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# “THE IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH”

*Newsletter of the 3/8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division - Vietnam War*

President: Steve Edmunds



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Volume XVI

Ivy Dispatch Editors: Ken Howe & Levie Isaacks

Spring 2011

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## **President's Message...**

During 2010, we added 35 new Brothers to our roster and an additional 6 since the first of 2011. As our numbers grow, sadly, we lose some along the way. But we know that they will always remain in our hearts as do those that made the ultimate sacrifice so many years ago. I wish to thank those that have renewed their dues for 2011. For those that have not, please do so as we need your continued support. To my other Brothers, please consider joining our chapter to support the National 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Assoc. It is up to us and those that follow to carry on the tradition of “Steadfast & Loyal”. Remember that it is not the cost of membership, but the price you already paid to be eligible for membership. The event of the year will be our 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion reunion which will be taking place July 28 – 31, 2011 in Branson, MO. I hope to see you and your families attend. As we get older, I wonder how many more of these reunions will take place as our time is running out. But the way I look at it, the last 40+ years have been a gift anyway. See you in Branson!!!

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## **National Purple Heart Hall of Fame...**

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor commemorates the extraordinary sacrifices of America's servicemen and servicewomen who were killed or wounded in combat. The mission of the Hall of Honor is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of service and across generations to ensure that all recipients are represented. Everyone who received a Purple Heart is entitled to have their name placed in the Hall of Fame. Go to the web site or call for more details.

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor  
PO Box 207  
374 Temple Hill Road  
Vails Gate, New York 12584-0207

Phone: (845) 561-1765  
Phone: (877) 284-6667  
Fax: (845) 569-0382  
Website: <http://www.thepurpleheart.com/>

Anita Pidala, Director  
Peter Bedrossian, Program Director  
Representative: Mike Ali, Military Order of the Purple Heart, NSO

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## Welcome Home Celebration at Fort Irwin...

“How times have changed”. They sure have. I remember when I came home; we arrived at SeaTac Airport and went to Ft Lewis to process papers, etc. We were told not to fly home in uniform, so we went to the PX to buy “civvies”. When I arrived at LAX (Los Angeles), it was about 11:30 pm. It felt like I was sneaking back home after a long camping trip. Anyway, I digress. Several months ago, I attended a VN vet Welcome Home ceremony with 2 other Dragoon Brothers, Jim Hill A/3/8 66-67 and Mark Butler C/3/8 67, at Fort Irwin, CA which is the National Training Center for troops to be deployed to Iraq & Afghanistan. The ceremony was held in the gym. They had all the VN vets enter in single file and as we approached the door, we were met by an officer from each branch of service who greeted us with “Welcome Home” and thanked us for our service. While we were filing in to the gym, they were playing the military songs from each branch of service. Chairs were lined up on the gym floor for us to take seats...the bleachers were filled with active duty troops...all standing and applauding. There must have been 400-500 troops. I was choked with emotion, as were the others. After we took our seats, Gen. Abrams (grandson of the Gen Creighton Abrams who commanded troops in RVN) gave the presentation. He told the troops in the audience why they received the type of reception that they get when they return from a deployment...it is because of the type of welcome home they (referring to us) did not receive when they got home...and now it is their turn! All the troops stood and applauded...our eyes welled up with tears. After it was over, the troops came down out of the stands to mingle and meet the VN vets...then we were invited to have lunch with them. Mess halls aren't like they used to be:-) The afternoon was spent “talking story” with the troops and visiting a static display of military equipment. They had a Huey there to make us feel at home:-) It was an enjoyable day and the first time that I had ever experienced anything like it. It is suppose to become an annual event and we will try to get more Dragoons to attend next time.



L to R: Mark, Steve & Jim



L to R: Steve, Jim & Gen. Abrams



Talking story with troops

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## WARNING TO VETERANS...

WARNING TO VETERANS - Forwarded by Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way. <http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>

VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below.

Michael G. Daugherty  
Staff Attorney  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of General Counsel (022G2)  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW –  
Washington, DC 20420

## AAR – A Return Trip to Vietnam...

One vet's view on a return trip to Viet Nam - Am I a dumb grunt or just walking point again? I stepped off the plane at Hanoi airport on April 30, 2010 and yes that heat and humidity hit me in the same way it did last time which was 40 plus years ago. It was familiar this time. A chartered A/C bus picked up our group. I took in all the sights during the ride to the hotel. I was engrossed with my private thoughts, asking myself what this trip would bring when I saw the farmers tending their rice paddies with grazing water buffalo completing this scene. That's when a part of me felt "At Home"! Strange, I agree, but true. I was not expecting that feeling. My trip was compliments of an annual VFW program. I was one of fifteen vets who won an all expense paid trip to Viet Nam. They did a top notch job of logistics and the accommodations were First Class. I saw more of the country on this tour than I did on my first trip. The 11 day trip was divided between Hanoi, Hue, Da Nang/China Beach, ending in Saigon. This included visits to Hanoi Hilton, Phu Bai, Camp Eagle, The Citadel, DMZ, Rock Pile, Camp Evans, Hai Van Pass, Marble Mountain, Chu Lai, Hoi An, Presidential Palace, Black Lady Mountain, Mekong Delta, and the Cu Chi tunnel complex just to mention a few. We were well received by everyone we met and the people were most kind and gracious including former VC, NVA and ARVN soldiers. I also met English speaking international travelers who were eager to chat and on more than a couple of occasions our bar bill was taken care of by these kind travelers on a holiday. It was an emotional and moving experience in many ways and, very well, could be the most rewarding experience of my life. I could write a book about each city we stayed in, another about traffic and driving, and another about the food. I felt like Anthony Bourdain of "No Reservations". I tried and ate everything and no, I never suffered from Uncle Ho's revenge. Some of the group was less fortunate on one or more occasions. A question was asked of our Vietnamese tour guide, "Is it possible to drive in Viet Nam with a driver's license from the USA?" His answer was, "Yes, but I have never met anyone who wanted to!" Street vendors are in abundance in every city. It would have been difficult not to notice all the NVA Cemeteries. Each one we passed had what looked like fresh paint, new National Flags, greenery and flowers. No, I have not had any nightmares since my return and I had one "Flash Back" during my trip which was at The Chu Chi Tunnel Exhibit. The heat of the jungle combined with its orchestrated sounds plus familiar terrain, life size figures of VC and their camp pushed me to the edge. I could feel the rush of adrenaline. I had prepped myself for this possibility and kept it under control. I repeated in whispered tones "this is May 2010" over and over again. I am the adventurous type so I managed to crawl through a section of the tunnels. Then the unexpected happened, a

burst of three shots, gunfire from a close by rifle range, which was followed by four more bursts of two to three rounds each. Yes, you guessed it...an AK47. This "tourist attraction" offers visitors a chance to fire, for the price of the ammo, an assortment of weapons from the war. About that time my group had enough and we all headed back to the bus. All of us shaken by that unmistakable sound from an AK from a time when we were young. Advance warning of possible rifle fire would have been appreciated! My trip has been the subject of conversation with vets and non vets since last February. I could bore you to tears about the trip, just ask me. The majority of vets have no desire to return but want to know all about it and see the photos. Some vets, friends and relatives have asked me WHY? My answer is WHY Not! Then, again, I am the guy who, during the reunion in Colorado, took a chopper ride into Royal Gorge. I have been asked a number of times since my return if I would go back again. My answer, "In A Heart Beat" but I would try to fly first class, that 24-1/4 hours actual flying time from Rhode Island to Hanoi gets rougher as we get older. Like most of you, I still have those heavy memories of Viet Nam from long ago, but I also have these recent memories of friendly people, exciting cities, beautiful beaches and peaceful country side. If anyone has questions or wants to find out more about the trip or see some pictures, just drop me a note at [K.A.Howe947@cox.net](mailto:K.A.Howe947@cox.net) I would be happy to chat. Submitted by *Ken Howe*, D/3/8 RVN 68-69



**Ken enjoying sightseeing on a cyclo**



**Ken in the Cu Chi Tunnel Complex**



## Open Hands & Hearts...

Each trip brings with it new challenges and adventures and this trip was no exception. To begin with, Elsie accompanied me on this trip, her 4<sup>th</sup>. We departed on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> and returned on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our guide/interpreter, Tiep, met us at the airport and got us to our hotel. I justified renting a van and driver on this trip due to the amount of luggage we were carrying. Our four checked in pieces of luggage contained clothes and toys for the children that had



Sponsored children for school

necessities.

Our journey began on the following day as we proceeded south to Giong Trom and checked into the hotel. Arrangements were made for us to travel to the family of the first house that we will have rebuilt. At this point, I will interject that sometimes we go to places so remote that not only do tourists not travel there, but the Vietnamese would not go there if they did not have to. We take our van off the main road and travel to the end of the road. Arrangements were made in advance for several motorbikes with drivers to meet us there. We climb on the back and travel



Family of house # 1 to be rebuilt

need to get to the other side and do this by crossing on a suspension bridge. This bridge is about 20-25' above the water to allow boats to navigate up and down the river. It spans the river about 250'. I led the way, not thinking much about it, Elsie followed with a Vietnamese woman, then Tiep and two Vietnamese men. As you can imagine, the suspension bridge had a lot of movement as we walked

been donated. We used our carryons for our personal belongings. Our first day was spent planning out the itinerary, converting our currency and picking up some

down a path that is about 30" wide for about 1/2 mile, the path narrows to about 18" for another 1/2 mile and dead ends at the Mekong River. We

across. When I got to the other side, I looked back to see Elsie and the Vietnamese woman arm in arm almost hanging on to each other. I thought this might be too much for Elsie and offered her words of encouragement until she safely crossed. I should have known better, it wasn't Elsie with the problem, it was the Vietnamese woman. She was terrified and Elsie was "dragging" her across the bridge. We proceed on foot about 50 meters and come to a canal which is about 30' wide. There are two ways to cross; one, a hand made bridge constructed of a coconut tree about 7-8" diameter that had been cut down and used as the horizontal section which is about 6-8' above the water, the vertical ends are at 45 degrees made with another section of the tree. A makeshift handrail cut from bamboo about 1 1/2" diameter is placed at about waist high for a normal size Vietnamese which is about a 8" lower than where it needs to be for me. This handrail is not designed to support any weight, only used to assist in keeping your balance as you walk across. The other option is a small boat. We chose the boat as it seemed the safest alternative. We climbed down the muddy bank...it had been raining...and got in the boat. There were no seats, you had to squat...my knees and back had a difficult time with this. Once we got to the other side and climbed up the muddy



House #2 to be rebuilt

the bridge was the better option. We finally make it to the family's house and met the father, mother and their two children. The contractor was there, also. We made the arrangements to begin construction, said our farewells and left. When we got to the canal, I let Elsie cross the bridge first so I can be behind her to help if necessary. She got across with no problem and I was doing okay until I got near the end. As I stepped off the horizontal member onto the vertical, I heard a loud crack...not a good sound I think to myself. I take another step and hear another crack...at this point I jump safely off onto the bank. We proceed back across the suspension bridge and climb on the back of the motorbikes and head back to the van. We head for another of the hamlets to see one of the houses that were completed earlier. I had never attended one of these celebrations, it was like a house warming. Everyone in the

bank, I remarked to Elsie that I was taking the bridge on the way back. Climbing up the bank, Elsie was stuck knee deep in mud and agreed

village was participating; many bringing gifts to the family for their new home while others brought food to share. We were invited to join them for lunch. A platter of meat was placed in front of me and I asked Tiep what it was. He said that it was like pork. I didn't hear the words 'it's like', all I heard was pork and proceeded to eat some. It was very tasty and I asked Tiep what it was called. He said, "Cho". I said, "Cho, what is Cho? I know Heo, Ba and Ga, what is Cho?" He pauses and thinks for a moment and responds, "bow wow, bow wow." I say, "bow wow, you mean dog?" He replies with a smile, "yes, dog" At that moment, I had visions of every dog I have had in my life pass before my eyes. After I got over the shock, I politely reached for seconds. It was very tasty! I learned that



Suspension bridge used to get to House #1

sponsored 10 children for school for the year and bought school uniforms for 20 children in another village.

We left the following day heading north to Nha Trang where we supplied food to 50 families in the leprosy village. We were going to go to Da Nang but encountered delays as we had to admit Tiep to the hospital. He was determined to complete the mission. After his release, we



Supplied food for 50 families from leprosy village in Nha Trang

suspension bridge and then reached the canal. I was walking point and decided to take the bridge, I was about half way across when I heard a loud crack...I froze for a

there are two kinds of dogs raised in Vietnam; one is used as pets and the other is raised for food. Anyway, we got a second house under construction,

went to the central highlands to take food for 60 families of the Ko Ho tribe near Da Lat. We distributed the clothes and toys to the children of the village. We returned to Saigon for a day of rest before heading back down to Giong Trom to check on the construction progress. Heading back to house #1, we did the van to the end of the road, the motorbikes, the

moment thinking that was not a good sound, moments later a loud snap as the bamboo handrail to my right had snapped in two pieces and fell into the water below. I am thinking to myself, "Oh s \_ \_t! I remind myself that if I panic, I am going into the water. Stay focused, I tell myself and then shoot up a quick prayer asking for the Lord's hand for assistance in getting across...my prayer was answered. While this was going on, I could hear Elsie, Tiep and the others let out a loud GASP!! They just knew I was going in the water...fooled them☺ Anyway, the others took the boat across. The family was glad to see us again. Construction was moving ahead and expected to be completed within the next 3-4 weeks. /During the course of this trip, I managed to break two bridges. A third house was started after we returned for home. What an adventure!! Mot Nam Sao Gap Lai!!



Ko Ho village elders present me with crossbow and arrows

## Chaplain's Corner...

### Age Blessed By Hope:

Age has changed our physical being  
 Age has changed our emotional being  
 Age has changed our social being  
 Age has changed our economical being  
 Age has slowed and changed the direction and steps of our being  
 Age has blurred the good memories of our being  
 Age has enhanced the sweet memories of love within our being  
 Age has not taken away the pain within our being  
 Age never removes the ties that bind us together in peace and war  
 But, age and life eternal gives our beings Hope!

Job suffered in every aspect of his being, yet concluded:

"Tho he slay me, yet will I trust Him, I know my redeemer liveth"

Faith and hope blessed Job in his aged years

*Job 42:10-12...*"So the Lord blessed the end of Job more than the beginning..."

Brother Ed Pippin, B/3/8 RVN 67



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## “C” CO Reunion AAR...

Location: LZ 49er Inn & Suites -Jackson Hole, WY

Date: 18 - 20 June 2010

Participants: R. Darrell Belden, 66-67 & guest; Mark Butler, 67-68 & guests; Steve & Elsie Edmunds, 67-68; Gary Fagerland, 67-68; Robert & Joan Fopma, 66-67; Wally & Bobbi Fulbright, 67-68; Gary Holliman, 67-68 & guests; Terry & Sue Jandron, 66-67; Bobby Longwell 66-67; Loren & Karen Ludwig, 66-67; Monte “Doc” Lunde, 67-68; Bob & Linda Maranise, 67-68; Richard & Judy Martin, 66-67; Robert A. McAfoos, 66-67; Pat & Lynda McClelland, 67-68; Bob & Eileen McElroy, 66-67; Myron & Joy Mleziva, 66-67; Rod Olson, 66-67; Paul & Carla Perez, 67; Byron & Hazel Perry, 66-67; Robert Richards, 67-68 & guests; Bob & Mickie Rohan, 66-67; John & Linda Schmidt, 66-67; Del & Carol Shores, Jr., 66-67; Rea & Betty Sparks, 67; Roger Tenbrink, 66-67; Jim White, 68-69; Don & Barb Zarling, 66-67.

When I think of Jackson Hole, visions of beautiful mountains and grazing lands with buffalo and elk do not come to mind. Instead, I think of the Firebase in the central highlands of Vietnam with the outline of bunkers along the perimeter securing the area for the artillery battery which supports the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade. While others spent time taking in the sights of Yellowstone or the Grand Tetons, others enjoyed the hospitality room to enjoy our Brotherhood. Friday evening we held a drawing to award two \$500.00 scholarships in memory of our Brothers who made the ultimate sacrifice. The winners were:

*Shannan Edwards* - Daughter of *Gary & Georgeen Edwards*, C/3/8 67-68. Attending the University of Notre Dame, Indiana

*Lydia M. Nestorowycz* - Granddaughter of *David & Virginia Dorn*, A/3/8 68-69. Attending Canisius College in Buffalo, NY.

I would like to thank all those that were involved in organizing and hosting this event. It was a great time and enjoyed by all. Submitted by *Steve Edmunds*, C/3/8 67-68



Charlie Co 67-69 Replacements

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## Nine Days in May 1967...

I am in the process of beginning research for my second book with Naval Institute Press, a venerable publishing house based in Maryland that specializes in military history. This book will recount the 4th Infantry Division’s remarkable campaign near the Cambodia border in May of 1967, the oft cited but scarcely covered “Nine Days in May.” Regrettably, little is known and even less has been written about the valorous and ultimately victorious campaign waged by the soldiers of the unheralded Fighting Fourth near the Cambodian border over that nine day span in May of 1967. I would like to rectify that historical injustice. In order to fulfill that mandate, I will need to interview as many 3/8 veterans of that May 1967 campaign (Operation Francis Marion) as possible. As is my custom, all interviews will be conducted in a manner commensurate with the utmost regard for the sensitivities and sensibilities of the veterans who have agreed to speak with me. Serving as the custodian of a soldier’s experiences and assuming the responsibility of chronicling those experiences for the benefit of posterity is not a responsibility I assume lightly or frivolously. To date, I have made a number of contacts in the 1/8 and 3/12 of the 4th Inf. Div. I have made several contacts with the 3/8. If you would like to participate in the telling of the 3/8’s battle on May 26th, 1967, please let me hear from you.

Thank you for time and support,

*Warren Wilkins*

[warren.wilkins@threatswatch.orgren](mailto:warren.wilkins@threatswatch.orgren)

You may, also, contact *Steve Edmunds* to let him know you would like to participate if you do not have access to email...call 949-294-6981



Charlie Co 66-67 “Boat People”

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## Dragoons Profile...



Doug "Doc" Dettman was inducted into the US Army on March 7, 1967 in Chicago, IL. At the time of his induction, he was residing in Munster, IN. Doug took his basic training at Fort Knox, KY. Upon completion, he was given an MOS of 91B20 (Combat Medic) and was sent to Ft. Sam Houston for further training. Upon completion of

his training and a leave, Doug reported to C Co, 3/8<sup>th</sup> in RVN and served from Aug 67 – Aug 68. When the opportunity for an R & R came up in July 68, Doug settled on Hong Kong. He wanted to go to Australia. Upon completion of his tour and a leave, Doug reported to Ft

Lewis, WA to complete his service and was discharged March 6, 1969.

Doug has been married to his lovely wife Judy, a very tolerant and understanding woman, for 35 years and currently resides in San Tan City, AZ. They have two children; Jason, 37 and Jessica, 31 and are expecting their first grandchild due on April 23. Doug is retired having worked for 35 years as a Respiratory Therapy Supervisor. He is a Life Member of the Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the 4<sup>th</sup> IDA, Life Member of DAV and Life Member of Howard County's Vietnam Veterans Assoc. Doug enjoys woodworking, model railroading, astronomy and travel.

"I have always been proud of my service in Vietnam, but, like so many others, never discussed it. I enrolled in a PTSD program at the VA 5 years ago and have been helped tremendously by this experience. I am very happy to see the current veterans coming home to the type of reception they are getting. I attended the Las Vegas Reunion in 2005. It was a great experience seeing old friends. But, I have to admit, several of them looked older than I remember them."

## Upcoming Reunion...

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Reunion of the 3/8<sup>th</sup> Inf 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div

July 28 – 31, 2011

Where: Stone Castle Hotel & Conference Center

3050 Mountain Green Dr

Branson, MO 65616

Room Rates: \$69.99 per night plus tax. Upgrades to various suites are available for \$129.99 & \$149.99. Our block of rooms will be held until May 28, 2011

Includes a complimentary full breakfast to include eggs, biscuits & gravy and Belgian waffles

Call for reservations: 1-800-677-6906 and provide our group Code #110950 or say "Ivy Dragoons" when making your reservations. Check out their website for additional information: <http://www.bransonstonecastlehotel.com/>

Mail registration form to: Steve Edmunds, 2212 Shady Hills Dr, Diamond Bar, CA., 91765. For questions call: ph 949-294-6981, or e-mail: [edmundsdb@aol.com](mailto:edmundsdb@aol.com). Make your check payable to: Ivy Dragoons Chapter 4IDA

7/28	<b>Registration</b>	<b>\$15.00 per adult (over 18)</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	=	_____
	Provide names of attendees					
7/29	<b>Opt 1: BBQ Dinner</b>	<b>\$35.00 per person</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	=	_____
	<b>Opt 2: Steamboat Cruise/Dinner/Show</b>	<b>\$55.00 ea</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	=	_____
	Contact Ed Goehring for details 484-431-7994					
7/30	<b>Banquet Dinner</b>	<b>\$35.00 per person</b>	<b>X</b>	_____	=	_____
	<b>Donation (Optional)</b>				=	_____
	<b>TOTAL</b> _____					

## After Action Report - Veterans Day 2010...

After the weather we faced last year with tropical storm Ida, the weather this year was God sent. My wife, Mary, and I arrived in D.C. on Wednesday, the day before Veterans Day. I guess I am going there too often when Brothers start to remember me and I them. On the day before, I spend my time visiting with the names on the WALL. On Veterans Day there is too much activity taking place to pay proper respects.

On Thursday, we arrived about 08:30 hrs to find the area of the wall sparsely populated, knowing shortly, the buses would start to arrive. Within three hrs, the area around the WALL is full of veterans and families. The official program starts at 13:00 hrs. During the wreath laying portion of the program, Kurt "Doc" Nagl and Jim Adams laid our battalion wreath in its designated area. By 16:00 hrs, the area was being vacated as the buses load up and leave for another year.

On Friday morning, Mary and I went back to the Wall to do some rubbings and what I call "The Magic of the Wall" happened. I stood up from a rubbing and I spotted a young looking woman dressed in BDU's. I noticed her Captain's bars and thanked her for her service. She thanked me for my service. Then, she turned and introduced me to her Grandfather, a WWII veteran, who was on an Honor Flight from someplace in the mid west. I thanked him and said how great this was that he and his granddaughter, who is stationed at Ft Detrick, MD could spend the day together and visit the memorials. Also, I told her grandfather to keep an eye on her as anyone that would jump from a perfectly good aircraft needs help. I learned from our conversation that she has deployed twice to Iraq and once to Afghanistan...young heroes wow! The next person was another WWII vet being pushed in a wheel chair by a volunteer nurse. He was on an Honor Flight from South Dakota. I shook his hand and gave him a hug then the tears started to flow. He asked me, "Can I buy a rubbing from you?" I answered, "No way, positively not! But I will gladly make one for you". Since I was standing in front of the panel where our fallen from Dak To are listed, I rubbed my friends name, John Collins, and told him of our friendship and gave him the rubbing. Then, reaching into my bag, I found a bumper sticker that was given to me the day before, it said "PROUD ARMY VETERAN". I asked him if he would like to have it and as his eyes filled

with tears he said, "Yes". The nurse gave me a wink and I realized that our Veterans Day went into the record books as a great one.

Note: The Honor Flight Network is an organization that provides transportation for veterans to get to Washington DC to visit the memorials. As WWII veterans are dying at the rate of 1000 a day, the Greatest Generation of veterans has priority. However, it applies to any veteran. For additional information, check out their website: <http://www.honorflight.org/>

Submitted by *Ed & Mary Goering*



**L to R: Jim Adams & Kurt "Doc" Nagl**



**L to R: Jim Adams, Kurt "Doc" Nagl & Ed Goehring**



## CHAPTER UPDATE...

The following is an update and includes all renewals for 2011 memberships through 28 Feb 2011

**New...** Ray Fiscus, E/3/8 67-68; Frank H. Jacinto, C/3/8 66-67; Terry A. Jandron, C/3/8 66-67; Garry B. Jones, C/3/8 67-68; Ricky W. Parker, D/3/8 69-70; Sharon Rouse, Associate Brother – Dennis Badger B/3/8 68-69

**Renewals...** Byron E. Adams, D/3/8 68-69; Alex P. Alegria, B/3/8 66-67; Juan C. Anzaldua, C/3/8 69-70; Rick "Doc" Arouzet, HHC/3/8 66-67; Dennis O. Badger, B/3/8 68-69; Joseph S. Balla, A/3/8 68-69; Dr. John F. Bauer, D/3/8 68-69; Lloyd T. Bedik, HHC/3/8 67-68; Stanley J. Benner, A/3/8 66-67; Johnnie L. Bing Sr., A/3/8 67-68; Ronald D. Blust, A/3/8 67-68; Stanley R. Bode, A/3/8 67-68; Bruce R. Boening, D/3/8 68-69; Dennis R. Bolman, B/3/8 69-70; Edward C. Bookman, B/3/8 66-67; Michael E. Boutwell, Sr., D/3/8 68-69; Michael Boxer, D/3/8 68-69; William J. Brune, C/3/8 70; James N. Bury, B/3/8 67-68; Russell Campbell, C/3/8 66-67; Joseph Coll, Memorial Brother – Dennis J. Coll, A/3/8 KIA 3/3/69; Jesse A. Colvin, B/3/8 66-67; John L. Concannon, C/3/8 67; George "Doc" Costa, A/3/8 68-69; William H. Cowell, B/3/8 67-68; Leonard A. Crosby III, HHC/3/8 67-68; Doug J. Crumley, HHC/3/8 66-67; Charles Q. Cutshaw, U/3/8 64-66; John D'Agostino, Jr., B/3/8 69-70; Colin L. Davis, A/3/8 67-68; Gordon D. Dixon, A/3/8 67-68; Arty L. Dovers, A/3/8 70; James G. Duncan, HHC/3/8 66-67; Gary Edwards, C/3/8 67-68; Carl J. Eisler, B/3/8 69-70; Richard A. Elam, B/3/8 66-67; Kenneth H. Elliott, B/3/8 67; Robert B. Evans, HHC/3/8 70; Gary W. Fagerland, C/3/8 67-68; David S. Fessler, C/3/8 67-68; Donald S. Fields, B/3/8 68-69; Vance A. Fink, B/3/8 66-67; Dennis G. Fitz-Patrick, HHC/3/8 69-70; Charles B. Flood, HHC/3/8 66-67; Charles "Skip" Franges, C/3/8 67-68; Robert O. Frye, B/3/8 68-69; Wally L. Fullbright, C/3/8 67-68; Robert "Ponch" Gamboa, B/3/8 66-67; Joe Garcia, Jr., B/3/8 67; Virgil "Sonny" Giles, U/3/8 69-70; Edward F. Gray, A/3/8 67-68; Walter Gross, D/3/8 67; Jerry L. Guffey, A/3/8 68-69; Ronald L. Hamm, D/3/8 68-69; Roger D. Harrell, B/3/8 67-68; John M. Harris, HHC/3/8 68; Tim Haslam, B/3/8 68-69; Ralph A. Haun, A/3/8 67-68; James S. Hearn, D/3/8 68-69; Fredrick E. Helms, B/3/8 66-67; Ernest Hicks, A/3/8 68-69; Hugh D. Hosack, B/3/8 67-68; Kenneth A. Howe, D/3/8 68-69; Paul L. Hundreiser, A/3/8 66-67; Gregory "Rock" Illingworth, C/3/8 66-67; David L. Jack, A/3/8 67-68; Richard "Doc" Jackson, C/3/8 66-67; Albert R. Jacquez, Sr., A/3/8 69-70; Jim Jewell, HHC/3/8 66-67; John "Sam" Jones, A/3/8 68-69; Larry G. Jumper, B/3/8 66-67; Samuel Kennedy, HHC/3/8 66-67; Billy W. Kimberlin, B/3/8 66-67; Leo C. King, HHC/3/8 66-67; Robert D. Kirkland, E/3/8 69-70; Charles D. Kiser, Jr., HHC/3/8 67-70; Paula McPherson Koy, Memorial Brother – Dennis McPherson E/3/8 KIA 11/11/67; Kent A. Lang, C/3/8 67-68; Kevin Leonard, B/3/8 69; Robert L. Levesque, D/3/8 69-70; Richard J. Linneman, A/3/8 68-69; Stan Lowenkamp, B/3/8 66-67; MG Thomas P. Lynch, Ret., HHC/3/8 66-67; Daniel "Doc" Maguire, Sr., A/3/8 67; Jacob W. Marks, D/3/8 68-69; James D. Massey, B/3/8 67-68; Gary J. McCluskey, D/3/8 67-68; Patrick J. McNulty, Jr., FO D/3/8 67-68;

Victor J. Melendez, C/3/8 69; Maynard E. Melhorn, D/3/8 67-69; Carroll E. Merrell, B/3/8 66-67; Daniel Miller, HHC/3/8 66-67; John Mitchell, C/3/8 68-69; Darold Muhs, D/3/8 68-69; Rick Myers, C/3/8 66-67; Barry Mylar, B/3/8 69-70; Roger A. Nash, C/3/8 67-68; Roy S. Nussbaum, HHC/3/8 67-68; Terry E. Oliver, Memorial Father – Charles E. Oliver C/3/8 KIA 7/23/67; David A. Orbell, A/3/8 67-68; Larry D. Orr, B/3/8 66-67; Joe F. Pelfrey, A/3/8 67-68; Palmer Pelham, E/3/8 68-69; John A. Perez, C/3/8 68-69; Byron L. Perry, C/3/8 66-67; Thomas J. Petrocik, C/3/8 66-67; R. David "Doc" Pickett, B/3/8 66-67; COL James O. Pittman, HHC/3/8 69-70; Reuben C. Plachy, E/3/8 69-70; Velma Poore, Memorial Husband – Larry H. Poore A/3/8 67-68 Deceased DOD 2/8/08; Hugh H. Ray, A/3/8 67-68; Robert T. Richards, C/3/8 67-68; Don Romelfanger, Memorial Father – Jerald Romelfanger A/6/29 FA 5/69-4/70; Phillip A. Roncari, A/3/8 66-67; John E. Roy, D/3/8 68-69; Randolph Scott, C/3/8 67-68; Weldon C. Seay, B/3/8 69; Samuel V. Shelton, B/3/8 66-67; Delbert L. Shores, Jr., C/3/8 66-67; Edward J. Skwira, D/3/8 67-68; Edward J. Sleichert, B/3/8 68-69; Robert A. Smith, A/3/8 67-68; Dennis Sohre, C/3/8 67-68; Gary Starrett, D/3/8 67-68; James A. Steen, B/3/8 66-67; Robert C. Stevson, B/3/8 67-68; Edward "Doc" Sullivan, B/3/8 68-69; Bruce "Tom" Thompson, HHC/3/8 66-67; Donald O. Tienhara, C/3/8 66-67; Mark A. Towns, A/3/8 66-67; Joe Travnik, B/3/8 68-69; James L. Turner, D/3/8 67-68; Jerome Van Loo, C/3/8 68-69; Bart Van Valkenburg, A/3/8 70; Bill E. Vigil, A/3/8 67-68; Robert G. Walkowiak, Jr., B/3/8 67-68; Sammy A. Watson, B/3/8 68-69; Fred A. Watson, B/3/8 67-68; James N. White, C/3/8 68-69; Robert J. White, C/3/8 67-68; Stuart White, E/3/8 67-68; Stephen P. Wolff, E/3/8 67-68

**Paid For Life...** Michael Alfieri, A/3/8 66-67; Wm. Clay Andrews, C/3/8 67; Ruben "Doc" Bonilla, A/3/8 68-69; Klaus Borgmann, A/3/8 69-70; Ron Collins, CO B/3/8 67-68; Doug Dettman, D/3/8 67-68; Steve Edmunds, C/3/8 67-68; William "Doc" Ferguson, HHC/3/8 66-67; Francis X. Fesi, B/3/8 68-69; James H. George, B/3/8 68-69; Edward G. Goehring, B/3/8 66-67; James R. Hill, A/3/8 66-67; Ronald P. Jones, C/3/8 67-68; John R. Kell, C/3/8 70; Nathan Lanford, A/3/8 67-68; Michael A. Leite, C/3/8 69; Rick Letz, C/3/8 66-67; Albert Llauger, E/3/8 Mortars 67-68; Branko B. Marinovitch, B/3/8 66-67; James A. McCarthy, A/3/8 69-70; Joe T. McCook, E/3/8 Mortars 67-68; Robert C. McElroy, C/3/8 66-67; Ralph Nagel, B/3/8 68-69; Richard L. Peters, B/3/8 67-68; Edward E. Pippin, B/3/8 67; Steve Prince, A/3/8 66-67; Paul C. Romine, D/3/8 68-69; Alan P. Sellers, C/3/8 67-68; Rea L. Sparks, C/3/8 67; John J. Tadrzak, A/3/8 69; Alfred F. Thomas, B/3/8 66-67; James L. Vaughn, C/3/8 69-70; James M. Voshell, D/3/8 67-68; Davie D. Wade, A/3/8 67-68; Felix "Buddy" Williams, A/3/8 68-69;



### Seeking Info....

I'm looking for information and contacts about my brother, Jeff Searles, who served with D Co 3rd Bn 8th Inf Reg and was KIA 4/19/70 while point on a patrol north of Pleiku, based on Army info. His letters mention the Central Highlands, Pleiku, Camp Radcliff, An Khe, and several firebases in that area. He arrived in country in Nov 1969 and was first with 1st Bn, 35th Reg, which was deactivated and was trans-

ferred to the 3/8th to finish his tour. Jeff is buried next to his father in Madison, WI. I'm writing a book based on the impact of his death on me and using his letters from boot camp and Nam, along with other resources. It would be great to connect to anyone who knew him in Nam.

Thanks,

*Leland M. Searles, MA, PhD*

Applied Sociocultural Anthropology

Consultant & Manager, Leeward Solutions, LLC

Adjunct Instructor, Des Moines Area Community College

Cell: 515-979-6457

Email: [searleslr@msn.com](mailto:searleslr@msn.com)

### Seeking Info...

I am writing in hopes of finding information on my Father, David F. Mauldin. He was called Doc, so I presume that he was a medic. I have recently looked over his service records and found that he served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry. The record has his rank as SP4 E4 (T), 15 October 1967. UO#42HHC3rdBn8thInf. I never met or knew him; he passed away 7 June 1987, so this is my way of trying in some way to know the man and his history. His Army jacket has the patch shown on your website, so I am hoping that something might come from this. Thank you and yours for your service, and thanks for any help you might have.

Sincerely,

Jason Mauldin

442 North Geyers Church Rd

Middletown, PA 17057

[bsmauldin@comcast.net](mailto:bsmauldin@comcast.net)

### Seeking Info...

My father John P. Stachowski died two years ago. He did not talk about Vietnam with me. However, after he died, I was given his Zippo lighter with his name, "John P. Stachowski D Co 3/8 4th Div Dragoons 68-69". On the reverse it says "Please don't try to tell me about Vietnam, I've been there". I googled the above and came to the Ivy Dragoons website. Please forward me any information you have on my fathers Company and Division.

Thank you and thanks for your service,

Lisa Imbody

105 Foxlair Drive

Hubert, NC 28539

910-326-9080

[jlksaimbody@msn.com](mailto:jlksaimbody@msn.com)

### TAPS...

Carl Douglas Harmon was born on July 27, 1934 and passed away on Feb 26, 2010 from complications of colon cancer. He went quickly, three weeks after being diagnosed, so he did not suffer a great deal and died at home with his family nearby. Carl served with HHC Recon 66-67 in RVN. He is survived by his wife Inge and a daughter Jammie Ganong. Funeral services were conducted by the Brown Funeral Home in Chipley, FL. He was residing in Alford, FL at the time of his death.

### TAPS...

Claus A. Borgmann, passed away on December 8, 2010 at the age of 62 following complications from a stroke. He was residing in El Paso, TX at the time of his death. A graveside service was held at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery on December 10<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by his wife, Claudia Borgmann; step-son, Adrian Sosa; and brother, Werner Borgmann. Claus went to Nam as an E-4, assigned to the A/3/8 of 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div. 1969-1970. He was a very astute soldier, bright, fast learner and infused with good "gut sense" and "common sense". We experienced much "contact" and CAs together. Together, he and I captured 4 NVA soldiers in late 1969. Late 1969, after several months in-country, I recommended him for in-country NCO school. He graduated 1<sup>st</sup> in his class in Feb 1970 as was promoted to SSGT E-6. SSGT Borgmann had a major role in the invasion of Cambodia where he assumed Platoon Leader and even Company Commander roles, for varying periods of time, in the midst of the chaos and was wounded in the process. Claus held a life membership in the Ivy Dragoons Chapter, National 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Assoc. Contributed by Mac/Jim McCarthy, A/3/8 69-70.

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## TAPS...

William "Bill" Gene Foreman was born July 4, 1946 in Omaha, Nebraska to the proud parents of Dale Foreman and Bette Kumpf. He passed away on November 21, 2010 of cancer. Bill grew up in Bellevue, Nebraska and graduated from Bellevue High School in 1964. He attended The University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Dana College in Blair, Nebraska. Bill married Virginia Barkus of Omaha, Nebraska on March 9, 1968 in Omaha. Bill served 2 years in the United States Army and one tour in Vietnam serving in E Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division from April 15, 1968 – April 15, 1969. He attained the rank of E-5 and earned the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Bronze Service Stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

One of Bill's proudest accomplishments was attending meetings at Club 86 for 31 years and coaching baseball for 30 years. He also played a vital role in the community serving as an elected member of several organizations and helping with numerous community activities. He is survived by his wife of 42 years Virginia Foreman of Beloit, his brother Kim Foreman and wife Irene and son Dale of Bellevue, NE, daughter Tiffany Foreman (Thomas) and husband Darren Thomas of Eudora, KS, grandchildren Bethany and Creighton Thomas of Eudora, son Trevor Foreman and wife Kelli of Newton, KS. Funeral Services were provided by McDonald Funeral Home. Military honors provided by VFW Post 6242 followed by internment in Elmwood Cemetery. Contributed by his son, Trevor Foreman.

## TAPS...

Glen "Bubba" Wise, 64, of Greenville, TX passed away Aug. 18, 2010, at his residence. Services were held in the Coker-Mathews Funeral Home chapel. Glen was born Dec. 23, 1945, in Greenville to Arthur and Dorothy Jones Wise. He was a member of the United States Army, serving his country in Vietnam with HHC Recon 3/8<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> ID 1966-67. He was a retired brakeman with the Kansas City Southern Railroad and was an active member of the VFW Post 4011 in Greenville. His survivors include his son, Jeffrey Wise of Reno, Nev.; daughters Kim Wise of Shreveport, La., Ginger Lightfoot of Dallas and twins Jillian and Jocelyn Wise of Greenville; brother Don Wise and wife Shirley of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada; a sister, Wanda Turner of Greenville; grandchildren Kaysie, Kaylie, Tanner, Ethan and Jacoby Wise; and nephew Darrin Turner and wife Tammy. His parents preceded him in death. Contributed by Leo King (HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67) and Jim Jewell (HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67).

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## TAPS...

Alfred "Al" Garron, Jr, 78 passed away on Jan 15, 2011 at his home in Derry, NH. He was born on June 12, 1932 in Malden, MA. Al served in the US Army for 20 plus years retiring as a SFC and served two tours in Korea, two in Berlin and one in Vietnam where he served as platoon sergeant in 4<sup>th</sup> platoon of C/3/8 until he was wounded at Dak To, Hill 724 in November 1967. Following his discharge, Al had been a resident of Derry since 1969. He began selling insurance and later worked at the Goff's Falls Road Post Office retiring after 12 years. Al was active in his community with youth sports, little league, and had a hand in the making of Bastek Field. He loved sports; football, baseball and golf and was a member of Hoodcroft Country Club in Derry. He was past commander of VFW Post 1617, a member of the American Legion and a member of the Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the National 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Assoc. He was a loving and caring man that would lend a hand to those in need. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Shirley Garron; two daughters, Nancy Huber and her husband Paul of Richmond, VA and Cathy Leaver of Weare, NH; a sister, Dolores Johnston of Montague, PEI and many nieces and nephews. Al was predeceased by his parents Alfred and Winifred Sr.; a son, Dennis Garron; a sister, Jean Hawe; and two brothers, Douglas and Ronald Garron. The Peabody Funeral Home and Crematorium conducted the memorial services. The burial took place at Forest Hill Cemetery in E. Derry with full military honors.

## TAPS...

George Thomas "Tom" Talton, age 64, passed away on Sept 26, 2010 in Princeton, NC. He was born May 12, 1946 in Wayne County to Christia Jackson Talton of Princeton and the late Wade H. Talton. Tom was retired from the maintenance department of the Wayne County School System where he worked as a plumber. He was a member of the Oakland Fire Department for more than 40 years most recently serving as the safety officer. Tom was also retired from the Princeton Rescue Squad and was a member of the Princeton United Methodist Church. He served in the US Army with B Co 3/8<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in 1966-1967 as a combat infantryman in Vietnam. Funeral services were held on Sept 30 in the chapel of Parrish Funeral Home. Burial, with military honors, followed in the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Surviving in addition to his mother are his wife, Frankie Rains Talton; sons, Chad Talton and wife Tammy and Jason Talton and wife Brandi all of Princeton; daughter, Malissa T. Graham and husband Wade of Princeton; brother, John "Rooster" Talton of Princeton; sister, Sarah Pittman of Princeton and four grandchildren, Elaine Howell, Daniel Talton, Brandon Talton and Haylee Talton.

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***IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH  
2212 SHADY HILLS DR.  
DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765***

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Scholarship Awards...**

At our upcoming battalion reunion in Branson, MO, we will award three \$500.00 scholarships to a family member of the Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the National 4<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. Assoc. The Dragoon member must have his dues current to qualify. The family member can be a child, step-child or grandchild. These scholarships are in memory of our fallen Brothers. The winners will be announced at our Banquet Dinner.

**Ivy Dragoon's Scholarship Application**

Complete this form and mail it to: Ed Goehring, 7429 Bell Gate Rd, Coopersburg, PA 18036

**Members Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Relation to Member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Type of School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

One application per student. Must be received by July 15, 2011.

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