please provide your information to Veronica. You are allowed to book 3 days pre/post at the group rate. The "cut-off date" for accepting reservations into this room block is Monday, April 01, 2024.**

Board of Director Business 75th Ranger Regiment Association:

The following items were discussed in the meeting: Introduction of “new” Patrolling Magazine Editor/Publisher Amanda Neet; Ranger Hall of Fame submissions; Rendezvous Week July 2024; Best Ranger Week April 2024; introduction of Lee Garcia as Association Social Media Liaison; Website updates; Review of By-Laws; Patrolling SitRep launch and magazine advertising; Congressional Gold Star proposal for LRRP/Rangers that served in Vietnam.

Look Forward to seeing everyone at the Unit Reunion. “OUT”!



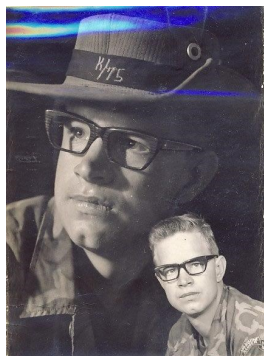
K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Greetings to all,

It is with sadness that I report the loss of two of our brothers.

Billy E. Powers of Hurst, Texas passed away on October 21,



2003. Unfortunately, we do not have any further info. If memory serves me right his daughter made contact with Bob Holmen. Bob, Gary Heald, Billy, and Mark Estopare were on R-18 together.



Remember to stay in touch with your brothers whether they have medical problems or not call them, text them, or take a drive and visit them. It's always good to talk about our time together so long ago. Many times, it will trigger a memory that someone else has. Sure, there are bad memories but that is part of your history. Remember how close to

I received word from Denver Hall that Lloyd (Buddy) Greer passed away January 23, 2024. Buddy had called me five or six weeks before to visit and indicated he was having health problems but did not go into details.

Buddy Greer Obituary

Buddy Greer, 73, of Rayville, LA was born April 20, 1950 in Rayville, LA and passed away Tuesday, January 23, 2024 in Monroe, LA. A memorial service will be held at a later date and burial will be in the Northeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery, Rayville, LA.

Buddy was preceded in death by his parents, George and Alberta Greer and brother, Gene Greer.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda Greer of Rayville; children, Jessica Belk, Jennifer Griggs, Eric Greer, and Tracy Greer; grandchildren, Corey Belk and Maranda Griggs; and great grandson, Jalen Gray.

Condolences may be left at brownholleyfuneralhomes.com.



our brothers we were, sharing the reality of our time together. Building a bond that time will not erase. On that note I would encourage as many as possible to attend our K-Co reunion plus all the early Brigade and Div. LRRPs who started it all. As always, we will have a memorial for all our brothers who did not make it home to their families.

Spring Hill Suites/Marriot Downtown (Bricktown).

The best way to register is online. We have a live link to do so but unfortunately it does not work for print media. You can go to K 75 website and find the link. If you don't do computers just have a family member do it or you can call Wayne Mitsch or I and we will be able to get done it for you.

And for a trip down memory lane:

The following photo is from the 2011, Veterans Day Parade in Atlanta, GA.



Center- Buddy Greer, Left-Dave Flannery, Right-John D. Black.



L-R: Merrill's Marauder, Tom Sove, Harry Phair, Roger Crunk, and Wayne Mitch. I wish I could remember the older gentleman's name.



*The Family car. 1st Brigade at Dak To.
Photo from Al (T-Bird) Fundaburk.*



Some bad dudes? L-R Tony Dennis, James T. Quick, Wadley, Dana McGrath.



This is the K-Co and 4th ID LRRPs Memorial in Harrison City, P.A. Constructed by James Bell and his family at his own expense



Rick Noble ("I know I saw them!")

rangersbreakfast@75thrra.org

Looking for a Ranger/Special Forces breakfast nearby?

Get the latest information by emailing the people in the know!

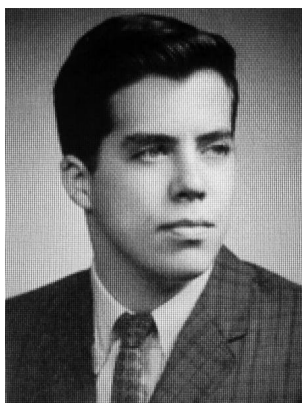


L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—CHARLES “CHUCK” REILLY



Greeting fellow Rangers and LURPS, in the last issue of *Patrolling*, I mentioned that I had included a number of photos for my article, but lo and behold, none of them were published. So, to refresh readers’ memories, I wrote a story about a Ranger named Keith Hammond who was a KIA when he only had a week or so to go in-country. In other words, he should’ve never been approved to go out on a mission, no matter how much he begged his superiors. It all ended up as a very sad ending for him, not to mention his immediate family. They were probably counting the days for his return at that point. Hammond’s rationale for wanting to “experience” some time in the bush was that he didn’t really feel he had earned the right to be a Ranger. That shouldn’t have even entered into thinking. With only days to go in his tour-of-duty, his first concern should’ve been to get himself home, alive, and well and in one whole piece for his family’s sake. In the end, his was a very sad story. Here is a photo of Keith Hammond whose tragic story was told at length in the last issue.



As most of you are aware, the last member of Merrill’s Marauders died right after Christmas. His name was Russell Hamler and he lived in Pennsylvania. He was 99 at the time of his passing. When he became the “last man standing” of his famous unit, his family at first chose not to tell him he was the last



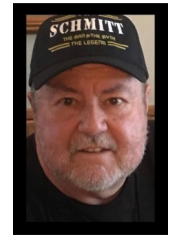
Marauder. Sadly, most of our World War II vets have left us. Probably 100,000 or less are now left out of the 16.1 million who served during WW II. It was really a wonder that Mr. Hamler survived as long as he did. He was severely wounded during his time with the Marauders and, like everyone else in the unit, probably suffered from malaria and typhoid at one time or another. Merrill’s Marauders fought the Japanese in Burma during 1944 and were led by Brig. General Frank D. Merrill. He reported to Lieutenant

General “Vinegar Joe” Stilwell, who was the overall head of U.S. forces in the China Burma India Theater. Of the almost 3,000 men who were original members of the Marauders (officially the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional) only around 200 were fit for combat when they reached their objective of the Myitkyina airfield. Most of the men were in poor shape. Every one of them had suffered from a myriad of tropical diseases, malnutrition, exhaustion -- or as they were tagged, AOE (Accumulation Of Everything). General Merrill himself didn’t last long after the war. He died in 1955 in Fernandino, Florida while he was serving as the New Hampshire Commissioner of Highways. After the war, General Stilwell didn’t last long either. While still on active duty, he died in San Francisco of stomach cancer in 1946 only months after both he and his former subordinate, General Merrill, helped put down a riot at Alcatraz Prison. Hollywood director Sam Fuller, a combat veteran of WWII himself, directed a popular account of the unit in his film,

"Merrill's Marauders," released in 1962. Star Jeff Chandler didn't look at all like the real Merrill, but he certainly displayed his determination and grit. The filming was done in the Philippines, and Chandler unfortunately didn't last long after the final wrap party. He died at age 42 on June 17, 1961, in California from complications during a surgery that was later determined to be malpractice. As for the real Marauders, I believe they may be the only unit in the history of the U.S. Army where the entire membership received a Bronze Star. No doubt, these men earned it. They have now all passed into history. As for the cast of the film "Merrill's Marauders," they're probably all gone now too with the exception of 93-year-old actor Will Hutchins.



They include two photos of Wayne Hartman. One when he was an "L" Company Ranger and another one sitting on the right with John Perez and Angel Kirkpatrick (Randy's wife) at our last "L" Company reunion in Scott, Louisiana (April 2023).



"God bless them all."

I would like to make our membership aware that one of our "L" Company Rangers, Wayne Hartman, recently underwent a heart procedure known as a TAVR. That stands for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement. It's a non-invasive procedure of replacing the valve without opening the chest. It usually takes around an hour instead of the four hours for normal heart surgery. Mr. Hartman came through it just fine and is in the process of fully recovering. It's a fact of life that a lot of Vietnam Veterans are at the age where procedures like this are very common and health problems occupy a lot of our time and energy. The best thing we have going for us is that we're Rangers and we've already been through the toughest of times. That said, it always helps to have doctors who know what the heck they're doing. Unfortunately, some of them don't.

As I mentioned earlier, in last issue of *Patrolling*, for some reason, all the photos I sent in for it were not published. In lieu of that oversight, I am reposting them for this issue.

Here are three pictures of Harold "Neb" Schmitt who recently passed away and whom I discussed in the last issue. One is from his army days, the other two are relatively recent photos with one of them showing off his woodland catch of the day.



This photo is of a Ranger patrol with Larry Saenz in the rear, Rick Lawhorn walking point, followed by William Lang, an obscured Ranger and then Marvel McCann in front of Saenz. It was the story by Larry Saenz in the last issue which mentioned Hammond's unnecessary death. Kenn Miller was the team leader on that mission back in May of 1969. That was only a few months after the LRRP to Ranger changeover in the company.

We have some new help now editing submissions for *Patrolling* and her name is Amanda Neet. She lives down in Rockwall, Texas, and she's already taken to her new assignment with a lot of enthusiasm and dedication. I'm sure she'll do a great job and I wish her well.

Well, that's all I have for this issue. Spring is almost upon us once again and the time keeps flying by faster than ever. The good news: we're still here to enjoy it! So, keep the faith, stay healthy and strong and, as always, **RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!**

Charles Reilly – Unit Director



P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JERRY YONKO

Garry Norton sitting in for Jerry Yonko:

Jerry asked me to sit in for him with this article due to him traveling and taking care of some recent health issues. Also having some health issues that are concerning for us all are Tom Wilson, Dick Foringer, who I spoke with recently, Larry Smith, and of course Rick Chitwood. With our ages getting on we'll see more of this unfortunately. Our best wishes to you all.

Our recent Holiday Christmas ranger family fund this year was a great success. We were able to support 10 ranger families with the nearly \$7,000 accumulated. Large contributions from some of our members were greatly appreciated. One of our strong supporters was from my stepson's company, Specialty Freight Services Inc. near Philadelphia. They held a holiday collection for this and the company president matched their donations. We received a check for \$4,500 from them. Unbelievable!



Jay Lutz, Norton
1970

It is with great sadness, now, we must report our dear Papa company brother **Jay Lutz** passed away in his sleep this past January. Jay has been one of the company's backbones working with Terry Roderick for years. He always wanted to be in the background and not



have his name mentioned at all. I will let you all in on a few details of some things Jay did for US! At his own expense he would ship his rifle/boots ensemble to all funeral or Journey of Life services for our departed. Jay also mailed out many flag collection sets to members with the names of our fallen on them to be placed at our homes for

Memorial and Veterans Days. He unselfishly backed our Ranger family holiday fund. Duke told me Jay stayed with him for days in the hospital until he was well enough to leave. Guess who personally designed and paid for the hundreds of Terry Roderick's special Challenge Coin for his Arlington service? Jay! The Papa Company "slush fund" is also doing well because of Jay's generosity! He would tell me on numerous occasions to "just don't mention my name". I could go on and on here with everything he did for us all. That was the kind of loyal man he was with few knowing what he had done. I wish I had more of Jay's background on his career and military service to give to you but he was very quiet. I do know he had received two Purple Hearts. Our sincerest condolences to Jay's beloved wife, Marcia, who he has been with since the 8th grade. He was a devoted husband, father, and he loved his dogs as evidenced by a photo below. Jay will not be forgotten. I'm sure he is now looking down upon us with Terry saying "Charlie Mike".

I have included a few pictures of Jay below and a few others of Papa Company members for you all entitled "Down Memory Lane". RLTW!



Jay Lutz Larry Smith
2010



The Rangers Scholarship Fund, Inc.

December 12, 2023

Welcome to the 12th Annual Rangers Scholarship Fund Invitational Golf Tournament!

We would be delighted for you to spend Thursday, April 11, 2024 with us at the Maple Ridge Golf Course in Columbus, GA. The format is a 4-Person Scramble. You are welcome to enter your own 4-Person team or as a single, and we will gladly assign you to a group.

The RSF scholarships are awarded through a merit based application process, reviewed by our board members, and are available to current and former Ranger veterans of the 75th Ranger Regiment dependents and spouses. We are very proud of our past scholarship recipients, and with your help, we look forward to providing many more scholarships in the years to come.

Last year's RSF tournament raised \$42,000.00, the most we ever have, allowing us to award 114 scholarships for \$144,000.00 to our deserving applicants. This year's goal is to continue to support Ranger families and improve our process of thanking you!! We hope that you will join us and we look forward to your continued support of providing educational opportunities to members of our Ranger community.

We would like to thank everyone for all of your previous contributions, and hope for your continued good health and happiness.

Attached you will find a hole sponsor flyer, registration form, and sponsorship opportunity information.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to give either Bill or myself a call at;

Matt Walker: 706-604-5330 or email rgrwalk@gmail.com

Bill Morgan: 706-987-2938 or email wmorgan41964@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you on the course and wish you the best of luck in the New Year!

Sincerely,

Matt Walker

Matt Walker
Golf Tournament Director
RSF Board Member

Bill Morgan

Bill Morgan
Golf Tournament Director
RSF Board Member

The Rangers Scholarship Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 52184, Fort Benning, Georgia 31995
www.rangersscholarshipfund.org



**RANGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2024 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

TOURNAMENT SPONSOR: \$5,000

- Tournament sponsorship named for your organization
- Corporate Logo prominently displayed on all event materials
- Hole sponsor signage at the First Tee and 18th Green
- 2x Four Person Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry

PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$3,000-\$4,999

- Catered lunch sponsorship named for your organization
- Corporate Logo displayed on event materials
- Hole sponsor signage on 2x tee boxes/greens
- 2x Four Person Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry

GOLD SPONSOR: \$2,000-\$2,999

- Putting contest sponsorship named for your organization
- 1x Four Person Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry
- Corporate Logo displayed on event materials
- Hole sponsor signage on 1x tee box/green

SILVER SPONSOR: \$1500-\$1999

- 1x Four Person Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry
- Corporate Logo displayed on event material
- Hole sponsor signage on 1x tee box/green

BRONZE SPONSOR: \$1000 (Product or monetary)

- 1x Four Person Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry
- Corporate Logo included on event material
- Hole sponsor signage on 1x tee/box green

Friends of Rangers: \$250

- Corporate Logo included on event material
- Hole sponsor signage on 1x tee/box green

In the interest of advertising Ranger supporting businesses and groups please contribute product and paraphernalia for player's grab bags and display at the course.

Send to: Matt Walker
4408 Olympic Lane
Columbus, GA 31907

All sponsor levels include catered lunch, drinks and snacks. Sign up as a single player for \$125.00 and we will assign you to a team, benefits will include; green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, long drive and closest to the pin entry.

**12TH ANNUAL
RSF INVITATIONAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



**April 11, 2024
Maple Ridge Golf Club
Columbus, GA**

Rangers Scholarship Fund

The Rangers Scholarship Fund (RSF) was created in 2008 to honor those who performed selfless service to our Nation. Scholarships are awarded on a merit based process and available to Rangers (current and former), and their dependents. We encourage and recognize family members who emulate the dedication, integrity and selflessness of their sponsors. The RSF sends a strong, real-time message to 75th Ranger Regiment members and their families that their exemplary and dedicated service to our great Nation is truly appreciated.

WHEN: Thursday, April 11 2024

TIME: 1:00 PM Shotgun Start

WHERE: Maple Ridge Golf Course

COST: See Sponsorship Opportunities

CHECK-IN: Lunch begins at 11:30 AM

PLAYERS MEETING: 12:45 PM Cart-side

FORMAT: 4 Person Scramble

RULES: Men will play **White** tees. Ladies will play **Red** tees. Exceptions to USGA rules will be posted during the players meeting.

FOOD: Lunch will be served at 11:30 AM. Snacks and refreshments will be available during play.

DRESS CODE: Shirt tucked in (kind-of), belt (maybe), slacks or shorts, soft spikes only.

PAIRINGS: 4 - Person teams.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, 08 April 2024. Open to the first 128 Players.

PRIZES: Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams, Closest to the Pin on Par 3's and Longest Drive.

RANGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM

Players Name/s:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. (Captain) _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |

SPONSOR'S PLEASE EMAIL CORPORATE LOGO FOR ADVERTISEMENT SIGNS

Company: _____ **Address:** _____
Phone: _____ **POC:** _____
Medallion Level: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

- Make Checks payable to: **RSF Golf Tournament**
- Send sponsor/entry fee to: **Matt Walker, 4408 Olympic Lane, Columbus, GA 31907**
- For additional information call **Matt Walker at 706-604-5330** or email **RGRWALK@gmail.com**



75th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2200

Orangevale, CA 95662

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 56601
PERMIT NO. 71



YOUR AD HERE!

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS

ADVERTISE WITH US

WE ARE GROWING!

KNOW A BUSINESS LOOKING TO EXPAND?

LET US FEATURE YOU!

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS, PRODUCTS AND SERVICES HERE

EMAIL US FOR AT AMANDA.NEET@75THRRA.ORG
FOR MORE DETAILS!