

THE

# RED 5 DIAMOND



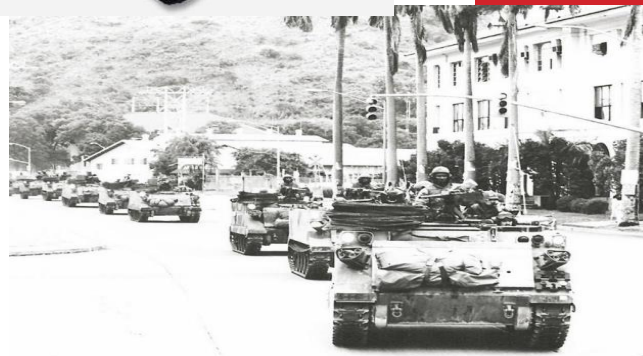
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## Fifth Division: OPERATION JUST CAUSE



**“WE WILL”**

*\*Deadline for submission of articles for next Edition: 07 May 2019*

## New Society Officers for 2019

Our National President, Steve Wheat, asked me to be the chairman of the Nominating Committee for 2019. As most of you know, we elect a new National Second Vice President every year that will serve in that capacity for one year. He will next serve as the National First Vice President, and then finally serve as our National President. We also fill any other vacancies for our national officers. In my new position on the

Nominating Committee I owe all the members of the Society a slate of officers that will help run our organization throughout the year. Over my years as a member of the Society of the Fifth Division I have had many conversations with member who have excellent ideas on how the Society should be run. Well, this is your opportunity to help put your ideas into action.

The good thing about being on our Executive Board is you are never alone. There are 11 official members:

- President
- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Historian
- Chaplain
- Judge Advocate
- Editor
- Last 2 Past Presidents

Although not officially on the Executive Board per our constitution, the Quartermaster and Web Master are also included in all of the meetings of the Board.

As you can see, nobody has to go it alone – there is plenty of help. Each sitting President has the help of the entire Board plus the experience of the last two Past Presidents. Each position has historical records, plus there are After Action Reports on the reunions to help plan our annual business

meeting and get together. All this being said, I am asking those who are interested in serving on the Board to contact me and voice your interest in helping to run our Society. In 2020 we will celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the oldest continuing Army Division association. If we want to continue our proud heritage, we need members who are willing to serve on the Board.

Please contact me at [colrdudley@aol.com](mailto:colrdudley@aol.com) or 913-220-3725 if you are interested. Bob Dudley, Past President

# 2018 – 2019 Society of the Fifth Division Officers – Roster

## Objectives of the Society

**A. To perpetuate and memorialize the valiant acts and patriotic deeds of the Fifth Division; to electrify and unify that invisible current of fellowship, friendship and comradeship molded in the throes of war and the exigencies of a peacetime service, and promote the interests and welfare of its members.**

**B. To publish and preserve the history of the accomplishments of the Fifth Division and the Society, in war and peace, and set forth the gallant and heroic deeds of its members.**

## PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

- \*Maj. Gen. Hanson E. Elyz (1919-22,24-25)
- \*Col. Philip J. McCook (1922-23)
- \*Dr. E. C. Morton (1925-28)
- \*Maj. Gen. Paul B. Malone (1929-30)
- \*Capt. Peter Murphy (1930)
- \*Maj. Walter E. Aebischer (1930-32)
- \*Capt. Peter P. Zion (1932-34)
- \*W. Walter Healy (1934-35)
- \*Lloyd A. Reder (1935-37)
- \*Col. Henry Clay Bate (1937-38)
- \*William Barton Bruce, Sr. (1938-39)
- \*Emil Everts (1939-41)
- \*A. Lincoln Bradbury (1941-45)
- \*William Gibbs (1945-46)
- \*John W. Fonner (1946-48)
- \*William L. McGrory (1948-49)
- \*Kenyon Stevenson (1949-50)
- \*Charles A. O'Connell, Jr. (1950-51)
- \*John H. Pflaum (1951-53)
- \*Frederick F. Specht (1953-54)
- \*John H. Baskin (1954-55)
- \*Walter R. Stout (1955-57)
- \*Frank H. Deane (1957-58)
- \*Edward Pivovar (1958-59)
- \*T. Earl McNaney (1956-60)
- \*Russell S. Fisher (1960-62)
- \*Gordon S. Henry (1962-63)
- \*John J. Madison (1963-65)
- \*Herbert K. Webb (1965-66)
- \*Charles P. DeRose (1966-67)
- \*Victor Dunneback (1967-68)
- \*Winston Roche (1968-69)
- \*Ervin J. Kotowski (1969-70)
- \*Herbert Ginsburgh (1970-71)
- \*Aubrey Prewitt (1971-72)
- \*Michael S. O'Donnell (1972-73)
- \*Virgil Scheibel (1973-74)
- \*Frank Kolimaga (1974-75)
- \*Kenneth Anderson (1975-76)
- \*Howard Singer (1976-77)
- \*Robert Young (1977-78)
- \*Stanley Piotrowski (1978-79)
- \*George Bachman (1979-80)
- \*Harry Arquette (1980-81)
- \*William Stanfield (1981-82)
- \*Guido Bemasconi (1982-83)
- \*Msgr. Harold Prudell (1983-84)
- \*Chester Ball (1984-85)
- \*William Colon (1985-86)
- \*Robert Graves (1986-87)
- \*Herman Schell (1987-88)
- \*William Stanfield (1988-89)
- \*John Goodman (1989-90)
- \*William Upham (1990-91)
- \*Bradley Brewer (1991-92)
- \*Harry Arquette (1992-93)
- \*Robert Rochon (1993-94)
- \*Charles Coco (1994-95)
- \*Michael Giannini (1995-96)
- \*Don Brown (1996-97)
- \*Cullen Stone (1997-98)
- \*Jay Balderson (1998-99)
- \*Jimmy C. Walker (1999-2000)
- \*Mickey McCoy (2000-01)
- \*Carl M. Hiestand (2001-02)
- \*Robert M. Rochell (2002-03)
- \*James A. Landry (2003-04)
- \*Mike Sperling (2004-05)
- \*Phil Maniscalco (2005-07)
- \*Jim Spiller (2007-08)
- \*Pat Andreoni (2008-09)
- \*James "JJ" Jackson (2009-10)
- \*Bernie "Buck" Kean (2010-12)
- \*Steve Wheat (2012-13)
- \*Bobby Moody (2013-2014)
- \*Wayne Cumer (2014-2015)
- \*Robb Robetson (2015-2016)
- \*Bob Dudley (2016-2017)
- \*Dennis Thompson (2017-2018)

\* Deceased

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All Active Past Presidents

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**Gary Barard**  
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TBD

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## Operation Just Cause: the Invasion of Panama, December 1989

By Shannon Schwaller, Army Heritage and Education Center November 17, 2008

in the early morning hours of December 20, 1989, the United States Army spearheaded a carefully planned and well-executed attack that overwhelmed the Panamanian Defense Forces (PDF) of dictator Manuel Noriega. The goal was to restore the democratically elected government of Guillermo Endara and arrest Noriega on drug trafficking charges. At the time, Operation Just Cause was the largest and most complex combat operation since the Vietnam War. Nearly 26,000 combat troops deployed, with just under half being from bases in the United States. Two dozen targets were attacked throughout the country, using a wide spectrum of tactical operations including Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain (MOUT), Air-Assault, Airborne, and Special Forces. Thorough planning was conducted with regard both to the operational aspects as well as to the political implications of forcibly removing Noriega from power. Through emphasis on realistic small-unit training, the U.S. Army successfully accomplished its mission; decisively neutralizing Noriega forces, restoring the elected democratic government, protecting American lives, and minimizing Panamanian casualties.

Operation Just Cause was initially planned as a gradual buildup of combat troops from the United States. The plan was significantly modified in early 1989 after Noriega increased attempts to intimidate American civilians and soldiers and after he orchestrated assaults against newly elected anti-Noriega candidates. President George H.W. Bush ordered an additional 1,900 combat troops to Panama to increase security of American personnel and property, known as Operation Nimrod Dancer. He also appointed General Maxwell Thurman as the new U.S. Southern Command commander. General Thurman envisioned the operation as a rapid take-down of the Panamanian

Defense Forces. He wanted to capture Noriega quickly in order to prevent dispersal of his forces into the country interior to form an insurgency.

Early preparation and training, beginning in May 1989, represented a key for success of Operation Just Cause. The 193rd Infantry Brigade, the primary combat unit stationed near Panama City, increased the number of live-fire exercises and MOUT training. No MOUT training site was available, so battalion commanders adapted by constructing makeshift buildings for live-fire exercises. Soldiers practiced room-clearing as well as prisoner control, using the barracks. Units of the 82nd Airborne Division and the 7th Infantry Division, soon to be sent to Panama once the operation began, also increased training. Due to the close proximity of American facilities with PDF units, operational planners and unit commanders took advantage of increased security measures. These training exercises represented deliberate demonstrations of force aimed at securing American facilities. Since many of these facilities needed to be secured or were used as staging areas for the invasion, troops were familiar with their targets. Furthermore, the exercises were run with such frequency that the enemy became desensitized to rapid movements of troops, thus helping to maintain the element of surprise crucial to success.

The careful planning and intensive training directly contributed to the successful execution of the operation. Despite its complexity, the plan represented a clear understanding of immediate military and political goals of rapidly destroying the enemy ability to fight without needlessly endangering Panamanian lives or property. The intensive preparation and training allowed troops to quickly adapt to the unforeseen challenges of

combat. Major military operations took only five days; Noriega himself surrendered on January 3; and by January 12, Operation Just Cause was over. In less than a month, the U.S. Army and other American Armed Forces had achieved complete success.



Cpl. Ivan M. Perez 5th Infantry  
Division Pawtucket, R.I.

Pvt. Kenneth D. Scott 5th Infantry  
Division Princeton, W.Va.

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:



Greetings to all members of the Society of the Fifth Division. The new fiscal year of 2019 is here and since this is the first edition of the Red Diamond I would like to let everyone who reads this know that it will be another banner year in Red Devil history. In this issue are the registration forms for the 2019 Society of the Fifth Div.

reunion which will be held in San Diego. This will be the last year for the Society to have the status of being a "two-digit midget" so why don't we celebrate that fact by going to the Reunion. The Registration Forms, Hotel Reservation guidance, Weekend Schedule and all that is needed to attend is in the center pages of this RD edition, go there now and choose to join your friends for a great Reunion.

This year I have two goals that I cannot accomplish without the help of our members. Solving this dilemma is solely up to you, the Red Devil soldiers. This is something we need to figure out and take action on now. Well, at this point leaders usually ask for your donation of money. "Fear not" even though I have never found a more generous lot than the members of this Society and before you hide your wallets, it is not money that will solve these problems. A solution that will come from using your ingenuity, individually and by working together I believe is the key to finding the people who will propel this Organization into the next century of its existence.

Lack of doing so will find the Society tapering into smaller numbers each year and within 6 or maybe 7 years from now the Reunion will be able to hold its dinners in a Waffle House.

I will finally get to the point and state what the two biggest challenges that I see facing our Society of the Fifth Division are now. 1. Growing new leaders to assume positions on the exec. Board. and 2. Recruiting members from the Panama Invasion and Ft. Polk era of the Fifth Division lineage to be the last generation of soldiers to comprise the membership.

Though these problems may sound similar they each call for different solutions. Number one requires current members to challenge themselves to assume one of the roles on the executive board. Organizations become stagnant and fail because they do not have a steady change of leaders who bring their unique view and skill on how to make the organization better and more responsive to membership needs.

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: cont.**

If you are interested in serving on the board, the next edition of the RD will contain job descriptions detailing what each exec. board job entails. We all have what it takes as long as we can find the courage to overcome fears of inadequacy and come forward to serve your fellow Red Devils. If you want to be in any board position please contact the newly appointed Nomination committee Head and former Society President Bob Dudley and let him know.

Regarding Issue number Two: It comes down to this. Ask yourself, "how long are our current members going to be able to serve in positions of leadership and service?" It would be the height of denial to not see we are all getting older and while our willingness to serve may not be lacking, we all become settled into our daily routine and habits and the thought of changing it and becoming responsible for a job on the board may seem forbidding. I love staying in my comfort zone but if we all did, there would be no reunions, or newsletter, or quartermaster, or Fiscal management to not mention the routine secretarial chores that running the Society of the Fifth Requires.

While we are enjoying this shared nightmare, how would having no more annual reunions affect you? What would closing the only organization representing the heritage of the brave men who fought in the Fifth Division would mean to our soldiers who due to many reasons can not come to reunions and rely on the RD to give them news and names of times long passed. It would mean losing a lot of what a lot of us live for and enjoy as a quarterly and annual gathering of friends spanning 5 or more decades.

That is what the future will be unless we figure out a way of getting the younger veterans, the Red Devils who wore the Red Diamond after Viet Nam to fill in the membership and leadership. I would like to assemble a committee of action orientated people who can figure out a way to bring those soldiers (men and women) into the Society and by showing them the comradery and love we do for each other they might want to carry on the tradition. If any of you will lead or serve on a committee to do this please contact me and we can get the ball rolling. And I mean get it rolling and not spend months talking about how to get it rolling I mean get it rolling now. I need not describe my version of the eventual closure of the group. There is still time and there are many RedDevils who will help, all we have to do is find them, encourage them to join and be active.

Thank you all, *Steve Wheat*

## Some Thoughts from the First Vice President



Greetings to all the wonderful folks in the Society of the Fifth Division. I'm Hal Roller and I serve as First Vice President this year. Our 2020 Reunion in San Antonio, Texas is at the top

of my list of things to do.

As part of the preparation for that Reunion, I read the 2003 Report. That Reunion was held in Waco, Texas and was headed by then President Robert Rochell. I wasn't there, but the message came through loud and clear that it was a marvelous Reunion. Bob did a fantastic job of getting letters of support from national and local government leaders, as well as, donations from various organizations. Jim Landry, Mike Sperling, George Baldwin, Don Smallwood, Michael Johnson, Vernon Sundgeroth, and Michael Mullenix deserve kudos as well for their hard work in making this such a great event. And my personal favorite, Jim Spiller. Jim is my favorite because, like him, I served as a chaplain to soldiers. Great job on the chapel service Jim! All these wonderful guys have shown us what leaders they are. Of course, what is not in the 2003 Report (but I know it happened because I can read between the lines) is the work of their wives. The results of these unsung heroes can be read about in table decorations, silent auction items, and countless unnoticed niceties-

including the civilized behavior of their husbands after being properly corrected.

The 2003 Reunion in Waco, Texas shows what leaders can do and encourages each of us to be leaders. I used to love those "sayings" first sergeants would hang on the walls behind their desks. One of my favorites was (I'm sure you've heard it): **Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way.** The Society of the Fifth Division has an annual turn-over within the board. Leaders are needed to fill this turn-over. I would encourage you to consider taking a position. Even if you feel that may be too much, persons are needed to help with the silent auction, the 50/50 raffle and other areas which make our Reunions run smoothly and enjoyable for everyone.

By the way, my favorite first sergeant wall hanging had on it in large letters: **I CARE.** Then, in smaller letters not in bold under the "I CARE" it read: You have two minutes to state your case and do an about face.

Many opinions have been published about how Vietnam Vets fared after the war. Not much research was done, but opinions were rampant. My opinion is that after the war the vast majority of Vietnam Vets worked hard to support their families and provided local community leadership. Not the high-level leadership that brings fame and fortune, but usually unpaid leadership within their communities. It's the people of these communities which are the bedrock of our self-governing system and American values.

*Hal Roller*



## Second Vice Presidents Message



Since our last meeting in November, I have been periodically studying The Societies “Planning Guide & Best Practices” guidelines along with other material forwarded to me by past presidents. Since the New Year, I have increased my study efforts. As I have studied the reunion protocols and duties of the Society officers, I have started compilation of an outline and prepared several lists, while looking forward to a reunion in the city (or around) Boston, Massachusetts.

The lists are comprised of but not limited to:

- Hotel locations within and outside the city (parking, accessibility, breakfast, function rooms)
- List of possibilities for grants, sponsorships and program book ads
- Entertainments/ speakers for Banquets
- Theme for the banquet i.e. Boston/the country’s seat of patriotic freedom
- Table decorations with the theme in mind
- Tours and attractions (Freedom Trail, Kennedy Library, Old Ironsides, Fenway Park”)
- Local military installations to provide color guard etc.
- Welcome letter for welcome package
- Hospitality room requirements
- Alpha Company cookout (Bruce Walmsley has agreed to taking the responsibility for location and festivities for that event)

This is just a scratch of the surface and there is a long way to go I will most certainly need experienced input to move to the next level and I look to the executive board members for their valuable input.

*Louis A Pepi Jr.*

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Report of the Treasurer of the Society of the Fifth Division**  
**Account Activity for FY18 (01/01/18-12/31/18)**

**RECEIPTS**

Secretary - Dues (\$4660) + Donations (\$1122)	5,782.00
QM Sales	4,217.55
2018 Reunion Income	13,841.75
2019 Reunion Income	950.00
Gain from CDs	215.10
TOTAL	<u>25,006.40</u>

**DISBURSEMENTS**

Secretary Expenses	(684.73)
QM Expenses	(465.68)
Treasurer Expenses	(87.00)
Fisher House Donation	(145.00)
Teleconference Fees	(347.58)
Red Diamond Expenses	(13,270.97)
2018 Reunion Expenses	(1,488.90)
2020 Reunion Expenses	(600.00)
TOTAL	<u>(17,089.86)</u>

RECEIPTS - DISBURSEMENTS for FY18 **7,916.54**

**Report of Treasurer - December 31, 2017**

Cash in Bank	19,971.78
Value of Ladder CDs	41,152.67
Net Worth	<u>61,124.45</u>

**Report of Treasurer - December 31, 2018**

Cash in Bank	27,673.22
Value of Ladder CDs	41,367.77
Net Worth	<u>69,040.99</u>

Net Worth Difference for FY18 **7,916.54**



**George B. Shoener**  
**National Treasurer**  
**SOFD**

## Chaplains Message:

Christian - The passing of 2018; and the entering of 2019

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto Wisdom. Ps 90:12

Another year has passed; and God Counsels us, as we enter into 2019, to highly value the Time, which He Gives us, for our life. Since our victory in Vietnam, and our military exit on April 26, 1973, a total of 16,425 days have passed by. For WWII veterans, a total of 26,645 days have passed by, since VJ Day on September 2, 1945. So many days have flown by; that it seems like a dream!

In war many times, it seemed we would never see a tomorrow. Remember how many promises we made to God, while serving in Vietnam, and in WWII, that if He would spare our lives, we would strive to live GOOD lives, dedicated to Him. Remember, watching with envy, that occasional silver glint, high in the sky, of the “Freedom Bird”, taking our DEROSed buddies, back to the world! The 365 days of Vietnam, and the 5 years served by many WWII vets, was a LONG, LONG time.

But finally the War started winding down, and the departure day drew nearer. The “short-time” calendars were almost ink-black, the foxholes were dug a whole lot deeper, and we were “keeping ourselves lower than a snake, in a wagon rut”! No one could ever forget, that 1442 of our buddy’s names, are carved on The Vietnam Wall, who died on the very last day, they served in-country! No one was safe anywhere, not for a moment! We were in a dangerous place, and war-life, was deadly serious! But finally, that beautiful day arrived; and we said an emotional goodbye to our squad, who was enviously waiting their turn, “some day”! Remember, when the wheels touched down in landing, back in the Good Old USA; and airplane erupting in cheers and clapping. Remember kissing the green, green grass of Home, and there was, mama and papa and waiting Mary, with hair of gold, and lips like cherries”. It couldn’t get BETTER!

But sadly, it does not take a “rocket scientist”, or a “Chaplain”, to see that for many of us; the last 50 years, have become a broken dream. Obviously, any elementary study, of the lives of all Vietnam veterans, reveals that many, of us returning veterans, did not live up to our dreams, to our potential, or keep our promises to God. The complicated after-math of the War; overwhelmed many of us, with its Black Despair! Many were badly broken; and remain so. The VA clinics and hospitals, the “4th street gutters”, the homeless sleeping on the city park bench, all testifies, that the PTSD, the wounds inside and outside, the Agent Orange, the wide-spread rejection from our own countrymen, led to the frequent alcoholism, the drugs, the confused perception, the black despair, the broken marriages, the abuses, and ultimately to the 22 veteran suicides we see, per day.

But this does not need to be the end of the story. We can not change our yesterdays. Yesterday is gone; but fortunately God, is the God of Today and tomorrows. Suicide is most

certainly not the answer, for it is the Devil's lie, urging his permanent solution; to a temporary problem. God is the One Who gives Life; Eternal Life! Thus, God still calls today to every hopeless sinner, with the same message of Repentance. "Today when you hear My Voice, harden not your heart." Turn, Turn from your sins, for in the very moment you seek ME; I will turn to you." To every veteran, sunk into the depths of hopelessness and black despair...there is still hope! God is Life; and in Him, we can again find Life. As long as we still have life; we still have HOPE. The same God that brought us safely back from war; obviously still lives TODAY. Tragically, it was we, ourselves, who took the wrong path, away from God...by trying to solve our own problems! Today, is the first day of the rest of your life...cherish it, relish it, USE it wisely. Each new day is simply God's Grace, and we have neither earned another, nor deserved another! But, God can reach down into your depth, and lift you up, from your hopelessness and black despair...and set you upon The Rock of His Salvation. Come unto ME, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you Rest. (Matt. 11:28) May God; so Bless your 2019!

### TAPS

Walter E. Rittenhouse Sr.	died - 7/16/18	Battery C, 50th Artillery WWII
Captain Robert Dean	died - 9/21/18	5th Div - 3 tours - 1/11 - 1/61 Vietnam
SGM Marvin Lewis	died 7/16/18	5th Div.
LTC Louis Scott Markel	died 7/21/18	5th Div.
Donald Marksberry	Unknown	A. Co - 3rd Platoon Vietnam
Thomas Colella, Jr.	March 10, 2018	SVC Batt. 21st FA WWII
Jerry Oliver	September, 2018	5th - Vietnam
Captain Stanley Blunt	Jan. 3, 2018	D - 1/11 - DSC 4 tours

**Two letters: A follow up to Capt. Robert Dean Memoriam and a letter from a WWII descendant.**

Hi Stephen Wheat,

I just finished reading the November 2018 issue of the Red Diamond. Thanks for the issue and the very good job that you do.

I didn't know Capt. Robert Dean was with the 1/61<sup>st</sup> but the first line of the article drew my attention immediately. I was also wounded on 21 September 1968 but I believe I was fortunate that day because five men from Delta, 1/11<sup>th</sup>, died in the same engagement. Delta and Charlie Companies were working two sides of a ridgeline west of Con Thien. Delta was engaged about mid-morning and Charlie Company was ordered to move over to help out. It took us a couple of hours to get there because of the terrain. When I went to move my platoon to help stabilize the perimeter I ran into the same guys that hit them.

Best regards,

Bill Crumlett

2<sup>nd</sup> LT, Charlie Company, 1/11<sup>th</sup> Infantry

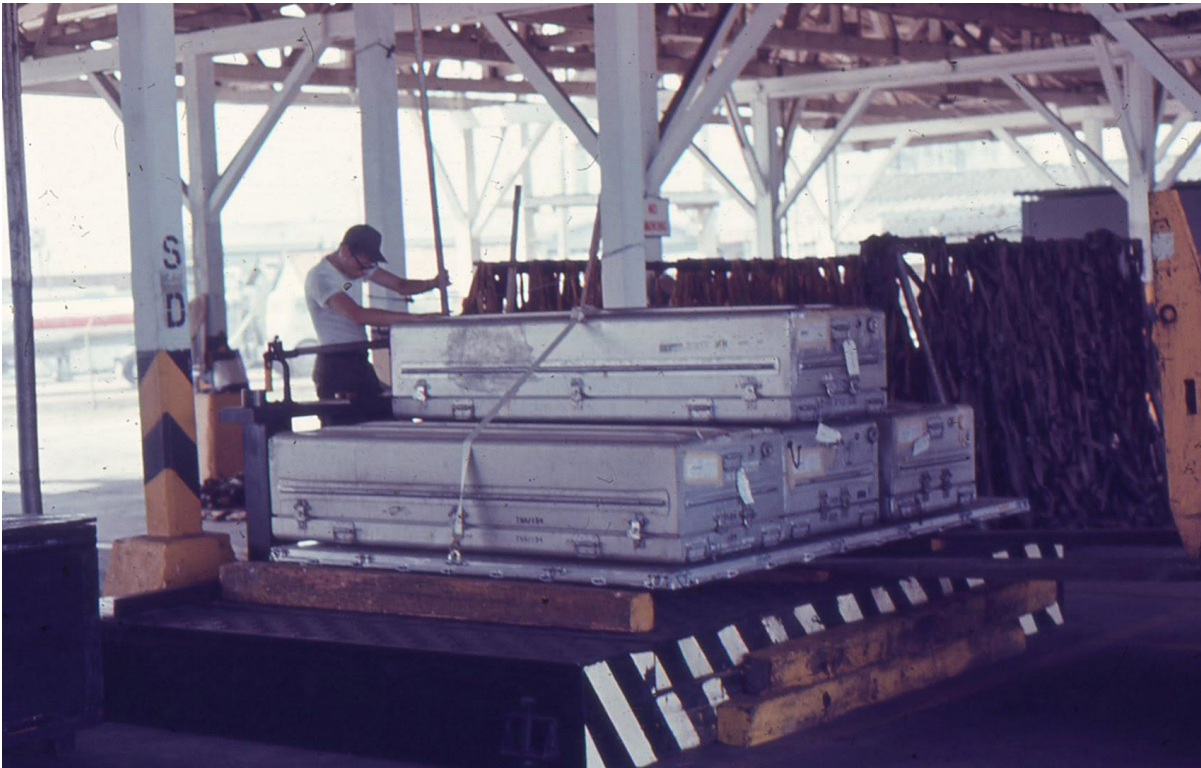
=====

My name is Nick Stavros, grandson of Manelous (Mel) Stavros who was stationed in Augsburg, Germany in the early 1950's in the 5th infantry division. My grandmother shared these with me and I immediately had the thought that it would be great to possibly locate the families of the other infantry men in these photos and share these with them as well. I can provide better photography once I get access to a scanner after the holidays.

Respectfully,  
Nick Stavros



## For those who prepared Vietnam's fallen, a lasting dread



The remains of four U.S. servicemen killed in the Vietnam War prepare to make the final journey home from the U.S. Army mortuary at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon. COURTESY OF U.S. ARMY QUARTERMASTER MUSEUM

By [MATTHEW M. BURKE](#) | STARS AND STRIPES Published: November 9, 2014

The faces haunt him wherever he goes.

Day, night, asleep, awake; the dead are unrelenting. They are young, horrifically burned, maimed, bloated beyond recognition, others just in pieces.

Gary Redlinski says he can hear the Hueys, Chinooks and C-130s, all bearing dozens upon dozens of bodies in a never-ending procession. The putrid smell tickles his nose.

The Vietnam War left scars on the minds of a generation, but for the soldiers who identified the war dead and sent them home to their families for burial, it has never been more vivid.

“I hear a chopper today and it puts me on alert,” Redlinski told Stars and Stripes from a reunion of mortuary affairs and graves registration workers in September. “I’m like, ‘OK, I have more work to do.’ ... Vietnam is still with

me as clear today as it was back then.”

From May 1968 to July 1970, the Army sergeant came of age in the U.S. Army mortuary at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in Saigon. Just 19 when he arrived, the horrors he witnessed would forever shape him and the men he served with. “It was really rough,” Redlinski said. “The numbers were overwhelming.”

More than 58,220 Americans would die before it was all over.

### **A grim task**

Redlinski, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., couldn't have picked a worse time to head to Vietnam. Casualties had skyrocketed from 216 in 1964 to 16,899 in 1968, according to U.S. government statistics. He was in school to become a funeral director when he was drafted. The move to the Quartermaster Corps and the Army mortuary was only natural.

Glen Freundt had been in a similar situation. The 23-year-old had been in the family funeral business in Chicago when he was drafted. He arrived at Tan Son Nhut Air Base in September 1967.

The Army mortuary had been set up in a building previously occupied by the French, they recalled. It was originally located by the flight line and heliport for easy access to incoming remains.

The remains came in from mortuary personnel in the field who were overseeing smaller collection points spread out across the country. They were airlifted or sometimes driven into one of the two main mortuaries, one at Tan Son Nhut and the other at Da Nang.



The capacity of Tan Son Nhut was 250 sets of remains, Redlinski said. However, they always had more.

Fruendt remembers spending days bringing bodies in from the heliport, and days just getting them off the floor.

The mortuary was bustling around the clock, seven days a week.

They were so far over capacity that Fruendt recalls staff throwing food away to make more cooler space.

“There were remains all over the place,” he recalled. “It almost became a normal way of operation because we were so busy.”

The first task mortuary personnel had after bringing the remains into the facility, was to take the clothing off the individual. They would then look for identifying marks like scars, birthmarks or tattoos.

They checked the boots and belts of the individual to see if their name had been written inside.

“Dog tags were the worst thing you could use for an identification,” Fruendt said. “Guys would trade them or give them to their buddies. Some guys would come in with three sets on them, none of them their own.”

Then the men would take fingerprints and make a dental chart. These were the best tools they had to make an ID. But it wasn't always easy. Bodies would come into the mortuary in pieces sometimes, burnt, bloated from days in the hot sun of a rice paddy or covered in maggots.

“You learned to breathe a certain way,” Redlinski said. “The odors were difficult to deal with sometimes.”

Army personnel would often help embalm the bodies because the civilian embalming crews could not keep up with the work load.

The toughest IDs would be tasked to civilian anthropologists. Army mortuary staff would aid in the work. It was like a puzzle trying to put bone fragments together, Redlinski said.

“It got to be a lot more gruesome than I thought it would be,” he recalled.



Some cases went unsolved. If there was too little left of a group of men, they were sometimes shipped back together.

Mistakes were rare but they were made, the men said. One family was sent the wrong remains from the mortuary in Da Nang, Fruendt recalled. After they continued receiving letters from their loved one in the field, an inquiry was launched and standards improved.

## **The faces**

As the decades have slowly crept by, mortuary personnel have tried to forget, but that is all but impossible.

Redlinski recalls a man whose skin was peeling off. To make the ID, he had no choice but to put it on his own hand to take a fingerprint.

“It still haunts me to this day but we got him home and back to his family,” he said. “That was the good part. I try to remember the good parts. We did what we had to do I guess.”

Fruendt still sees the face of a young female nurse who had come in after overdosing on drugs.

“She was beautiful on her ID card but now she was all bloated and just in terrible condition,” he recalled. “I was shocked that nobody had recognized the difference” and tried to help her.

There were high-ranking officers caught skimming money who committed suicide and deserters who hugged a grenade rather than be returned to the military.

The mortuary men got through it by trying to shut down their emotions. However, they still had to have respect for the grim task at hand.

“We treated the remains of the soldiers that were killed with respect,” Fruendt said. “It was sad but you had to do the job right and you had to treat them like a member of the family.”

For Redlinski, it was cathartic to talk to the dead.

“I would say, ‘Sorry I have to do this. I have to get you back to your family.’”

“We stayed to ourselves,” Redlinski said. “People thought, ‘Oh there’s death, I don’t want to be near you.’”

Fruendt remembers heading to the chow hall with the members of his unit one day after work. They had all showered and were wearing fresh clothes. They sat down and started eating. Before long, they realized that everyone had cleared away from them.

“The smell was vicious,” he said.

“No matter how much you wash your hands or clothes, it permeates you,” Redlinski added. “It permeates your skin.”

Redlinski said that the smell even reached the troops outside the mortuary.

Just before Fruendt left Vietnam in the fall of 1968, a new, bigger, better mortuary had been built at Tan Son Nhut. This one was far away from the other troops.

“We were kept away from the main body of troops because it was demoralizing,” Redlinski said. “Most guys never knew we were there.”

## **The toll**

The mortuary men said they would never forget the faces of the young men and women they had seen and the horrors of war. They would struggle with post-traumatic stress, leading to a host of problems that went well beyond nightmares — anger issues, substance abuse, failed marriages, being cast adrift.

Fruendt had to walk away from the family mortuary business, much to his father’s chagrin. Redlinski worked in the field for some time, but ultimately quit as well.

Redlinski didn’t realize the extent of his problems until the ‘90s, when he went to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. As he looked at the sea of names carved in stone, he realized that in addition to his sorrow, he was angry at the dead for what they had put him through.

“I realized how those guys had affected my life,” he said. “It was tough.”

When things get tough, just like during wartime, the men lean on each other. They attend meetings and find solace in yearly reunions. They are now focused on supporting the current generation of Army mortuary personnel.

“It takes a toll on you,” Fruendt said. “You don’t realize the change in yourself until later on.”

## **A brotherhood**

Since Vietnam, very little has changed in training and operations of the Army’s mortuary personnel, according to Bill Ellerman, an instructor at Joint Mortuary Affairs Center at Fort Lee, Va.

“Believe it or not, there has been very little innovation between the Vietnam-era and today,” Ellerman said. “We [now] have that airlift capability so we don’t embalm in theater anymore. We’re still fingerprinting and dental charting.”

Their ranks have ballooned from about 400 during Vietnam, who were spread out among small supply and service company teams and detachments, to about 1,600 soldiers in dedicated mortuary affairs companies.

The two active-duty companies are based out of Fort Lee. Six reserve companies are based out of Delaware, New York, California, two in Puerto Rico and one spread around the Pacific.

The Army’s mortuary personnel are still the experts in recovery, identification, preservation and safeguarding remains until a deceased servicemember can be sent back home to their family. It is one of the most important missions during war, Ellerman said.

“There is no better way to honor the fallen than to return them back to their home,” he said. That is still the mission, one that is still largely unheralded. “They didn’t get the credit they deserved,” Ellerman said of the Vietnam veterans who came before him. “It’s kind of the same way today.”

**Continued: One of our Society members who served in  
Mortuary Affairs at QT 1Lt. Jerald D. Collman**

**This was Written by JERALD D. COLLMAN one of our Society Members as a Reference for: Gaylord J. Toole**

I was the Officer in Charge at The Quang Tri Graves Registration Mortuary



Collection Point in Northern I Corp in Vietnam from March 1970 thru October 1970. This Collection Point was like no other Collection Point. There was no rear area in Northern I Corp. Quang Tri and Dong Ha were heavily fortified support bases all within artillery and rocket range from North Vietnam and we were fired on constantly. We were also several kilometers from Laos

and received artillery and rocket fire from those locations. Our location was just east of Khe Sanh and South of Con Thien right on the DMZ. Extending out from those support bases were underground bunker fire support bases on the DMZ. Units supporting this area during Gaylord J. Toole time while assigned to Graves Registration would have been, Third Marine Division, Fifth Infantry Division, 101<sup>st</sup> Air Mobile Division, First Aviation Brigade, and various Cavalry Units Attached to the above units.

The DMZ was a “hot”, “active” area. There were battles on going all the time, thus death was everywhere.

Graves Registration responsibilities was to: retrieve, identify, process, store, ship, and escort All Body Remains to the rear area which was DaNang for embalming and processing back to either Port Oakland or Port Dover. Additional duties included removing all embedded ordnance from all Body Remains as there was no EOD Team’s available for Northern I Corp after January 1970. There wasn’t proper cleaning material to clean oneself after handling the Body Remains, thus soldiers went to bed or guard duty with the smell of death on them and pieces of the dead attached to themselves and their clothing. There wasn’t any gloves, masks, gowns, proper lifting gear, or the necessary basic floor cleaning utensils and cleaning material to remove, blood, body fluids, human waste, and pieces of Body Remains. There weren’t any fans to help to remove the smell because the flies would constantly clog up the fan blades and burn up the motors. It was common for Graves Registration people to slip and fall “into” and “onto” Body Remains.

It could be a horrific scene when mass casualties arrived at the 18<sup>th</sup> Surgical Medical Evacuation Facility next to us. Many times the Graves Registration



became litter bearer's for the wounded, assisting the nurses with mass loss of body parts, or just hold soldier's hand's or torso's as they died.

I remember Gaylord J. Toole very well like many of the men who served with me. My memory of Gaylord is like it was yesterday, because of his sensitivity in assuring that the Body Remains were

processed with respect, honor, and dignity. He was always professional and performed his duties even though I could tell that it was affecting him. We had conversations as to why we were not getting the proper respect from our fellow support supply groups down south of the DMZ and all I could tell Toole and others that we were at the very end of the supply chain and it is difficult to get all necessary supplies when we are receiving, rocket, artillery, sniper fire and our roads are mined.

To be in Graves Registration on the DMZ was pure hell. No one wanted our jobs and how any of us maintained our sanity of some sorts, points to the character of the soldier who performed there duties. When we did come home where was the VA? No one would listen to us about what we did and saw because we were not physically wounded, we were mentally wounded and the VA back then had no clue or desire to help us. So we locked it all up until finally we can no longer hold it in. So the night mares continue for many of us and those scenes of all the death and smells never goes away.

This is to verify that Gaylord J. Toole was in Graves Registration (Co C. 75<sup>th</sup> Spt Bn., 1<sup>st</sup> Bde., 5<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. during part of the time period as Officer in Charge.

Jerald D. Collman

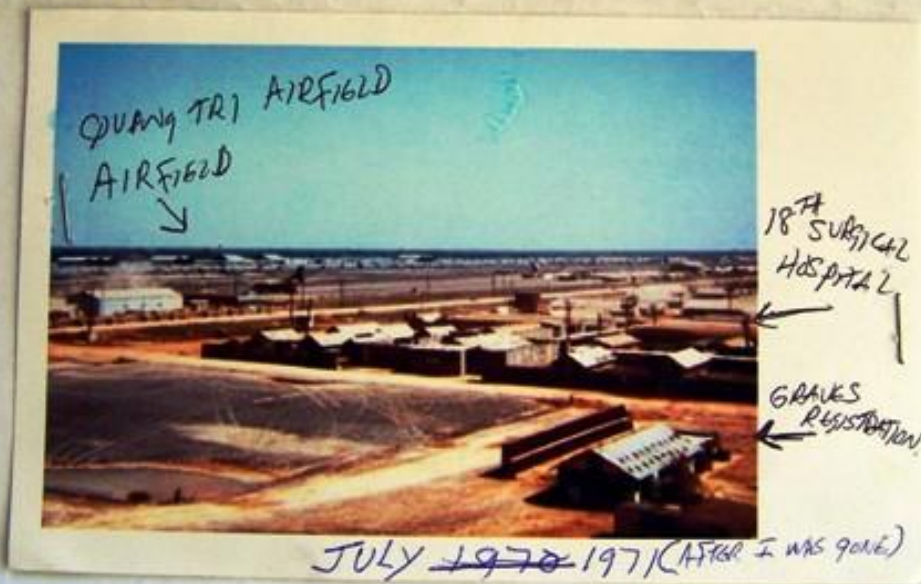
First Lieutenant, Company C 75<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion, First Brigade, Fifth Infantry Division (Mech)

Oct 69 thru Oct 70 Vietnam

TO MY FALLEN BROTHERS

ON BEHALF OF ALL GRAVES REGISTRATION FACILITIES IN VIETNAM, WE HANDLED AND PROCESSED YOU WITH CARE WHERE EVER YOU FELL. WE DID IT WITH REVERANCE, DIGNITY, AND RESPECT.

ON BEHALF OF ALL NOTIFICATION OF KILLED OFFICER'S, SURVIVAL ASSISTANCE OFFICER'S, AND BODY ESCORT DETAIL OFFICER'S, IT WAS OUR HONOR TO BE THERE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES.



JERALD COLLMAN  
GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER  
QUANG TRI PROVINCE  
1969-1970

I LEFT THIS A "THE WALL"  
AT ONE OF MY MANY VISITS.

## The Walker Family Spies

Contributed by Ron Van Beek

High on the list of the most notorious spies, in American history, are the Walker Family spies; who have been responsible for the killing of hundreds, and probably thousands of American soldiers in Vietnam. Peter Earley, who extensively investigated the Walker brother's great treason, writes in his book, Family of Spies, that they even "gave the Russians, our most closely guarded nuclear launch codes"! Unbelievably, Russia was routinely reading our top-secret communications during the Vietnam War, and passing them on to communist North Vietnam. Few American citizens have done more damage to American; than this family of spies, deeply embedded within our national security intelligence system. As members of Navy Intelligence, they sinisterly stole over a million highly classified documents, and routinely sold them to the Russians, from 1968 until his arrest finally in 1985. As the leader, John A. Walker said proudly, "for 18 years, I provided the Russians, with an open door into America's Intelligence's innermost secret room, containing America's most closely guarded National Security secrets. He stated the obvious, "K-mart had better security; then the Navy".



He was able to betray his country so horrifically, first because he lacked any moral compass, basic human values, or any compassion or loyalty to America, to his military comrades, to his family, to his work, or to basic human dignity. He was one of the most "deeply fallen and fatally flawed" humans, who had the misfortune to be born in America. He was amoral, egocentric, and delusional maniac; who still lacks remorse for the 100's and 1000's of Americans, he caused to be killed. For nearly two decades, he committed relentless and systematic treason, against America, and became very rich. Tragically, he was a senior intelligence officer, officially placed in charge of keeping these very, extremely secret codes. Tragically, all of American communications systems used the same codes; consequentially every government agency, and service branch was deeply compromised. Obviously, this was one of the most serious intelligence breaches in U.S. history. The New York Times stated the obvious, "Walker provided enough code-data information to alter significantly the balance of power between Russia and the United States".

American Intelligence's basic safe-guards were obviously virtually non-existent, or unenforced. He confesses that he simply walked into the front door of the Russian Embassy, in Washington, DC, and offered to sell them America's deepest intelligence secrets. How the FBI "watchers", could have missed this obvious treason for 18 years, is beyond comprehension. Because he gave the Russians these secret codes, they could listen to many critical communication, which many government official gave. He was able to do this for nearly two decades, and would have continued to this day; except for a "very lucky break"; where his wife finally told authorities. His downfall was his wife's resentment of his extravagant life-style, his womanizing, his free-spending Lifestyle, his cars, his disastrous role as a father of his three children, his boats, etc. All

of these gross abnormalities should have alerted the FBI, from day one; much less go on for 18 years.



FBI - Michael Walker

Actually, his wife had told the FBI several times before; that her husband was a spy. But her warnings, fell on deaf ears. For our highest officials continued in their stubborn delusion, that America's intelligence and military communication system, was so vastly superior, and so highly sophisticated, that no country could possibly break it's code! Even after our spy ship, the Pueblo, and our key hardware machines and codes, were physically captured off their coast, by the North Koreans, in 1967, the delusion continued at the highest Washington levels. Even though the "KWT-37", our world-wide, super encrypting machine, was physically captured intact, from the Pueblo, and given

to the Russians to closely examine, America's "Whiz-Kids, Spy Masters" refused to scrap the hopelessly compromised system.

These highly classified documents contained much, about the "Crown Jewels" of how America's Intelligence Organizations, communicated secrets with each other. Incredibly, America made the same mistake, as Germany did in WWII, where Hitler believed, against all evidence, that their coded communication system was so sophisticated, so secure, that no other country could possibly break its code. It is hard to imagine that America; repeated Germany's mistake, but the proof is overwhelming. Indeed, our technical equipment for communication, remained unbroken; but it's weakest link, of a flawed, amoral, treasonous human being, instead doomed it.

One of the main places this treason took place, and which had a dramatic impact, was in Vietnam during the War there. Because they could read many of our intelligence communications, many of our military secrets in Vietnam, were in fact, not secret, but were actually being read by our enemies, before we knew of them. For example, prisoners of war interrogated, often told their interrogators, that their communist leaders, routinely told them the location of most B-52 strikes, at least 2 hours, before the strike. Obviously, this often-repeated reality, severely damaged the effectiveness of one of our best offensive weapons; the B-52. It is no wonder then, that so many of our "after-action" reconnaissance missions, often failed to detect much enemy damage! The enemy was safe, hidden inside 30-40 feet deep caves, eating potato chips and smoking cigarettes, while we blew up the jungle, and scared all the



wild-life, far away from them. Our special forces were sometimes inserted into very remote places, and were often shocked to hear upon disembarking their helicopter, their specific names, announced from the enemy's nearby loudspeakers. Despite this overwhelming evidence that something was dramatically wrong; the "Washington Whiz Kids" and our senior intelligence officers, foolishly insisted on continuing to live on, year after year, in their grand delusion, by refusing to change the compromised system.

We probably will never know the exact number of American soldiers, who were killed and wounded because of the Walker treason; but few individuals have been so responsible for so severely harming America's military efforts in Vietnam. It is beyond incredible and amazing; that we actually did as well as we did in the Vietnam War. No other country in the world, would have been able to still win such a war; with one hand tied behind their back, and so hopelessly compromised! The damage was incalculable!

In May, 1985, the FBI would finally arrest this American traitor, John Walker, with stolen intelligence on his person. Only after they began unraveling his 18 year long crime spree; would the FBI discover the actual horror, and immense scope, of his family's crime of treason against America. They were only able to determine the full



FBI - In 1955, before finishing high school, John Walker enlisted in the U.S. Navy and steadily rose through the ranks.

extent of these many crimes; because he confessed all because he was trying to protect his guilty son, from also also serving a life sentence, without parole.

On the Vietnam Wall are carved 58,226 names of real heroes, who willingly served in Vietnam, and gave their lives, to defend America and keep her safe.

Approximately 8.8 million soldiers served during the Vietnam War, from 1964-1973, and nobly contributed to our war effort, and eventual victory over communism.

That one totally depraved, arrogant, traitor, would single-handedly, be responsible for such deep treason, frustrating so much of our war efforts, could cause so much intelligence damage, and be instrumental in so many of our brave soldier's deaths, is far too horrible to adequately contemplate, or to express in words!



FBI - Arthur Walker

## ATTENTION RED DEVILS !!!

People often ask me, *“Steve, I cant make it to the reunion this year but I really would like to, I sure will miss seeing my old friends.”*

So I tell them this: *“Other than attending a Society of the Fifth Division Reunion, the next best thing is making your own ad saying Hi to all of your Red Devil friends.* Face it, the guy who is not present at the reunion will be the one talked about by all of his friends and who doesn't like to get the last word in even if you cant be present.

*So how can you overcome this puzzling predicament?*

**EASILY!!!** By placing an ad in the 2019 Reunion Booklet you will ensure that your words and photo will represent you in fine order and give all of your buddies a reminder that you are still thinking of them. All of the proceeds from the Ad Book are used to offset costs of the reunion, so you are also doing a good deed for the Society.

**Like last year, the ads will be all one page in size and you can add a photo with your message all for one low price.**

A single page ad is 4.5" wide and 7.5" tall.. Using your hardcopy or \*soft copy photos and words, I will make something you will be glad to have your friends see. Keep it brief, 1-2 sentences and one to two photos. Net proceeds from the Program Book go toward the reunion expenses. The deadline for ad submission is August 5, 2019.

**Full Page Ad – (4.5" x 7.5") Cost \$50.00**

Make your check payable to the **“Society of the Fifth Division US Army”**

Send your ad information to: Steve Wheat  
4838 Rockledge Trail  
Smithton, IL 62285

\*For soft copy ad submissions send to: [wheatsco@gmail.com](mailto:wheatsco@gmail.com)

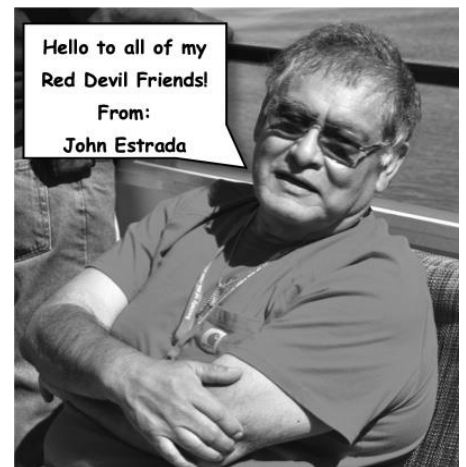
The Society of the  
5th Division  
United States  
Army



98<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion



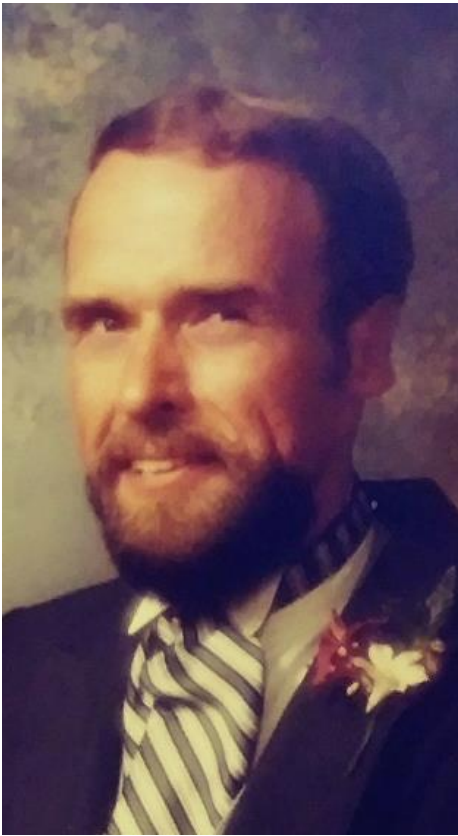
Norfolk, Va. 2018



## IN MEMORIAM

### Captain Stanley Blunt U.S. Army

**Stanley Blunt**, died Jan. 2, 2019, in Saint Francis Hospital, Federal Way, Washington. Stanley was to turn 76 years old on Jan. 30. He was born and raised in Cañon City, Colorado, to Virginia Ludwig and Joseph Stanley Blunt. The son of a



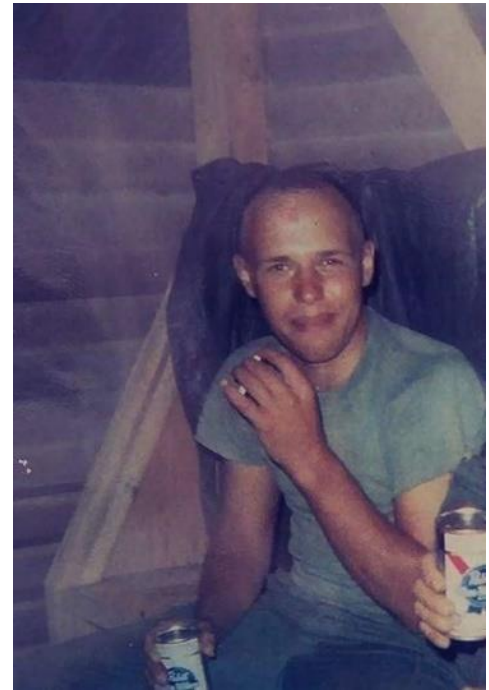
mining pioneer family that was instrumental in the development of the mining industry in Colorado. Stanley was an adventurous youth who filled his time with sports and hunting. His sisters have fond memories of him riding his bicycle to school with his pet pigeon, Pidgie, on his shoulder. Pidgie would then perch herself on the school fire escape before accompanying him home. He and his beloved Irish setter, Rusty, spent hours together in the red Dodge pickup and adventuring in the mountains. A bit of a “hot wire,” Stan is also remembered for riding his motorcycle up the steps of his high school and into the school hallway and for borrowing the city steamroller and driving it down Main St. before jumping and busting a curb—the latter may have occurred while his father was the mayor.

Stan enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1963. His military training included Officer Candidate School, Airborne School, Ranger School (top of his class), Special Forces, and Jungle School. His first tour in Vietnam was with the 1st Battalion of the 503 Brigade of the 173rd Airborne. He served four tours of duty in Vietnam—three of which followed a near-fatal combat injury, an injury that should have prevented him from returning to the field.

Blunt, however, fervently believed that young soldiers were not being adequately trained for jungle combat and, as an experienced officer, he felt it was his duty to be there for “kids” going into Vietnam. After more than a year of rehabilitation and determined to return to action, he falsified medical documents that would have required him to wear a steel helmet at all times and limit his activities in Vietnam,

went AWOL from Fort Carson and travelled to Washington DC to appeal his case directly. By August of 1968, he was a captain serving as an advisor to a Vietnamese battalion of the 1st Army, Republic of Vietnam.

In November 1969, he saved the lives of at least 22 trapped Americans for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. He received numerous other citations during his 13-year military career, including at least one Silver Star, seven Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts. In honor of his service, a classroom building, Blunt Hall, is named after him at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was medically discharged in 1975.



In 1975, he left on a solo, around-the-world sailing adventure on the *RuPiPaKi*, a 25-foot, single-mast, full-keeled Marieholm International Folkboat — no motor. Endearingly, the *RuPiPaKi* was named after Rusty (Ru), Pidgie (Pi), and “a loved one (he) left behind” whom he affectionately called Partner/Kid “PaKi.” His goal was to learn more about himself, other cultures and ethnicities and to view America as seen from around the world.

Newspapers both here and abroad chronicled some of his adventures, including a few of the more harrowing and notable moments: falling from the boat without a tether, barely making it to shore after being stung by sea anemones, days adrift on a windless sea, and countless experiences and friendships formed upon landfall. His extraordinary letters home from wherever he was are an archive to be treasured. Four years later, on Dec. 5, 1979, he returned to the U.S., passing under the Golden Gate Bridge and reportedly shouting “I LOVE this country!”

Following his travels, Stanley had a son, Reagan W. Mount (deceased). He lived in Thailand for several years advocating the rights of the poor, and was actively involved in the search for American POWs. There he met his ex-wife, Kunchalee, and enjoyed later years in Aberdeen, Washington, with his daughter Sonya. In Aberdeen, Stanley was very active in local politics and an advocate for the working class. He was considered to be “The Voice” to the County Commission, and

campaigned for the position of Grays Harbor County Sheriff. While he was tough concerning his political beliefs, his heart was warm, especially toward all the local abandoned street dogs he would frequently foster and/or keep for himself.

General MacArthur said, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away". Well, Captain Stanley Blunt never faded away. Till the end he was cantankerous, opinionated, a tough man with a big heart and always fighting for the America he believed in. He was a true warrior and a great friend; a man who always led from the front.



**SOCIETY OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM**

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/society2019](http://www.afr-reg.com/society2019) (3.5% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before August 8, 2019. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**322 Madison Mews**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**ATTN: SOCIETY OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup>**

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<b>CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/8/19</b>			
<b>TOURS</b>			
FRIDAY 9/6: USS Midway / Seaport Village Tour	\$50	#	\$
SATURDAY 9/7: La Jolla, Mt. Soledad & Old Point Loma Tour	\$50	#	\$
<b>SATURDAY: BANQUET DINNER (Please select your entrée)</b>			
Sliced & Grilled Tri-Top with a Mushroom Sauce	\$53		\$
Grilled Chicken Breast with Roasted Pepper Cream Sauce	\$53		\$
Garlic Herb Marinated Salmon with Sundried Tomato Basil Cream Sauce	\$53		\$
<b>SUNDAY: BANQUET DINNER (Please select your entrée)</b>			
London Broil topped with a Peppercorn Sauce	\$53		\$
Lemon Caper Grilled Chicken	\$53		\$
Teriyaki Mahi Mahi topped with a Mango Pineapple Salsa	\$53		\$
<b>PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE</b>			
Covers various reunion expenses.	\$20		\$
DONATION FOR HOSPITALITY ROOM EXPENSES	\$		\$
Total Amount Payable to <b>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</b>			\$

**PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT YOUR NAMETAG TO READ**

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT INFORMATION (ex. D CO/1<sup>st</sup> BN/11<sup>th</sup> Infantry): \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS SERVED W/ 5ID(ex. 1965-66): \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE (CIRCLE ONE): WWII FT CARSON VIETNAM FT POLK OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT &amp; PAST SOCIETY OFFICE HELD (ex. NATIONAL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, PAST PRESIDENT, ETC.): \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS OF MAIN ATTENDEE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).  YES  NO

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program.

**CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-4:00pm EASTERN TIME**

**CROWNE PLAZA SAN DIEGO – MISSION VALLEY | SAN DIEGO, CA**  
**(888) 233-9527 GROUP CODE “S5D”**

[www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/san-diego/sanccp/hoteldetail](http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/san-diego/sanccp/hoteldetail)

**Location**

2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108

Located just minutes from downtown San Diego, Mission Valley and all of the San Diego's beaches and attractions

**Reservation Information**

Please call the number above and reference the 2019 Society of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division Reunion or please go to <https://book.passkey.com/event/49828550/owner/3702/home>

**Group Name:** Society of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division

**Reunion Dates:** September 5 – 9, 2019

**Rate:** \$129 + tax (currently 12.5%+ \$.59). Daily hot breakfast for up to two (2) guests per room included

in the room rate. Group rate will extend 3 days prior to and following the group's meeting dates, based solely on hotel availability.

**Cut Off Date: 08/8/19** Late reservations will be processed based on space availability at a higher rate.

**Cancellation Policy:** Reservations must be cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival date, or there will be a charge of one night's room plus tax.

**Parking & Shuttle Information**

The Crowne Plaza is offering a discounted rate of \$6 (normally \$15) per day for local and overnight guests. The Crowne Plaza does not offer complimentary shuttle service to or from the San Diego Lindbergh Airport. The hotel recommends SuperShuttle for transportation to and from the airport. Currently prices are \$14 per person one way for shared ride service. All prices are subject to change, please contact SuperShuttle, (800) 974-8885 or visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) to verify prices and to make reservations; advanced reservations are recommended for convenience. If you do not make advanced reservations, shuttle service and taxis are available at the Transportation Plazas located across from Terminals 1 & 2, and curbside at the Commuter Terminal.

**Wheelchair Rental**

ScotAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call (888) 441-7575 or visit

**SOCIETY OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION REUNION  
CROWNE PLAZA SAN DIEGO - MISSION VALLEY | SAN DIEGO, CA**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

**1:00pm - 5:00pm**      **Reunion Registration Open**  
*Hospitality Room and Quarter Master to be open throughout reunion, hours to be posted.*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

8:00am - 9:00am      Executive Board Meeting  
**8:30am - 9:30am**      **Reunion Registration Open**  
 10:00am - 3:00pm      USS MIDWAY / SEAPORT VILLAGE TOUR  
**3:00pm - 4:00pm**      **Reunion Registration Open**  
*Additional hours will be posted if needed.*  
**4:00pm - 5:00pm**      **Banquet Seating Requests Collected**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

9:00am - 3:00pm      LA JOLLA, MT SOLEDAD, & OLD POINT LOMA TOUR  
 6:00pm - 7:00pm      Cash Bar Reception  
 7:00pm - 10:00pm      Dinner Banquet

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

9:00am - 10:00am      Non-denominational Worship Service  
 10:00am - 11:00am      Memorial Service  
 1:00pm - 2:00pm      Society General Membership Meeting  
 6:00pm - 7:00pm      Cash Bar Reception  
 7:00pm - 10:00pm      Dinner Banquet

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

Farewells and Departures

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.



## SOCIETY OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION REUNION TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

### USS MIDWAY / SEAPORT VILLAGE TOUR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

No other carrier has the history or the crew to match the USS Midway. Its 47-year career spanned from the end of WWII to Desert Storm and on which more than 225,000 Americans have served. "Midway Magic" is now a premier attraction in downtown San Diego that opened in 2004. Its self-guided audio tour allows you to explore the 60 exhibits and 24 restored aircraft at your own leisure. Lunch on your own at nearby Seaport Village, home to many shops, eateries, and restaurants.

**10:00am board bus, 3:00pm back at hotel**

**\$50/Person includes bus, guide, and admission. Lunch on your own.**

#### **Estimated Timeline:**

10:00 a.m. Board bus for USS Midway  
 10:15 a.m. Tour USS Midway  
 12:15 p.m. Board bus for Seaport Village/lunch  
 12:30 p.m. Arrive at seaport Village/lunch  
 1:30 p.m. Tour Seaport Village  
 2:45 p.m. Board bus for hotel  
 3:00 p.m. Arrive at hotel

### LA JOLLA, MT SOLEDAD, & OLD POINT LOMA TOUR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Today we will travel north to La Jolla, the "jewel" of San Diego. Many say that La Jolla is to San Diego what Beverly Hills is to Los Angeles – a beautiful enclave to the north with lovely beaches and a great small town vibe. After seeing the sights in La Jolla we will head to Mt Soledad National Veterans Memorial where a 29-foot tall cross, built in 1954, serves as a memorial to honor veterans, living and deceased, from the Revolutionary War to the current global "War on Terror." Time will be allowed for photos and reflection on the more than 3,500 memorial plaques that are part of the Memorial. Continue your journey along the coast and through the beach towns of Pacific Beach and Mission Beach. You will pass the surfers at Windansea Beach, the Giant Dipper Roller Coaster at Belmont Park, and the SkyTower at Sea World. Make your way along Sunset Cliffs, which offers a view of the Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery, where interments date to the early years of the California Territory. Then it's onto Liberty Station (formerly the site of the Naval Training Center) for lunch on your own where you will find many shops and unique eateries. After lunch we will head to Point Loma, home to the Cabrillo National Monument commemorating the landing of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, who sailed his ship the San Salvador in to San Diego Bay in 1542, to become the first European to set foot in California. Contemplate his remarkable journey as you stand next to the statue of Cabrillo and enjoy sweeping views of the bay and downtown San Diego skyline, Coronado and Naval Air Station North Island, and on clear days Tijuana and Mexico's Coronado Islands are also visible. We'll spend some time at the Visitor's Center and you may choose to take the short walk to the Old Point Loma Lighthouse.

**9:00am board bus, 3:00pm back at hotel**

**\$50/Person includes bus, guide and National Park Admission. Lunch on your own.**

*Tour prices do not include gratuity for bus driver and tour guide/escort. In order to accommodate an on-time departure, please be at the bus boarding area five minutes prior to posted time.*

Researching/Obtaining Documents from Vietnam  
By Bob Dudley

Recently I had the privilege of helping one of our members find orders for a Bronze Star he earned while in Vietnam. Thanks to the help of Louis Pepi, I was successful in navigating the National Archives system.

Most military unit documents are located at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. The address is 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. The majority of their holdings of unit records have not been digitized for online use yet, but they do have hard copies that you can reproduce. They have copy machines on site, plus you can use a digital camera or smart phone to make copies. They also have machines where you can insert an SD card and then copy the document. Their holdings include operation reports, lessons learned, after actions reports, debriefing reports, organizational history, daily journals, situation reports, and awards to name just a few. When I contacted the National Archives I was sent an e-mail from Lauren Theodore ([lauren.theodore@nara.gov](mailto:lauren.theodore@nara.gov)) with the following information:



Below is a link to our online Catalog with hits relating to the 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division, including Operation Reports - Lessons Learned, After Action Reports, and Officer Debriefing Reports:

[https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=5th%20infantry%20division,%201st%20brigade&f.\\_oldScope=\(descriptions%20or%20online\)&f.recordGroupNoCollectionId=472&SearchType=advanced](https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=5th%20infantry%20division,%201st%20brigade&f._oldScope=(descriptions%20or%20online)&f.recordGroupNoCollectionId=472&SearchType=advanced)

Additionally, we have a collection of records relating to the 5th Battalion, 4th Artillery Regiment as listed below. We do not have records relating specifically to the Battery level, however, the battalion reports sometimes detail notations relating to the batteries.

**RG 472 Entry A1 1649**

Box 189: 5/4 Artillery Battalion Organizational History: 1965 to 1971

Box 191: 5/4 Artillery Battalion Headquarters Combined Daily Journals: 06/14/1971 to 07/31/1971

Box 192: 5/4 Artillery Battalion FDC Daily Journal: 01/01/1971 to 05/31/1971

Box 193: 5/4 Artillery Battalion Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations (S3) Command Reports: 1971 to 1971

Box 194: 5/4 Artillery Battalion Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations (S3) Situation Reports: 01/08/1971 to 07/29/1971

If you are interested in ordering copies of any of the material you see listed, we will be happy to provide you with an official reproduction quote. Our current fee for copies is \$.80 per page and orders take approximately 30-60 days to complete. We do have a three-file limit per request so as not to overwhelm the copy staff. If you are interested in this service, please email [archives2reference@nara.gov](mailto:archives2reference@nara.gov) with the three files in which you are interested complete with entry and box numbers and your billing/shipping address. You can order more files after your first order is complete.

Alternatively, we will be pleased to make the finding aids to these records available to you or your representative in our research room at the National Archives Textual Reference Archives II Branch (RDT2), located at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD.

- Textual Research Room (Room 2000) hours are 8:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.
- Our reference consultation room hours are 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. No appointment is necessary.
- Records are retrieved Monday through Friday for use in the Textual Research Room at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. We do not pull in advance and records are retrieved on a first come first serve basis.
- Prior to your visit, please consult our web site at <http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/college-park/> and <http://www.archives.gov/research/start/getting-started.pdf>.
- Personally owned scanners that do not have feeder systems and cameras (including cell phone cameras) are permitted in our research reading room. There is no cost for scans or photographs made on personally owned equipment.

A list of private researchers who are familiar with National Archives facilities and can make copies of records is available on our web site at <http://www.archives.gov/research/hire-help/index.html>.

When you go to the building you register as a researcher (you need a driver's license) and then review a short PowerPoint presentation on how the research process works – all this takes about 15 minutes. You then go upstairs to research and request your documents. No appointment is necessary.

You complete a document request form and the personnel will retrieve the documents for you. The orders for Bronze Stars and below awarded in 1971 from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Vietnam were located in Record Group Number 472, Entry Number (P) 820, Boxes 6-8 located in Stack 270, Row 29, Compartment 33, Shelf 1. Below is the form you complete to retrieve the documents.

REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP		334	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	11/29/2018	TRACKING NUMBER	4699052
3 Boxes SHADED BOXES FOR NARA USE ONLY		LAST NAME (PRINT)		FIRST NAME (PRINT)		RESEARCHER CARD NUMBER
DUDLEY		Robert		194582		
SERIES OR COLLECTION NAME						
5th ID, 1st Bde General Orders						
RECORD GROUP, SERIES, COLLECTION DESIGNATION	ENTRY NUMBER	NATIONAL ARCHIVES IDENTIFIER (OPTIONAL)		BOX/ITEM NOS. REQUESTED		
472	(P) 820			6-8		
STACK	ROW	COMPARTMENT	SHELF	NUMBER OF BOXES ITEMS PULLED		
270	29	33	1	3		
OTHER RECORD IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION (SPECIFY FOLDER/TITLE/SERIAL NUMBERS)						
1971						
NOV 29 PM 2:41						
REQUEST REVIEWED BY			REQUEST PULLED BY			
MAG			TCP			
REQUESTED BY	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)	REFILED BY	DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)			
	11/29/2018					
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION						NA 1486 (05-18)
See the back of this form for Privacy Act Notices that applies to the information you are providing on this form.						Required by NARA 1572

The next step was to have the award entered into the official Army records. I contacted the Transition Team at the Fort Leavenworth Adjutant General's Office on how to enter the award into the individual's service record and entry onto the DD 214. I was able to give the orders to the AG office and they forwarded them to the US Army Human Resources Command. They did say that it might take a while – anywhere from 3 months to a year – until the transaction is completed. ---Bob Dudley Past President

*"He didn't even know how to play the bugle. But because he wanted to honor fallen soldiers, he learned"*

## The Call of the Trumpet

BY BOYD HUPPERT contributed by Dan Santagata Soc. Fifth Div. WW II

THE COMMUTERS IN Excelsior, Minnesota, are too busy rushing to work to notice the lone figure climbing up to old Oak Hill Cemetery. He is a tanned, gray-haired man in khakis and a golf shirt, and he is walking deliberately. Gary Marquardt spots a grave with an American flag on it, raises his trumpet, and plays.



"I love to hear taps echo through the cemetery," he says. "I'm doing something for these guys. It's kind of like being among friends." Gary will repeat the routine a dozen times over the next 45 minutes: finding a veteran, saying his name, and then playing taps.

"I always think about the funeral, the people standing around here, so sad at the loss of their loved one, and then it's over and you're left with this," Gary says, looking down at a grave.

The cemetery visits started three years ago, after Gary attended the military funeral of a friend's father, who had served during World War II. It bothered Gary that a recording was being used for taps and not a live bugler. "It just seemed that after what they've given, an actual person playing taps wasn't much to ask for," he says.

There was only one problem: Gary had never played a bugle. So he called Bugles Across America (BAA), an organization that provides buglers for military funerals. They told him he would need to audition. He then walked into a music store and bought a horn. Then he started to practice. "It was awful," says Gary's wife, Joanie Marquardt, with a laugh. The Marquarts' neighbors, Bruce and Carol Hedblom, were exposed to Gary's playing too. "No inhibitions," Bruce says diplomatically. "I would have given up," Gary instead took lessons. "We were all hoping he would get better," says Joanie. "And then he did!" He even passed his audition (on the third try).

Through BAA, Gary volunteers at funerals roughly a hundred times a year. "I don't play perfect every time," he says. "But it comes from the heart." When he's not playing a funeral, he's often found at local cemeteries honoring veterans. Be they Civil War-era soldiers or casualties of more recent conflicts, he always leaves a penny on each stone, symbolizing the pittance of his service compared with theirs.

But why so committed? Turns out Gary—now 68 and comfortably retired after selling his document services company got a pass in his 20s. He was all but certain he'd be heading to Vietnam after college, until a bleeding ulcer intervened. "I collapsed at work," he says. "And all of a sudden I was 4-F!" 4-F: unfit to serve. Gary's father had served during World War II and some of his high school friends had already died "I think ashamed is the word," he says. "I was ashamed I was happy I didn't have to go."

Not a day goes by that Gary does not play taps. Every evening, as the sun sets over his lakeside home, he walks to the railing of his deck and points his horn toward the water. His neighbors no longer close their windows. In fact, they stop what they're doing, stand at attention, and listen. On some nights, neighbor Alan Greene emerges on his deck to accompany Gary on his flute. "It's a last call; it's daily rest," says Gary. "It's a prayer!"

*Special Thanks to Dan Santagata Society of The Fifth Division WW II, for sending this article to the RD.*

## EDITORS TWO CENTS

by Steve Wheat, National Editor



The days since last edition have been tumultuous, there has been a lot of change in my life situation and all for the better. I now have a complete set of upper teeth so my speech won't be slurred when I have not been drinking and I went on a sea cruise and survived without any icebergs or torpedoes. Thanks to our dedicated members who have sent in so many print worthy articles we had to chop a few more trees down and put the squeeze on our resident squid (*an actual sea creature not a sailor*) to get enough paper

and ink to produce the hardcopy.

Of all of the jobs I have had on the Society Board of which there have only been two, I like this one the best and am offering to train a second in command to follow in my APC tracks should JJ Jackson ever be successful in having me killed (inside joke, no threat I am aware of). If you are somebody who likes words and has enough computer savvy to watch you tube replays of Superbowl commercials then you meet these stringent qualifications, I eagerly await your application to be sent to me at my email address: [wheatsco@gmail.com](mailto:wheatsco@gmail.com)

I have no plans of kicking the bucket or any other euphemisms for going toward the light but during my mouth surgery I thought about what it would be like without a backup editor in the event that I was novocained into oblivion and missed the publishing deadline which is four times per year. By the time I would recover, my mailbox would be stuffed to capacity with letters from RD readers who missing the quarterly lifeline of all things Red Devilish. It would be too much for anyone to bear.

Everyone needs somebody to have their back and if ever there was a group who has mine it is in all of you my Red Devils.

Bye for now my Brothers and Sisters,

PS: Really consider taking out a reunion ad, I can photoshop your picture and make you look however you want to look all at no extra charge.

I will follow with an article sent to the RD by Mr. Sam Harper of Tennessee, I hope you find it as interesting as I have.

Continued on next Page:

October 14, 2018

Dear national Secretary John Estrada and National Editor Steve Wheat:

I send this information to you because it is the story of the death in combat 100 years ago of Lt. Louis Carmel Brown, Co. D, 7th Engineers, 5th Division. Lt. Brown was my grandfather. Here is Lt. Brown's story:

On 8/14/18 [100 years ago, ed.] at 8:30am, the **AEF 5th Infantry Division** went "over the top" to attack defensive German positions around Cuneal, France. The 7th Engineers were attached by companies to the infantry regiments. The engineers attacked carrying equipment to cover the many streams and trenches in the area so the infantry could advance.

Within thirty minutes the casualty rate was so high that the engineers were instructed to drop their equipment and arm themselves from the fallen infantrymen.

Within 90 minutes, 70% of the American Sgts and Lts/Cpts were casualties: dead or wounded. Corporals were running squads and platoons and junior Sgts running companies.

One of the officer casualties (wounded) was Lt. Louis Carmel Brown, Co. D, 7th Engineers, engineer graduate of UMass, Amherst; veteran of the Philippine Constabulary (1910-12); professional engineer: builder of railroads, water systems, city water engineer of Toledo, Ohio, etc., husband of Marion Frost Brown, father of Albert, Marjory, and Elizabeth Brown:

**from the national archives (unedited):** an interview with private 1st class James D. Potee, Company D, 7th Engineers, **(5th Division, American Expeditionary Force): 1575 Ellsworth St., Gary, Ind. on April 4, 1919.**

"On the morning of October 14/18 Lieut. Brown was in command of his platoon at the position near Cuneal, France, and led them over the top at 8:30a.m. The attack was against an enemy stronghold and the enemy machine gun and artillery fire was of a most intense kind. Lieut. Brown had advanced probably 200 yards from the starting point and was nearly at the foot of the hill overlooking Cuneal, and was about 350 yards to left of road going into Cuneal in the direction of our advance, when he was struck with a small piece of shrapnel in the back. I was in a shell hole when I noticed whom I thought was Lieut. Brown lying dead a short distance away to my front.



shortly I noticed him move his hand slightly and I then went over to him and asked him if he was badly hurt, and he replied "yes" and asked who I was. I then picked him up and carried him back to a shell hole on the crest of the hill and laid him face downwards. upon examination, discovered the piece of shrapnel which had wounded him was about the size of half a dollar. he asked me to turn him over on his back, but in trying to do so, it was too painful for him to bear and he continued lying on his face. I brought a medical corps man to his aid who attended his wounds. Lt. brown inquired as to the seriousness of his wound and the medical corps man told him that he would get along all right after a while. Lt. brown talked very little. he requested several times that the captain of his co. be advised of his wound, and asked if the barrage had quieted down any. I aided in taking him from the field later, and he was evacuated to a hospital, dying the morning of October 18th about 6:00 am. he received this wound which proved fatal, about 9: a, m, October 14th, 1918."

**Information regarding wound of lieut. Brown, given by Capt; Joseph Laracy (co. d, 7th engineers):**

"on the evening of October 14th, 1918, while interviewing Lt. brown who was being taken to div; field hosp 17, I found him resting very easy, and conscious of all that was happening; he remarked that he was feeling fine and would be back to the co: as soon as he was well. I learned afterwards that his wound was more serious, and upon arriving at field hospital 17, he was evacuated to mobile hospital no 1, where he died the morning of October 18th."

**From the Bridgewater (Massachusetts) independent (12/6/18) lieut.**

brown killed Word came Tuesday afternoon to Mrs. Marion brown of the death in battle in France of her husband, lieut. louis c. brown. the manner of his meeting his death was not stated except that "he died in the discharge of his duties."

Mrs. brown received further details from the war department yesterday, stating that her husband died October 28 (sic, should read 18) of wounds received in action. he was with the 7th engineers and was in action at the St. Michael salient when last heard from.

lieut. brown is survived by his wife and three children, the oldest four years old. other immediate relatives. all of Bridgewater, include his mother, Mrs. Sarah l. brown; a sister. Mrs. pearl Benson; and a brother Eben h. brown. a sister, Mrs. Myron Richmond, died during the recent influenza epidemic.

lieut. brown was born in Lakewood. Ohio, 32 years ago and moved to this state with his parents. he attended the public schools, graduating from Bridgewater high school with the class of 1906. he then entered Massachusetts agricultural college (now umass Amherst) and graduated with the class of 1910 with a B.Sc. degree. lieut. brown received a commission with the constabulary in the Philippines as third lieutenant. at college he was captain of the college battalion. After two years in the Philippines he returned to this country by way of the Suez Canal, completing a trip around the world. he married miss Marion frost and moved to Toledo, Ohio where he had a position with the city as engineer.

He received his commission about a year ago and went across last July. lieut. brown was a member of the new Jerusalem church in Toledo and joined the masons there. At college he was a member of the delta gamma chapter of the kappa sigma fraternity.

**A personal note (Sam Harper):** we named our son louis because lieutenant brown was my grandfather. his and Marion's middle child, Marjory (2 12 years old when he was killed), was my mother. November 11 is still looked upon as armistice day in my family. My grandmother wore her wedding ring until the day she died in 1979. she turned down an offer in 1919 to bring lt. brown's remains back to our country from his French grave. she said it was best to leave them among those with whom he served and as a reminder to the rest of us of what America has done for the world.

she reported in the university of Massachusetts class of 1910's newsletter of 1968(vol. 58) that lt. brown had ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren (now eighteen). six of their grandsons "discharged their duties": my cousin Tom Hudnall in the us navy; his brother randy in the us army; my brother john in the us army; my brother Richard in the us navy medical corps; my brother James in the us marine corps; and myself, the us navy. tom, john, and James served in Vietnam. three of his great grandsons have also "discharged their duties": Daniel harper use, will harper USN, and Eric harper USA (combat engineer). will and Eric served in Afghanistan. Marion brown concluded the 1968 (final class of 1910) newsletter report "in his short life, louis really started something."

a few days later, **the 5th infantry division** carried the German lines. later (3 weeks) the 7th engineers built the first bridge over the Marne as the German army was in full retreat.

sources: **5th infantry division** and 7th engineer regiment great war histories (I have the books); national archives

Regards,  
Sam Harper  
1 USN, 75-



## IN MEMORIAM: Jerry Oliver

I knew Jerry Oliver in passing in Vietnam. We were both in Alpha/1-61. He was in the first platoon and I was in the third. He was an APC driver and a good mechanic. He fought with Alpha Company on Gallagher Ridge on November 13, 1969. I knew him as a fun loving guy who literally knew everyone in the company. Hell, he photo-



bombed our third platoon photo.

I got to know him better in 2016 when we met in Inverness, Florida where I interviewed him for my book. We instantly bonded and began conversing as if we had known each other all our lives. We spent hours in the local McDonalds talking and looking at my Vietnam photo collection. After a time, one or the other

of us would say, “Well, I guess I’d better be going”, and then another topic of discussion would come up and we’d settle back to talking again. This happened many times before we finally parted ways after four hours of conversation. When we reached our trucks in the parking lot, I gave Jerry an Alpha/1-61 hat. Thinking for a moment, he said, “Wait, I’ve got something for you”. He went to his truck and came back with a sweet little jackknife with a whalebone handle. “Here, this is for you, brother”, he said. We shook hands and embraced before we went on our way.

Three weeks later, on my way home with my wife Pat, we met again at a trailer park in Chrystal River, Florida. This time I met his wife Peggy and we had a nice lunch together. After lunch, we strolled through the trailer park and Jerry introduced me to all of his friends. After good byes, I was on my way again.

Later in June of 2016, we met still again—this time at General Butler State Park in Kentucky at an Alpha/ 1-61 reunion. Over the next three days, I got to witness his wonderful wit and splendid sense of humor. The following year we met again in Florida. His health was deteriorating but that great wit and humor was still there. That day, we went to a Model A car show.

Although that was our last meeting, we stayed in contact continuously by phone at first and then by text and Facebook when his voice began to deteriorate. Jerry passed away in September. He is now with his fallen Alpha Company brothers. Rest in peace, my friend and brother. Words by Lou Pepi

As mentioned before **Alex Candelaria** and the Exec. Board has chosen as the theme for this year as "Focus on the 75<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion" Following are some emails that former members of the 75<sup>th</sup> sent in to share with the Society members.

From: Gary Lee

Hi Alex Candelaria,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the Society for recognizing the Support personnel and while we were not always in the field, many were assigned to other units.

I was in D Co, 75th Spt Bn as a Tank Turret mechanic 45K30, however, we all worked under the 45G30 mos as we also did much for 5/4 Arty with members stationed at Dong Ha as well as C2, we supported the Cavs' (3/5 & 4/12) as well as 1/11, 1/61, 1/77, & other units. We were the Armament Section but many of us were Wheeled & Track Vehicle mechanics (63B/C) just to name a few. In the Armament Section we also had the Sighting and Fire Control section as well as the armorers who worked on every type of fire arms and they handled the 81mm mortars, we handled the 4.2 mortars.

In your article "The Support Command" I have a small comment regarding as to how I recall the Bn's structure:

HHC Headquarters and Headquarter Company located at the same place as D Company

A Company: this was mainly personnel, payroll etc.

B Company: this was the medical company

C Company: this was the transportation company and graves registration

D Company: this was the maintenance and supply company

I don't recall any E Company at all.

You are so right about us being required to 'go out into the field' while I never accompanied 1/11, 1/61 or 1/77 in the field, very often we were required to assist 5/4 Arty on numerous occasions and our automotive mechanics were attached to any of the units with vehicles.

During Lam Son 719 D Company lost 3 of its members at the same time, from the records this happened at CaLu however we were told we were located at Vandergrift. Our three losses were George Hutson 63B/C; Charles Montross 45K; and Lucio Reyes 63B/C. When you read the report it calls it a mis-adventure, but eye witnesses told me it was due to short rounds fired or launched from the top of the hill on the northern side of QL9. It appeared that these mortars/rockets were intended for the 105 towed battery on the other side of the road near the commo area. We were at the end of the old runway with 1/77 (and during incoming we would get under their Tank Retriever.) I replaced Chuck Montross and then went on to Khe Sahn and was there for the remainder of the action.

Again, thank you for giving the support personnel recognition, we were doing our part too, regardless if a person never left the base, was permanently attached to a combat arms unit, or somewhere in between, we all were part of the plan.

Best regards,

Gary F. Lee SFC USAR (ret) Co D 75th Spt Bn (May 1970-May 1971)

By Leon Linderwell

I was drafted in March 1968 immediately after graduating from



Pasadena City College with an AA

Our headquarters and In-Processing were originally located at Quang Tri Combat Base and later we moved to Camp Red Devil. While going through In-Processing it was noticed that I had two years of college, could type and had done well on the Army aptitude tests. Apparently, the Army-trained clerks were being snapped up by units in "the rear with the gear" and the 5th Division was looking for people to fill those slots. So, although I had an 11 Bravo MOS, I was assigned to the Personnel Services Division (PSD) and my job was a Medi-Vac clerk. I received notification of personnel who were killed or wounded and would do the necessary paper work and make sure their personal belonging was sent to the right place.



In addition to working 7 days a week, we pulled guard duty about once every 3 days. Company A was assigned 7 bunkers and three men were placed in each bunker. Every night after chow, 21 of us would pull guard duty until about 7 the next morning.

After working as a Medi-Vac clerk, and recognizing the names of some of the casualties, I decided I didn't want to do that anymore. SGT Graham Trudo and I volunteered to be full-time sergeants of the guard and spent every-other night on perimeter. Seven of us volunteered to go on ambushes and, after a couple more weeks of training, found ourselves swatting mosquitos and wading through rice paddies.

degree. I was sent to Ft. Ord, CA but couldn't start Basic Training because the base was overcrowded with new recruits, so the Army sent 200 of us to Ft. Bliss, TX. After Basic I was sent to Ft. Gordon, GA for Advanced Infantry training. Ft. Gordon was known primarily as an M.P. School and Communications, but there was one BN of Infantry. After AIT I was sent to Vietnam through Ft. Lewis, WA in Aug. 1968. I arrived at Cam Ranh Bay and after a few days was sent to I Corps and the 5th Division.

I extended my tour in Vietnam two extra months in order to get a 5 month early-out, and was discharged Oct. 20, 1969. I married my college sweetheart, Vicki, and graduated from Calif. State University at Long Beach. I was a history teacher in a junior high school for 35 years and retired in 2007.

Leon Linderwell  
Co A, 75th Spt Bn,

By Jerry Collman

Within Field Service Platoon, Company C, 75<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion, there was a Graves Registration Section and it covered all areas within Northern I Corp. Our mission included First Brigade & Attachments, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division CAP Units still in place, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Brigade at Camp Evans, parts of 1<sup>st</sup> Aviation Brigade, CIA, Special Forces, Rangers, and anybody else north & northwest to the DMZ and sometimes past the DMZ. Bottom line Graves Registration provided support for the Most Northern of I Corp regardless of Branch of Service, Government Civilian, Foreign Country Allies.



Brigade Headquarters. I was able to attend the Brigade TOC area and attend the Generals briefings as to what was occurring in the Brigade AO including 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne

AO, so I had a good understanding what was going on and I knew later where to go to understand what was happening in Northern I Corp.

In February an opening came up Field Service Platoon Leader and I requested transfer to Company C 75<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion. Company C was located at Camp Roberts on the northwest hill of QTCB next to the Air Force Radar Station, Dog Platoon, and 1-11 Battalion.

I know Gary Lee from Company D has explained what their mission and tasks. Company C also had embedded soldiers at all the fire bases too, but also with different missions and tasks. Most of the soldiers weren't aware of it and I can understand those thoughts.

When I arrived at the Brigade in October 69 I was first assigned to

The breakdown of Company C was by Platoons, but Squads were Sections. The Platoons were: Field Service, Transportation, Petroleum, Motor Pool, Brigade Supply Support (I can't remember the exact name of it). The Field Service Platoon sections were broken down as the following: Company Supply,

Portable Shower Units, Graves Registration. The largest number of soldiers in the platoon was in the Graves Registration Section. The Graves Registration Collection Point was a Restricted Area located perpendicular to 18<sup>th</sup> Surgical Medical (we shared the same helicopter pad) across from the Airfield just north of Dong Ha on Hwy 1.

Jerry Collman,

I was the Field Service Platoon Leader and the Reactionary Force Platoon Leader for the Company C. Most times we had to provide our own security as we traveled along QL 9 and the roads/tank trails to FSB C2, A1, A4, Mai Loc, Camp Carroll, old Vandergriff/Culu area hauling various supplies such as fuel, ammo, artillery shells; also some by helicopter. I kept very busy as Graves Registration played a big part for our Brigade Fallen and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Brigade at FSB Ripcord, Henderson, O'Reilly, and many other locations during my time period. It also included the recovery of Body Remains from Helicopters, Fixed Wing Aircraft. The majority of Body Remains came to the Quang Tri Graves Registration Collection Point along the DMZ including most of the Ashau AO, and within our own Brigade AO. Sometimes we had to go and get them as the battles continued or had moved on

to other areas and the Units couldn't recover them at the time. At the Collection Point we identify, remove all ordinance, escort the Body Remains to DaNang for further identification and embalming before being shipped back to USA. We also identified all personal effects and escorted them to Saigon for further shipping to the US for the Next of Kin.

Additionally, with a Critical MOS 4960 (Petroleum Officer), I could help Transportation & Petroleum Platoon Leader when overloaded with tasks.

Just trying to help others be help understand it took a lot of effort to support the infantry/armor/artillery and all the brigade attachments.



S05

## *How Do I Get Started With Increasing My Physical Activity?*

Becoming physically active does not mean you have to join a gym. The best thing about physical activity is that even a little can make you feel a whole lot better. In no time at all, you will have more energy, sleep better, and feel fit.

### **Safety First**

**Ask your MOVE! team whether you need to see your primary care provider before beginning a program of physical activity.**

### **General tips on increasing physical activity:**

- **Start slowly.** Choose the type and amount of activity that is right for you.
- **Increase your everyday activity.** Take the stairs. Park farther away and walk. Clean your house. Get up to change the TV channel. Walk to get your mail.
- **Walk** to increase your physical activity. It's free and you can do it almost anywhere. **Use a pedometer** to count the number of steps you take everyday.
- **Choose any activity** that gets you moving. You don't have to belong to a gym.
- **Add 10-minute sessions of physical activity into your day.** You don't have to do it all at one time. Adding up chunks of 10 minutes counts.





## How Do I Get Started With Increasing My Physical Activity?

- **Be physically active** for at least 30 minutes most days of the week to improve your health. To lose weight, build up to 60 minutes most days. Try not to overdo it at first.
- **Wear comfortable shoes and clothes** that are right for the activity and weather.
- **Listen to your body.** You are the best judge of how hard and how long you should exercise.
- **Recruit a buddy** or someone who likes the same activity. You can motivate each other.
- **Warm-up before you exercise, cool-down after, and stretch at the end of your session** to prevent injury and reduce muscle soreness.
- **Drink plenty of water** before, during, and after activity.



### Stop exercising immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Severe pain, tightness, pressure, or discomfort in your chest
- Severe shortness of breath
- Severe nausea or vomiting
- Sudden weakness or changes in sensation in your arm and/or leg on one side of your body
- Difficulty swallowing, talking, or seeing
- Severe headache or dizziness



**CALL 911** immediately if the symptoms do not disappear within a few minutes.

If you have less severe, new, or worsening symptoms when beginning or increasing physical activity, contact your primary care provider.

## NORTHERN I Corps. TOUR WITH THE 5TH INFANTRY DIVISION

The May, 2018 issue of The Red Diamond included an article I wrote describing my experience going back to ICORP in March, 2018. I said then and will say again that I truly enjoyed the experience of returning to Vietnam.



My trip was sponsored by the Veteran operated group Vietnam Battlefield Tours (VBT). As I came to know the Guides, I learned that VBT could customize their tours to specific interests with a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 25 travelers. My wheels in my began to turn and I wondered if we could generate enough interest to have our own 5th Division trip to return to ICORP.

At our 2018 Reunion at Norfolk, VA, I set up a Power Point of my 2018 Vietnam photos in the Quartermaster Store. This was received in all the ways you might imagine. Statements ranged from "no way" to "tell me more" to "I want to try to make this happen".

From those who were interested, I collected ideas on places in Quang Tri Province that these Red Devils would want to see. Places Like Wonder Beach, LZ Sharon, LZ Nancy, Quang Tri City, Quang Tri Citadel, Quang Tri Combat Base, Quang Tri Airfield, Camp Red Devil, 75th Support Area, Dong Ha City, Qua Viet Navy Base, A1, A4, C2, Hill 100, Hill 162, Dong Ha Mountain (probably not the top), Cam Lo, Camp Carroll, Mai Loc, Khe Gio Bridge, The Rockpile, Razorback, Khe Sanh, Hill 950 (researching if we can climb 950), Vandergrift, Ca Lu, Khe Sanh Villiage, Khe Sanh Combat Base, Lang Vei Special Forces Camp, and Lao Bao. All these in addition to the normal and very interesting stops on their regular Northern ICORP trips. Other locations can be added on request if available.



The food and accommodations are excellent. Travel in Vietnam was by air-conditioned motor coach.

The following preliminary itinerary is from the VBT web site. The VBT web site is [WWW.vietnambattlefieldtours.com](http://WWW.vietnambattlefieldtours.com). Lots of photos. FAQs. Check it out.

My own philosophy is to respect those who do not want to go. It is also that those who want to go, who can afford to go and who are healthy enough to go, should go. We are not getting any younger.



We need a minimum of 12 travelers to make this happen. Any combination of Red Devils, wives, children, siblings or friends. There is a maximum of 25 due to bus capacity.



The dates are 5 April to 19 April, 2020. I picked 2020 so that our travelers will have time to update passports, check immunizations and maybe save up for the trip. At this writing, those committed to the trip are myself, Terrie Coulter (my wife), Lou Pepi, and Mike Pepi (Lou's son). Note...Lou has located Hills 100 and 162 via Google Earth. We can drive right to them.

My contact information is as follows:

email: [dwcoulter1@aol.com](mailto:dwcoulter1@aol.com)

phone: 417-414-5680

mail: 4118 E Stanford Street, Springfield. MO 65809

Consider joining us. While I cannot and do not speak on behalf of VBT, contact me and I will try to answer your questions. Enjoy a few of my Hanoi Photos. I will post updates and more photos in the next issues. If you do Facebook, I will be posting on The Society page there as well.



# QUARTERMASTER REPORT

Following are pictures and descriptions of merchandise that is available for sale from the Quartermaster.

## Society of the 5th Division Polo Shirts



Black or White Polo Shirt w/embroidered logo design. Choice of short or long sleeve. Cotton/Polyester (50/50) Cotton/Polyester (50/50). Specify size: Short Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$40 Long Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$50 S & H: 1 shirt - \$5; 2 shirts - \$7.50 Larger orders: Contact the Quartermaster

## Society of the 5th Division T-Shirts



Black or White T-Shirt w/embroidered logo design. Choice of Short or Long Sleeve. Cotton/Polyester (50/50). Specify size: Short Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$25 Long Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$30 S & H: 1 shirt - \$5; 2 shirts - \$7.50 Larger orders: Contact the Quartermaster

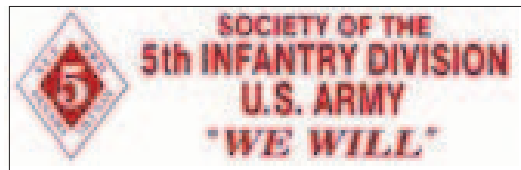


**PIN** (Hat/Lapel)  
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Diamond,  
Silver finish metal  
Cloisonné, \$5.00 ea.

Shipping & Handling Add  
\$1.50 for order of 1 to 10 pins  
Contact Quartermaster for larger order

## Fifth Division Hats

w/embroidered logo design,  
adjustable, \$15.00 ea.  
plus \$6.00 shipping costs.  
Contact Quartermaster for  
larger orders



**Bumper Sticker:** "WE WILL" BumperSticker; 1½" x 3"; \$1.00 ea. Add \$1.15 for shipping and handling for each order.

## To order items contact:

**Dennis W. Coulter -  
Quartermaster**  
4118 E. Stanford St.,  
Springfield, Mo 65809  
email: [dwcoulter1@aol.com](mailto:dwcoulter1@aol.com)

## Fifth Infantry Division Challenge Coin



Fifth "Infantry" Division Challenge Coin  
(front and back shown): \$10.00 ea.  
w/shipping and handling included.  
Antique gold (sandblasted texture)  
w/epoxy finish; 1¼" x ½".  
Detail is exquisite. This is the only author-  
ized Challenge Coin issued by the Society  
of the Fifth Division.



**Compilations of New York Times  
Articles:** This is the book which was  
made available to those who attend-  
ed the Reunion. It is available now at  
our cost of \$9 plus \$9 shipping/han-  
dling for a total cost of \$18. Contact  
Quartermaster for larger orders.

## ATTENTION !!!

**Make Checks for items payable to:  
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Having served honorably  
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Co, Bty, Trp / Battalion / Regiment / Brigade

- WW-II
- Vietnam
- Panama

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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Make checks payable to: **Society of the Fifth Division**

**Send to:** **Secretary: John Estrada**  
**Society of the Fifth Division**  
**P.O. Box 5764**  
**Oroville, CA 95966-8823**

The dues for membership in the Society are \$15.00 for annual membership. Any member wishing to become a LIFE member may do so by paying the following one-time dues: age less than 61, \$150.00; age 61-69, \$75.00; age over 70, \$50.00. All LIFE members are subject to any special assessments declared by the Executive Board or adopted at any meeting.